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## Introduction

### Dan is focused on the grassroots

*New Ambassador Dan Walker sees how a 3G pitch in Sheffield is shaping up*

*Presenter of BBC One's Football Focus, and new Football Foundation Ambassador, Dan Walker gets involved his first grassroots site visit, enjoying a go on a JCB.*



BBC One's Football Focus presenter, Dan Walker, is the Foundation's latest major signing after he agreed to become one of our Ambassadors.

Dan joins the growing list of friends of the Foundation that includes Gary Neville, John Scales, Ben Shephard, Gareth Southgate, Dion Dublin, Graham Taylor OBE, Georgie Bingham, Faye White MBE and Peter Beardsley MBE.

Dan Walker said: "I am thrilled to become an Ambassador for the Football Foundation.

"The grassroots is so important to our national game and the volunteers that give up their weekends so people of all ages and abilities can play for the love of it deserve all the help they can get – and decent pitches and facilities."

The Crawley Town FC fan has wasted no time in getting out and about to promote how funding from the Foundation's partners - the **Premier League**, **The FA**, **government** and **Sport England** - is supporting the millions of grassroots players and volunteers at community level.

He presented a cheque for £150,000 of Foundation funding to Sheffield City Council which will help to develop a brand new floodlit third generation artificial grass pitch (AGP) in North West Sheffield, at the Wisewood Sports Centre. The two partner junior teams, Wisewood JFC and Sheffield Sixes JFC, will be two of the many clubs to benefit from the new pitch which will be managed by the newly-created Forge Valley School.

Lesley Whittington, Sheffield City Councillor and Senior Project Manager, said: "This project will make use of what would otherwise be a derelict former school site, involving several partners to provide a facility for activities that will raise participation in the area.

"We are extremely grateful for the grant awarded to us by the Football Foundation."

Other projects currently underway in Sheffield include the new Westfield Community Football Centre in South East Sheffield and a new AGP in Lowfield. Since the Foundation was set up in 2000 it has worked closely with the **Sheffield and Hallamshire FA** to support 87 grassroots sports projects across the county with grants worth over £13m. These grants have attracted further partnership funding of £40m into the area's grassroots.

### England U21 boss opens new pitch in Peterborough

*Former international Stuart Pearce unveils new 3G surface*

*England Under-21 manager, Stuart Pearce MBE, officially opens a new third generation (3G) pitch in Peterborough funded by the Football Foundation and Peterborough City Council.*



England Under-21 manager, Stuart Pearce MBE, has officially opened a new third generation (3G) pitch in Peterborough funded by the Football Foundation and Peterborough City Council.

The new pitch will allow Netherton United Football Club to deliver their ambition of facilitating football-for-all throughout the local area. The venue will also play host to The FA's Football Mash Up programme, which in partnership with England team sponsor, Vauxhall, is aimed at reducing the dropout rate of 14-17 year olds in football.

Stuart Pearce said: "New 3G all-weather pitches, like this one in Peterborough, are crucial to the development of young aspiring footballers who need quality facilities to train and play on.

"It is fantastic to see Football Foundation funding making such a difference to clubs and communities across the country."

Netherton United Football Club and Peterborough City Council worked in partnership with the **Huntingdonshire FA** to secure a £246,000 grant from the Football Foundation.

Peterborough City Council has invested over £700,000 in the project that also includes a football development office and improved access and car parking. The community facility is available to be hired by residents and teams from across Peterborough.

Ron Seddon, Chairman of Netherton United Football Club, said: "The project has already done more to integrate and encourage young footballers from different living areas and communities in Peterborough than anything else we have achieved in our 21 years of providing football.

"We are grateful to the Football Foundation and Peterborough City Council for making this happen."

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### Gareth Southgate hands local sports hero £1,000 award

*...and urges people to nominate their colleagues for the honour*

*The Barclays Community Sports Award for November 2012 has been awarded to Katee Hui, for her passion and commitment towards the Hackney Laces community football team for girls.*



The **Barclays Community Sports Award** for November 2012 has been awarded to Katee Hui, for her passion and commitment towards the Hackney Laces community football team for girls. These monthly awards recognise the outstanding contributions to grassroots sport that are being made by individuals up and down the country.

Katee, originally from Canada and a London resident for the past six years, recognised a need for a girls' community football team in her local area of Hackney, London, that would allow teenagers to come together and share their passion for the sport. A year later and Hackney Laces now has over 50 members and has established U12, U14, U16 womens sides.

As well as helping the girls on the pitch, Katee and her three other female volunteer coaches offer support and guidance to members of the club with homework, GCSE tutoring, college interviews and they hold fundraiser days at the local Dalston supermarket to raise funds for pitch hire and insurance costs.

Katee comments: "I'm thrilled to accept the Barclays Community Sports Award and I'm sure the girls will be really pleased that our team has been recognised. I first set out wanting to create an environment where girls in the community could play football, but now it has become so much more than that and we're like a big family. The prize money will be put to great use and will help Hackney Laces guarantee pitch space as well as help some of the team members complete coaching qualifications."

