

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

ISSUE 29

MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2019



WHO LET THE ROOKS OUT?

Karen Dobres tells us how Lewes Women are rocking the chants, we have an exclusive interview with Millwall Lionesses manager Colin Reed, Ammo is back with her latest antics and Connor Botting looks at the effect the Women's World Cup is having on the sport in the UK.

THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE



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Hello and welcome to Issue 29!

Firstly, we would like to start with apologising for the lateness of this issue! My poor laptop decided to go to the laptop heaven in the Sky and it took me a little while to retrieve all this month's copy off it so thank you for your patience. The only good thing is it's only two weeks until the next issue!

This month we have an exclusive interview with Millwall Lionesses boss Colin Reid, news and interviews from all the leagues, cups and international breaks and our usual awesome columns. We also welcome Georgia Stevens, AFC Fylde striker to the team. She will be telling us all about life in the Northern Premier.

We hope you like the new layout and size. We have upped our game to 90 pages now from the usual 40—that's over double the amount of content as we want to continue our pledge to cover as many of the leagues—from grassroots to internationals!

Enjoy the issue!

Helen Rowe-Willcocks

Editor-in-Chief

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THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

CALENDAR 2020



PREVIEW
DARE TO SHINE

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COLIN REID

Millwall Lionesses are beginning life again in Tier 6 after their Tier 2 licence was transferred to London City Lionesses.

After a busy summer of rebuilding for those left behind, they are ready to start their new season at their new journey.

Manager Colin Reid, who was announced as the new boss on August 6, has been gearing up for the new season with open trials.

Reid, who has been with Millwall as technical director of the Millwall Regional Talent Club (RTC) scheme and will continue this alongside his new managerial role, spoke exclusively to TWFM.

What are your hopes for the season ahead after the new start for the club?

As I said to the girls, there are a lot of different challenges ahead but my expectations are that we want to go and win the league. We want to go and put on a good show and show that Millwall is still around. We are thankful to the league for giving the opportunity that they have given us in terms of the level we have go into and now we need to go and win the

league. There is this belief of where we should be and I believe we have no right to just be put there, we need to go out and earn it. I have put down my marker and we want to win the league and win promotion.

How important is it that the home games are going to be free this season?

I would like to think that we will see a lot of familiar faces. Millwall football club is Millwall and that is bigger than just one team. By giving free admission we are hoping to attract those who would not usually come down to the games. We will be promoting it, it's all about the brand. After the summer we have had with the World Cup, it is such as growing sport that it is important to grow it and get more people through the gates. It's an opportunity for fans to come to the ground and see what we are about and hopefully get hooked!

Will you be working with Millwall to create a whole club community alongside the men?

Steve Kavangh has played an active role along with Steve Day of the community trust to make sure we are all together. So hopefully that sort of thing will

lead to a club feel. Hopefully one day we will be able to play a couple of games on the Den. Other clubs are experimenting with that at the minute and it is something we have to aim for. All clubs, if they are proactive, will see that sort of president be set and hopefully build on it. Millwall have really supported that with the kit being the same sponsors as the men, we are all one brand, we are all one club. We have come united.

Do you think the success of the World Cup has helped bring clubs together in the idea of having a united brand?

Yes I think it is massive. I think the job that has been done, not just by England, but with the FA and encouraging the sponsorship deals which are going on, they are giving it more coverage. It's massive, it's growing. There are going to be opportunities for sponsorship for a number of major brands. Without a doubt, the World Cup was a huge success for England despite finishing fourth, there has been a growth and a progression in the DNA of the sport. It's very positive and it's something people need to enjoy. It can only get better. It's an opportunity for everyone.

You have been with the club as a technical director for a number of years so what made you want to become a manager?

My early background was in player development. As I have got older I have changed roles and for me I see it as an ideal pathway. Being the technical director I can see the pathways for players. I can actively have some control and say 'here is a pathway'. We have three girls who have been on RTC schemes and can see that there is a place to go. Not many clubs will have players who will go from the U16s to the first team and that gives us an advantage to show how important our RTC is. Players can see that there is a path to getting in the first team for young kids. It was a no brainer for me.

How successful were the open trials?

There was definitely more people turning up than we expected. When we held the trials we were not that sure what level we would be put at. We had players ranging from the highest levels to grassroots players. There was a big difference in skill levels and once we found out where we would be playing, then there was a few that dropped out but we can see we have players who have played at higher levels because they can see what an opportunity for them it is. It is a major pull. There are lots of



The Big Interview

positives surrounding the club. There will be a lot of eyes on us this year.

How hard as it been with such a quick turn around since the end of last season?

We have had a lot of meetings, there has been a lot of work behind the scenes. It has been a lot of work but it's been enjoyable. We know it is not a 9 to 5 job, but that keeps us going. Hopefully, it will get a bit easier when the season starts as we can start to put these plans into action.

Millwall Lionesses home games will be played at St Paul's Sports Ground in Rotherhine and 2019/20 fixtures will be FREE of charge for supporters.

Millwall's home fixtures until Christmas:

Sept 15: vs Hoddesdown Town Owls (2pm)

Sept 29: vs Stevenage Women Dev (2pm)

Oct 6: vs Wodson Park Ladies (2pm)

Oct 13: vs Cambridge City Dev—Cup (1.30pm)

Oct 27: vs Lawford Ladies (2pm)

Nov 3: Lawford Ladies—Cup (1.30pm)

Nov 24: vs Bishop Stortford (2pm)

Dec 15: vs Leigh Ramblers (2pm)



Millwall Lionesses

Squad

STAFF

Manager: Colin Reid

Goalkeeper coach: Chris Witts

Coach: Jay Boosey

Sports Therapist: Emma Stone

SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS:

Kelly Webster, Lottie Ivison, Michaela Hill

DEFENDERS:

Cansu Mentesh, Elissa Stonebrook, Maddie Wright,
Millie Connell, Princess Femi Elisery

MIDFIELDERS:

Anna-Maria Rains, Brooke Hills, Daniella Correa
Colorado, Ellie Jenks-Landen, Emily Stanley, Kate
Klonsinski, Libby Stubbs, Ruby Snowden, Samantha
Middleton, Sian Fitzpatrick

FORWARDS:

Ellis Lunn, Molly Hawkins, Shannan Drewe



WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE



Top 10 WSL transfers this summer



By Marissa Thomas

The second season of the fully professional Women's Super League begins on the 7th September and all of the 12 teams in the league have been busy during the summer, making vital additions ahead of the new campaign.

Arsenal - Jill Roord

Multiple injuries threatened to derail Arsenal's title winning campaign but they overcame numerous obstacles to win their first title in seven years. In a bid to retain the title, the Gunners have signed Netherlands midfielder Jill Roord. Arsenal fans have seen what Roord can do against WSL opposition after she scored a hat-trick in a pre-season friendly against North London rivals Tottenham Hotspur.

Brighton & Hove Albion - Megan Walsh

Without doubt Yeovil's best player as they were relegated from the Women's Super League, goalkeeper Megan Walsh joined Brighton for a year after her contract expired with the Lady Glovers. Walsh pulled off a tremendous string of saves on numerous occasions to keep the scores down when at Yeovil and those level of performances will be needed between the sticks with Brighton side who managed just four clean sheets in 20 matches last season.

Bristol City - Charlie Wellings

Signed from fellow WSL side Birmingham City, Charlie Wellings is a young, hungry forward, just the sort of player who should thrive at Bristol City. Wellings already

knows Bristol manager Tanya Oxtoby before which should help her settle in and improve her game as the 21-year-old prepares for her sixth WSL season.



Everton - Lucy Graham

In her first WSL season, Graham thrived with Bristol city, continually putting in impressive performances and scoring seven goals in 19 league appearances, earning herself a move to Everton. The Toffees have significantly underperformed in recent seasons and Graham's arrival could see the team improve and avoid another relegation battle.

Liverpool - Jade Bailey

After starting her career with Arsenal, before moving to Chelsea, Bailey was on loan at Reading from January last season. She has now signed for Liverpool and will hope to have now found a club to settle down with. Bailey can add quality and depth to Liverpool's midfield and her youth and talent will be key to achieving this. Now is her chance to kick on and consistently show her talent over the course of a season.

Manchester City - Aoife Mannion

Widely considered to be one of the most talented young defenders in the WSL, Aoife Mannion has long been touted for an England call up. Incidentally, that only

came after her move from Birmingham to Manchester City. The 23-year-old England Under-23 international was voted into the 2019 PFA WSL team of the year highlighting her class. She has joined Man City on a two-year deal.

Manchester City - Ellen White

Joint top scorer at the Women's world Cup, along with Americans Alex Morgan and Megan Rapinoe, Ellen White had a superb tournament and showed Man City fans what they can expect from her in the coming seasons. White signed a two-year contract with Man City and while she is currently set for a short spell on the sidelines after requiring surgery on a knee injury, she will be raring to go when she returns for her new side.



Manchester United - Jackie Groenen

After winning the women's Championship, Man United will be looking to do more than just survive in their inaugural WSL campaign. Their intent has been highlighted by the signing of World Cup runner-up Jackie Groenen. Interestingly, Groenen has been in the WSL before. She spent a season at Chelsea, scoring twice before joining Frankfurt who she was with for four years until signing for Man United. The midfielder became the first overseas signing for the club, following an all British Championship-winning squad.

Tottenham Hotspur - Gemma Davison

Proven winners with experience are always useful assets for newly promoted sides and Gemma Davison is no different. The midfielder has won trophies with WSL sides Arsenal, Liverpool and Chelsea before leaving Reading after a year to join Spurs. Davison's knowledge of the league will be vital as Spurs transition into the top flight.

West Ham United - Jacynta Galabadaarachchi

After a successful debut season in the WSL that culminated reaching the FA Cup final, West Ham will be looking to consolidate their place in the job flight. They have signed Australian forward Jacynta Galabadaarachchi, who at the age of 18, has so much potential to shine in English football and manager Matt Beard will certainly relish the chance to work with one of the finest young talents in world football.



Jordan Nobbs back for Arsenal

Arsenal and England midfielder Jordan Nobbs scored in her first game back from an ACL injury on Sunday, August 25.

The 26-year-old missed the World Cup and a lot of Arsenal's title winning season after rupturing her anterior cruciate ligament in November.

Nobbs was playing in a pre-season friendly against Tottenham—her second spell out after she also played a behind-closed-doors game against West Ham earlier in the month.

Welcome back Jordan!



Jordan Nobbs ✓
@JordanNobbs8

281 days later... it feels good to be back ❤️
[@arsenalwfc](#)



Arsenal Women

Which games have moved stadiums so far this season?

September 7— Man City v Man United

Eithad Stadium

3pm

Tickets: £7 adults

Up to 3 U16 FREE on one adult ticket

September 8—Chelsea v Tottenham

Stamford Bridge

12.30pm

Tickets: SOLD OUT

September 29— West Ham v Tottenham

London Stadium

KO: TBC

Tickets: TBC

November 17— Tottenham v Arsenal

Tottenham Hotspur Stadium

KO TBC

Tickets: TBC

Outside the WSL, Sunderland's National League Cup game against Newcastle was moved to the Stadium of Light.

1,168 people went to watch the North East derby clash which saw the Black Cats 3-2 winners.



West Ham United's Women's Super League tie against Tottenham will be played at the London Stadium.

The WSL game, which takes place on September 29, has been moved to the 60,000-seat venue.

They are the latest WSL side to switch to a bigger venue for a key fixture.

Managing director Jack Sullivan has called it "another historic day" for the side.

He said: "It promises to be a magnificent showcase for West Ham United and women's football as a whole.

"After the success of last season and walking out at Wembley, it will be a great opportunity to play on an iconic stage."

West Ham made it to the Women's FA Cup final in May, where they played in front of 43,264 people.

Lil-Lets and Everton Ladies Football Club team up to bring period awareness onto the pitch



Lil-Lets and Everton Ladies Football Club team up to bring period awareness onto the pitch.

Lil-Lets is proud to be an official sponsor of Everton Ladies Football Club for the 2019/20 season. The partnership is an exciting development for the feminine sanitary and hygiene brand, and the campaign marks an exciting new opportunity for both sides.

Lil-Lets is keen to use this venture as an opportunity to develop an open, honest dialogue that women can relate to and refer to for guidance. The brand hopes to promote active lifestyles while also normalising the idea of talking about periods in any setting. The campaign will also seek to raise awareness of the pressing issue of period poverty, while also tackling the stigmas associated with menstruation.

