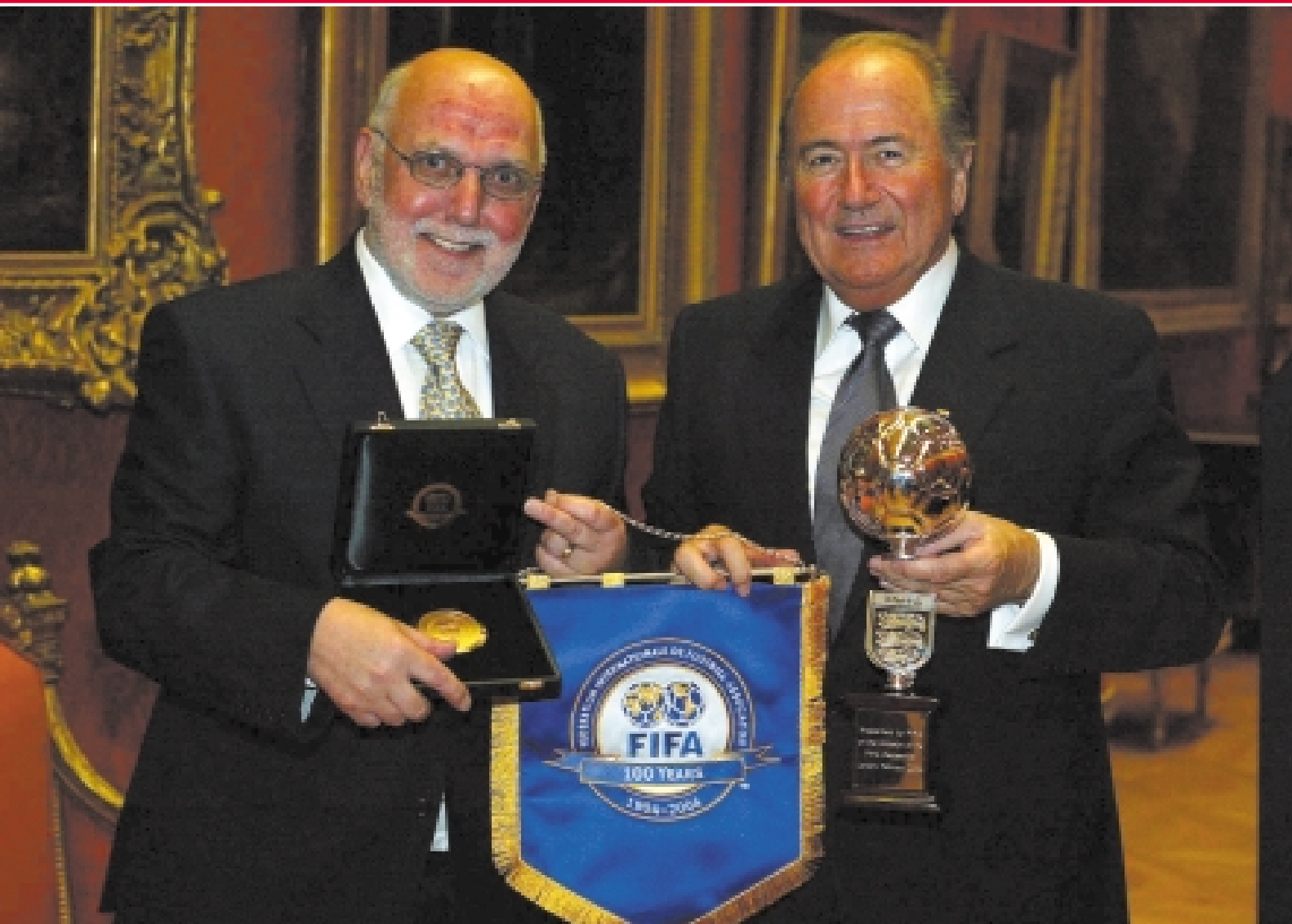




COMMUNIQUÉ



COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUE TEN

FIFA's tribute to British football

TheFA.com

In its Centennial year, FIFA chose London as the setting for the 2004 International Football Association Board and a meeting of the FIFA Executive Committee. FA Chairman Geoff Thompson is seen here exchanging commemorative gifts with FIFA President Sepp Blatter.

