

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

ISSUE 11

MAGAZINE

APRIL 2018



LUCY BRONZE

- Lucy Bronze discusses the Champions League, England and how she is settling in at Lyon.

- Dan Pentland spends time with Actonians LFC looking at grassroots football.

- As well as The Continental Tyres Cup final, The Women's Football Conference and so much more!!

Welcome

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Welcome

Welcome to Issue 11!

I cannot believe we are already on 11 issues, this year has flown by! What exciting news we have had this month. Manchester United and Southampton have put bids to join the women's second tier. They will go up against: Charlton Athletic, Coventry United, Crystal Palace, Derby County, Leicester City, Lewes, Sheffield United, Watford, plus others.

It is fantastic news and you can learn more about it in our next issue when Chief Sports Reporter Jessica Pratt (and very ecstatic Man U fan!) will look further into it.

Well done to Phil Neville and the Lionesses in the She Believes Cup, it was an excellent tournament and there was some great play.

If you are reading this then you are in with a chance of winning a signed Lionesses shirt! For our birthday we are giving subscribers a chance to win - so make sure you tell all your friends and family to get signed up. There are different ways of subscribing so just go to www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/subscribe to find out more.

Enjoy the issue!
Helen Rowe-Willcocks
Editor



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Continental



WSL CONTINENTAL TYRES CUP



CHAMPION



About my month

Well as always it has been a very busy month!

I spent two days at The Women's Football Conference at the beginning of the month. It was absolutely fascinating listening to how women's football was started and has developed in countries all over the world.

I certainly learnt a lot and it was great having the opportunity to go around the National Football Museum and see the women's football artifacts in there.

Over the upcoming months we will be launching a new article in the magazine called "From the archives" which will feature interviews and artifacts from the conference.

From next month we will also have a brand new kids' section which will include "10 questions", a wordsearch and much more. We will be showcasing families who love to go watch women's football - if this is you then please get in touch thewomensfootballmagazine@gmail.com.

I very much enjoyed watching the She Believes Cup and also managed to watch the Champions League quarter finals. It is very exciting that both of the SSE FA Cup quarter finals will be on TV (for more info go to page 33).

Have a good month,
Helen





Brits Abroad 2: Lucy Bronze

Lorem Ipsum



Lucy Bronze: “My aspiration is to keep winning trophies, and I really want to win the World Cup with England!”

In the days leading up to the SheBelieves Cup, our **Chief Sports Reporter Jessica Pratt** had the chance to catch up with stand-in England Captain and Lyon right-back Lucy Bronze on her first few months in France, the upcoming Champions League quarter-final against Barcelona and her future ambitions with club and country.

Firstly, how did you prepare for the SheBelieves Cup and did you have chance to speak much with new Lionesses boss Phil Neville prior to the tournament?

Going in with a new manager to play the best teams in the world is not an easy ask, but it's a challenge I certainly look forward to every year. And as for

Phil, he briefly spoke to most of the girls in La Manga, and since then he's called a few times to check in with me. Obviously with me playing in France he doesn't have the opportunity to watch me as freely as the rest of the squad; so we've been keeping up to date over the phone.

We've seen the interest in women's football growing rapidly in the UK – but what's the level of interest in the women's game like in France?

There is an interest in France and of course playing at Lyon I see the majority of the interest first hand, but I think because of continued success the likes of Lyon and PSG have had over the years, I'd say they've been



able to maintain higher interest for the better occasions because the French people have seen the quality of those games over the years. Whereas, the English teams are currently still forming a reputation of quality performances that attracts people to the games and then maintains and grows that interest more.

We know you've played abroad before earlier in your career but what has been the hardest thing about leaving the UK to play in France?

The language!! Without a shadow of a doubt, obviously I knew it would be tough, but at the minute it's still a very slow process on the learning front, and my French accent is terrible (I've been told numerous times)!

You mention the language barrier, are you able to communicate with the players who don't speak English very well or has there been a player that has helped to translate things?

I understand a lot already, I know all the football terms for on the pitch, so that's fine. But I think I'm lucky to have so many English-speaking foreigners who prefer to speak English to French, but unlucky at the same time because it sometimes stops me from having to try to speak French!

One thing that's noticeable at Lyon is how some foreign players settle in better than others. Lotta Schelin and Ada Hegerberg are obvious success stories... Do you feel like you've settled in well so far?

