



NEWSLETTER – July 2020

Virtual Climb for Football for Life

On 15th May children from Warley Baptist Church in the UK, took on a unique challenge to raise funds for Oasis Football for Life.

The boys and one girl all aged 13 or under completed a virtual climb of Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales, by taking 4,610 steps up and down the stairs in their respective homes!

In total they raised £480 for the work of Football for Life. A great achievement and a great way to spend lockdown!



**Thank you so much for
your support!**

New Appointment!



Congratulations to Oasis Community Learning teacher, Shinnel Paras, who has been appointed to a pioneering new education project that Oasis is running with Crystal Palace F.C. Academy.

She will be ensuring young footballers in Years 8-11 fulfil their potential on and off the pitch using the Oasis 9 Habits ethos, including character development and managing emotions.

Messages of Support from Friends of FFL

During this time of Covid-19 friends and supporters of Oasis Football for Life have been sending messages of support and encouragement to our players and coaches. Here's a selection of those messages....



"I remember meeting the Beersheba FC team in Uganda many years ago and was really impressed with the dedication and skills of players and the great work by the coaches to develop life skills. I really hope that you can enjoy your football again very soon. Do take care, stay positive, and stay safe"

Eddie and his children, Joseph (8), Eva (7), and Ruben (5) support Lincoln City FC.



"Football has a beautiful way of connecting and engaging with people of all ages and backgrounds. The work Oasis does to support and encourage youngsters and those they work with is an inspiration. Big Love to you all!"

Chelsea fans Stu Alleway, and his son, Judah.

"Stay safe during this difficult time. Once this is over we will enjoy playing football again but in the meantime keep safe and God bless."

Jonathan Gordon and his son Isaac, support West Bromwich Albion.



Matt is a fan of Arsenal

"To all the FFL coaches and players around the world, keep on training, keeping fit, and learning as football will be a positive tool to unite us all in the days to come. Cheering you all on no matter who you support. Together we are stronger!"



"Community is more important than ever during this pandemic. Keep supporting each other."

Stu, Wolverhampton Wanderers supporter.



Oasis LionHearts Tackle Covid-19

The Oasis Lionhearts, based at the Oasis Hobmoor Hub in Yardley, Birmingham, have been active during this period of Covid-19, ensuring their players and the wider community have been well supported...

Hub Leader Andy Brown shares about an initiative that took place in May:

“When the Lionhearts heard about families who had to be emergency housed and were living in temporary accommodation they immediately wanted to help.

The families were particularly in need of clothing for boys and with all the shops closed they had nothing to wear except the clothes on their backs.

Brothers Adil, Hamza and Yusuf searched their cupboards, gathered their unwanted clothes and a few days later even more donations came in. One of the players, Haseeb, even contributed from his own pocket money.”

In total 45 items were donated.

Head Coach Richard Bell from the Lionhearts Football School of Excellence had this to say:

“I was very pleased with the team’s performance. Oasis Lionhearts and the Lionheart Football School of Excellence are passionate about the game but once again we have shown that we are so much more than just football.”



The Oasis Lionhearts are also doing fantastic work keeping children and young people fit and healthy during this difficult time through a special fitness programme. The programme has been designed with all social distancing measures being observed and is proving very popular!

You can find out more about this initiative through the following link: <https://youtu.be/6BQ5-CLdzxs>

More information and a link to donate to this excellent project can also be found on the Hobmoor Community Centre and Oasis Football for Life Facebook pages.



From the Coaches...



Eduardo is a Football for Life coach in Mozambique. Here he shares about his experience of the Covid-19 pandemic in the city of Beira.

“The first case was detected in Mozambique in March and on April 1 the government ordered a state of emergency; we are now in the second month and all activities involving groups of people are cancelled, of course including football.

As coaches and leaders, we have visited our players and we are supporting them and their families, and encouraging compliance with the preventive measures. I also want to encourage all leaders to continue praying that the number of cases does not increase. Discipline has helped to address the challenges in China and we also need to follow the guidelines to ensure that people in Mozambique, and in all the other countries, can survive.”




Ashim is Senior team player and the Under 14s coach of Beersheba FC in Uganda.

"The situation in Uganda is very tough. Personally, I'm not affected too much as my employers have retained me in the company, but it's clearly difficult for the general community including my fellow players and their families. There's limited access to basic requirements such as food and medical care and so many activities have been affected.

We're no longer able to carry out football training which my under 14s are missing a lot, but we're hoping that soon the situation will be fine for us to play our football again.

I want to encourage fellow coaches and players to observe the preventive health measures and remain hopeful that the storm will pass for us to enjoy football again. Let's not panic but remain calm and vigilant to support each other to come out of this situation much stronger."



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