- OFC's Indigenous Talented Coaches scheme gets under way
- Looking ahead to the FA-CONCACAF partnership in 2004
- FA Chairman is special guest at CAF's General Assembly
- David Elleray takes his experience to South Africa
- FA-CONMEBOL programme addresses safety & security
- Continued FA support for Afghanistan
- Q&A with FA Chairman Geoff Thompson



OFC

Indigenous Talented Coaches scheme gets under way



Alan Gillett and the group enjoy a break from the action

FA Coach Alan Gillett, fresh from a spell as Malawi national team coach, led the first event of the FA-OFC Co-operation Programme. This coincided with the delivery of the first OFC Senior Licence Level 1 course (based on The FA's Level 1) under the new OFC Accreditation Scheme. Tailored for coaches from the island countries, the OFC 'Indigenous Talented Coaches' scheme provides a structured programme which aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To promote, foster and assist indigenous coaches in developing coaching and administration skills;
- To increase their participation in the delivery of coach education courses and player development programmes;
- To use this initiative as a means to increase their involvement in football development programmes throughout OFC.



FA Coach Alan Gillett and OFC Honorary President Charles Dempsey address coaches during a theory session

Successful candidates will progress to a Level 2 course to be conducted by Gillett in Auckland in June. Meanwhile, The FA will sponsor three coaches to attend its International Coaching Licence course in England this summer.

CONCACAF



CONCACAF partnership looks forward

The 2004 FA-CONCACAF programme kicks off in March with a repeat of the popular FA International Coaching Licence course in Port of Spain. Just under 40 coaches from across the region will take part in a bid to secure the coaching award (the equivalent of UEFA's 'B' Licence) as CONCACAF focuses on improving the quality and qualifications of its coaches.

Fitness will be on the agenda in May, when an FA Fitness Training Workshop will address national team coaches as the crucial qualifying matches for the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™ draw near.

The 2004 programme will conclude with a media management workshop later in the year.



The FA-CONCACAF courses are held at the Dr João Havelange Centre of Excellence in Trinidad

"The FA has continued to provide significant support for our Development Programme at the Centre of Excellence in Trinidad", said CONCACAF'S Director of Development, Richard Braithwaite. "In the past 3 years we have trained close to 1000 persons from all over the region with all participants benefiting from The FA's expertise. We are now looking forward to an even more exciting and successful programme in 2004."

CAF

Chairman attends African football's assembly in Tunis



Geoff Thompson was a special guest of CAF at their General Assembly in Tunis ahead of the 24th edition of the African Cup of Nations, having also attended the previous conference in Mali in 2002.

As well as witnessing Issa Hayatou's convincing re-election as President of CAF, the FA Chairman was also given the opportunity to renew discussions with The FA's various partner associations throughout the African confederation.



The Tunisian team celebrate with the Cup of Nations trophy

"It is important to understand, or at least have a first-hand and informed appreciation of, Africa's issues, so that the relatively modest contribution we are able to make to football in this huge continent is targeted, appropriate and of value to its development," Thompson said.

The Cup of Nations was won by the host nation Tunisia, after an all North African final saw them beat neighbours Morocco 2-1 to claim their first victory in the competition.

Addicks in Africa



Coaches from Charlton Athletic's Community Scheme ran a coach education course in a South African township in November 2003.

The visit was organised under the 'Addicks in Africa' banner, an initiative spearheaded by Charlton's South African players Mark Fish and Shaun Bartlett. It was staged in partnership with British Airways, Southwark Police and the John Cabat School and was supported by The FA.



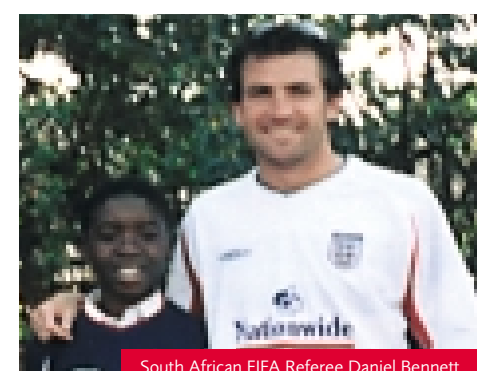
Photos: Peter McKenzie

Elleray combines skills in South Africa

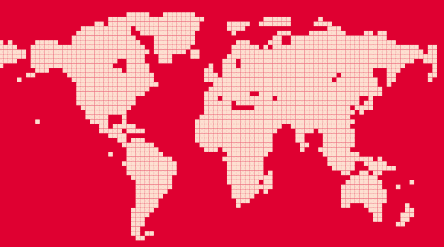


On a recent trip to South Africa, David Elleray - former Premiership referee and House Master at Harrow School - ran a clinic for local referees and school teachers from disadvantaged schools in Alexandra township, Johannesburg.