Yes I think I had a bit of an up and down moment at the beginning, but I'm really happy, fully settled, and



once I nail the French down there wouldn't be anything that could really unsettle me.

How is the French league different from the WSL?

The French league is less physical, more technical. But then playing for Lyon most teams tend to sit down and bank up for 90 minutes, which I used to find frustrating, but I actually really enjoy trying to break teams down now and my game has improved because of it.

Lyon have been phenomenal so far this season - how are you feeling about the club's chances of replicating previous successful campaigns?

I think I knew when signing for the club that they have high expectations

for success and having been here for half a season I have no doubt in my mind that the team and the club want so badly for that success to never end. Anything less than winning, and winning trophies, would be deemed a failure – but that pressure just brings out the best in the players.

The reasons behind your move have been well-documented and you've had a lot of minutes already this season, do you feel like you're improving as you'd hoped you would when you made the move?

Improving as a player has always been my top priority, and I did think signing for Lyon I'd improve, purely from playing with the best players... But I think I've even surprised myself in the way I've changed as a player and a



person. And I absolutely love the fact that I can see even more room for improvement, even after already improving.

Lyon obviously have plenty of goalscorers to call upon, but you've chipped in with a couple yourself – is that an area you're looking to improve in?

Maybe not goalscoring per se but I have got a lot of confidence from the players around me here who do encourage me to shoot so much more. But my all round decision-making, composure and quality of play has got better, so maybe it might lead to more goals soon!

With Jodie Taylor another player to recently leave the WSL to play overseas, do you think this will become more of a trend for English players to go and get experience abroad? Would you encourage young English players to play abroad in their careers?

I think every player should go out and experience something different once. In women's football Champions League is few and far between, where you get to play against different internationals and learn something new. Playing with and against the top English players is great, but even with just one year away you can gain so much from the experience of, not just with playing football, but of the whole set-up and culture of the game elsewhere.

The Champions League draw got everybody talking, especially as Lyon was drawn against Toni Duggan's Barcelona side and one of you could be returning to England to play against your former club Man City in the semi-finals. Did you and Toni have a chance to speak about it prior to the first leg?

Toni and I were actually sat next to each other at a England camp when the draw was made, nothing was really said because I don't think either of us are like that. I think it was more the girls trying to egg us on to stir up some banter! But really I think the draw is at a point now where there's only really top teams left, all the games are tough, and both semi-finals will be hard fought games, whoever qualifies through.

Do you see yourself returning to England to play in the future?

Funnily enough no one has ever asked me that, and I'm actually not too sure. I'm really enjoying living and playing in France, and I really can't see past my current contract. But I would never rule anything out, and I would definitely not rule out moving back to England.



What are your aspirations for club and country in the next few years?

I think at the club I'm at the aspiration is always going to be winning trophies, and I can strongly say that the same goes for England. Country over everything, and I really want to win the World Cup!

Coming up next month in our brand new kid's section - Lucy will be answering questions about her her teammates at Lyon.







The Big Match: Durham W vs Sheffield Ladies



NON-LEAGUE NIGHT



*In each edition of The Women's Football Magazine we look at one of the clubs playing in the FA Women's Super League. In this month's issue, reporter **Dan Pentland** went to New Ferens Park as the ever-improving Durham Women hosted Non-League Night.*

The rise of Durham Women in the FA Women's Super League 2 in recent years has been nothing short of remarkable. The Wildcats are a well-respected member of English women's football's second tier who consistently produce both performances and results.

On a chilly Thursday night in mid-February, Durham hosted a Sheffield Ladies side who were on a poor run of form with six defeats out of their last

seven in all competitions. In a bid to swell what was always going to be a sparse crowd, the home side designated the fixture 'Non-League Night' where fans of non-league football clubs would be permitted entry for just £2. On a night which promised well-priced, competitive football, it was Sheffield who went into the match as underdogs against a side which recently reached the quarter-finals of the Women's FA Cup.

Sheffield settled into the match well and looked to have plenty of confidence despite their poor form. The South Yorkshire club almost opened the scoring in the 16th minute but defender Danielle Cox's towering header could only rattle the home side's crossbar.



Durham then threatened at the other end but Sheffield keeper Elizabeth Hobson came out on top against Jordan Atkinson when left one-on-one.

The Wildcats took the lead on the half hour when Beth Hepple's expertly delivered corner kick deceived the visitors' goalkeeper and defence to fly straight into the net. The goal was to be the last real chance of what was a hard fought first half at New Ferens Park.

