

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ARSENAL



DUNDALK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2020 ■ 8pm ■ £3.50





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ARSENAL VS DUNDALK 29/10/20

CONTENTS

21



05 THE MANAGER
Mikel on a frustrating Sunday

08 THE CAPTAIN
Auba's looking forward

12 VOICE OF ARSENAL
All the latest from your club

20 ANALYSIS
Europa League analysis

21 STRONG YOUNG GUNNERS
With Khayon Edwards

32 RAPID VIENNA REPORT
Starting with a win in Austria

35 FOCUS
16-page photographic special

52 EMILE SMITH ROWE
The youngster looks ahead

58 ARSENAL WOMEN
The very strong Irish connection

62 THE GRASS IS GREENER
Where our Irish links began

67 MY STORY
Highlighting local causes

68 VISITORS
Emirates' first Irish visitors

75 LEICESTER REPORT
A narrow defeat to the Foxes

77 THE BREAKDOWN
Gabriel's golden start

82 TEAMS
Squad lists



52

68



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COVER WE TAKE ON DUNDALK ON MATCHDAY TWO IN EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP B



MIKEL ARTETA

It was an incredibly frustrating game for us on Sunday, and we are determined to come back with a good result tonight.

I have to say I think the team started really well against Leicester. We had a good first half against a really low block but they're a team that has the ability to play and open you up as well.

But we didn't allow that to happen in that first half. We were really aggressive, we won every duel, we were a threat. I think we created enough chances in the first half to be in front. Certainly we scored a goal, I don't know how that wasn't allowed. I thought it was very harsh because from the corner Granit was behind Schmeichel.

He was not in front of him so he was nothing to do with that ball, it was away from him and Granit was behind. But that decision has been made now and we cannot change

it. They made a call that it wasn't allowed and obviously it had a massive impact on the game because it was always going to be a game where the margins are minimal. The Premier League is so tight at the moment so this decision was important. However, saying all that, I still don't think we should have lost the game.

In the second half, it was about being patient, waiting for the right moments, they were just waiting for our mistake. They had 10 men behind the ball and then on one occasion, when the ball is under no pressure, we tried to step in and that created the space and then they are through. After they went 1-0 up, I think we have to play those moments better. There were too many free-kicks and ▶





***"I AM SUPPORTING THE FORWARDS,
GIVING THEM MORE CONFIDENCE AND
THE TEAM IS TRYING TO CREATE MORE"***

we didn't put the ball in the box enough.

Also we gave some sloppy passes away. We started to lose some duels. You start to get a little bit frustrated because it's really difficult to attack them in the spaces. You start to force some passes that you shouldn't do against these blocks but still they didn't have any threat. They didn't have any shots on target or anything but they were waiting for one moment and credit to them, they did it.

We've had a difficult programme as well lately, so I think fatigue had a say as well. We didn't look as sharp on the ball. We didn't have as much purpose on the ball to create. Obviously, David Luiz was giving us something different when we had to attack the low block with his ability to attack the line and provoke, always threatening in behind.

We lacked that a little bit in the second half. Still, credit to them, they are really organised when they do that. It is really difficult to create the chances. We created a really good one with Hector again and it just didn't go our way. That's the difference at the end, in the box, what we are able to do. Certainly, it's an aspect that we have to improve.

It was disappointing to lose our momentum in home games as well. We had put together a good run here at the Emirates, and we want to start another run now, starting tonight against Dundalk.

We know our forwards need goals at the moment, and I am supporting them, giving them more confidence and the team is trying to create more. We have a few areas that we need to improve, and that's what we are looking to do.

We started this group stage with a good away win last week, and that game should also act as a warning to us about how tough this competition can be. I've analysed Dundalk's match against Molde from matchday one and they look like a strong team as well.

This is a very important competition for us – it is an obligation for Arsenal to be playing European football every season, which is one reason why the FA Cup final was so important in August.

So now that we are in the competition, it would be a waste if we didn't give everything we've got to go as far as we can and approach every single game really seriously and looking to win. We want to qualify from this group stage, qualify well and qualify as quickly as we can.

Home form in European group stages is really important, we want to set the tone with a good win tonight. If we can do that, we will be in a strong position in the group. ■

PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

It was difficult to cope with defeat on Sunday – it took me a long time to stop working through it in my head

We went ahead very early in the game – well we thought we did. I know the manager couldn't understand how Granit was a problem for the goalkeeper in that position and I feel exactly the same.

It's hard when you are on the pitch and you have to put a decision like that behind you, but ultimately you just have to. I didn't think we let it affect us as we continued to make chances and we really should have been ahead by half-time.