The participants included FIFA and Premier Soccer League referees and youth referees. David also visited the Mondeor Primary School in Soweto, where he presented an FA donation of footballs and shirts.

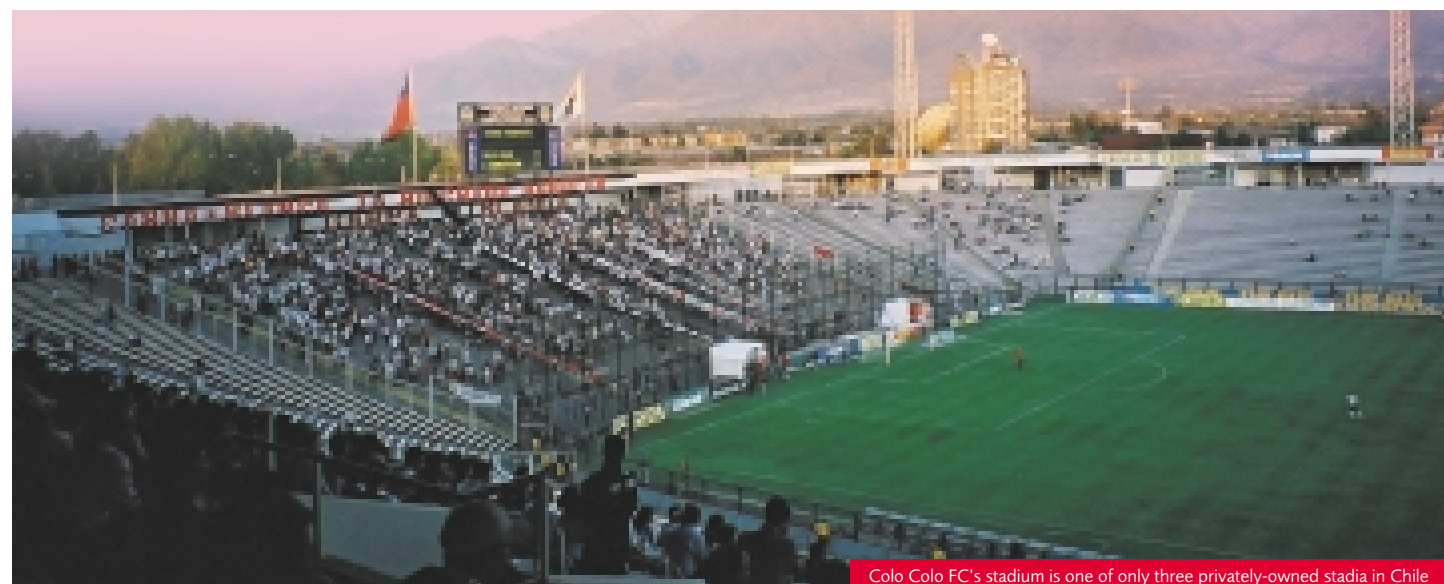


South African FIFA Referee Daniel Bennett



CONMEBOL

FA-CONMEBOL Programme addresses stadium safety and security



Colo Colo FC's stadium is one of only three privately-owned stadia in Chile

Two 'Stadium Safety and Security' seminars were held in Ecuador and Chile in early March as part of The FA-CONMEBOL Co-operation Programme.

The FA delegation included Detective Superintendent Bryan Drew (Assistant Director - Specialist Intelligence, National Criminal Intelligence Service), John de Quidt (CEO, Football Licensing Authority) and



Chris Whalley (FA Head of Stadia, Safety and Security). Over 170 senior representatives from government, stadia and clubs joined members of police forces, media and football authorities at the seminars. Representatives from the Mexican and Paraguayan football federations were also in attendance.