Gareth Southgate, lead judge on the Barclays Community Sports Awards Panel, on presenting the award commented: "Katee is a great example of the work that many volunteers do across the UK in grassroots sports. It's brilliant that Katee has been recognised for her work in women's football by encouraging young girls to get involved in the sport, which is helping nurture a new generation of talent in women's football. It's important to recognise those doing so much for their communities, so I would urge people to nominate deserving candidates up and down the country for the Barclays Community Sports Awards."

Each monthly winner receives £1,000 for their group or organisation, half of which will be spent on skills-based qualifications for members. The winner also receives a limited edition trophy and is entered into the end of season award to win a further £5,000, donated by Barclays Spaces for Sports. The end of season award winner then receives a VIP trip to London to receive their award from Gareth Southgate.

The Barclays Community Sports Awards are delivered in partnership between **Barclays Spaces for Sports**, the Premier League's **Creating Chances** programme and the **Football Foundation**.

To nominate a person, group or organisation for the Barclays Community Sports Award of the Month simply visit [www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com](http://www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com).

## Eco Hub wins Environmental Award

*Cambs community centre wins award at Architect of the Year*

*Civic Architects, designers of the new Gamlingay Community Eco Hub, part funded by the Football Foundation, have won the Environmental Excellence Award at the Architect of the Year 2012 Awards.*



The small South Cambridgeshire village of Gamlingay is home to the greenest building in the country, according to Architect of the Year Awards 2012. Civic Architects, designers of the new Community Eco Hub, part funded by the Football Foundation, have won the Environmental Excellence Award at the Architect of the Year 2012 Awards.

The £1.3m Eco Hub, which was opened in March 2012 by the Rt Hon Andrew Lansley MP, received £17,000 from the Foundation, following assistance from the **Cambridgeshire FA**, towards new changing rooms for local sports teams and referees.

The "Eco" in its name stands as much for "economical" as "ecological" – since the completed building costs nothing to run – with its photovoltaics, solar water heaters and ground source heat pumps. What really stood out for the judges of the Environmental Excellence Award was the quiet way in which the community centre got on with being sustainable.

John Mercer, Chair of the Community Centre Management Committee, said: "From the day we opened, the Eco Hub has been a success and users express delight in the beautiful warm spaces – users that include a nursery school, a library and many sports and cultural activities and facilities for local businesses and conferences.

"We have a flexible building that is attuned to the wide range of needs in the community – congratulations to civic Architects."

In a strongly contested category, they approved of the fact that the 1970s village hall was not demolished but "recast" for its new 21st-century purpose.

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "Congratulations to civic Architects for winning the Environmental Excellence award.

"This ten year, £1.3 million project, part funded by the Football Foundation, has seen the complete recasting of a dilapidated village hall. The facility now costs nothing to run. What makes this so impressive is that the original building was not demolished, which just goes to show what can be achieved with the resources already available to you."

## Football Foundation TV

### Annual Review +

*Check out our award-winning online annual review*

*A year ago we decided to produce some short films of the projects featured in the Football Foundation Annual Review to bring them to life. After it won a CorpComms DigiAward, we have once again produced Annual Review +. Hope you enjoy it!*



Fresh from winning this year's CorpComms magazine DigiAward for **best online annual review**, we have produced our second ever version of **Annual Review +**.

The case studies featured in our Annual Review for 2012 **leap off the page** in AR+ thanks to the short films of the projects that we have put together.

Just click on the image below to start watching!

#### annual review + 2012

Welcome to Annual Review + 2012.

Annual Review + has been designed to bring to life the case studies of the main Annual Review, so you can learn more about how the money we've raised is making a difference to people's lives.

To find out more about Annual Review + please watch the video below from our Chief Executive.



## Side Articles

### Annual Review 2012

*Read our brand new Annual Review*

*Read our **Annual Review** online right now and see the impact made thanks to investment from the Foundation's funders: the **Premier League**, **The FA**, **Government** and **Sport England**.*



Our annual review for 2012 is hitting people's desks as we speak, but you can read it online right now by clicking on the front cover image below.



Packed with success stories from the grassroots, you can read about the difference being made to community sport thanks to investment by our funders: the Premier League, The FA, government and Sport England.

You can also watch short videos of the clubs, schools and projects featured in our annual review in our online version, [Annual Review + 2012](#).

## Before and After

### Grafham Grange score new 3G pitch

*Grafham Grange became the local centre of excellence with its amazing new facilities. Replacing the old walled garden, the new 3G pitch is increasing opportunity and participation, particularly for pupils with significant special educational needs.*



**Grafham Grange Special Educational Trust** now has a brand new third generation (3G) artificial grass pitch, replacing their old walled garden, that enables students to play sport all year round.

The fantastic new surface heralds the development of a Centre of Excellence for football in the community, which is widening opportunities for those with disabilities to participate in sport.

With the help of the **Surrey FA** the Trust received a £196,388 grant from the Football Foundation, enabling them to build the new floodlit facility which provides a wonderful opportunity to deliver football activity (and other sports and fitness programmes) that promote self esteem, motivation and achievement in players who are vulnerable and may have had only limited opportunities to experience the game until now.

Click the 'right' arrow to scroll through the below gallery of images to watch the transformation.

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity  
Registered Charity Number 1079309



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