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## Introduction

### Sir Alex and Richard Scudamore launch facility scheme

*Man Utd boss and Premier League CEO launch new £18m Facility Fund*

*Sir Alex Ferguson joins Premier League Chief Executive, Richard Scudamore, to launch a new programme that funds local sports facilities.*



Manchester United manager, Sir Alex Ferguson, joined Premier League Chief Executive and Football Foundation Trustee, Richard Scudamore, in launching a major new programme that will invest in the development of new or enhanced local sports facilities across England and Wales.

The Premier League Community Facility Fund (PLCFF), funded by the Premier League and delivered by the Football Foundation, is investing £18m over three years to develop new or refurbished sports facilities for local people across the country.

Sir Alex and Mr Scudamore officially unveiled Stretford High School's new, full-size floodlit third-generation artificial grass pitch built with the help of a £350,000 grant from the PLCFF. Manchester United Foundation coaches will also deliver community work from the site.



Richard Scudamore said: "The Premier League has been banging the drum for sports participation for many years now and it is heartening to see that this issue is moving higher up the political agenda. The Premier League Community Facility Fund is all about providing sports facilities that reinvigorate local

communities. So this £18m of funding, which is available to 160 clubs across seven divisions of English football, is investment that will have a lasting impact.

"The community of North Trafford is the first to benefit from the PLCFF. They have never had far to look for inspiration and this new facility will add to that legacy by significantly increasing sports participation to the 3,000 young people who will use it. Stretford High School will also be Manchester United Foundation's eighth base for their magnificent Hub of the Community work, so once again one of our clubs is placing itself at the heart of their local community and using football to make a positive social difference."

Sir Alex, who originally opened Stretford High School in 1992, added: "On the back of the Olympics, everyone is talking about how sport can improve fitness and keep people active. The great thing about the Premier League is that they've been doing this kind of work for a long time now. They don't get the publicity they deserve and without their funding initiatives like this it wouldn't happen."

"The Stretford Sports Village is a fantastic facility for young people. Whether the young people who use it ever become a champion or not, play for Manchester United or not, that is not the issue - the thing is they'll be enjoying playing sport and they should take great inspiration from it."

The Fund is open to all football club community-led organisations from the Premier League, Football League, Football Conference, and the Conference's North and South divisions. The new PLCFF-enhanced sites will also help to strengthen links between professional football clubs and their communities, and will become venues for the clubs' outreach work.

Click the 'right arrow' in the gallery below to scroll through images from the day.

## News Stories

### David Bernstein launches 3G pitch

*FA Chairman opens facility at Nuneaton school*

*The FA Chairman joins our Chairman and Chief Executive in Nuneaton at the opening of a school's new full-size floodlit third generation (3G) pitch, funded by the Football Foundation.*



David Bernstein, Chairman of The FA, joined the Foundation's Chairman, Gary Hoffman, and Chief Executive, Paul Thorogood, recently to officially open a brand new 3G pitch at The Nuneaton Academy, Staffordshire.

Nuneaton & Bedworth Leisure Trust (NBLT) and The Nuneaton Academy worked in partnership with the Birmingham FA to secure a £244,748 grant from the Foundation towards the project.

Mr Bernstein said on the day: "It's absolutely wonderful to be here to see such a fantastic facility and see so many young people and parents enjoying it.

"We are looking in this county to change grassroots football to be much more skills-based, much less based on physicality. In a way we want to focus on much of the developments that the continental countries have done – one looks at Spain to see what happens there.

"We have 4,000 volunteers in grassroots football in this county. I am always incredibly impressed and touched by the efforts and the enthusiasm that these people show, so it's win-win – and having facilities like this, supported with large investment, about quarter of a million pounds from the Football Foundation coming into this, it's a win-win for everybody."