Francisco Acosta, General Secretary of the Ecuadorian FF, said, "We are proud to have organised the first ever FA



Detective Superintendent Bryan Drew draws on his experience of football-related criminality and disorder

Stadium Safety and Security seminar here in Ecuador. We want to avoid problems in the future, and prevention is better than cure."

Seminar themes included: An overview of football hooliganism, Problems with stadium safety in England up to 1989, Lessons from stadium disasters, and An overview of the measures introduced in England.

"We had the disasters so we had to learn," said de Quidt. "We have come to share our experience with others, but not to tell them what to do. Our hope is that they will learn the lessons without suffering the disasters."



The audience in Ecuador included over 60 national police officers



Bryan Drew with delegates from the Paraguayan federation who travelled to Santiago for the seminar

The FA's Chris Whalley added, "Our football authorities and government had to make some drastic changes. We implemented new security and safety measures, improved our stadia and introduced strict legislation such as Football Banning Orders. English football would be crippled if our clubs were banned from Europe again."

Each federation presented an overview of its security problems, mostly associated with violent supporter behaviour. General Secretary of the Chilean FF, Sergio Toloza, cited two incidents when games were suspended due to a player and match official being injured by objects thrown from the crowd. He urged the government, police and



John de Quidt discusses the issues raised at the seminar with BBC World Service reporter Alex Capstick

media to work with the football authorities to tackle their problems, highlighting the negative economic impact on the game from a decline in match attendances and loss of interest from sponsors.



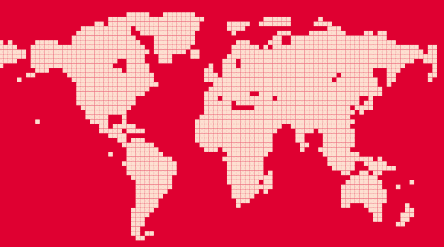
FA International Relations Manager Kim Fisher introduces the FA delegation at the Ecuador seminar

"We are all delighted with the response your seminar generated within our country," said Chile's Felipe Chaigneau. "Security is now finally being tackled not only from a 'political', but also a 'technical' viewpoint, and this signifies a huge step forward in terms of solving our problems."

An FA-led 'Tournament Organisation' workshop takes place in April in Lima, Peru, in advance of the Copa America and next year's FIFA U17 World Championships.



The Santos football team train at Barcelona FC's stadium in Guayaquil, Ecuador



AFC

Football's presidents visit FA stand at Soccerex, UAE



The FA's International Relations team, Jane Bateman and Kim Fisher (right), with CEO of Wembley National Stadium Michael Cunnah and FA Learning's Danielle Every, were joined by FA President HRH The Duke of York and FIFA President Sepp Blatter on their stand at the Soccerex conference in Dubai. The event provided an opportunity to promote The FA's international work and products.



New Iraqi FA personnel welcomed

The FA received new Iraqi FA President Hussein Saeed Mohammad and Iraqi National Team Coach Bernd Stange at its London headquarters recently to discuss the team's forthcoming Goodwill Tour to England and other potential areas of co-operation. The Tour is being organised by AKB Media with support from various strategic partners, including Mitre who will be providing the team with kit and footballs.



England Coach Sven Goran Eriksson greets the Iraqis

Afghan football revival continues



The FA's representative in Afghanistan, Michael Moriarty, renewed his contract for a further six months. He will continue to provide administrative assistance to the Afghanistan Football Federation as it continues to find its feet following its re-admission to FIFA in 2002.



Afghan FF President Abdul Alim Kohistani, German Technical Advisor Holger Obermann, and AFF Technical Director Ali Lali

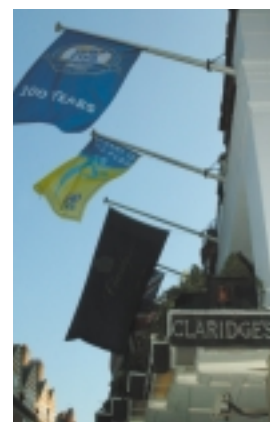
The FA is a participant alongside the DFB (German FA) in an 'international task force' led by FIFA. Moriarty's secondment is part-funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's Public Diplomacy Challenge Fund and the British All Party Parliamentary Football Group, as well as The FA's International Development Programme.