Mary Young, Lil-Lets UK Marketing

Director, commented: "By working with Everton Ladies, we hope that we can inspire females in the Everton community, and other communities around the country, to participate in sport and start conversations around periods."

Women's football is developing a lot of interest, making it an excellent time for the partnership. Aaron Little, General Manager at Everton Ladies addressed this, saying: "This partnership reflects the growing interest in the Ladies game and Everton Ladies specifically. I am looking forward to seeing how we can work together to make a positive impact through the power of sport."

Get active and feel confident no matter what time of the month it is. Trust Lil-Lets, a leading non-applicator tampon and feminine products brand, to keep you feeling comfortable and fresh.

£500,00 up for grabs in the WSL this season



The FA have announced a share of £500,000 prize fund will be split between clubs for the 2019-20 season.

It is the first time a league prize fund has been in place, thanks to the FA's partnership with Barclays.

In March the bank were unveiled as the title sponsor for the WSL, the biggest ever investment in the UK women's sport by a brand.

The deal, which will run until July 2022, sees the top tier rebranded as the Barclays FA Women's Super league.

The winners will receive £100,000 whilst the remaining £400,000 will be distributed depending on where clubs finish.

2019-20 prize fund distribution:

1st £100,000

2nd £67,000

3rd £60,000

4th £55,000

5th £49,000

6th £43,000

7th £36,000

8th £30,000

9th £24,000

10th £18,000

11th £12,000

12th £6,000

WSL Summer Transfers



**TheFA Women's
Super League**



Arsenal

IN: Leonie Maier (FC Bayern), Jill Roord (FC Bayern), Manuela Zinsberger (FC Bayern), Jennifer Beattie (Man City), Fran Stenson (Man City)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Louise Quinn, Kim Little

OUT: Sari Van Veenendaal (Athletico Madrid), Dominique Bloodworth (Wolfsburg), Janni Arnth (Fiorentina), Fran Stenson (Blackburn Rovers – loan)

Birmingham City

IN: Claudia Walker (Everton), Abbi Grant (Anderlecht), Brianna Visalli (West Ham), Rebecca Holloway (Nashville Rhythm), Lucy Whipp (St John's U), Adrienne Jordan (Atlanta)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Emma Follis, Connie Scofield, Rachel Williams, Harriet Scott, Heidi Logan, Hannah Hampton

OUT: Ellen White (Man City), Meaghan Sargent (Bristol City), Charlie Wellings (Bristol City), Hayley Ladd (Man United), Lucy Quinn (Tottenham Hotspur), Aoife Mannion (Man City), Marisa Ewers (Aston Villa), Shania Hayles (Aston Villa), Paige Williams, Emma Follis (Aston Villa)



Brighton & Hove Albion

IN: Danique Kerkdijk (Bristol City), Matilde Skovsen (VSK Aarhus), Megan Walsh (Yeovil), Lea Le Garrec (Guingamp)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Amanda Nilden, Ini Umotong, Fern Whelan, Emily Simpkins, Jodie Brett, Kirsty Barton, Laura Rafferty, Victoria Williams, Fliss Gibbons, Kate Natkiel, Sophie Harris, Aileen Whelan, Beth Roe, Danielle Buet, Kayleigh Green, Megan Connolly

OUT: Lucy Gillett (Crystal Palace), Sophie Perry, Marie Hourihan (SC Braga), Chloe Peplow (Tottenham Hotspurs)

Bristol City



IN: Meaghan Sargent (Birmingham), Charlie Wellings (Birmingham), Yana Daniels (Liverpool), Jamine Matthews (Liverpool), Ebony Salmon (Man United), Vita Van Der Linden (Ajax), Olivia Chance (Everton)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Gemma Evans, Abi Harrison, Sophie Bag-galey, Loren Dykes, Frankie Brown, Carla Humphrey, Florence Allen, Eartha Cummings, Carla Humphrey

OUT: Julie Biesmans (PSV Eindhoven), Danique Kerkdijk (Brighton), Juliette Kempf (London City Lionesses), Alicia Johnson (Sheffield United), Lucy Graham (Everton), Rosella Ayane (Tottenham Hotspurs), Heather Payne (FSU), Ella Rutherford (Crystal Palace – loan)

Chelsea

IN: Guro Reiten (LSK), Jade Bailey (end of loan – Reading)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Sophie Ingle, Ji So-Yun

OUT: Hedvig Lindhal (Vfl Wolfsburg), Jade Bailey (Liverpool), Elizabeth Durack (retirement), Ali Riley (FC Bayern), Karen Carney (retirement)



Everton



IN: Kika Van Es (Ajax), Tinja-Riikka Korpela (Valarenga), Lucy Graham (Bristol), Molly Pike (Chelsea Academy), Maeva Clemaron (FC Fleury), Esme Morgan (Man City -loan)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Gabby George, Georgia Brougham, Megan Finnigan, Taylor Hinds, Hannah Cain, Simone Magill, Chantelle Boye-Hlorkah, Elise Hughes

OUT: Dominique Bruinenberg (PEC Zwolle), Siri Worm (Tottenham Hotspurs), Olivia Chance, Rebecca Flaherty (Sheffield Utd), Emma Brownlie, Claudia Walker (Birmingham), Angharad James (Reading)

Liverpool

IN: Rebecca Jane (Reading), Melissa Lawley (Man City), Jade Bailey (Chelsea)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Sophie Bradley, Anke Preuss, Fran Kitching

OUT: Laura Coombs (Man City), Leandra Little (Sheffield United), Yana Daniels (Bristol City), Jasmine Matthews (Bristol City)



Manchester City



IN: Ellen White (Birmingham City), Matilde Fidalgo (SC Braga), Laura Coombs (Liverpool), Aoife Mannion (Birmingham), Lee Geum-min (Gyeongju KHNP), Tyler Toland (Sion Swift)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Karen Bardsley, Ellie Roebuck, Megan Campbell

OUT: Nikita Parris (Olympique Lyonnais), Abbie McManus (Man United), Claire Emslie (Orlando Pride), Melissa Lawley (Liverpool), Jennifer Beattie (Arsenal), Fran Stenson (Arsenal), Esme Morgan (Everton Ladies – loan)

Manchester United

IN: Jackie Groenen (1. FFC Frankfurt), Abbie McManus (Ma City), Hayley Ladd (Birmingham), Jane Ross (West Ham), Mary Earps (Wolfsburg), Lotta Okvist (Hammarby), Aurora Mikalsen (Kolbotn)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: n/a

OUT: Charlotte Devlin (Charlton), Naomi Hartley (Sheffield United), Lucy Roberts (USF), Ebony Salmon (Bristol City), Alex Greenwood (Olympique Lyonnais)



Reading



IN: Kristine Leine (Roa), Angharad James (Everton), Amalie Eikeland (Sandviken), Maxine Bennink (PEC Zwolle)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Rachel Rowe, Fara Williams, Mayumi Pacheco, Sophie Howard, Molly Bartrip, Lily Woodham

OUT: Rebecca Jane (Liverpool), Kirsty Pearce (retirement), Jade Bailey (end of loan – Chelsea), Gemma Davison (Tottenham Hotspurs), Charlie Estcourt (Charlton – loan), Lily Woodham (Charlton – loan), Rachel Furness (Tottenham – loan)

Tottenham

IN: Rebecca Spencer (West Ham), Ria Percival (West Ham), Siri Worm (Everton), Chloe Peplow (Brighton), Rosella Ayane (Bristol City), Gemma Davison (Reading), Lucy Quinn (Birmingham), Hannah Godfrey (Pensacola FC), Kit Graham (Charlton), Rachel Furness (Reading – loan)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Chloe Morgan, Jenna Schillaci, Lucia Leon, Ashleigh Neville, Josie Green, Anna Filbey, Sophie McLean, Coral Haines, Jessica Naz, Angela Addison, Rianna Dean, Megan Wynne

OUT: Emma Beckett (Watford), Renee Hector (Charlton), Sarah Wiltshire Yeovil, Bianca Baptiste (Crystal Palace), Anne Meiwald (Watford), Wendy Martin (retirement), Ryah Vyse (Watford), Maya Vio (retirement), Emma Gibbon (Crystal Palace)



West Ham United

IN: Laura Vetterlein (SC Sand), Martha Thomas (Le Havre), Jacynta Galabadaarachchi (Perth Glory), Kenza Dali (FC Dijon), Cecilie Redisch Kvamme (Sandviken), Katharina Baunach (VfL Wolfsburg), Courtney Brosnan (Le Havre)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Esmee de Graaf, Anna Moorhouse, Kate Longhurst, Tessel Middag

OUT: Lucienne Reichardt (retirement), Claire Rafferty (retirement), Rosie Kmita (London Bees), Brianna Visalli (Birmingham), Rebecca Spencer (Tottenham Hotspurs), Jane Ross (Man United), Ria Percival (Tottenham Hotspurs), Vyan Sampson (London City Lionesses- loan)

Ellen White and Karen Bardsley injured



England and Manchester City due Ellen White and Karen Bardsley both face time on the side lines after picking up injuries.

Striker White, who joined the club from Birmingham City in the summer, has had knee surgery whilst Bardsley is expected to be out 'until Christmas' after an operation on her hamstring.

Neither played travelled to their International Champions Cup games and both are missing from the England squad.

Get well soon!



Women's Football in England Continues to Thrive Following World Cup



By Connor Botting

Following a summer of record-breaking viewing figures at the 2019 World Cup in France, the attention and excitement still being generated back home for Women's football proves that the tournament was no flash in the pan.

Cast your minds back to 2nd July and the agonising 2-1 semi-final defeat for England's Lionesses against the USA – as painful as this was, for England fans that is, it was just the beginning of the women's game receiving the attention it deserves back home, with a record-breaking 11.7 million viewers making it the most watched programme in the country this year.

On 31st July it was announced that another record had been broken, with over 50,000 tickets being sold for the Lionesses' homecoming match against Germany at Wembley in November – the very same fixture which held the previous record of 45,619 in 2014.

And with that announcement coming more than four months before the fixture is set to be played, there is still potential to get nearer to the 90,000 capacity.

The Women's Super League has also reaped the rewards from the record-breaking summer, with Chelsea announcing during the World Cup that their opening match of the season against newly promoted Tottenham would be hosted at Stamford Bridge – and tickets would be free. It took less than four days for the fixture to become a sell-out.

Chelsea's announcement of stadium sharing with their partner men's team has since been followed suit by other clubs – with Manchester City using the Etihad Stadium for the first ever top-flight Women's Manchester derby on opening day, Bristol City will host Brighton & Hove Albion at Ashton Gate for their season-opener, the first ever WSL North London derby will be hosted at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, and most recently, Reading Women announced that they will be playing three home games at the Madejski Stadium before Christmas.

With women's football in the country currently on such a dramatic rise, and with the WSL team's currently stadium sharing with academy or lower league men's teams, could stadium sharing with men's Premier League/Championship



sides become a realistic prospect in the future?

After all, Italian giants AC Milan and Inter Milan have shared the San Siro stadium since 1947, and with both sides playing in the same division have managed to make it work – so why can't men's Premier League and Women's Super League teams?

At the beginning of August, it was announced that the FA are going to launch a streaming platform dedicated to women's football. The platform will have every match of the WSL streamed live for free and is set to launch on September 2nd in time for the opening match of the season just five days later.

Record-breaking TV audiences, record-breaking ticket sales, bigger stadiums, free streaming services, it is fair to say the future is looking very bright for the women's game.



Ammo's Antics



Hi Ammo here,

It's been a busy month of preseason friendlies.

I was really pleased when I was selected to play an U14s fixture for a Wales select team against Man Utd Girls. It's a long trip to Colliers Park in Wrexham, but seeing my kit laid out in the changing rooms before the game was a very special feeling that I'll never forget.

The night before the game I dreamt that we won 4-0 and that I scored 2. Making it the perfect debut.. but if there's one thing I've learned playing football. Things don't always go to plan.

It was my first time playing on a full size pitch. Not wanting to make any excuses but my little legs had to work super hard to get up and down. I played the whole 70 minute game and although the result wasn't what we wanted I loved every minute.

My goal is to play for Wales at the World Cup one day.