We are not finding scoring goals easy at the moment. This happens in teams – I haven't scored for a few games in the league either. But we're an experienced team, with experienced attacking players and we know we will turn this around. I'm not worried about that.

In the second half on Sunday, we created less, we can't deny that. Our passing was not incisive and ultimately we lost concentration to give them the opportunity to win the game. Then we couldn't lift our ▶



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*Selected products only



game in the final minutes to really threaten for the equaliser. So it was disappointing and gave us a lot to think about in how we deal with teams, particularly those that might defend so deep in the way Leicester did on Sunday.

If I'm totally honest, I'm not really sure what to expect in terms of how Dundalk will approach tonight's game – but I know they will definitely be full of commitment and passion. They must be really proud to have reached this stage of the competition, as they had to win a series of

"I AM DEVASTATED AND HEARTBROKEN TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON IN NIGERIA, CONGO, IVORY COAST...SO MANY PLACES"

one-off qualifiers – it takes a big mentality to win games like that.

I know there are big links between Ireland and England – and I know lots of Irish football fans love Arsenal. So this will be a big experience for Dundalk. It's just such a shame that fans won't be able to be at the stadium. And of course our fans can't visit Ireland, which would be one of the easier trips for our huge travelling support. It was interesting to see some fans in the stands in that match against Rapid – and you could definitely hear them, despite there only being 3,000 of them. As players we would just love to see you back, even if it meant just a few of you to start with.

We will obviously look to build on the win in Austria and hopefully give ourselves a chance to qualify from this group as quickly as possible. The Europa League is a



big objective for us – it was one of the reasons we celebrated our FA Cup win so much. I think this competition is also likely to see more opportunities for younger players too, as it always has done, and that's a big excitement and positive about this competition, to see the next Bukayos, Eddies and Reisses.

Can I lastly take this opportunity to reiterate something that is very important to me. I am so proud of my African heritage – that's why I have the continent tattooed on my back. Africa is my inspiration, my identity, my family, my home. And I am devastated and heartbroken to see what's going on in Nigeria, Congo, Ivory Coast...so many places.. This continent deserves better and deserves justice. I want to say that my brothers and sisters there are not alone and I'm sending strength and love to everyone protesting and standing for peace – you do not stand alone.

I hope you don't mind me discussing this in my notes. It's very important to me and my family.

Thanks for your support and enjoy tonight's game. ■

VOICE OF ARSENAL

MY ARSENAL REWARDS

We are proud to announce 'My Arsenal Rewards' – a new and ground-breaking fan loyalty and rewards programme which will soon be available to all our members in the UK.

As a club, we have always worked hard to strengthen the relationship with you, our fans – none more so than during these challenging times for everyone. The Arsenal membership programme has been at the heart of this activity for many years and My Arsenal Rewards will go a step further, offering fans meaningful rewards for their engagement with, and loyalty to, Arsenal.

We are already working with supporters' groups through the Supporters Forum to develop a programme by the fans, for the fans, with My Arsenal Rewards set to launch at the start of the 2021/2022 season. The scheme will be delivered in partnership with Barclays Bank and Fortress GB, the sports loyalty and technology specialists.

Ahead of the 2021/2022 season, all members will receive an upgraded My Arsenal Rewards membership card which will also work as an electronic matchday ticket, a rewards card, and a payment card. Barclays will embed innovative payment technology within the card, meaning it can also be used for all online and offline purchases at Emirates Stadium, all club shops and anywhere that accepts Visa as a payment method. The payment service can be accessed via the Arsenal app for simple and efficient use.

Fans will earn loyalty points based on specific interactions with the club which can then be redeemed for exclusive rewards or money can't buy Arsenal experiences. My Arsenal Rewards will also enable you to earn rewards by spending at several affiliated high street and online brands, including our club partners, which will be announced in the coming months.

Club partners, retailers and other businesses will also



My Arsenal Rewards will put a smile on fans' faces



WIN AN ARSENAL POLO SHIRT!

You've seen the players and management wearing these lovely blue polo shirts – so why not enter our quiz to win one for yourself?

All you have to do is answer the following question correctly and you'll enter a draw to win a shirt.

In which season did Arsenal have an all blue away kit?

- a) 1994/95
- b) 1984/85
- c) 1974/75

Answers to us via programme@arsenal.co.uk or @AFCprogramme by Friday, November 6 and please specify your size.

Good luck!

be able to offer incentives and rewards to Arsenal members directly through the programme, adding further value to the experience of being an Arsenal supporter.