Afghan football looks forward to continued support from the international community

FIFA NEWS

FIFA Centennial celebrations in London



The FIFA Executive Committee and members of the International Football Association Board gathered in London in February. Britain was chosen as host to their respective meetings in FIFA's centennial year as a reflection of the role that it has played in the development of the global game of football.

The programme also included a reception hosted by Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport Tessa Jowell on behalf of the British Government as well as a reception hosted by Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace. Members of the delegation were also special guests of Fulham FC at their match against Manchester United.



FIFA President Sepp Blatter addresses the IFAB dinner at Claridge's



Sepp Blatter is introduced to Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace



A memento from IFAB'S inaugural meeting 100 years ago



Geoff Thompson and Tessa Jowell with Mohamed Bin Hammam and Jack Warner



Geoff Thompson and Sepp Blatter present Tony Blair with a commemorative print



FA CEO Mark Palios and Chairman Geoff Thompson enjoy a light hearted moment

Photos: Action Images / The Press Association

Q&A

with Geoff Thompson, Chairman of The Football Association

Geoff Thompson has been Chairman of The FA since 1998 but has served the game of football for nearly 40 years. He is renowned in his home country of England for his dedication not just to international football but also to the amateur game, as well as youth and women's football. Four years ago, his credentials led to his election to the UEFA Executive Committee. In 2002, he became a Vice President of Europe's governing body.

What are the most striking features of your career in football?

The most prominent feature has to be the pace of change which has completely transformed our game. While there has been unparalleled investment in football, an uncertain commercial environment has left many leagues and clubs across Europe with financial difficulties. This year UEFA's implementation of a club licensing scheme I believe will bring a more stable future for many of our clubs.

The investment in facilities has also brought a remarkable transformation to so many of our playing arenas. Football stadia provide a safe environment not only for the players but also for the fans. Football now attracts record numbers of women, families and disabled spectators. England's role in developing and implementing safety and security measures is recognised by the international community - the response to the recent seminars we held in South America was testament to that.

Speaking as a UEFA Vice President, what are the main issues facing European football in your view?

Europe is an incredibly diverse continent and perhaps inevitably there is a huge gulf between the smaller countries and the well-established football nations. Each have their own issues but at UEFA we have a responsibility to address them all fairly. 'Hat-Trick' is one programme which we have introduced to provide investment in facilities and basic infrastructure especially in countries where these are badly needed.



Photo: UEFA

You are seeking re-election to the UEFA Executive Committee. What are the main messages of your campaign?

At the heart of my campaign is a belief in the unity of UEFA and in the need to work together for a healthy future for all of us. There must also be a fairness and equality of opportunity across Europe. This can be delivered by ensuring the strength of our national associations; we must also maximise commercial potential and achieve financial stability for the game in Europe.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
April 13-16	Peru	FA-CONMEBOL Tournament Organisation workshop
April 22-23	Cyprus	UEFA Congress
May	England	Iraqi Senior National Team Goodwill Tour
May 20-21	France	FIFA Congress
May 22	Cardiff	FA Challenge Cup Final
May 30	Manchester	Iceland v Japan, Senior Friendly International
June 1	Manchester	England v Japan, Senior Friendly International
June 5	Manchester	England v Iceland, Senior Friendly International
June 12-July 4	Portugal	UEFA Euro 2004™

Kit donation



A local team in Hindu Kush, Pakistan, sports kit donated by The FA through the British High Commission in Islamabad



Designed and produced by The Bridge
Contact Rob Chappelhow
Tel: 01525 288000
Email: rob@the-bridge.co.uk



OFC

Indigenous Talented Coaches scheme gets under way



Alan Gillett and the group enjoy a break from the action

FA Coach Alan Gillett, fresh from a spell as Malawi national team coach, led the first event of the FA-OFC Co-operation Programme. This coincided with the delivery of the first OFC Senior Licence Level 1 course (based on The FA's Level 1) under the new OFC Accreditation Scheme. Tailored for coaches from the island countries, the OFC 'Indigenous Talented Coaches' scheme provides a structured programme which aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To promote, foster and assist indigenous coaches in developing coaching and administration skills;
- To increase their participation in the delivery of coach education courses and player development programmes;
- To use this initiative as a means to increase their involvement in football development programmes throughout OFC.