The following week I was back playing for Birmingham. This time at St George's Park for a Futsal game against Man Utd girls again. I really love playing Futsal it's a really fast version of the game played indoors.

My grass roots team Ross Juniors became national Futsal champions the season I left. I was expecting a tough game having played United the week before and that's what we got.

Pleased to say we came out 5-3 winners in the end. It was a great result for us as Man Utd have one of the best teams in the country. Next up was a tournament in Oakham where Blues were up against Arsenal, Leicester, Sunderland, Essex RTC and Northern Ireland. It was a residential so I got to stay away from home for a couple of nights. First game was against Arsenal. This was the team that beat us in the final last year. I only got to play for 5 minutes as I'm one of the youngest girls. Sadly we lost 2-1 but it was very close.

Second game was against Leicester. They are a tier one RTC and we fully expected a tough game. I played a lot of the game on the left wing. Really pleased that I managed to poach a couple of close range goals. My first for the U14s. We won the game 2-0.

We then went on to beat Sunderland 5-0, Essex 2-0 and drew 0-0 with Northern Ireland. Should have won that one, we had loads of chances.

The second day the top three battled it out for first place.

It was Birmingham, Arsenal and Sunderland. First game, Arsenal beat Sunderland 2-0. Game two saw us beat Sunderland 4-1. So it all went down to the final game.

Winner takes all.

Unfortunately I didn't get any game time and Arsenal powered on to win the game 5-0. Which was a shock to be honest. They are a good strong, physical team. But we played some terrific football.

So overall we finished second to Arsenal for



a second time.

Again, would have preferred to have won but some of the football we played at times over the two days was really good.

After Oakham I was invited to play for a Wales Regional South team in another tournament. We'd be playing two boys teams, Wrexham and Cefn Druids, Everton girls and the North Wales squad.

Game one we lost 3-1 to Cefn Druids. Then in game 2 vs Everton, after setting up our first goal I felt my knee pop.

I've never felt pain like it and couldn't put any weight on it at all.

Eventually I had to be carried from the pitch with suspected ligament damage.

And that was the end of my tournament.

After seeing the physio at Birmingham I'm now out for an unknown period of time. I'm gutted that means I'm unable to play in the big Warwick RTC tournament. I've been icing my knee constantly but I'm still in a lot of pain.

The physio team at Blues are excellent but they won't rush me back into action until they are confident I'm ready.

So, sorry to end on a sad note. But I'm currently writing this with my Dad as I lay on the sofa with a pack of ice on my knee, feeling sorry for myself.

So not sure if I'll have much to tell you about next time. If I don't play any games or train maybe I'll make up a football crossword or something.

Good luck to Marta and Birmingham City Women this season. Lots of players leaving and coming in but I'm confident Kerry's Harrop and the girls will do us proud.

Stay happy,

Ammo



CHAMPIONSHIP



**THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE**

Championship monthly Round-up



By Helen Rowe-Willcocks

The Championship is back in full swing with teams ready and raring to go. A place in the Women's Super League is up for grabs so here is all you need to know about August's Championship games.

Aston Villa



Position: 2nd

Results:

Aston Villa 3-2 Sheffield United

London City Lionesses 2-3 Aston Villa

Melissa Johnson scored a hat-trick to secure Aston Villa their first points on the opening day of the season. In the second week, they travelled to the London City Lionesses and suffered a hard game in the capital. After taking an early lead through Amy West, a brace for Elizabeta Ejupi of the Lionesses saw Villa behind. Two second half goals from Natalie Haigh and Shania Hayles were enough to secure them their second win and second in the table.

Blackburn Rovers

Position: 10th

Results:

Lewes 5-1 Blackburn Rovers

Blackburn Rovers 0-1 London Bees



The newly promoted side have had a difficult start to life in the Championship. Their opening trip to Lewes saw the side struggle to get possession at the Dripping Pan Stadium. They had a glimmer of hope equalising through Natasha Flint in the first half but as they tired, Lewes tightened their game. Week two saw their first home game of the campaign, and a much a tighter affair. Rovers held their own but a momentary slip of concentration saw Nikita Whinnett score the winner for the visitors late in the first half.

Charlton Athletic

Position: 7th

Results:

Charlton 0-0 Lewes



Charlton have had a quiet start to their season. With 11 teams in the league, they sat out the first weekend of the season before welcome Lewes to the Oakwood. Both sides had their chances to get three points with Charlton's summer signing Charlie Devlin causing problems for the Lewes' defence. In the end the sides shared the points.

Coventry United

Position: 8th

Results:

Crystal Palace 0-0 Coventry United



Like Charlton, Coventry have had a slow start to their season. They shared the spoils with Crystal Palace in the opening day of the season following a 0-0 and faced a week off in the second week of the season. Coventry, who are new to the Championship this season, showed why they were promoted last season with a number of chances for Freya Holdaway and Cherelle Khassal in the goalless draw.

Crystal Palace

Position: 9th

Results:

Crystal Palace 0-0 Coventry United

Durham 2-1 Crystal Palace

After sharing the points with Coventry on the opening day of the season, Palace faced the tough trip to Durham. The visitors started well scoring the opening goal through Ashley Goddard but they could not keep up the momentum. After narrowly missing a second, Durham capitalized through an impressive long-range effort from Lisa Robertson. It looked as though Palace were set for another draw but a moment of low concentration saw Durham secure a last minute victory.



Durham

Position: 1st

Results:

Leicester City 1-5 Durham

Durham 2-1 Crystal Palace

Durham have had a perfect start to the season with two strong wins in the opening weeks. The side, who have been strongly tipped for promotion to the WSL, bagged five goals against Leicester with a brace from Molly Sharpe and goals from

Megan Bell, Lisa Robertson and Becky Salicki. Their second game was much closer and it was not until the final minute of the game did Durham grab the winner. Lisa Robertson's stunning long-range shot cancelled out Ashleigh Goddard's opener for Palace before Sarah Robson sneaked the winner in the back of the net in the last minute.



Leicester City

Position: 11th

Results:

Leicester City 1-5 Durham

Sheffield United 7-1 Leicester City

Leicester had a tough first game of the season at home to



promotion hopefuls Durham. The hosts started strongly but suffered with the game poised at 1-1 when goalkeeper Demi Lambourne was forced off with injury. The injury left the Foxes struggling in defence and saw them lose 5-1. In the

second game, Leicester travelled to Sheffield United, where they faced a tough afternoon. It took just 90 seconds for United to open the scoring, with four goals inside the opening 25 minutes.

Lewes

Position: 3rd

Results:

Lewes 5-1 Blackburn Rovers

Charlton 0-0 Lewes



Lewes got their Championship season off to a good start with a 5-1 win over newly promoted Blackburn Rovers. The hosts dominated their opening game and Emma Jones, Jessica King, Ellie Noble and Emily Donovan opened their scoring campaigns. During the second week, they faced a trip to Charlton which was a much tougher contest. The Rovers

started strongly again but neither side could break the deadlock and ended up sharing the points.

London Bees

Position: 6th

Results:

London Bees 0-2 London City Lionesses

Blackburn Rovers 0-1 London Bees



The Bees started their 2019-20 campaign with a London derby against the London city Lionesses. Lionesses' keeper Lucy Thomas narrowly stopped Lauren Pickett from opening the scoring early on but the Bees could not keep their domination up and slipped in the second half. In their second game, they travelled to Blackburn in a close game against the newly promoted side. Nikita Whinnet scored just before half time and the Bees held on through a tight second half.

London City Lionesses

Position: 5th

Results:

London Bees 0-2 London City Lionesses

London City Lionesses 2-3 Aston Villa

London City Lionesses began their new chapter with a derby day victory at London Bees. A goal in each half from Grace Neville and Lucy Fitzgerald rounded off an impressive performance for the newly independent club. Next up, they welcomed Aston Villa and they quickly went behind as Amy West put the visitors ahead. After half time, Elizabeta Ejupi bagged a brace to give them a lead but the Villans came from behind to snatch a late victory.



Sheffield United

Position: 4th

Results:

Aston Villa 3-2 Sheffield United

Sheffield United 7-1 Leicester City

Sheffield United started the new season with defeat, ending their seven game winning run from last season. The visitors started the stronger side taking a 2-0 lead through Olivia Fergusson and Katie Wilkinson but a Melissa Johnson hat-trick gave Villa the three points. Fast forward a week and United came out all guns blazing against Leicester. Katie Wilkinson and debutant Aimee Palmer both bagged braces and it took just 90 seconds for the hosts to open the scoring through Sophie Barker. Veatriki Sarri's penalty and Olivia Fergusson grabbed the other two goals.



September's Championship fixtures can be found at:
www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/fixtures

Leicester City Women's Lambourne injured



Leicester City Women
@LCWFC_official

Wishing you a speedy recovery, @DemiLambourne! 🍀



Leicester City Women goalkeeper Demi Lambourne faces time on the sidelines after breaking her wrist in their Championship game against Durham.

With the game poised at 1-1, the 23-year-old stopped a close range shot before being forced off with injury.

It has now been confirmed that her wrist is broken and she faces a lengthy spell out of the squad.

Lambourne joined the Foxes in August 2018 from Oxford United Women.

Wishing you a speedy recovery Demi!

Lewes FC Women's Football

Chanting Workshops



By Karen Dobres

It's fair to say that Lewes FC doesn't have a big tradition of chanting in the terraces. Despite having existed since 1885, and being much-loved by its community, the fans aren't usually as vocal as some. Being at Lewes' home ground, The Dripping Pan, is wonderful, but it's not like the noisier experience of being at Old Trafford say, or Selhurst Park, or even our more local opponents, Whitehawk. In fact at a recent men's game away to Whitehawk I was amused by their Ultras classic taunting of us that we were 'like a library'!

A bit of a cheek, but more audacity was to come.

Watching Lewes FC Women at The

Dripping Pan one Sunday as they battled Aston Villa Ladies, we found that The Villans had brought a hardcore posse of male supporters down to Sussex along with them. The group was drumming and chanting throughout the game, far noisier than 6 or 7 guests ever should be, and we had no coordinated songs or Rookish chants to offer up from our quietly determined ranks in the stands. In fact, even if we had, the group of fans I was with weren't sure that we could be loud enough above the proactive Villans' fans.

So another Rooks supporter suggested a workshop in my kitchen ASAP. After all, there's no problem you can't workshop, and Lewes FC Women are in The Championship up against the likes of Charlton, Crystal

Palace and Sheffield United - we fans had to up our game off the pitch, just as our female 'ballers had done on it.

The following Saturday 5 of us (1 man, 4 women) gathered in my kitchen, and practiced standing like a warrior, taking up space, reaching a lower ('less screechy') register, and...we let rip. We worked out that we had to make anthemic chants, which involved some body language (think fist-punching, stamping, clapping), and which utilised our nickname (we're called The Rooks because of the birds who nest around the Pan, with a nod to Lewes castle of course). And we decided each should be sung three times.

We got over ourselves, our egos if you like, and became creative ('We Will, We Will Rook You' anyone?). We left the kitchen saying how 'empowered' we felt, and more than ready to support our team. They do say 'empowered women empower women', (did I mention our female footballers are the only club side in the world to be paid the same as the men?!) and we'd proven them right; but could we be as powerful pitch-side as we had been in my kitchen? Would we get over our fear of looking foolish and take one for the team?

It was a fun session but there was a serious undercurrent. Boys learn football chanting when they're taken to football matches by their Dads. Girls don't generally get taken. Boys are supposed to be loud and proud, girls are taught to be quiet and deferential. So most of us were breaking internalised stereotypes as we chanted...and it felt good!

We had a go at the next home match, but there weren't enough of us to be really effective. Undaunted, and with the burning desire to support our mighty Rooks, we enlisted the help of Lewes FC owner (there are currently almost 1600 of us and rising) and award-winning stand-up comedian Donna McPhail. One of the advantages of being a 100% community-owned Club is that owners really do 'own it' – the Club belongs to us all and we're all in it together. Our



mission? To see our teams climb up the leagues. Asking for Donna's help felt natural – she would want to support Lewes FC Women too. An ex-performer, with the necessary voice and charisma, and a Huddersfield fan to boot, with experience of chanting for the men's team there, we thought she would unearth the latent terrace warrior in us all! We weren't wrong.

So far this season - and admittedly it's just been pre-season friendlies and the one home league match as I write - we have chanted loudly and the mood has been infectious. Even dogs were helping us with 'Who Let the Rooks Out?', and I'm not making it up. Just ask Benji the brown labradoodle. All I'm saying is that the results speak for themselves: 5-1.