## Peter Shilton's birthday treat for Essex

*Former England Number One unveils new changing rooms*

*England's most capped player, former goalie Peter Shilton, opens brand new changing rooms in Alresford, Essex.*



Legendary England goalkeeper Peter Shilton OBE visited Essex and officially opened new extensions on Alresford's popular village hall and its attached sports pavilion.

England's most capped player unveiled the enhanced sports site, which has been at the heart of the community since it was built in the 1930s.

The new development provides a home for Alresford Colne Football Club. After 12 years of hard work, the complex can now accommodate sport and leisure facilities for a rapidly growing amount of users.

The Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF) - a partner organisation of the Football Foundation, funded by the Premier League - awarded the project a grant of £50,000 to build the changing rooms.



Peter Shilton said on the day: "It is a great pleasure to come to events like this one in Alresford. There has

been a tremendous amount of work put in by a number of individuals and it is fantastic to see. The changing rooms are great. It's brilliant to see the money at the top of the game coming down to the grassroots. Projects like this are very dear to my heart."

As well as hosting football teams, the building is a popular venue for a wide range of activities, including a youth club, a luncheon club for older people, a camera club, keep fit classes, tiny tots, Co-operative Womens' Guild, Women's Institute, bowls club, an art club, dance group, the horticultural society, as well as private hirers.

Click on the 'right arrow' in the gallery below to scroll through some images from the day.

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## Blackpool legend opens £1.2m site

*Jimmy Armfield launches sports complex in Lancashire*

*Local people in Lancashire are celebrating following the opening of new changing and education facilities by former England captain, Jimmy Armfield.*



Local people in Lancashire are celebrating following the formal opening of a new £1.2m facility including a pavilion, changing rooms and education facilities by Blackpool legend and former England captain, Jimmy Armfield.

Land on three levels has been drained, and playing surfaces have been upgraded to accommodate six football pitches of varying sizes. The sports field will now provide state-of-the-art facilities for local people and aspiring footballers from Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School, Hippings Methodist Primary and Oswaldtwistle St Mary's FC.

The £1.2m development has been funded by £571,590 from the Football Foundation, £400,000 from Lancashire County Council, £75,000 from Hyndburn Borough Council, £150,000 from Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School, Hippings Methodist Primary and St Mary's FC. The playing fields have also received strong backing from the Lancashire FA.

Both schools will benefit enormously from a much-needed sports facility, and Oswaldtwistle St Mary's FC, which is a charter-standard development club, will fulfil a long-held ambition to have their own base.

Paul Trickett, Headmaster of Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School, said: "It is great to see this project come to fruition after several years of hard work from the school and the football club working in collaboration.

"We are grateful to the Football Foundation for their help and assistance in putting together all aspects of the bid and for their extremely generous contribution towards the footballing future of the school, the club and future generations of Oswaldtwistle young people."

Clive Yates, Vice-Chairman of Oswaldtwistle St Mary's FC, added: "This gives us a fantastic opportunity to develop our club further and the chance to achieve Charter Standard Community Club status in the near future. This site has been crying out for development for many years, and we are absolutely thrilled that five years of hard work has come to fruition."

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## Olympic spirit lives on in North London

*Team GB athlete unveils multi-sport legacy facility*

*Team GB athlete Margaret Adeoye unveils new multi-sport hub in Enfield, North London.*



Great news for North London at the official opening of the QEII Stadium funded by the Football Foundation and the Mayor of London: Facility Fund.

The new facility was opened by Team GB athlete and London 2012 200m semi-finalist, Margaret Adeoye.

The new sports pavilion will provide a home for Enfield Town Football Club and provide high quality changing facilities to the users of 30 adjacent community sports pitches. The facility comprises of ten

changing rooms and the facilities meet the requirements for Enfield Town FC to play in the Ryman Premier League.

The Middlesex FA were instrumental in securing a £493,000 grant from the Football Foundation, with a Mayor of London: Facility Fund grant of £250,000 also being central to the success of the project.