"The development of this exciting programme will allow us to reward our fans in a unique and personalised way," said Peter Silverstone, the club's commercial director. "Supporters will have the ability to earn points based on their engagement with the club and every time they spend money with the affiliate partners who will be involved.

"Thanks to the technology from Barclays and Fortress GB, the card will be easy to use and we will be offering rewards which are genuinely meaningful to our supporters. To ensure this happens, we are working with our fans to shape the programme and its rewards. We are also excited to be able to offer a new and ground-breaking way for our existing and prospective club partners to engage with, and reward, our loyal and engaged UK fan base."

NO VAR TONIGHT

Video Assistant Referees are not being used in the Europa League group stages. However, Uefa have decided that VAR will be used in the knockout stages, which are scheduled to start on February 18, 2021.

Another difference between European and domestic games relates to substitutes – as supporters might have noticed last week. Teams can use five replacements in Europa League games, drawn from 12 substitutes. The situation in the Premier League is three changes from seven substitutes.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

For the first time in seven months, we played in front of a paying crowd on matchday one of the Europa League group stage.

Due to local rules, 3,000 Rapid Vienna fans were allowed in the Allianz Stadion last week, all adhering to social distancing regulations, and wearing masks while getting behind their team.

Fan attendance in UEFA competition is dependent on local rules, so our home matches are still due to be played behind closed doors, though at the time of writing a limited number will be in attendance for our match away to FK Molde in Norway on matchday four.

So far since June we have played a total of 22 matches behind closed doors, winning 14, drawing one and losing the other seven. We have scored 33 and conceded 22 in such matches.



Fans!

A unique look before Sunday's game

A LEGACY REIMAGINED

Arsenal players warmed up in Humanracefootball shirts prior to our game against Leicester on Sunday.

The limited edition collaboration between the club, adidas and Pharrell can be bought from adidas.co.uk and is also available from the Armoury store – while stocks last!



LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

1930/31, 1932/33, 1933/34,
1934/35, 1937/38, 1947/48,
1952/53, 1970/71, 1988/89,
1990/91, 1997/98, 2001/02,
2003/04

FA CUP WINNERS

1930, 1936, 1950, 1971, 1979,
1993, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2005,
2014, 2015, 2017, 2020

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

1986/87, 1992/93

CHARITY/COMMUNITY SHIELD WINNERS

1930, 1931, 1933, 1934, 1938,
1948, 1953, 1991 (shared), 1998,
1999, 2002, 2004, 2014, 2015,
2017, 2020

FAIR PLAY CUP WINNERS

1969/70

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP WINNERS

1993/94

FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS

1966, 1971, 1988, 1994, 2000,
2001, 2009

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PROGRAMME ITK

The matchday programme team go to the depths of the databases to find the ultimate stats and facts...

50 UP!

Three players brought up their 50th appearance milestone recently.

• David Luiz marked his half century with a goal in the 2-1 win over Rapid Vienna on matchday one. The header was David's third goal for the club, since making his debut against Burnley on August 17, 2019.

• In the same match, Nicolas Pepe also played his 50th game for the club. After making his debut away to Newcastle on August 11, 2019 the Ivorian has scored nine and assisted 12 from 33 starts and 17 sub appearances.

• Finally against Leicester City on Sunday, youngster Bukayo Saka also played his 50th first team game. The England international made his debut on November 29, 2018 and has scored five times, assisting a further 13, from his 38 starts and 12 sub appearances.



Catch up with Alex 'In Lockdown'



IN LOCKDOWN

Have you listened to the latest episodes of In Lockdown yet? Our popular podcast series featuring in-depth career reflectives from former players is back for another series, with new episodes released every Tuesday.

This week's interviewee is former midfielder Alexander Hleb, while Alan Smith will be featured next week.

All of our old episodes are still available as well – Nicklas Bendtner and Per Mertesacker kicked off Series Two, while the likes of Jack Wilshere, Wojciech Szczesny and Dennis Bergkamp were all featured in Series One.

In Lockdown is available from your regular podcast provider – be sure to click subscribe so you automatically receive new episodes straight to your device. ■

LEEDS MATCH MOVED TO SUNDAY

The Gunners' home fixture with **LEEDS UNITED**, originally scheduled for 3pm on Saturday, November 21, will now be played as under:

Sunday, November 22

4.30pm kick-off

Live on Sky Sports

It's been more than 16 years since we entertained Leeds in a Premier League fixture. That game took place on

April 16, 2004 when you might remember, the Gunners were only five games away from going through a season unbeaten – and Leeds were relegated.