Chanting women football fans have been submerged, just as women footballers have been oppressed, by the currents of history and social conditioning. Lewes FC is proud to offer pre-match chanting practices and song sheets to our new market of fans, previously uninterested in football, who come to watch our matches in solidarity with the cause for equality. There are, after all, uneven playing fields to level both on, and off, the football pitch.



The First Ever Lewes FC Songbook

To... "Who Let The Dogs Out"

Who let the Rooks out?
Who who who?

To... "Oops Upside Your Head"

Rooks upside your head,
Say Rooks upside your head

To... "Go West (Pet Shop Boys)"

We're Rooks and you know we are

To... "We Will Rock You"

We will we will ROOK YOU!

To... "Let's All Do The Conga"

We're so busy winning, we are Lewes
Women, ne nah nah nah, ne nah nah nah!

To... "Those Were The Days"

Come On You Mighty Rooks, Come On
You mighty Rooks, Come on you Rooks,
come on you mighty Rooks!

To... "Ma Baker"

Leader: Ma ma ma ma
Faye Baker, she'll save on the spot
Faye Baker, the best of the lot,
Faye Baker, best goalie alive,
Faye Baker, she knows when to dive!

To... "Penny Lane"

Danni Lane is wearing red,
She looks the part
War horse of the team
She shows us every time she makes a pass!

Championship Summer Transfers



TheFA Women's
Championship

Aston Villa



IN: Marisa Ewers (Birmingham), Ella Franklin-Fraiture (Leicester), Melissa Johnson (Leicester), Emily Syme (Yeovil), Charlotte Greengrass (Leicester), Shania Hayles (Birmingham), Nathalie Haigh, Emma Follis (Birmingham)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: n/a

OUT: Aja Aguirre, Alison Hall, Ashlee Brown, Hayley Crackle (Coventry), Hollie Gibson, Tanisha Smith

Blackburn Rovers

IN: Rhema Lord- Mears (Anderlecht), Lauren Thomas (Liverpool)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Kayleigh MacDonald, Natasha Flint, Serena Fletcher, Jessica Holbrook, Kelsey Pearson, Saffron Jordan, Ellie Stewart, Natasha Fenton, Alex Taylor, Lauren Davies, Sophie Charlton, Danielle Hill

OUT: Lynda Shepherd (retirement), Danielle Gibbons, Charlotte Stuart, Lagan Makin



Charlton

IN: Riva Casley (Millwall Lionesses), Georgia Evans (Yeovil Town), Ellie Leek (Le Havre), Lois Euchar (Le Havre), Maddie Phillips (Chelsea Academy), Alice Griffiths (Cardiff Met), Jaime Gotch (Reading Academy), Rachel Newborough (Boston College), Lily Woodham (Reading – loan), Charlie Estcourt (Reading – loan), Renee Hector (Tottenham), Charlotte Devlin (Man United), Shanell Salgado (Crystal Palace), Jenna Legg (unattached)



EXTENDED CONTRACTS: n/a

OUT: Ellie Bailes, Chloe Brunton-Wilde, Amelia Ritchie, Hayley West, Amber Stobbs (retirement), Lilly Agg, Harley Bennett, Charlotte Gurr, Elizabeth Ejupi (London City Lionesses), Kit Graham (Tottenham)

Coventry

IN: Katie Morris (Chorley FC), Rosie Axten(Leicester), Jodie Bartle (Loughborough Foxes), Rebecca Anderson (unattached), Erin Smith (Leafield), Sian Johnson, Hayley Crackle (Aston Villa)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Helen Dermody Beth Merrick Jade Formaston, Maz Gauntlett, Nikki Miles, Erin Riden, Shannon O'Brien, Susan Wood, Yasmine Kluckis



OUT: Rosie McDonnell, Natasha Merritt, Lois Jefferies (Wolves), Georgina Presswell

Crystal Palace



IN: Leeta Rutherford (Lewes), Amy Goddard (Yeovil), Cherelle Khassal (Chichester), Lucy Gillett (Brighton), Magda Mosengo (Carson Newman), Annabel Johnson (London Bees), Emma Gibbon (Tottenham), Lizzie Waldie, Bianca Baptiste (Tottenham), Ashleigh Goddard (Appollon Ladies), Reat Laudat (Totthenham), Ella Rutherford (Bristol City—loan)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Freya Holdoway, Jordan Butler, Ashley Hincks, Ciara Watling, Andria Georgiou, Nicole Pepper, Lily Stevens

OUT: Anneka Nuttall (Leicester), Nikita Whinett (London Bees), Megan Lynch (London Bees), Shannel Salgado (Charlton)

Durham

IN: Megan Bell (Linfield), Iris Achterhof (Old Dominion Uni), Molly Sharpe (Barry University), Jordan Atkinson

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Hannah Reid, Kathryn Hill, Lisa Robertson, Sarah Wilson, Sarah Robson, Beth Hepple, Nicki Gears, Megan Borthwick, Becky Salicki, Ellie Christon, Emily Roberts, Lauren Briggs, Abby Holmes, Rachel Lee



OUT: Abi Cottam (Sunderland), Chloe Knott, Zoe Ness (Lewes)

Lewes



IN: Caitlin Hayes (Barcelona FA), Ella Powell (Georgia State University), Ellie Noble (Oxford United), Faye Baker, Emma Jones (Cardiff City), Rhian Cleverly (Le Havre), Emily Donovan (Yeovil), Annie Timoney (Marine Academy), Charley Boswell, Ava Rowbotham, Filippa Savva (Liverpool Feds), Molly Peters (Enfield), Issy Foster (Southampton FC), Zoe Ness (Durham)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Katie McIntyre, Amy Taylor, Danielle Lane, Samantha Quayle, Jess King, Sophie O'Rourke

OUT: Rebecca Carter (Crawley Wasps), Leeta Rutherford (Crystal Palace), Nina Wilson (Watford), Charlotte Owen (Crawley Wasps), Georgia Roberts (London Bees)

Leicester

IN: Aimee Everett (Liverpool), Lachante Paul (Arsenal Academy), Annabel Blanchard (Liverpool Academy), Paige Bailey-Gayle (Arsenal Academy), Lia Cataldo (London City Lionesses), Grace Riglar (Bristol), Anneka Nuttall (Crystal Palace)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Nat Johnson, Hayley James, Leigh Dugmore, Demi Lambourne, Holly Morgan, Lucy Johnson

OUT: Ella Franklin-Fraiture (Aston Villa), Melissa Johnson (Aston Villa). Rosie Axten (Coventry), Charlotte Clarke (Stoke City), Charlotte Greengrass (Aston Villa)



London Bees



IN: Lee Burch (manager – Yeovil), Bonnie Horwood (Yeovil), Megan Alexander (Yeovil), Amelia Hazard (Arsenal Academy), Georgina Giddings (Millwall Lionesses), Georgia Roberts (Lewes), Brooke Nunn, Rosie Kmita (West Ham), Courtney Ward-Chambers (QPR), Billie Brooks (unattached), Hayley West, Nikita Whinett (Crystal Palace), Megan Lynch (Crystal Palace), Flo Gamby

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Sarah Quantrill, Merrick Will, Lauren Pickett, Nicola Gibson, Taylor O’Leary, Mollie Dench, Lucy Loomes

OUT: Rachel Yankey (manager), Paula Howells, Katie Wilkinson (Sheffield United), Destiny Toussaint, Annabel Johnson (Crystal Palace), Rachel Unitt, Daisy McLachlan (Oxford United), Rosie Parnell (Southampton FC), Kelsey Gibson (Luton Town), Tricia Gould, Ruesha Littlejohn, Ocean Rolandsen (Watford)

London City Lionesses

IN: Poppy Wilson (Bristol), Ellie Mason (Yeovil), Hannah Short (Yeovil), Elizabeth Ejupi (Charlton), Lily Agg (Charlton), Amber Gaylor (Yeovil), Juliette Kempf (Bristol City), Florence Fyfe (Oxford), Vyan Samspon (Charlton), Freda Ayisi (Leicester), Lucy Thomas (Oxford), Chantelle Mackie, Kallie Balfour, Harley Bennett (Charlton)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: Annie Rossiter, Leanne Cowan, Lucy Fitzgerald, Gabby Ravenscroft, Ylena Priest, Evie Clarke, Eden Bailey, Grace Neville

OUT: Riva Casley (Charlton), Lia Cataldo (Leicester), Beth Lumsden, Georgina Giddings (London Bees)



Sheffield United



IN: Katie Wilkinson (London Bees), Naomi Hartley (Man United), Leandra Little (Liverpool), Olivia Fergusson (Yeovil), Kerri Matthews (York City RTC), Rebecca Flaherty (Everton), Emily Batty, Alicia Johnson (Bristol City), Aimee Palmer (Man United – loan), Kasia Lipka, Ellie Fletcher (Liverpool – loan)

EXTENDED CONTRACTS: n/a

OUT: Sophie Jones (retirement), Ellie Gilliat (Derby County), Tania Marsden, Danielle Cox, Nikki Davies, Nicole Kemp, Georgia Stevens (Fylde AFC), Jodie Hartley, Rebecca Rayner (Nottingham Forest)



Sally Lally Art



As a fan of women's football I've noticed that women's football prints are few and far between. With the Women's World Cup generating the interest that it did and the Lionesses doing so well, I felt that there should be something to commemorate their achievements and something for fans to remember the World Cup by.

All my prints are on my social media accounts.

@SophieLallyArt on Twitter and Instagram

Sophie Lally Art on Facebook

My website sophielallyart.wordpress.com

Orders can be made by sending a direct message to any of the above social media accounts.

Wendie Renard 0-5 England
Lucy Bronze
Fran Kirby
27th June 2019

Wendie Renard 0-5
Lucy Bronze 40'
Fran Kirby 67'



Women's Football Supporters



Women's Football fans on social media have been coming together to talk, debate and share their love of the game.

Thanks to a group set up by Ton Abrahams, fans have been able to chat to other fans about news stories games and arrange meetings.

Ton Abrahams and admin Graham Pilcher chatted to TWFM about how they fell in love with the game and how the group is growing in numbers.

When did you start watching women's football and why?

TA: I started watching women's football in 2015. I had always been interested in watching sport and started following Bristol City Women's FC.

GP: I started my love of women's football in 2014 when I was watching the men's world cup of that year. Now I love watching the world cups but I just thought that something was missing.

What's your favourite match you have been to?

TA: My favourite match I have ever been to has to be when the Lionesses played Serbia to qualify for the European Championship. It was my first England match I had ever been to. The atmosphere was amazing. This was when I was introduced to the likes of Steph Houghton, Ellen White, Nikita Paris & Karen Carney to name a few. It sure was an entertaining match as The Lionesses won easily 7-0 against the visitors! A match I will never forget.

GP: The first ladies match I watched was an England friendly against Germany and I enjoyed every second of it and continued to watch more games which I found on Youtube. This is going to be my first season watching the WSL because up till now I have been watching international matches but my love of the women's game is growing each year and now I don't even watch the men's game I am 100% dedicated to the women's game.

Who is your favourite team and player?

TA: My favourite team has to be Manchester City WFC. They have an amazing team with some great new signings especially Georgia Stanway & Ellen White. My favourite player for Man City WFC is Steph Houghton because she is an inspiration to all both on & off the pitch. She is a level headed young woman and a great asset to the team

GP: I now support the Manchester City Women and my favourite player, which I enjoyed watching in the world cup is Georgia Stanway. I have never been to see a game live but I will be watching as many games both national and international games as I can and I will be enjoying every second of them.

Why did you start the group?

TA: Originally i started the group for supporters of the Lionesses during the world cup. I wanted to meet other supporters like me who were following the lionesses on their Women's World Cup Journey. However, once the World Cup had ended, I decided to change the group to "Women's Football Supporters". Our Facebook group is open to all supporters of any women's football team in any league. Of course, we will as a group continue to follow & support the Lionesses as well.

Why do you think the group is important for women's football fans?

TA: I think the group is important for Women's Football fans because we can all come together and share our love of Women's Football. We discuss our favourite teams & favourite players. We also provide the group any updates regarding Women's Football & we also provide schedules for forthcoming matches. Not only do we support teams in the national, super & championship leagues, we also support smaller local teams too! We are a non-stop shop for Women's Football and it's nice to bring people together who also love it as much as I do.