Tim Harrison, Leisure Facilities Development Manager at Enfield Council, said: "This generous funding has contributed towards restoring a landmark facility to its former glory; the stadium will be of great benefit to the residents of Enfield and will help to encourage more people to take part in sport and physical activity."

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## Stoke Chairman unveils Midlands sports complex

*Peter Coates launches the new Cheadle Sports Village*

*Recreation and sport in Staffordshire gets a much-needed boost as Peter Coates, Chairman of Stoke City Football Club, officially opens the new Cheadle Sports Village.*



Recreation and sport got a much needed boost with the official opening of the new Cheadle Sports Village.

Launched by Peter Coates, Chairman of Stoke City Football Club, the new sports complex now boasts a third generation artificial grass pitch, after Staffordshire Moorlands District Council worked with the Staffordshire FA to secure a £235,000 grant from the Football Foundation.

The development also includes new disability-friendly changing facilities, with a referees' room, a community room and a kitchen.

Councillor Mark Deaville, said: "I am so excited to see this fantastic sports project in Cheadle. I am also delighted to see that the facilities are being widely used by local football teams and other groups in the Cheadle area.

"It's a considerable investment for both the council and the Football Foundation but an investment that we know is already reaping huge benefits for local people and clubs.

"After this amazing summer of sport we all know how important a role sport can play in the local community. These state-of-the-art facilities are sure to increase participation in our area. It has been a great example of team work and clearly demonstrates what can be achieved if people pull in the same direction."

## Football Foundation TV

### Big Jack tries out our new pitch in Durham

*1966 World Cup legend rolls back the years to bury a penalty*



1966 World Cup Winner, Jack Charlton OBE, inspired the next generation of footballers at the opening of a brand new 3G pitch at Meadowfield Leisure Centre, Durham, funded by the Football Foundation.

As you can see from our exclusive short film of the day, Jack dazzled youngsters from local side Brandon FC with his penalty-taking skills and charmed the crowd with some trademark one-liners.

Click [here](#) for the full story.

### **Peter wants YOU to nominate a hero!**

*Man Utd legend fronts film promoting community award scheme*

*A new film featuring former Man United goalkeeper, Peter Schmeichel, urges people to nominate local champions for the Barclays Community Sports Awards, and land them £1,000 towards their community work.*

Click the image below to listen to Peter Schmeichel outline the Barclays Community Sports Awards.

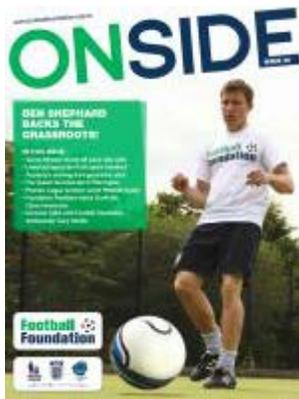




## Side Articles

### ONLINE 30

*Read our latest magazine*



The new issue of our magazine, ONSIDE, is out now!

Click the above image to read the online version, which features Foundation Ambassador and TV presenter, Ben Shephard, Sports Minister Hugh Robertson, Liverpool legend Ian Rush and an exclusive interview with England Coach - and new Foundation Ambassador - Gary Neville.

## Before and After

## Boost for the capital's sports mad youngsters

*East London college's sports pitch gets a makeover*



*Within the sight of major Olympic venues and Canary Wharf, Bacon's College got a much-needed sporting*



*makeover.*

Bacon's College worked hard with the London FA and Southwark Council to gain a £817,410 Foundation grant that allowed them to develop the sports ground at Mellish Fields. It now boasts a new floodlit artificial grass pitch, four real grass pitches for junior players and a state-of-the-art pavilion, housing eight changing rooms and three multi-purpose community rooms.

Overall participation within the park is expected to increase sevenfold, with over 7,000 pupils and members of the local community becoming regular users of these brand new facilities. Scroll through the gallery below by clicking on the 'right' arrow.

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