The home side had good chances to extend their slender lead early in the second half but Emily Roberts and Nicki Gears found Sheffield keeper Hobson in top form.

Durham did have the ball in the net on 67 minutes but goalscorer Lauren Briggs could have been one of several players deemed to be offside as the scoreline remained at 1-0. The game's second goal finally arrived two minutes later when Gears fired in from an acute angle and The Wildcats were soon 3-0 up as Roberts thumped the ball into the corner of the net from the edge of the 18-yard box.

Home supporters could be forgiven for thinking that the game was over but Sheffield fought back. Katie Anderson struck what looked to be a consolation goal for the visitors from close range after home keeper Helen Anderson had saved Melissa Johnson's initial effort. Durham's two-goal advantage was then reduced to one with eight minutes left on the clock when Johnson hit an impressive second goal for Sheffield on the turn.

The Women's FA Cup quarter-finalists had to grind out the win as they survived a late onslaught to secure the



three points.

A crowd of 347 attended the fixture on what was undoubtedly one of the most challenging weeks to host matches for all of the FA Women's Super League 1 and 2 member clubs. Given the fact that the fixture was staged in midweek during one of the coldest months of the year, fans of both Durham and Sheffield should be praised for their loyalty. That same praise should be offered to The Wildcats hierarchy who tried to maintain a good crowd with their 'Non-League Night' special offer.

Speaking to The Women's Football Magazine after the match, manager Lee Sanders was relieved to get another three points on the board: "I thought for the first 70-75 minutes of the game we were the best side. "We got one goal in the first half but we dominated completely and controlled

Sanders said: "It was a very, very cold night, the coldest we have had all season. The atmosphere was really good and it's really good to see fans of all ages come along to sample the women's game."

the game. We made a couple of changes early in the second half and it worked as the two substitutes got the goals. I think we switched off when we got the third goal, we thought it was job done and against any team in the FAWSL you just can't do that. They got two goals and we were under pressure for the last 10 minutes of the game so we have got to learn to be better in those situations."

Durham face the prospect of a huge Women's FA Cup quarter-final tie with Everton Ladies in their next home match but manager Sanders believes that the fixture was not playing on his players' minds as they took on Sheffield.

We are just taking it game by game" Sanders admitted.

"The girls will have the weekend off as they've had a lot of football in the last few weeks. We've got an important game at Aston Villa next and we will focus on Everton when that game comes around. The Wildcats' 'Non-League Night' attracted a healthy crowd and Sanders paid tribute to those fans who braved the cold conditions in the North East. Sanders added There were a lot of kids here tonight and the atmosphere was great. The North East is a hotbed for Northern League football and it is nice to try to attract those supporters to Durham when we can."



FAWSL 2 Table

1. Doncaster Rovers Belles
2. Millwall Lionesses
3. Brighton & Hove Albion
4. Durham Women FC
5. Tottenham Hotspur Ladies FC
6. Oxford United Women
7. London Bees
8. Sheffield FC Ladies
9. Aston Villa Ladies FC
10. Watford Ladies FC





Manchester City and Chelsea cruise through to Champions League semi-finals

By Jessica Pratt

Manchester City and Chelsea both progressed to the last four of the Champions League with emphatic victories in their two-legged quarter-final ties.

City followed up a 2-0 home win over their opponents Linköping with a 5-3 away thrashing of the Swedish side to make it 7-3 on aggregate. City comfortably edged the first leg, as Montpellier's Lina Lantz was sent off in the first half after receiving two yellow cards; the latter for a handball which also gifted City a penalty. Nikita Parris converted the spot kick and Jane Ross doubled their lead shortly into the second half with a looping

header from a Mel Lawley cross.

Ross was on the scoresheet again in the away leg with an early goal that set City on their way to a 4-0 half-time lead thanks to a brace from Georgia Stanway and a Jen Beattie header. Linköping managed two goals in reply early in the second half through Marija Banusic before Izzy Christiansen got City's fifth. Lively substitute Tove Almquist scored again for the hosts late on but after the visitors' strong showing over both legs, the result was never in doubt.

In their second successive season, Nick Cushing and co will face current Champions Lyon in the semi-finals after the holders beat Toni Duggan's



Barcelona 1-0 in Spain to advance 3-1 on aggregate. The draw will see Lucy Bronze return to Manchester to face her former side for the first time since her transfer last August.