GP: I joined this group to share with others my love of the women's game and also to find others who enjoy and love the games as much as I do. I believe that the women's game is getting bigger and bigger each year and I hope I am a part of the growth of it all and I also hope that us as a group are being noticed for our dedication and our love for these amazing and beautiful players who work hard every day of their lives to be the best they can be and to show us that they to belong on the field.



What do you hope for the future of the group?

TA: I hope that the group continues to grow in the future. We have a fab admin team who help me run the group. We have lots of ideas between us & we hope that we will be unique in what we offer from other social media groups for Women's Football. We are also on Instagram & Twitter and we hope our fan base increases on both media accounts in the future.

Do you think the WWC is going to help boost the sport in the UK?

TA: I would like to think that it will. I think the World Cup was a starting point. It was fantastic to see the viewing figures reported from games watched during the Women's World Cup. I hope the sport continues to get the notice & investment that it deserves.

GP: The world cup itself is amazing and is showcasing their skills on display to the rest of the world spreading the love to the four corners and also soon with the expansion from 24 teams to 32. It means more and more countries can take advantage and more young girls who dream of playing football professional will make it and get to show us that hard work and dedication will eventually pay-off. I hope that women's football continues to grow in years to come. I have never enjoyed football as much as I do now and deciding to support women's football is the best decision that I ever made.

Women's Football Supporters information

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/womensfootballsupporters/>

Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/404252266832905/>

Twitter @WomensFootbal15

Instagram @womens_football_supporters

Our group welcomes members of all ages to join us, so if you are on FB please send us a request to join. Alternatively, give us a follow on Instagram or Twitter and we will follow you back.

If you are a Women's Football Team and you would like us to post about your team, please get in contact with us. It will be our pleasure to do whatever we can to spread the word about you.

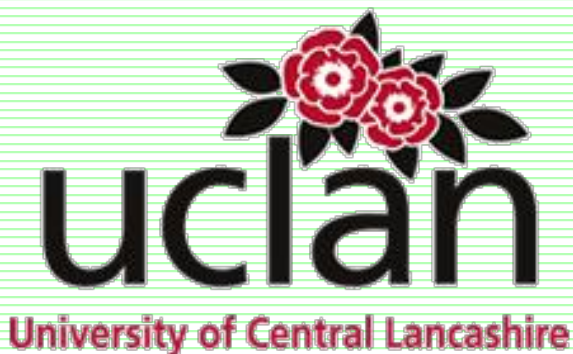


NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE



THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE

Burnley announce shirt sponsor



Burnley Women have announced the University of Central Lancashire as their new shirt sleeve sponsor for their 2019-20 Women's National League Northern Premier Division campaign.

The Clarets, who have won consecutive league titles, have been building their women's squad and developing off the pitch strongly on the off season.

Neil Hart, Chair of Burnley FC Women said: "Our first team have enjoyed a remarkable journey over recent seasons, and we are delighted that UCLan have chosen to support the team and our ambitions for the women's game.

"Like Burnley FC, UCLan has a long history in the Lancashire region and a thriving Burnley campus, making it the perfect fit for this partnership.

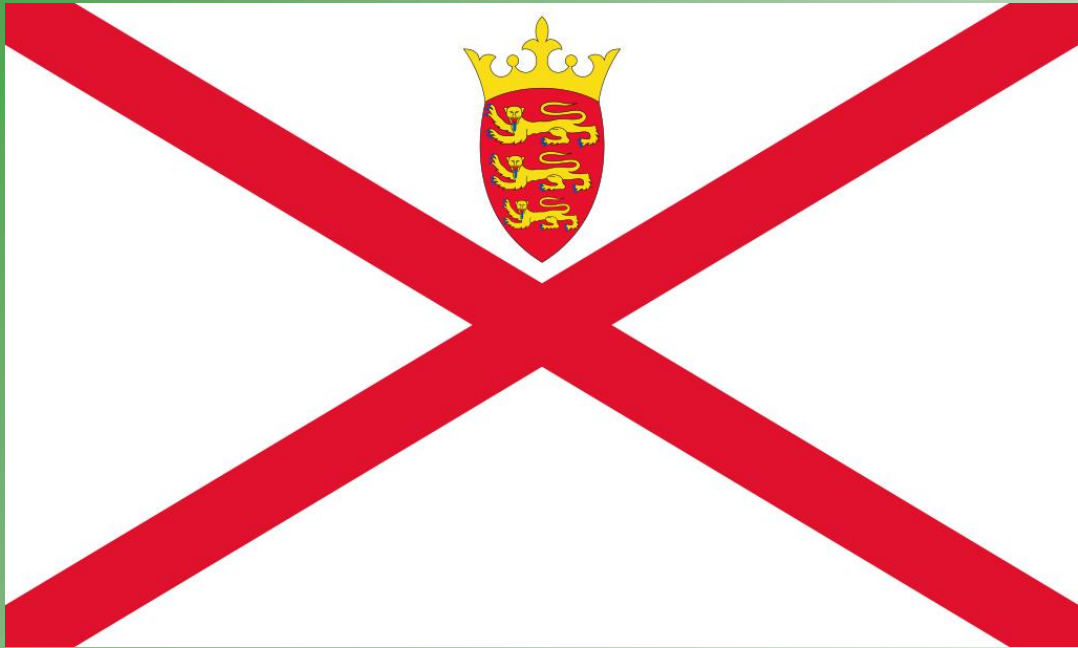
"We very much look forward to strengthening our existing relationship."

Dr Ebrahim Adia, Provost at UCLan Burnley, said: "We're delighted to take up this sponsorship opportunity and wish the team every success for the coming season.

"The profile and popularity of women's football has never been higher and, like Burnley FC Women, UCLan is passionate about unlocking and nurturing new generations of talent and potential.

"Our goal is to raise educational aspirations of young people and under-represented groups from Burnley and beyond so they can reap the life-long benefits that higher education can bring."

A women's first for Jersey



Two former Jersey Footballer of the Year winners came face-to-face in the National League South.

Megan Wood and Holly Muirhead are both from Jersey but moved to England to progress in their careers.

Wood, who plays for Yeovil, has been at the club through the academy but made her debut over the summer. Yeovil have dropped into the third tier of the women's game this season after playing in the Super League last due to financial issues.

Muirhead, is at Chichester, having joined the team this summer. She also plays football at the University of Chichester and was awarded the "sports fresher of the year" award in May.

There have been a number of famous male footballers from Jersey

including Brett Pitman, and Graeme le Saux but more recently women's footballers have been getting a name for themselves as well.

Yeovil were 3-0 winners of the National League South match.

Afterwards, Wood told the Jersey Evening Post: "It was good to see Holly and I felt we both did well in what was a competitive game.

"Many of the players knew about the Jersey link and although it was a celebration of Island pride we both had a job to do for our teams.

"It was a good game, the first half was really competitive and we made it difficult for ourselves because we've had a strong start to the season and not conceded a goal in our previous games and we've now added to that."





Fylde's Play

with Georgia Stevens

@Stix_Official_9 @FyldeLadiesFC

This is my first article for TWFM, so just a little bit of background on myself to help you get acquainted. I'm 19 years old and am currently studying Multi Media Sports Journalism at university whilst playing Striker for FAWNL Northern side Fylde Women. I'm also a Kick It Out ambassador as part of their "Game Changers" programme – a mentorship scheme aiming to give young adults professional opportunities within football.

Being accepted onto the programme was a massive achievement for me. Being able to be a part of an organisation which strives to help create an environment where all are welcome and equal is something that is greatly inspiring and something which I hope to be able to merge with my football career.

I signed for the Coasters permanently this season, after joining them about halfway through last season on loan from Sheffield United Women. Fylde have some quality players and a great mix of experience and youth. On top of that, everybody is genuinely nice and the atmosphere is so welcoming – something which has helped my, and others' I'm sure, confidence grow.

We've made two new signings, as of writing this, for the upcoming season – Sammy Fleck from Burnley Women and Jodie Redgrave from Derby County. Both have settled in almost immediately – I'm pretty sure team bonding at Blackpool Pleasure Beach helped that though!

Sammy has been playing as holding midfielder and it's great to have her on the pitch. She adds a bit of security at the back while also having an eye for a pass going forward. Jodie has slotted in as a 10 behind me, we've gelled really and she's super creative on the ball.

Pre-season seems to have ended so quickly; it feels like just last week we were dreading the bleep test! We played some tough sides, Hamilton Academicals travelled down from Scotland for a solid game, and plenty of fitness was done. But I think the general consensus among the squad is that we're ready for the season to start already!

Our first game will be against Huddersfield Town Ladies away. It's undoubtedly going to be a tough match and could prove to be one of our toughest as Huddersfield always give us a good game. As you're reading this, we've already played them so hopefully we did well! We were also drawn against Solihull Moors Women in the FAWNL Cup determining round which should prove to be an interesting fixture and an away trip nonetheless.

Be sure to give us a follow over on social media to keep up to date with the squad and results. On top of playing for Fylde, I'm also the women's media manager so any interaction would be greatly appreciated! We hope to try and offer some extra content across our platforms so be sure to keep an eye out.





Play up Pompey!

By Ian Chiverton

I remember exactly when I became a Portsmouth fan. I was 10-years-old and sat in the school hall with mates. Our conversation had turned to football and we all decided to pick a team. My mate said his Dad supported Portsmouth. Fuelled by fond memories of family day trips there and the fact they were local, I picked them. Little did I know that it would lead to a 26 year and 530 game obsession.

By my late 20's I was married and our daughter Abby was three. At this point I was attending 35+ Pompey men's games a season (home and away) and loving every second of it.

Portsmouth was a huge part of my life by this point. My Dad had died suddenly, but in the years before his death he had started coming to games with me. Previously we had very few joint interests. It was more than football now.

Roll on a couple of years, Abby was now five and my wife was expecting our second child. Abby had been to a handful of games but had showed little interest. I was desperate for Abby to share my love of Pompey. I couldn't get her to play football either "it's for boys not girls" she used to say.

When the seat next to my season ticket became available I decided it was worth getting Abby a junior season ticket. She attended

the majority of home games that season. She was showing signs of interest but nothing concrete. I always got the feeling she was there for the pre-match McDonalds rather than the game.

My mate suggested that I could take her to a Pompey Women's game (known as Pompey Ladies at the time). I had never had any interest in women's football but if it got my daughter to fall in love with the game, I was up for that.

So on 20 August 2017, we attended Havant and Waterlooville's Westleigh Park to watch Pompey Ladies take on Cardiff. Prior to the game I had been researching a few of the Pompey players. I wanted to find one that would chat to Abby on the day. Recommended through my mate I contacted Lauren Peck.

As soon as we arrived at the game Lauren spotted us and came straight over. I could see the difference in Abby already, she looked up at Lauren with the wide eyed hero look. I don't think she had ever seen a female footballer before.

Pompey won 4-1 and Abby loved it. You could tell she was shocked how good the girls were. I vividly remember saying to her on the way home "I told you girls can play football" and her just smiling back at me.

On a personal level I was surprised by the quality of the football. It was a 3rd tier women's league game. Every player on that pitch was a student or had a job. Not a paid footballer in sight. The challenges were flying in. I was very impressed and in all honestly felt a bit silly for not taking women's football seriously previously.

Abby and I were instantly hooked.

We did another 23 women's games that season— including 14 away games! Abby had even started playing football herself. Inspired by her Pompey Women heroes, she attended a local girls training session. Even Lauren came to watch her once, which Abby was delighted with.

When attending the Pompey Women games Abby was getting flooded with attention from the players and staff and had started to be a regular mascot. Abby and I were present at almost every game and I had started enjoying it as much as her.

Going into the 2018/19 season, Abby and I were Pompey Women addicts. Abby being a typical girl her age asked me if we could vlog a game. I reluctantly agreed and we recorded a small vlog for the London Bee's pre-season friendly. If it made Abby happy and got the Women's team some exposure it would be worth doing, I thought.

That season everything snowballed.

Abby and I attended every single competitive game Pompey Women played including missing the Pompey men playing at Wembley in the Checktrade final so we could watch the Women at home to Loughborough in the league! We vlogged every game and posted our videos on our YouTube channel "Pompey Women Vlogs". By the end of the season we had nearly 100 subscribers and over 5000 views on our channel.