FA Coach Alan Gillett and OFC Honorary President Charles Dempsey address coaches during a theory session

Successful candidates will progress to a Level 2 course to be conducted by Gillett in Auckland in June. Meanwhile, The FA will sponsor three coaches to attend its International Coaching Licence course in England this summer.

CONCACAF



CONCACAF partnership looks forward

The 2004 FA-CONCACAF programme kicks off in March with a repeat of the popular FA International Coaching Licence course in Port of Spain. Just under 40 coaches from across the region will take part in a bid to secure the coaching award (the equivalent of UEFA's 'B' Licence) as CONCACAF focuses on improving the quality and qualifications of its coaches.

Fitness will be on the agenda in May, when an FA Fitness Training Workshop will address national team coaches as the crucial qualifying matches for the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™ draw near.

The 2004 programme will conclude with a media management workshop later in the year.



The FA-CONCACAF courses are held at the Dr João Havelange Centre of Excellence in Trinidad

"The FA has continued to provide significant support for our Development Programme at the Centre of Excellence in Trinidad", said CONCACAF'S Director of Development, Richard Braithwaite. "In the past 3 years we have trained close to 1000 persons from all over the region with all participants benefiting from The FA's expertise. We are now looking forward to an even more exciting and successful programme in 2004."

CAF

Chairman attends African football's assembly in Tunis



Geoff Thompson was a special guest of CAF at their General Assembly in Tunis ahead of the 24th edition of the African Cup of Nations, having also attended the previous conference in Mali in 2002.

As well as witnessing Issa Hayatou's convincing re-election as President of CAF, the FA Chairman was also given the opportunity to renew discussions with The FA's various partner associations throughout the African confederation.



The Tunisian team celebrate with the Cup of Nations trophy

"It is important to understand, or at least have a first-hand and informed appreciation of, Africa's issues, so that the relatively modest contribution we are able to make to football in this huge continent is targeted, appropriate and of value to its development," Thompson said.

The Cup of Nations was won by the host nation Tunisia, after an all North African final saw them beat neighbours Morocco 2-1 to claim their first victory in the competition.

Addicks in Africa



Coaches from Charlton Athletic's Community Scheme ran a coach education course in a South African township in November 2003.

The visit was organised under the 'Addicks in Africa' banner, an initiative spearheaded by Charlton's South African players Mark Fish and Shaun Bartlett. It was staged in partnership with British Airways, Southwark Police and the John Cabat School and was supported by The FA.



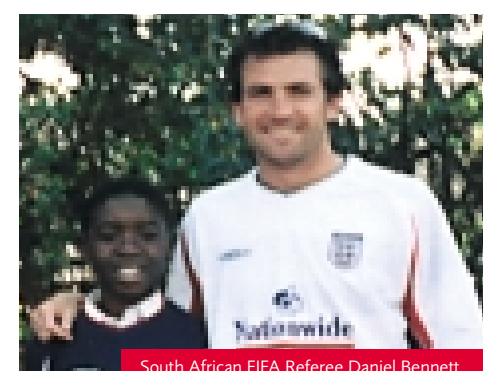
Photos: Peter McKenzie

Elleray combines skills in South Africa

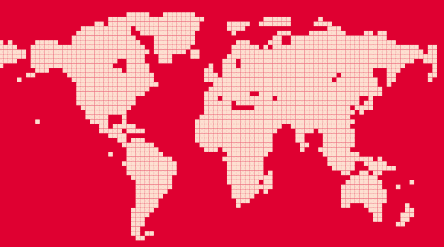


On a recent trip to South Africa, David Elleray - former Premiership referee and House Master at Harrow School - ran a clinic for local referees and school teachers from disadvantaged schools in Alexandra township, Johannesburg.

The participants included FIFA and Premier Soccer League referees and youth referees. David also visited the Mondeor Primary School in Soweto, where he presented an FA donation of footballs and shirts.