Chelsea reached the semi-final stage for the first time as they too recorded a 2-0 win in the first leg of their tie with French opponents Montpellier. Second-half goals from Ji So-Yun and substitute Erin Cuthbert gave the Blues a crucial away victory against a side led by former Chelsea striker Sofia Jakobsson.

At Kingsmeadow, Fran Kirby gave a record crowd of 3,000 something to sing about as she punished a defensive error with an early goal. The Blues were in control until Jakobsson drew the visitors level on the night with a cross-cum-shot that looped in over international teammate Hedvig Lindahl just before half-time. Chelsea soon regained the lead after the restart thanks to a Ramona Bachmann goal, before Kirby wrapped up proceedings

with her second of the night from a penalty won by Ji So-Yun.

Chelsea's reward for their 5-1 aggregate win is a tie against familiar opponents Wolfsburg, who have knocked Emma Hayes' team out in the past two campaigns. The German outfit followed up their 5-0 first leg thumping of Slavia Prague with a 1-1 away draw to progress through 6-1 on aggregate.

Chelsea's Bachmann, booked in the second leg, will be suspended for the first game against her former club.

Both City and Chelsea will be glad to avoid each other in the semi-finals after recently being drawn against each other in the FA Cup semi-finals – the fifth time they have met in a major domestic semi-final since 2014.

The two clubs are both aiming to complete a treble with only two points between them at the top of the WSL 1 table. Should they both make it through their European ties, all bets will be off on who would prevail in the all-English final in Ukraine.

UWCL FT time results:

Linköping **3-5** Man City (3-7)
 Slavia Praha **1-1** Wolfsburg (1-6)
 Barcelona **0-1** Lyon (1-3)
 Chelsea **3-1** Montpellier (5-1)

Semi-finals #

Chelsea v Wolfsburg (22 & 29 April)
 Manchester City v Lyon (22 & 28 or 29 April)

:: England has two semi-finalists for the first time: only Germany and France have previously achieved this.



Arsenal
1-0
Man City

B By Jessica
Pratt

Arsenal win
record fifth FA
WSL Continental
Tyres Cup

@womensfootiemag



GOTB 20

Arsenal secured their fifth FA WSL Continental Tyres Cup in March's midweek Final after Vivianne Miedema's winner gave the Gunners a 1-0 victory over Manchester City at Wycombe's Adams Park.

Only City and Arsenal have ever won the competition, which began in 2011. This tie was a rematch of the only final to feature both sides in 2014 – which was also played at Adams Park. It was City who claimed the trophy on that occasion thanks to Izzy Christiansen's 73rd-minute winner.

City went into this game as holders having beaten Birmingham City in last season's final – the only one to date not to feature Arsenal, after they were knocked out by City in the semi-finals.

City are also the current holders of the Women's FA Cup and WSL 1 and were the favourites to retain possession of all three pieces of domestic silverware. However, it was Arsenal who started brightest and who almost opened the scoring in spectacular fashion through Dominique Janssen's first-time drive from 25 yards out. The effort crashed against the bar to City's relief but after an opening half hour of few chances, Janssen was involved again – this time with the breakthrough.

The excellent Jordan Nobbs spread the ball out to the left, where Janssen curled over a cross that fell to her Netherlands teammate Miedema, who took the ball down with ease and finished with composure at the back post to give Arsenal a 1-0 lead before half time.



City were much-improved after the break and threatened through the lively Nikita Parris and Scottish substitutes Jane Ross and Claire Emslie, whilst Georgia Stanway's long range effort also tested Gunners goalkeeper Sari van Veenendaal.

Nick Cushing's side, hoping to keep their dreams of a quadruple alive, ramped up the pressure late on as Parris went close with two headers in quick succession. The first was parried away by Van Veenendaal and the second somehow cleared off the line by Lisa Evans.

Arsenal continued to weather the storm until time ran out for the holders and the Gunners became five-time winners of the trophy – the first major silverware of the English women's season.

Arsenal boss Joe Montemurro will have been delighted with victory in his first final as manager whilst City boss Cushing will be hoping that his side overcome their second defeat in all competitions since May 2017 to retain the remaining domestic trophies – and challenge for the coveted Champions League prize.

Arsenal 1-0 Manchester City

Date 14 March 2018

Venue Adams Park, High Wycombe

Referee Amy Fearn (Derbyshire)

Attendance 2,136

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To celebrate our first birthday, we are giving away a Lionesses' shirt signed by the whole squad.