We were well known faces to the squad and staff and felt extremely welcome at games. The players treated Abby and I superbly. She amassed signed shirts, footballs and would often disappear off into the changing room. The squad even got together to buy her boots for Christmas!





I also made friends with some of the other dedicated Pompey Women fans who had been coming long before me. I fell in love with football all over again. I took every opportunity to promote Pompey Women through local radio interviews and online articles, just so I could give a bit back.

At the end of the season our YouTube channel was nominated for an award at the Football Blogging awards. We attended the awards ceremony at Manchester City's Etihad stadium. It was a surreal experience!

Abby had moved to local club Milford Pumas and has become a very competent tough tackling defender—winning most improved player for her squad in her first season. She is the only girl in her team and she doesn't care!

A few Pompey Women players have come to see her play now and are unbelievably supportive.

Going forward to this season we have revamped our YouTube channel. We will again try to attend every one of the Women's competitive games and continue trying to publicise women's football as much as possible.

I couldn't imagine life without Abby's football and Pompey Women now. The decision to go to that first game has changed our lives.

Youtube channel: Pompey Women Vlogs

Twitter: @pompeychiv



CUPS



**THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
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Women's Champions League draw



The draw for the Uefa Women's Champions League round-of-32 draw has been made.

WSL 2018/19 winners Arsenal and runners-up Manchester City are the two English sides in the draw whilst Glasgow City are also involved as the winners in Scotland.

Hibernian join Glasgow in the draw – it is the first time in three years that two Scottish sides have made the knockout stages – after Hibs beat Welsh side Cardiff Met in qualifying.

Arsenal, who are unseeded, have been drawn against Fiorentina.

Seeded Manchester City, were drawn against Swiss side Lugano and Glasgow City face a trip to Russian side Chertanovo.

Full draw:

Juventus v Barcelona	Goteborg v Bayern Munich
Hibernian v Slavia Praha	St. Polten v Twente
ZFK Spartak v Atletico Madrid	Anderlecht v BIIK-Kazygurt
Braga v Paris Saint-Germain	Breidablik v Sparta Praha
Vllaznia v Fortuna Hjorring	Mitrovica v Wolfsburg
Chertanovo v Glasgow City (make green)	Pitea v Brondby
Ryazan-VDV v Lyon	Lugano v Manchester City
Arsenal v Fiorentina	Minsk v FC Zurich

When are the games?

Hibernian

Wednesday, September 11: Hibernian v Slavia Praha, 19:45 BST, Easter Road

Wednesday, September 25: Slavia Praha v Hibernian, 17:30 BST, Sinobo Stadium

Glasgow City

Wednesday, September 11: Chertanovo v Glasgow City, 18:00 BST, Sportivnyj gorodok Luzhniki

Thursday, September 26, Glasgow City v Chertanovo, 19:30 BST, Petershill Park

Arsenal

Thursday, September 12: Fiorentina v Arsenal, 18:00 BST, Stadio Artemio Franchi

Thursday, September 26: Arsenal v Fiorentina, 19:30 BST, Meadow Park

Manchester City

Thursday, September 12: Lugano v Man City, 20:00 BST, Cornaredo Stadium

Wednesday, September 25: Man City v Lugano, 19:00 BST, Academy Stadium

Important Champions League dates

Round of 32: 11/12 & 25/26 September 2019

Round of 16 draw: 30 September 2019, Nyon

Round of 16: 16/17 & 30/31 October 2019

Quarter-final & semi-final draw: 8 November 2019, Nyon

Quarter-finals: 24/25 March & 1/2 April 2020

Semi-finals: 25/26 April & 2/3 May 2020

Final (Viola Park, Vienna): 24 May 2020



SSE Women's FA Cup



Extra preliminary round results

Washington AFC Ladies	0-13	Redcar Town LFC
Wakefield Trinity FC Ladies	0-3	Farsley Celtic Ladies FC
Mosseley Hill LFC	WO	Burnley Belvedere Ladies FC
*Walkover for Mossley Hill, Burnley Belvedere withdrew		
Notts County Ladies FC	11-1	Cleethorpes Town LFC
Port Vale Ladies FC	9-0	Lye Town LFC
Corby Town Ladies	1-2	Bungay Town LFC
New London Lionesses	5-4	Comets LFC
Bishop's Stortford LFC	1-5	Hartham United LFC
Ashford Town (Mddx) LFC	4-1	Denham United LFC
Burgess Hill Town LFC	3-2	Eastbourne United Ladies FC



Preliminary Round—Sunday September 1

Penrith	2-4	Bishop Auckland	Solihull Sporting	7-1	Rugby Town
Boro Rangers	1-3	South Shields	Crusaders	5-2	Sandwell
Carlisle United	1-11	Hartlepool United	Tamworth	2-3	Shrewsbury Town
Redcar Town	5-0	Lumley	Farsley Celtic	3-0	Thackley
Blyth Town	2-1	Workington Reds	Kingfisher	2-4	Cookley Sports
Alnwick Town	3-5	Sunderland WE	Kidsgrove Athletic	3-5	Solihull Ladies U
Wetherby Athletic	0-10	Harrogate Town	Coundon Court	2-3	Sutton Coldfield T
Osset United	5-1	Rotherham United	Wyrley	2-4	Shifnal Town
Ripon City	0-4	Yorkshire Amateur	Stockingford AA P	2-1	Stourbridge
Bridlington Rovers	4-2	Bradford PA	Coventry Sphinx	2-1	AFC Telford United
Hepworth United	5-1	Pride Park	Wroxham	6-2	Kettering Town
Oughtbridge WM	2-1	Sheff Wednesday	Haverhill Rovers	1-3	King's Lynn Town
Blackburn Comm	6-1	West Kirby	St Ives Town	0-1	Histon
Northwich Vixens	13-2	Bury	AFC Sudbury	0-8	Harlow Town
Curzon Ashton	2-2 (4-2)	Mossley Hill	Rise Park	3-2	Notts County
Thameside United	1-5	Fleetwood TW	Peterborough U	14-0	Thrapston Town
Manchester Stingers	0-6	Merseyrail	Fulbourn IB	0-5	Wymondham Town
FC United of Manc	5-0	Tranmere Rovers	Netherton United	1-3	Newmarket Town
Accrington G&L	1-3	Altrincham	Clapton Community	6-3	Margate
Didsbury	4-2	West Didsbury	Aylesford	2-1	Dulwich Hamlet
Accrington Stanley	1-8	Morecambe	Dartford	5-0	Hackney
Wythenshawe A	0-8	Crewe Alexandra	Whyteleafe	3-6	Millwall Lionesses
Boston United	WO	walkover	Victoire	4-3	Herne Bay
AFC Leicester	1-3	Grimsby Borough	Meridian	1-3	Regents PR
Coalville Town	1-11	Hykeham Town	Sutton United	0-1	Islington Borough
Worksop Town	0-9	Mansfield Town	Phoenix Sports	5-1	Haringey Borough
Dronfield Town	1-2	Leicester City	Long Lane	0-11	Ashford
Lutterworth Athletic	0-12	Chesterfield	Watford Ladies D	4-2	Hemel Hempstead T
Sherwood	0-7	Arnold Eagles	Hitchin Belles	1-6	Bowers & Pitsea
Oadby & Wigston	5-1	Lincoln MR	Royston Town	4-1	Wodson Park
Arnold Town	1-4	Woodlands	Bedford	1-3	Colney Heath
Kidderminster H	3-4	Leek Town	Houghton Athletic	0-1	AFC Dunstable
Port Vale	8-1	Knowle	Riverside	0-15	Bungay Town
Droitwich Spa	WO	walkover	Luton Town	7-0	Leigh Ramblers

Preliminary Round—Sunday September 1

Abbey Rangers	4-3	Hampton & RB	Shanklin	1-0	Alton
QPR Development	11-0	Wargrave	Bournemouth Sport	1-3	Winchester CF
Banbury United	1-2	Walton Casuals	Eastleigh	1-2	Moneyfields
Fulham	3-1	New London L.	Hartham United	0-5	St Albans
Abingdon United	7-0	Brentford	AFC Bournemouth	6-0	Feniton
Ascot United	2-3	Abingdon Town	Almondsbury	2-0	Longlevens
Wantage Town	0-14	Wycombe W	Weston Super Mare	1-4	Middlezoy Rovers
Steyning Town	1-5	Newhaven	AEK Boko	0-4	Ilminster Town
Oakwood	6-1	AFC Littlehampton	Sherborne Town	10-0	Keynsham TD
Pagham	2-3	Worthing	Royal Wootton BT	7-0	Chipping Sodbury T
Godalming Town	1-2	Eastbourne Town	Swindon Spitfires	1-7	Portishead Town
Milford & Witley	1-5	Tunbridge Wells F	Bideford	5-2	St Agnes
Mole Valley	7-0	Bexhill United	Marine Academy Ply	1-0	AFC St Austell
New Milton Town	3-1	Newbury	Torquay United	3-0	RNAS Culdrose
Ashford Town	5-2	Oxford City	Burgess Hill Town	2-4	Saltdean United

Round Dates

Preliminary Round Sunday 18 August 2019

First Round Qualifying Sunday 1 September 2019

Second Round Qualifying Sunday 22 September 2019

Third Round Qualifying Sunday 6 October 2019

First Round Proper Sunday 10 November 2019

Second Round Proper Sunday 1 December 2019

Third Round Proper Sunday 5 January 2020

Fourth Round Proper Sunday 26 January 2020

Fifth Round Proper Sunday 16 February 2020

Quarter Final Sunday 15 March 2020

Semi Final Sunday 19 April 2020

Final Saturday 9 May 2020

Home Nations



**THE WOMEN'S
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Lionesses World Cup hangover continues



By Helen Rowe-Willcocks

England's first game since the Women's World Cup third-place play-off in July saw them held to a draw.

Travelling to Leuven, Belgium the Lionesses, who won so many hearts in France, showed a number of sloppy, panicky defending which cost them the game.

BBC commentator Jonathan Pearce called the game "competitive" - it was not and it was not a good advert for women's football or the Lionesses.

The game was played like a pre-season warm up game. It was clear that none of the players wanted to play competitively, as they were all thinking ahead to the start of the Women's Super League season which started just days after they returned.

The biggest question watching the game was—where has the passion gone?

Steph Houghton, who is usually so calm and collected, made mistakes as did Millie Bright and it will be interesting to see if manager Phil Neville will change things up in upcoming

matches. There was so much miscommunication within the squad that easy passes were going astray.

Nikita Parris seems to have lost the confidence and almost arrogance that got her so far last season and we seemed to be missing a leader.

The only bright spark in the game was Beth England who was brought on in the second half. It was like she came on and wanted to prove that she should have a place in the starting XI.

After that first game, fans were left wondering where that squad, that had so much confidence and prowess just months ago, had disappeared to.

Just a few days later and England were back in action. The Lionesses, who had beaten opponents Norway in France, once again struggled.

Georgia Stanway opened the scoring early on—which deserves a mention even in this slightly negative article—because it was

just that good!

But after that, once again it went down hill.

Both games, we sat back, we let the opposition get back into the game and that is where there is clearly a difference with us and the USA. The US team are ruthless. Many dragged them following their 13-0 thrashing of Thailand but their mentality is to keep going no matter what.

England are the opposite. We go a couple up and then sit back. We need to go out there wanting to thrash teams. Wanting to show our dominance and at the moment we are not doing that.

And that is a deep concern.

Over the next two years, apart from if we go to defend our SheBelieves title, we will have no competitive games. As hosts of the 2021 Euros, we do not have to qualify. We literally are already in.

England are in need of a shape up. There are

some players who seem to have got too confident that no matter what, they will be in the team. Neville says that he has a squad not a team but it is about time that squad proves who deserves to be in that starting XI. We need to find a way to be competitive.

Hopefully, those games were just a backlash of the fact that they should have been training with their domestic clubs the week before the start of the WSL season, but another couple of games and performances like that and people are going to start asking some seriously tough questions.

Will Neville be able to answer them or with the Lionesses answer them for him? We will have to wait until Brazil to see.

Results

Belgium 3-3 England

Norway 2-1 England





STOKES

3



England to take on Brazil in North East

England are to play South American champions Brazil at Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium on Saturday 5 October [kick-off 12:45pm].

The fixture will be the Lionesses' first home match since the FIFA World Cup.