The game ended 5-0 to Arsène Wenger's team with Thierry Henry grabbing four after Robert Pires had opened the scoring. The win meant that if we avoided defeat in our next game, we could win the league title – all eyes on White Hart Lane! ■



Thierry Henry puts Arsenal 3-0 up with a 'Panenka' penalty past Paul Robinson

ARSENAL IN THE EUROPA LEAGUE

OVERALL EUROPA LEAGUE RECORD



EUROPA LEAGUE RECORD - BY NATION

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Italy	4	4	0	0	8	1
Belarus	4	3	0	1	13	3
Portugal	4	2	2	0	5	3
Spain	4	2	1	1	8	5
Germany	4	2	0	2	7	4
Ukraine	2	2	0	0	7	2
Azerbaijan	2	2	0	0	4	0
Belgium	2	1	1	0	6	2
Russia	2	1	1	0	6	3
Serbia	2	1	1	0	1	0
Sweden	2	1	0	1	4	2
France	2	1	0	1	4	3
Greece	2	1	0	1	2	2
Austria	1	1	0	0	2	1
England	1	0	0	1	1	4
TOTAL	38	24	6	8	78	35

16

We have
now faced
sides from
16 different
countries
in this
competition

EUROPEAN COMPETITION - BY SEASON

Season	Competition
1963/64	Fairs Cup
1969/70	Fairs Cup
1970/71	Fairs Cup
1971/72	European Cup
1978/79	UEFA Cup
1979/80	Cup Winners' Cup
1981/82	UEFA Cup
1982/83	UEFA Cup
1991/92	European Cup
1993/94	Cup Winners' Cup
1994/95	Cup Winners' Cup
1994/95	Super Cup
1996/97	Champions League
1997/98	Champions League
1998/99	Champions League
1999/00	Champions League
1999/00	UEFA Cup
2000/01	Champions League
2001/02	Champions League

TOP EUROPA LEAGUE GOALSCORERS

	12		2
	10		2
	6		2
	5		2
	3		2
	3		2
	3		2
	3		2

OVERALL EUROPEAN RECORD



MOST EUROPA LEAGUE APPEARANCES

Player	Appearances
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	25
Shkodran Mustafi	21
Alexandre Lacazette	20
Mohamed Elneny	20
Mesut Ozil	19
Granit Xhaka	19
Nacho Monreal	19
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	19
Lucas Torreira	18
Sokratis	17
Alex Iwobi	17
Henrikh Mkhitaryan	17
Matteo Guendouzi	17

Season	Competition
2002/03	Champions League
2003/04	Champions League
2004/05	Champions League
2005/06	Champions League
2006/07	Champions League
2007/08	Champions League
2008/09	Champions League
2009/10	Champions League
2010/11	Champions League
2011/12	Champions League
2012/13	Champions League
2013/14	Champions League
2014/15	Champions League
2015/16	Champions League
2016/17	Champions League
2017/18	Europa League
2018/19	Europa League
2019/20	Europa League
2020/21	Europa League

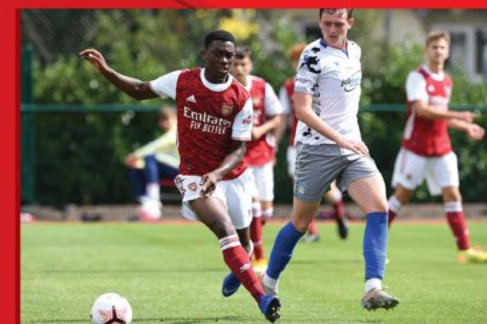


NEW 20/21 THIRD KIT
ON SALE IN-STORE & ONLINE

DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG GUNNERS

IN THIS ISSUE...

- 22** **YOUNG GUN**
Striker Khayon Edwards
- 25** **MATCH REPORTS**
A great start to the EFL Trophy
- 27** **REMEMBER**
Stephen O'Donnell & Patrick Clegg
- 28** **NEWS**
More exciting ins and outs
- 29** **STATS**
Results and fixtures



YOUNG GUN KHAYON EDWARDS

Talking to: Aidan Small

BORN
Islington, September 12,
2003

JOINED ARSENAL
Aged five

HEIGHT & WEIGHT
6ft 1in and 76kg

POSITION
Centre forward

SCHOOL
St Thomas More C of E,
Wood Green



I joined Arsenal's pre-academy when I was just five years old, so this club is all I've ever known really. I can hardly remember life without it.