To enter, simply subscribe to The Women's Football Magazine for as little as £2/month
Competition closes on our birthday - April 25th 2018

www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com



COMPETITION TIME!



GEORGIA STANWAY ANNOUNCED AS FA WSL 1 PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Manchester City's Georgia Stanway has been selected as The FA WSL 1 Player of the Month for February.

Stanway rounded off an impressive month with Manchester City by earning her first-ever call-up to the Lionesses for the SheBelieves Cup in the United States. The 19-year-old was crucial in her side's title contention scoring a superb long-range effort from outside the box which clinched a vital point against FA WSL 1 rivals Chelsea in their thrilling 2-2 draw.

Stanway had some tough competition from a competitive shortlist including Arsenal's Beth Mead and Chelsea striker, Fran Kirby. Mead has been in

fine form throughout February contributing to her side's unbeaten month with two goals against Yeovil and the winning strike versus Everton. Regular stand out, Kirby, has now netted 14 goals in all competitions this season including a goal against Birmingham as well as coming off the bench to score against Yeovil to take her side top of the division.

Georgia Stanway said, "I feel like I've performed well, especially in the last game where we got the equaliser against Chelsea in the latter stages of the game. Scoring that goal was definitely my most memorable moment of the month. I think we're not afraid to say that we'd like to win the league."



AILEEN WHELAN ANNOUNCED AS FA WSL 2 PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Brighton's Aileen Whelan has been selected as The FA WSL 2 Player of the Month for February.

Whelan's goals proved crucial to Brighton's winning streak in February, making it two wins from two in FA WSL 2. Whelan scored the third to see Brighton beat London Bees 3-1 before scoring a hat-trick in her sides' 5-1 success over Oxford. Her goals have seen Brighton move up to third in the table, just four points behind Millwall Lionesses with a game in hand.

Whelan fought off some tough competition from a shortlist including Tottenham's Sarah Wiltshire and Brighton team mate Iniabasi

Umotong.

Whelan's fellow striker Umotong netted twice, including a fine solo goal in the 5-1 win against Oxford. Despite Wiltshire only joining Spurs in the summer her experience of FA WSL 2 has helped the newly promoted Tottenham settle into their new surroundings, scoring a hat-trick against her former club Watford in a 6-0 win.

Aileen Whelan said, "Individually and collectively as a whole, we've played much better in February, however for me, Oxford was a big game, it was my first FA Women's Super League hat-trick so it was definitely one to remember."



Grassroots Girls: Actonians LFC

@womensfootiemag



ACTONIANS LADIES FC



The Women's Football Magazine takes a look at one of England's grassroots girls football clubs hoping to develop the next generation of talent. In this month's issue reporter Dan Pentland looks at Actonians LFC with first team player and Under-14s coach Sinead Friel.

Who are the Actonians?

The club was formed in 1998 as Chiswick United. We started with one ladies team and three years later we also had reserves. We moved to become Acton Sports Club in 2003 and then in 2008, when we found ourselves homeless, we joined Actonians Sports Club who were based just up the road. Ten years on we have thrived at Actonians and now have girls teams at Under-9, Under-11, Under-12, Under-14 & Under-16 levels as well as three senior ladies teams.

Our first team play in the FA Women's Premier League while reserves and development teams play in the Greater London League. All the girls teams play in the Capital Girls League. We

aim to keep growing the club and to provide football for any female that wants to play. We also hope to produce future first team players from the girls section, it's important that the pathway is there and hopefully most of them will stay with us.

What is your role at the club and how long have you been involved with Actonians?

I started as a player around six years ago and also helped out with the coaching of some of the younger teams. I am now the coach of the Under-14 girls. Myself and another first team player, Rosie Stone, took over the team at the beginning of this year. I am also the welfare officer for the club.

Has the club produced any promising players in recent years who could go on to play either semi-professionally or professionally in the future?

Our youth set up is fairly new so we haven't got quite that far yet but watch this space in years to come!

Have any of the girls had any achievements in the last 12 months either in league or cup competitions?

Last season, our first team reached two cup semi-finals which we unfortunately lost but we beat higher ranked opposition along the way. This season, our reserves are having a successful campaign and are currently competing for the league title as well as reaching the quarter-finals of two cups. The Under-14s are top of the league and the Under-11s are doing well. A number of our senior players have featured in the Middlesex FA County Representative team as well.