Brazil will provide another stern test on home soil for Phil Neville's squad ahead the visit of Germany to England in November.

Phil Neville said: "It is great to be able to have secured this fixture against such opposition.

"I know a lot of work has gone into making it happen. Brazil will provide a different test to the other games we have lined up over the coming months, and it is always a special occasion when our two countries meet.

"I am also delighted that we will be playing in the north-east, a real footballing hot-bed that has produced so many of our players over the years."

Tickets for England v Brazil are available for sale online now, visit [thefa.com/ tickets](http://thefa.com/tickets) to book.





Scotland and Shoosmiths partnership

The Scottish FA has announced a partnership with Shoosmiths to boost the growth of girls' and women's football in Scotland.

The four year deal sees one of the UK's leading law firms join ranks to help develop a number of different aspects of the game in Scotland.

As part of the partnership, Shoosmiths will support the recruitment of 200 female coaches and 20 new female referees.

Scotland Women's National Team Head Coach Shelley Kerr said: The girls' and women's game is experiencing a period of unprecedented interest across the nation and Shoosmiths' commitment to help continue this growth as an official partner is a timely boost.

"The World Cup was an amazing experience and one that we hope will inspire young Scottish girls to play football in the future.

"We also hope that the team's success will inspire women to become involved in the sport in a number of other different roles apart from the playing side, such as coaching and refereeing.

"To have the support of a law firm such as Shoosmiths means a lot to us and will help us continue to develop the game across the country."



SHOOSMITHS

Scotland 8-0 Cyprus



Scotland kicked off their Women's European Championship qualifying campaign in style with an 8-0 win over Cyprus at Easter Road.

Kim Little scored five goals in their first game since being knocked out of the Women's World Cup in the group stages.

In wet and windy conditions, it did not take long for the hosts to get the opening goal with Claire Emslie getting on the end of Lisa Evan's cross.

Little opened her tally shortly after and managed to bag a third just before half time.

Scotland were cruising going into the second half and it was clear their opponents were struggling to compete with the historical night – their first ever European or World Cup

qualifier.

Cyprus' goalkeeper Eleni Ttakka had a fantastic game despite the score, but Jane Ross added to the tally on 52 minutes.

Little, who captains Arsenal in the WSL, secured her hat-trick just after the hour mark as she pounced on a mistake from Ttakka.

After Little added two more goals, Caroline Weir scored the final goal of the night with a fantastic shot into the corner.

Goals: Emslie, 11; Little, 20, 40, 61, 83, 88; Ross, 52; Weir 90

Attendance: 6,206



Faroe Islands

0-6

Wales

Wales started their qualifying campaign strongly with a 6-0 victory over Faroe Islands in Torshavn.

Forward Natasha Harding scored a hat-trick, and whilst Wales put in a fantastic performance, the talk of the night was all about Carrie Jones, the 15-year-old who earned her first international cap despite not being old enough to play for her club Cardiff City's first team.

Harding's first came after just three minutes and Emma Jones added a second just minutes later – her first international goal for Wales.

Despite missing a number of key players due to injury including Helen Ward and Jess Fishlock, Wales looked strong throughout the game, even if against a weaker opponent.

The visitors were awarded penalty in the second half but Kayleigh Green blasted over the crossbar.

Wales were awarded another penalty after Green was taken out in the box, with Harding stepping up to do the honours.

With just over 20 minutes to go, Mortensen of the Faroe Islands slipped leading to an own goal but the best goal of the game came with just ten minutes left on the clock.

Harding scored a stunning lob from an almost impossible angle to secure her hat-trick.

Finally, right-back Rhiannon Roberts made it six when her looping shot trickled into the back of the net.

Goals: Harding, 3, 57 (P), 79; Jones, 5; Mortensen, 67 (OG); Roberts 90+3

Attendance: Unknown

Northern Ireland

0-6

Norway

Kenny Shiels' first game in charge ended in disappointment as Norway put six past them in their first Women's European Championship qualifier .

The former Kilmarnock manager was announced as the new manager in May, taking over from Alfie Wylie who moved to Head of Women's Elite Performance.

On the night Norway, who were knocked out of the Women's World Cup in the quarter-final by England, opened the scoring after just four minutes at the Seaview Stadium.

Guro Reiten with the first goal of the night but it was Caroline Hansen who shone with a hat-trick – the best coming just after the hour mark through a fantastic solo effort.

Substitute Amalie Eikeland added the final two goals to give them their first three points of the campaign.

Goals: Reiten, 4; Hansen, 16, 63, 72; Eikeland, 82, 90

Attendance: 1000 (no exact amount announced)





Wales

2-2

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland grabbed a late equaliser in injury-time to share the points with Wales in their Women's Euro 2021 qualifier.

The game, which was held at Rodney Parade, saw the visitors take the lead after just 10 minutes but goals from Angharad James and Kayleigh Green looked like Jayne Ludlow's side were going for a second victory in a row.

It was Northern Ireland—who are 27 places in the rankings lower than their opponents—who started stronger.

From the opening five minutes, Kenny Sheils' side came close after a mistake from Laura O'Sullivan, but the Welsh goalkeeper managed to grab the ball on the second attempt.

The visitors first goal came after Wales failed to clear a set-piece and Simone Magill calmly headed the ball into the back of the net.

Wales looked less than their usual selves in the first half but a bit of luck saw them level up the points just over 10 minutes later.

James' initial shot rebounded off the back of her teammate to wrong-foot Northern Ireland goalie Emma Higgins before she slotted it in.

The goal seemed to bring the hosts to life and in the second half, possibly after some stern words from Ludlow in the dressing room, they started to dominate.

Centre-back Rhiannon Roeberts delivered a precise cross to Green, who headed the ball past Higgins.

The three points were not meant to be though and with minutes to go, another defence error from O'Sullivan saw Hutton in the right place to poach it home.

Goals

Wales: Angharad James, 22; Kayleigh Green, 69

Northern Ireland: Simone Magill, 10, Ashley Hutton 90+4

Attendance: 1,676 (no exact amount announced)

2021 Championship chatter

The FA has announced the stadiums which have been selected for the 2021 UEFA European Women's Championships which will be held in England.

The stadiums are:

- Bramall Lane, Sheffield
- Brentford Community Stadium, London
- Brighton & Hove Community Stadium, Brighton & Hove
- Leigh Sports Village, Wigan & Leigh
- Manchester City Academy Stadium, Manchester
- New York Stadium, Rotherham
- Stadium MK, Milton Keynes
- St. Mary's Stadium, Southampton
- Wembley Stadium, London

Leigh Sports Village has replaced The City Ground, Nottingham after Nottingham Forest became unviable due to planned stadium refurbishments.

700,000 tickets are said to be available for fans across the country with every game available on free-to-air television, radio and online.

Wembley will host the final, just twelve months after also hosting the men's 2020 Euros final.

Baroness Sue Campbell, The FA's Director of Women's Football, said: "The performance of the Lionesses this summer engaged the nation and helped to generate significant momentum in the women's game."

"Looking ahead, hosting a home EURO in 2021 offers a huge opportunity for us to continue to push the profile of women's football and to inspire more women and girls to get involved in the game."

"The selection of these nine venues is an important milestone for us as a host nation on our journey towards the final tournament in July 2021."

"I am confident that the selected cities and stadia will allow hundreds of thousands of fans across the country to attend matches and will also help to deliver an atmosphere befitting of a home European Championship to the nation."

2021 Championship chatter

Thursday, August 29			
B	Israel	2-3	Italy
B	Denmark	8-0	Malta
C	Faroe Islands	0-6	Wales
F	Iceland	4-1	Hungary
H	Lithuania	1-2	Croatia
Friday, August 30			
A	Estonia	0-7	Netherlands
A	Kosovo	2-0	Turkey
A	Slovenia	0-1	Russia
B	Bosnia & Herzegovina	7-1	Georgia
C	Northern Ireland	0-6	Norway
D	Moldova	0-7	Czech Republic
E	Scotland	8-0	Cyprus
Saturday, August 31			
I	Germany	10-0	Montenegro
Sunday, September 1			
G	Kazakhstan	0-3	Serbia
Monday, September 2			
E	Albania	0-3	Finland
F	Iceland	1-0	Slovakia
Tuesday, September 3			
A	Slovenia	5-0	Kosovo
A	Russia	4-0	Estonia
A	Netherlands	3-0	Turkey
B	Georgia	0-1	Italy
B	Bosnia & Herzegovina	2-0	Malta
B	Israel	0-3	Denmark
C	Belarus	6-0	Faroe Islands
C	Wales	2-2	Northern Ireland
D	Czech Republic	P-P	Poland
F	Latvia	1-4	Sweden
G	Austria	3-0	North Macedonia
H	Switzerland	4-0	Lithuania
H	Belgium	6-1	Croatia
I	Ukraine	0-8	Germany
I	Republic of Ireland	2-0	Montenegro

2021 Championship chatter

Group A									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Netherlands	2	2	0	0	10	0	10	6
2	Russia	2	2	0	0	5	0	5	6
3	Slovenia	2	1	0	1	5	1	4	3
4	Kosovo	2	1	0	1	2	5	-3	3
5	Turkey	2	0	0	2	0	5	-5	0
6	Estonia	2	0	0	2	0	11	-11	0

Group B									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Denmark	2	2	0	0	11	0	11	6
2	Bosnia & Herz	2	2	0	0	9	1	8	6
3	Italy	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6
4	Israel	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0
5	Georgia	2	0	0	2	1	8	-7	0
6	Malta	2	0	0	2	0	10	-10	0

Group C									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Wales	2	1	1	0	8	2	6	4
2	Belarus	1	1	0	0	6	0	6	3
3	Norway	1	1	0	0	6	0	6	3
4	Northern Ireland	2	0	1	1	2	8	-6	1
5	Faroe Islands	2	0	0	2	1	12	-12	0

Group D									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Czech Republic	1	1	0	0	7	0	7	3
2	Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Poland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Moldova	1	0	0	1	0	7	-7	0

Group E									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Scotland	1	1	0	0	8	0	8	3
2	Finland	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
3	Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Albania	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
5	Cyprus	1	0	0	1	0	8	-8	0

2021 Championship chatter

Group F									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Iceland	2	2	0	0	1	1	4	6
2	Sweden	1	1	0	0	1	1	3	3
3	Slovakia	1	0	0	1	1	1	-1	0
4	Hungary	1	0	0	1	4	4	-3	0
5	Latvia	1	0	0	1	4	4	-3	0

Group G									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Austria	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
2	Serbia	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
3	France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Kazakhstan	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
5	North Macedonia	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0

Group H									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Belgium	1	1	0	0	6	1	5	3
2	Switzerland	1	1	0	0	4	0	4	3
3	Croatia	2	1	0	1	3	7	-4	3
4	Romania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Lithuania	2	0	0	2	1	6	-5	0

Group I									
	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	P
1	Germany	2	2	0	0	18	0	18	6
2	Ireland	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
3	Greece	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Ukraine	1	0	0	1	0	8	-8	0
5	Montenegro	2	0	0	2	0	12	-12	0



FA streaming platform for women's football



The FA will launch a new live streaming platform dedicated to women's football from the start of the season.

The FA Player, which will be free to use and available online and on an app, will provide access to over 150 domestic games throughout the season.

Coverage will include all live Barclays FA Women's Super League matches and a live game from each round of the Women's Championship.

In addition to the live coverage, fans will also be able to access match highlights from the Lionesses, the Women's FA Cup and the FA Women's Continental League Cup.

Kelly Simmons, The FA's Director of Women's Professional Game said: "This announcement is a pivotal and

significant step in The FA's journey to grow the women's game and attract new audiences.

"We know people want to watch football in different ways, with content that's quickly and easily accessible.

"This new live streaming service will give them unique access to over 150 live fixtures in all competitions, all available at the click of a button.

"This will help build on the fantastic coverage BBC and BT Sport give the women's game on their channels so that fans can enjoy the best of women's football when and how they wish."

Congratulations Mr & Mrs Chandok



On Friday, August 16 our wonderful chief sports reporter and resident Manchester United fan Jessica Pratt got married to the lovely Anurag Chandok at Higher Trapp House.

It was a lovely day and we were so happy to be a part of their special day.

Congratulations to the new Mr & Mrs Chandok.