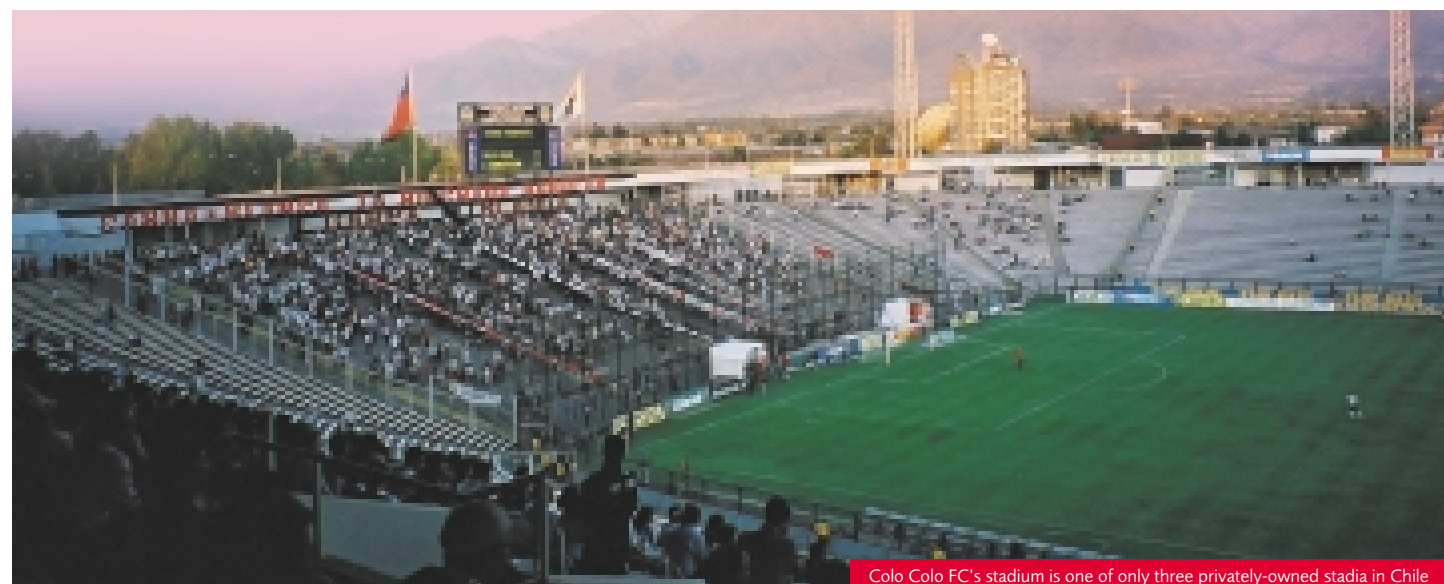


South African FIFA Referee Daniel Bennett



CONMEBOL

FA-CONMEBOL Programme addresses stadium safety and security



Colo Colo FC's stadium is one of only three privately-owned stadia in Chile

Two 'Stadium Safety and Security' seminars were held in Ecuador and Chile in early March as part of The FA-CONMEBOL Co-operation Programme.

The FA delegation included Detective Superintendent Bryan Drew (Assistant Director - Specialist Intelligence, National Criminal Intelligence Service), John de Quidt (CEO, Football Licensing Authority) and



Chris Whalley (FA Head of Stadia, Safety and Security). Over 170 senior representatives from government, stadia and clubs joined members of police forces, media and football authorities at the seminars. Representatives from the Mexican and Paraguayan football federations were also in attendance.

Francisco Acosta, General Secretary of the Ecuadorian FF, said, "We are proud to have organised the first ever FA



Detective Superintendent Bryan Drew draws on his experience of football-related criminality and disorder

Stadium Safety and Security seminar here in Ecuador. We want to avoid problems in the future, and prevention is better than cure."

Seminar themes included: An overview of football hooliganism, Problems with stadium safety in England up to 1989, Lessons from stadium disasters, and An overview of the measures introduced in England.

"We had the disasters so we had to learn," said de Quidt. "We have come to share our experience with others, but not to tell them what to do. Our hope is that they will learn the lessons without suffering the disasters."



The audience in Ecuador included over 60 national police officers



Bryan Drew with delegates from the Paraguayan federation who travelled to Santiago for the seminar

The FA's Chris Whalley added, "Our football authorities and government had to make some drastic changes. We implemented new security and safety measures, improved our stadia and introduced strict legislation such as Football Banning Orders. English football would be crippled if our clubs were banned from Europe again."

