With the festive season over and the days of over indulgence over for most of us, welcome back to the world of junior football and football matches every weekend or if you are involved with any of the 11-a-side teams playing on Council run pitches, football matches being called off every weekend!

**JACK HALLIWELL**

For those who may not be already aware, Jack Halliwell sadly passed away in November 2007. Jack will probably be best remembered for founding Chadderton Park F.C. and he was delighted to come to our Family Fun day in July when we celebrated the Club’s 30th birthday. Jack was a great lover of grassroots football and his coaching sessions at Grange School were attended by youth players still playing for Chadderton Park. The Club are arranging our own tribute to Jack later in the New Year.

**CHARTER STANDARD CLUB OF THE YEAR**

Since the last newsletter I am delighted to announce that Chadderton Park Football Club has been named as Manchester F.A.’s Charter Standard Club of the Year. Our name was then put forward to the Regional competition and several weeks ago we were informed that we had won the North West England Charter Standard Club of the Year Award. This is the first time that we have ever won this award and is all due to the time and effort put in by all the volunteers at the Club. It doesn’t matter how large or small your contribution is to the Club, the fact that you’re doing it is the reason we are where we are.

**SPORTMAN’S EVENING**

The Sportsman’s Evening at The Avant Hotel in November was a huge success, made so by all the people who helped organise the event. I think everybody there had an enjoyable night out. Venn Tracey was his usual funny self and Steve Daley’s football tales of the highs and lows (and mainly lows) of his career had me feeling sorry for him, almost.

A Paul Scholes Manchester United shirt. Signed by the man himself and professionally framed.

Not a bad prize for the price of a raffle ticket!
For anybody who missed the event, you missed a good night out, so don’t miss the next one which has already been booked for September 2008. Same location, different speaker. Don’t miss it!

**COACHES**

As to be expected with a club that is developing the way we are, the number of qualified coaches within the Club increases. In accordance with our Charter Standard status, we ensure that all people coaching your children are qualified to do so. The Club now has over 30 Level 1 coaches working within the Club. Some of these people decided to pursue their coaching qualifications further and put in a lot of time and effort during the year to obtain their Level 2 coaching award. Congratulations to Mark Lengden, Frank Nolan and Chris Nolan who attended Bolton Wanderers and Manchester F.A. to achieve this. They now join Andy Mason and Mark Beddall bringing the total number of Level 2 coaches at the club to five.

If reading this has made you think, “I could do that”, well don’t just think it, speak up! We are always looking for extra volunteers to come on board and help. See me or any committee member or your team manager.

**FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

Well well well, long time leader “Piston Broke” gets overtaken at the top by new leader “Real Georgio” but the lead is only one single point. The chasing pack of “Massive Club” “Chaddy Park FC” and “O’Shea is a Legend” are hot on their heels. Meanwhile what has happened to early pace setter “Knighty’s No-Hopers” maybe they do exactly what it says on the tin! For the rest, down in the basement area with me, don’t worry, it’s a marathon not a sprint; those at top at Christmas rarely win the league and it’s better to peak at the run in than now! That’s what I keep telling myself anyway.

**BUY-A-BRICK**

I think the majority of people at the Club are aware of our involvement at Chadderton Fold. The plans for development overcame the next obstacle recently when the Planning Committee gave the go ahead to build the new club house. The only leaves the slight problem of raising the money!

Last month the Club launched its “Buy-a-Brick” campaign to help raise the funds. For £5.00 you can “Buy-a-Brick” for the new clubhouse. You will receive a certificate acknowledging your contribution and your name will be entered in a register kept at the new building for a lifetime.

Maybe you work for a company that would be prepared to invest more than £5.00. For £125.00 you could buy 25 bricks and have your name or company name displayed on a large sign in the building. £250.00 would buy 50 bricks and entitle you
to have your own individual engraved plaque in the building. £500.00 would buy 100 bricks and you could have a large individual engraved plaque in the building.

There is no other Junior Football Club in this town that is providing this sort of facility for its players. Others may follow but we will be the first.

HELP US TURN THIS………………                                 INTO THIS.

Think of it like this, not only are you helping provide first class facilities for our children and our children’s children but you have the opportunity to obtain a piece of history and put your name to a great project that will still be there long after we are gone!

RACE NIGHT

Speaking of fundraising, the Club’s annual race night takes place on Friday 14th March 2008 at North Chadderton Social and Bowling Club. A good fun evening out for all the family. Further news from your team managers in the near future.
THE CLUB WEBSITE

Did you know the Club has its own website? You can view it at www.chaddertonparkfc.co.uk. You may think that there is quite a lot of information on there for some teams and not much for the others. That is because only some teams send information in. The website is for everybody at the Club so use it. Any photos and information can be sent to Craig Simpson (U8s manager and committee member) or any committee member via your team manager. Don’t rely on your team manager to do everything.

Did you know that the Club’s Committee and Managers meet every two months? The meetings are usually on the first Monday of the month. By the time you read this you will have missed the January meeting so the next one is in March. The meetings are not exclusively for Committee members and managers so why not come down and find out about what is going on at the Club?

At the time of going to print both our Under 10s teams; our Under 14s and Under 19s are riding high at the top of their respective leagues. The Under 11s; U14s and U19s are through to the last 16 of the County Cup. We wish them and all our teams the very best of luck for the rest of the season.

The next club Newsletter will be out around Easter 2008. If you have items suitable for publication don’t sit on them send them to me now.

I’ve attached a separate sheet to this newsletter. It’s not serious but it appeals to my sense of humour. And it does make you think doesn’t it?

Steve Lynch
Secretary
Chadderton Park F.C.
Born in the 1920s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s. Is this you?

First, we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses made of asbestos.

They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, raw egg products, loads of bacon and processed meat, tuna from a can, and didn't get tested for diabetes or cervical cancer.

Then after that trauma, our baby cribs were covered with bright coloured lead-based paints.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking!!

As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.

We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle. Take away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC, Steers, Nandos.

Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on the weekends, somehow we didn't starve to death! We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE actually died from this.

We could collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the corner store and buy Chappies, Wilson’s Toffees, Wicks Bubble Gum and some crackers to blow up frogs with.

We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because......

We were always outside playing!!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And we were O.K.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and cubby houses and played in river beds with matchbox cars.

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on DSTV, no video tape movies, no surround sound, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet or Internet chat rooms.........WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!
We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no Lawsuits from these accidents.

Only girls had pierced ears!

You could only buy Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns at Easter time.......no really!

We were given pellet guns and catapults for our 10th birthdays!!

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell, or just yelled for them!

FOOTBALL and CRICKET had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!! Getting into the team was based on MERIT AND NOT DUE TO BLACKMAIL, THREATS AND GUILT FROM THE PAST..... strange but true!

Our teachers used to belt us with big sticks and leather straps and bully's always ruled the playground at school.

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of.

**They actually sided with the law!**

Our parents didn't invent stupid names for their kids like 'Kiora' and 'Blade' and 'Ridge' and 'Vanilla'

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever!

The past 70 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas.

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL!

And YOU are one of them!

CONGRATULATIONS!