A very Happy and Prosperous New Year wishes to everybody at Chadderton Park Football Club. Does it only seem a short time ago we were all preparing for a new millennium as we moved into the 21st century and here we are now in 2010. A decade may have slipped by but one thing hasn’t changed and that is the state of our local football pitches. This latest snowfall, the heaviest that I can remember for many years, will result in all our 11-a-side teams falling even further behind with their fixtures this season. The snow, however, just masks the underlying problem of lack of investment in facilities and poor drainage which will result in many more fixtures being postponed because of waterlogged pitches throughout the rest of the season resulting and the usual backlog of fixtures and then playing 3 times a week in April and May trying to catch up. What a pity our Local Authority, who don’t have the funds to invest in our pitches, don’t have the foresight to lease the pitches to grassroots football clubs such as ourselves who can access funding from The Football Foundation, use it to improve the pitches and then maintain and manage them. This does happen elsewhere in the country but not in our town. Maybe we should look for our own piece of land and build our own facilities; nothing too grand, but big enough for two or three football pitches and some changing rooms and it must be in Chadderton. It’s not too much to ask is it? Yes I know that every piece of land in Chadderton seems to be sold for housing development but if you see anything suitable, let us know.

SPORTSMANS EVENING

Our third annual Sportsman’s Evening last September proved to be the best yet. Guest speaker Jeff Winter (ex Premier League referee) may not have been everybody favourite when he was on the pitch but he proved to be a very entertaining after dinner speaker and comedian Les Gibson’s impressions brought the house down.

If you missed it, you missed a great evening but don’t worry next year’s dinner is already booked for Friday 1st October 2010 when the speaker will be Norman Whiteside, ex United and Everton player, who became the youngest player in history to appear in the World Cup when he represented Northern Ireland at Spain in 1982. Make a note in your diary now and don’t miss it.
CHADDERTON PARK GOES GREEN

No, not a change of kit colour but we are doing more recycling. Our latest venture is recycling mobile phones so if Father Christmas brought you the latest all singing and dancing mobile phone, and your old one has been cast aside, then don’t abandon it, donate it to the Club. We will be able to recycle it and raise money for the Club at the same time. Mark Rimmer (head coach of the U6s) is running the scheme and any old phones, with or without chargers, can be forwarded to him via your own team manager.

Mark is also recycling printer ink cartridges. So when you have finished printing all your Christmas photos, and your ink cartridges need replacing, don’t throw the old ones away, send them to us.

If you are unable to get any of these items to Mark please feel free to deliver them in a carrier bag to the Chadderton Park FC Warehouse c/o 23 Selby Avenue Chadderton OL9 0PU where they can be left under the car port.

Thanks to all those that responded to our clothes recycling scheme. We built a clothes mountain didn’t we? Not only will all the clothes you donated be reused but we also raised over £500 for the Club for the two collections we made in 2009. We will be running the scheme again in 2010 so when other organisations drop their collection bags through your letter box at the rate of 3 or 4 a week, think about supporting our collection in Spring this year.

BAG PACKING

Many thanks to all the players and parents who supported the bag packing at Morrisons Store in Failsworth on 28th December. By all of you giving up one hour of your time that day, we raised a fantastic £1302.96. Pictures taken in the day can be viewed on our website at www.chaddertonparkfc.co.uk

There will be another bag packing fundraiser at Tescos on Chadderton Way on Sunday 31st January 2010 and we are asking you once again to give up an hour of your time again that day. I realise that this comes very soon after the first one but these dates are given to us by the stores and we have no choice in them. Please support this again as there is not likely to be another one until the end of 2010.
UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

If you or your players have been given Christmas gifts that you don’t know what to do with or you’ve got two of the same thing, look no further than Chadderton Park FC who are happy to take donations of gifts (not second hand). Hand them in to your team manager or me and we will find good use for them in various raffles throughout the year.

CHADDERTON FOLD

It may seem that all I go on about in these newsletters is raising money but in the last few years all our fund raising efforts have been channelled into developing Chadderton Fold. Within the last 4 years we have restored the football pitch; replaced the fencing on both sides and after demolishing the old wooden building we have replaced it with a modern brick built and purpose built building fit to serve future generations of our children. The building is now virtually completed and we expect it to be open later this year. All this was achieved by our own fund raising efforts and an army of volunteers who either freely gave up their time or donated materials towards the cause. Further details can be seen on our website at www.chaddertonparkfc.co.uk

LOTTERY

Did you know Chadderton Park FC run our own lottery and you can become a member? For the miserly sum of £1 per week you have the chance to win the monthly jackpot of £100. All these people are members and winners!

To become part of this all you need to do is complete a simple form which you can obtain from me (steve@chaddypark.co.uk) or speak to me directly and when Frank Nolan comes to your group to do the draw, you could be the next winner!

RACE NIGHT

The Race Night is booked for Friday 12th March 2010 at North Chadderton Social and Bowling Club. Not only is this one of the main fundraising evenings for the Club but it is a fantastic night out for players and parents alike with our resident DJ Andy Saunders. For all those who want to buy horses for the night, see your team manager now.
SCARF PHOTO COMPETITION

The annual hat and scarf photo competition is underway again and is open to all players at the Club. All you have to do is take your Chadderton Park hat or scarf on holiday and have your photograph taken with it. In fact it doesn’t have to be on holiday, it can be anywhere that makes a good photo. Last year Carl Ward sent this one in that was taken 60 feet deep in the Red Sea at Egypt and featured in the local press. It’s not bad but I’m sure some of you can do better!

This year’s prize is a framed Manchester City first team photo with individual photos of Gareth Barry and Roque Santa Cruz personally signed by them and donated by Manchester City (see the website at www.chaddertonparkfc.co.uk)

CLUB SHOP

Did you know that all Club merchandise can be ordered through the Club shop. Check out the shop on our website at www.chaddertonparkfc.co.uk where you can order framed photos; clocks; umbrellas; ties; hats; scarves etc. etc. You can order all merchandise direct from Craig at craig@chaddypark.co.uk of through your team manager

PRESENTATION NIGHT

The Club’s annual presentation night will take place on Friday 18th June 2010 at The Queen Elizabeth Hall Oldham. Please make a note in your diaries.

The next newsletter will be out around Easter 2010. If you have any articles, stories or gossip, fit to print, send them to me now.

Steve Lynch
Secretary
Chadderton Park FC