Each federation presented an overview of its security problems, mostly associated with violent supporter behaviour. General Secretary of the Chilean FF, Sergio Toloza, cited two incidents when games were suspended due to a player and match official being injured by objects thrown from the crowd. He urged the government, police and



John de Quidt discusses the issues raised at the seminar with BBC World Service reporter Alex Capstick

media to work with the football authorities to tackle their problems, highlighting the negative economic impact on the game from a decline in match attendances and loss of interest from sponsors.



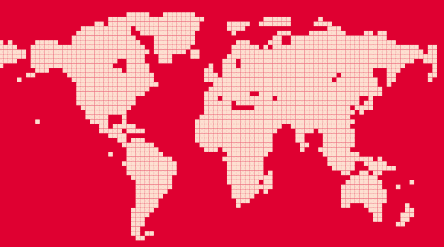
FA International Relations Manager Kim Fisher introduces the FA delegation at the Ecuador seminar

"We are all delighted with the response your seminar generated within our country," said Chile's Felipe Chaigneau. "Security is now finally being tackled not only from a 'political', but also a 'technical' viewpoint, and this signifies a huge step forward in terms of solving our problems."

An FA-led 'Tournament Organisation' workshop takes place in April in Lima, Peru, in advance of the Copa America and next year's FIFA U17 World Championships.



The Santos football team train at Barcelona FC's stadium in Guayaquil, Ecuador



AFC

Football's presidents visit FA stand at Soccerex, UAE



The FA's International Relations team, Jane Bateman and Kim Fisher (right), with CEO of Wembley National Stadium Michael Cunnah and FA Learning's Danielle Every, were joined by FA President HRH The Duke of York and FIFA President Sepp Blatter on their stand at the Soccerex conference in Dubai. The event provided an opportunity to promote The FA's international work and products.



New Iraqi FA personnel welcomed

The FA received new Iraqi FA President Hussein Saeed Mohammad and Iraqi National Team Coach Bernd Stange at its London headquarters recently to discuss the team's forthcoming Goodwill Tour to England and other potential areas of co-operation. The Tour is being organised by AKB Media with support from various strategic partners, including Mitre who will be providing the team with kit and footballs.



England Coach Sven Goran Eriksson greets the Iraqis

Afghan football revival continues



The FA's representative in Afghanistan, Michael Moriarty, renewed his contract for a further six months. He will continue to provide administrative assistance to the Afghanistan Football Federation as it continues to find its feet following its re-admission to FIFA in 2002.



Afghan FF President Abdul Alim Kohistani, German Technical Advisor Holger Obermann, and AFF Technical Director Ali Lali

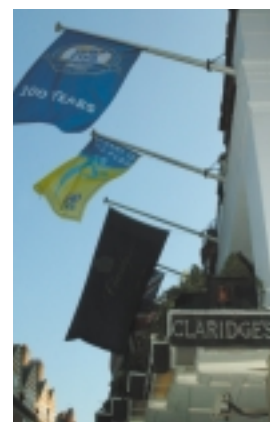
The FA is a participant alongside the DFB (German FA) in an 'international task force' led by FIFA. Moriarty's secondment is part-funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's Public Diplomacy Challenge Fund and the British All Party Parliamentary Football Group, as well as The FA's International Development Programme.



Afghan football looks forward to continued support from the international community

FIFA NEWS

FIFA Centennial celebrations in London



The FIFA Executive Committee and members of the International Football Association Board gathered in London in February. Britain was chosen as host to their respective meetings in FIFA's centennial year as a reflection of the role that it has played in the development of the global game of football.

The programme also included a reception hosted by Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport Tessa Jowell on behalf of the British Government as well as a reception hosted by Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace. Members of the delegation were also special guests of Fulham FC at their match against Manchester United.



FIFA President Sepp Blatter addresses the IFAB dinner at Claridge's



Sepp Blatter is introduced to Her Majesty The Queen at Buckingham Palace



A memento from IFAB'S inaugural meeting 100 years ago



Geoff Thompson and Tessa Jowell with Mohamed Bin Hammam and Jack Warner



Geoff Thompson and Sepp Blatter present Tony Blair with a commemorative print



FA CEO Mark Palios and Chairman Geoff Thompson enjoy a light hearted moment

Photos: Action Images / The Press Association