AROUND THE WORLD



JP JOERDELI PHOTOGRAPHY
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THE **WOMEN'S**
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Toni Pressley diagnosed with breast cancer

Orlando Pride defender Toni Pressley has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

The 29-year-old underwent surgery at the beginning of August in Orlando and has been laced on the 45-day disabled list for the club whilst she undergoes treatment.

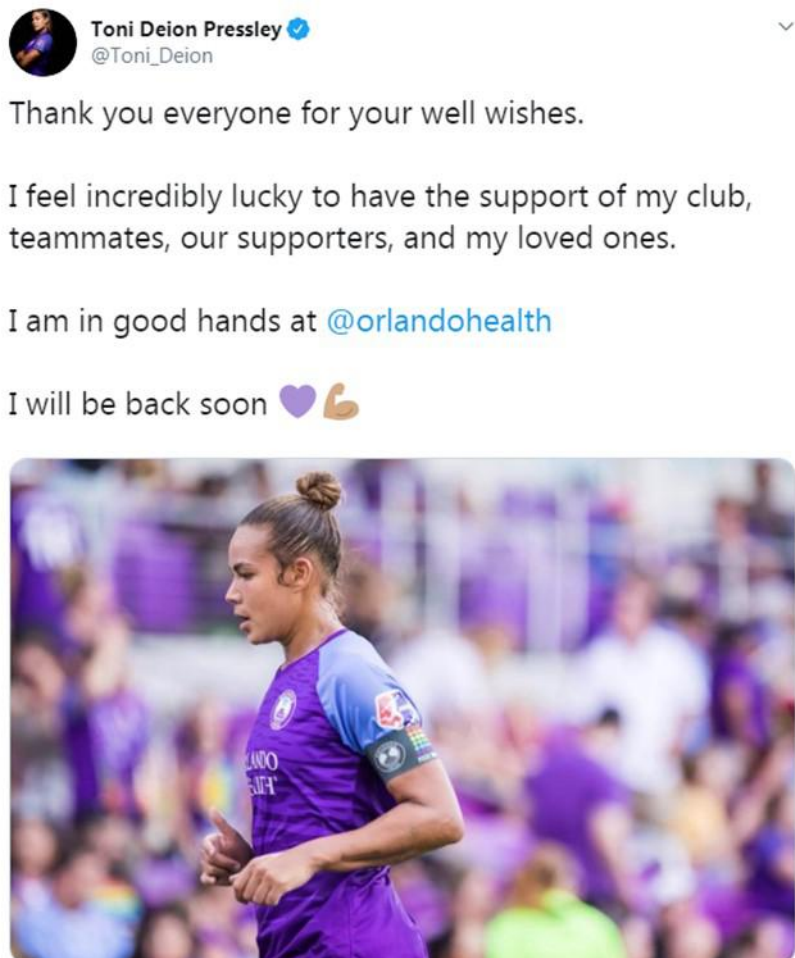
Pressley joined Pride in its first season in the NWSL in 2015 through the expansion draft and has played 52 games, scoring three times.

Pride's general manager Erik Ustruck said: "We can't imagine what Toni is going through.

"On behalf of everyone at the Club, I would like to extend our unconditional support to Toni, her family and the members of our Orlando Pride family throughout the entirety of the treatment process.

"Toni's health and well-being is, of course, our biggest priority.

"We are happy to be able to provide her with the full backing of the Club, the NWSL and our partners at Orlando Health."



Former Nigeria forward Ifeanyi Chiejine dies

Former Nigeria international Ifeanyi Chiejine has died following a long illness.

The 36-year-old was one of Nigeria's most successful women's internationals winning four Women's Africa Cup of Nations titles and featuring at two Olympics.

Nicknamed 'Smally', she played in three World Cups and was the youngest player at the 1999 USA tournament.

She had 68 caps for the Super Falcons, scoring 18 goals and played professionally in Russia, USA, Finland and Kazakhstan.

In Nigeria she also played for Flying Babes FC, FCT Queens of Abuja and the Pelican Stars of Calabar.

Former teammate Rachael Ayegba told the BBC: "This is a great loss, she briefly mentioned her illness to some of us, but didn't say exactly what.

"Chiejine was a shining star as a player, yet she died just like that. We need to do more for our current and former players."

Corinthians set world record

Corinthians women have set the world record for the number of consecutive wins by a top-flight side.

The Brazilian side beat Sao Jose 1-0 to overtake Welsh side New Saints men, winning 28 games in a row in all competitions.

In the process of setting the world record, they have scored 96 goals conceding only eight.

World Cup 2023 bids

FIFA have announced 10 countries are interested in bidding for the 2023 Women's World Cup.

The news comes after the unanimous decision by the FIFA council to increase the number of teams taking part in the FIFA Women's World Cup from 24 to 32.

Who has expressed interest?

- Argentina
- Australia
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Japan
- Korea (expressing interest in a joint bid with DPR Korea)
- New Zealand
- South Africa

How does the bidding process work?

There are a number of key dates in the bidding process:

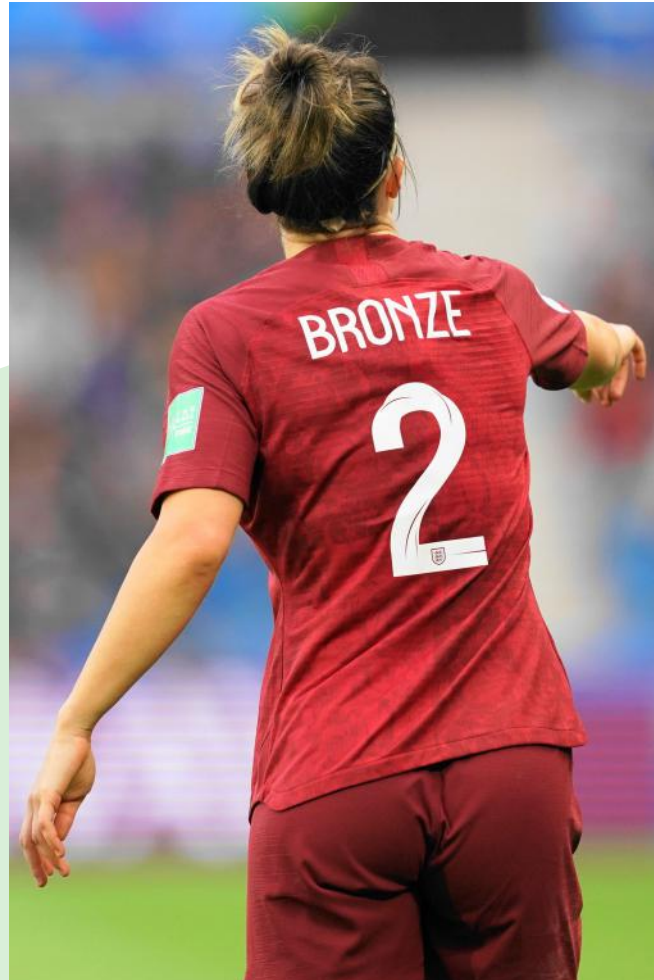
December 13, 2019: submission of the bid book, the signed hosting agreement and all other hosting and bidding documents to FIFA

January/February 2020: expected official inspection visits by FIFA

May 2020: expected appointment date of the host(s) by FIFA



Lucy Bronze named Uefa women's player of the year



England and Lyon right-back Lucy Bronze has been named Uefa's women's player of the year.

She is the first English winner of the honour which is voted for by top coaches in the women's game and journalists.

The 27-year-old beat teammates Lyon Ada Hegerberg and Amandine Henry to the award and it is her second individual award this year after she won the Silver Ball at the Women's World Cup in France.

Bronze was unable to attend the awards ceremony as she was in the Lionesses starting XI for their 3-3 draw with Belgium in Leuven.

In a video message, Bronze said: "I'm ecstatic and super-humbled to have won the award up against two fantastic players who I know really well at Lyon.

"I want to say a huge thanks to the Lionesses, the England team. We had a great summer and I don't think I would have won this award if it wasn't for them.

"The same goes for the Lyon team. We had an amazing season, we won the treble. I think any one of those girls could have been up here receiving this award."

A side-profile photograph of Fran Kirby, a professional footballer, looking upwards and to the right. She is wearing a white England national football team jersey with the crest on the chest, dark purple shorts, and wire-rimmed glasses. Her hair is tied back in a ponytail, and she has a tattoo on her left forearm. The background is a blurred stadium setting.

10 facts about Bronze

1. Bronze almost played for Portugal – her father is Portuguese and she was brought up bilingual
2. She started her career at Sunderland Academy, signing for the first team before playing college football at North Carolina Tar Heels
3. Her middle name is 'Tough' after her mum's maiden name
4. She was the first British player to win an NCAA Cup in 2009
5. She is a three time WSL winner (Liverpool, 2013, 2014; Manchester City, 2016)
6. Bronze helped Lyon win back-to-back Division 1 and Champions League titles
7. She worked at Domino's Pizza whilst she was a student and the Headingley store she worked in changed their logo to bronze during the Women's World Cup
8. She can play the saxophone
9. She had four knee injuries over a two-and-a-half year period which threatened to de-rail her career
10. The wire-framed glasses have been her trademark since she was a kid

Manchester City finish third in International Champions Cup



Manchester City finished third in the International Champions Cup as Lyon continue to dominate.

The tournament was hosted by the defending champions North Carolina Courage between August 15-18.

This was the second edition of the women's tournament which sees the winners of the NWSL, WSL, Ligue 1 and Primera Division compete.

All teams played two games with City's semi-final coming against North Carolina.

Nick Cushing's side opened the scoring just before half time with Georgia Stanway latching on to Janine Beckie's through ball.

City's defence had a lot to do throughout the game with goalkeeper Ellie Roebuck having a superb game proving the young Lionesses will be valuable between the sticks whilst Karen Bardsley is injured.

With 15 minutes to go, the game was paused for dangerous weather as lightning lit up the stadium and it took over an hour for the game to resume.

The North Carolina pressure came too much for City and McKenzie Meehan grabbed an equaliser for the hosts.

With both sides pushing for a victory it was Courage who stole the win in injury time as Jessica McDonald, who had already hit the woodwork in the game, slotted the ball past Roebuck.

City's second game came against Atletico Madrid in the battle for third place.

Once again Cushing's side went ahead in the first half but after the break, Atletico bagged two quick fire goals through Virginia Torrecilla and Angela Sosa.

City picked up the pace after this and Janine Beckie secured an equaliser with a lovely bit of individual play.

The game looked like it was heading to penalties but with seconds left on the clock, Tessa Wullaert latched on to a poor clearance and planted the ball into the bottom corner.

Cliftonville Ladies' Billie Simpson nominated for the World Goal of the Year Puskas Award



Cliftonville Ladies' Billie Simpson has joined Lionel Messi and Zlatan Ibrahimovic in being nominated for the World Goal of the Year Puskas Award.

Simpson volleyed from her own half against Sion Swifts in the Northern Ireland Premiership in August 2018.

The winner will be announced at the Fifa Football Awards in Milan on September 23.

Puskas Award nominees

Matheus Cunha (RB Leipzig v Bayer Leverkusen - 6 April 2019)

Zlatan Ibrahimovic (LA Galaxy v Toronto FC - 15 September 2018)

Lionel Messi (Barcelona v Real Betis - 17 March 2019)

Ajara Nchout (Cameroon v New Zealand, Fifa Women's World Cup - 20 June 2019)

Fabio Quagliarella (Sampdoria v Napoli - 2 September 2018)

Juan Fernando Quintero (River Plate v Racing Club - 10 February 2019)

Amy Rodriguez (Utah Royals v Sky Blue FC - 16 June 2019)

Billie Simpson (Cliftonville Ladies v Sion Swifts - 9 August 2018)

Andros Townsend (Crystal Palace v Manchester City - 22 December 2018)

Daniel Zsori (Debrecen FC v Ferencvaros - 16 February 2019)



Website Updates

As we continue our Women In Football #WhatIf pledge we have made a lot of changes to our website.

Alongside our new features page, we now have the women's football fixtures and results available for **NINE** leagues—the first to have all of the top nine fixtures on one page.

If you want to know results, then our website is the place to go!

Fixtures and results for the following leagues are now available:

- Women's Super League
- Women's Championship
- FA WNL Northern Premier Division
- FA WNL Southern Premier Division
- FA WNL Division One Midlands
- FA WNL Division One North
- FA WNL Division One South West
- FA WNL Division One South East

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