Are you seeing more girls wanting to play for Actonians or

for other clubs in the local area?

Absolutely! In fact, we have doubled the number of girls playing at the club from last season and we are getting new enquiries all the time. It's very encouraging and I think if you offer girls the opportunity, a lot of them want to play!

What is the best thing about working with the club and what are your hopes for the club in the future? Knowing that we are helping to get a new generation of girls interested in the sport is the greatest reward. Watching them improve and seeing friendships build is really satisfying. We have some talented girls so our hope would be to see these girls continue to develop to first XI players.



A special thank you to Sinead and the Actonians for their insights into their club in this month's issue of The Women's Football Magazine.

SSE Women's FA Cup

**Both SSE Women's FA Cup
Semi-Finals will be
broadcast live on the BBC
for the first time in the
competitions history.**

SUNDAY 15 APRIL

**Everton v Arsenal
(12.30pm) – Live on BBC
Red Button, Online and
BBC iPlayer**

**Chelsea v Manchester City
(3.30pm) – Live on BBC2**

SSE WOMEN'S FA CUP





Women's FA Cup sponsors SSE launch #TogetherWeCan at St George's Park with Kelly Smith and Gemma Bonner

By Jimmy Booker

The growth of women's football has catapulted exponentially in recent years and even more was being done to develop the game at grass roots level at the home of English football on Monday, March 5.

St. George's Park in Staffordshire hosted the launch of Together We Can – a campaign by SSE aimed at inspiring positive change on and off the football field.

Together We Can brings together the SSE Wildcats scheme, which aims to drive football participation among girls, with the company's goal of helping young women reach their full

potential in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) through its partnership with education charity Teach First and a broader policy of giving more women and girls employment chances in the energy sector.

More than 180 football coaches also received valuable advice and tips from FA coaches on the site, near Burton-on-Trent, as part of the day, as well as a talk from England legend Kelly Smith and current international Gemma Bonner. Smith and Bonner were at St. George's Park to encourage the coaches and pass on their experience and advice to an eager audience of coaches.



"I'm pleased to my name to it and show support for SSE's efforts to grow women's game and how it's developing," said Smith, England's record goalscorer with 46 goals in 117 games.

"SSE have put a lot of money into helping us develop the game – it's a fantastic opportunity and for the coaches to be here and learn from the FA coaching staff.

"They're not your standard sessions, they're trying to get as many girls out in an environment where they feel comfortable playing football. "If I was a young girl now looking to play football, this campaign is fantastic because it gives youngsters opportunities specifically to go into girls' football session."

Liverpool skipper Bonner, who has scored once in ten appearances from centre-back for the national side, echoed her former international teammates' words. "When I was young I

never lucky enough to have this kind of scheme available – if we can pass on our help and encourage the girls to play even more, it can only benefit us in the long run," she said.

The SSE Wildcats scheme is a drive launched last year which is aimed at attracting girls aged 5 to 11 to take up the beautiful game. Originally there were 5,000 players across 200 football centres across the UK but this number is expected to shoot up to 900 centres boasting 24,000 new players.

SSE's partnership with Teach First has seen the SSE Women's FA Cup taken into schools around the country, often with a couple of star players to boot, to give children the chance to engage with the women's game.

John Stewart, SSE's director of human resources, said: "We're extremely proud to support the SSE Women's FA Cup; a competition which gives opportunities to clubs across the country no matter how big or small and inspires a new generation of young female talent to follow their dreams and hopefully, one day, realise their ambitions."

Tracey Crouch, Minister for Sport and Civil Society, also praised the initiative, adding: "Getting more women and girls to take up sport is one of our key priorities.

"It's fantastic to see the popularity of women's football continue to rise and it is great that this investment and support by SSE will help further encourage more women and girls into the game."

Check out our new website!

A new voice for women's football from grassroots to the Lionesses.

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Latest tweets from @womensfootiemag

🕒 Today at 19:28

@bluemafia Good luck!

🕒 Today at 18:55

She Believes Cup info <https://t.co/zdQS2ZepZo>

🕒 Today at 19:26

@bluemafia You're welcome! Have you entered our competition to win two Conti Cup final tickets? If not, tweet from earlier!

🕒 Today at 18:28

Do not forget to enter our competition everyone. See the below tweet and follow us for your chance to win! <https://t.co/2liakx3SUR>

View more