As a kid, I remember going to the park all the time with my older brother and just playing football together. That's how it all started. We'd spend hours upon hours just training and I think that was around the time I realised that football is something that comes naturally to me and it's something I really enjoy.

I also used to play for a Sunday team called TFA, who were based in Crouch End, and one day I was playing in a tournament where a scout just happened to be watching. He liked what he saw, invited me to come and train with Arsenal, and I've been here ever since. I didn't know them at the time, but my current teammates Zane Monlouis and Kido Taylor-Hart were there too! We've all grown up together and it's brilliant to see how we've all developed over the years and how things are coming together.

Looking back, I've got so many special memories from my time at Hale End. There are so many moments to choose from, but a few really stand out to me. There was a Premier League Cup final against Sunderland at under-13 level and I remember the score was 1-1 going into the final five minutes. The ball got played over the Sunderland defence, it ricocheted off a player and then I took a touch and volleyed it into the top left corner to win the cup!

Another game I'll never forget was our 5-2 win over Chelsea Under-16s in another cup match. Everyone was watching that day and it was such a fun game to be a part of. Those games against Chelsea are always really competitive because not only are we two of the best academies in the country, but we also know most of the opposition because of international duty and life outside of football. The rivalry definitely stems down into academy football and trust me, you always want to win and get the bragging rights.

Getting my scholarship was a really big achievement too, especially as I was one of the first to join Arsenal from our age group. Seeing a lot of people come and go over the years can be really difficult and it's a reminder of how things can turn out in football, so when I signed that contract, it was a really proud day for me. You only get one

"PER MERTESACKER TALKS ABOUT THIS 'GOLDEN TRIANGLE' WHICH INCLUDES HUMANITY, RESPECT AND DISCIPLINE"

chance in life, so you need to make sure you give it your all. You've got to treat every training session like it's a trial, and that's something I try to remind myself every day.

Even more so now that I've made the move from Hale End to London Colney. It's a massive step up and my life has changed very quickly. I'm in every day now, so I have to be proactive in everything I do. I need to make sure my

kit is washed for the next day, go to bed early, eat the right food and loads of other small details like that. I've got so many more responsibilities now and I want to carry them out to the best of my ability.

This is something that Per Mertesacker talks about all the time, carrying yourself like a top professional in everything you do. He talks about this 'golden triangle' which includes humanity, respect and discipline and I feel like that advice has really helped me. He sent all of us a video to watch only the other day and it was all about the way we carry ourselves and approach everyday tasks.

Getting advice from someone like Per who's played on the biggest stages and had an incredibly successful career means a lot to me – and I want to take everything he says on board. He's created such a positive and welcoming environment in the academy and I've got to thank him and everyone else for that, because I love every moment I spend learning and training here. ■



KHAYON EDWARDS

LOWDOWN

Got me into football My big brother

First Footballer looked up to Jermain Defoe

Best friends in football Omari Hutchinson and Zane Monlouis

Best goal I've scored PL Cup final, for the under-13s

Best player I've faced Fulham's Xavier Benjamin

Best game I've played When we beat Chelsea under-11s 4-0 and I scored a hat-trick

Best moment of my career so far Top goalscorer in the under-13s Mecca cup in Spain

The one stadium I'd like to score in Wembley

One type of goal I'd like to score Bicycle kick

Best training ground tip I've had Never think you've done enough

Another sport I'm good at swimming

Favourite training drill Finishing

RATE YOURSELF

SPEED		90
SHOOTING		92
DRIBBLING		87
PASSING		87
DEFENDING		68

Ambitions this season away from the pitch Learn to drive

Biggest lesson learnt off the pitch at Arsenal You're an ambassador for the club

YOU

If I could be any footballer Ronaldo (R9)

Favourite follow on Instagram Jadon Sancho and Karim Benzema

Most played Spotify artist Lil Baby and Rod wave

Favourite pre-match song Internet Money and Gunna – Lemonade

Best footballing attribute Shooting

One thing I want in my football career Play on a big stage such as the Champions League or the World Cup

First-team players I look up to most Bukayo Saka and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

Player who shaped my game most Robert Lewandowski

Something not many people know about me I can sing



A player who Khayon keeps an eye on



Skipper Harry Clarke (right) and Tim Akinola in aerial action against Crawley

MATCH REPORTS



MAATSEN 28
FIABEMA 86 / LIVRAMENTO 90



3

Premier League 2
Sunday, October 4
Kingsmeadow

ARSENAL U23s Hein, Alebiosu, Oyegoke, Dinzei, Clarke, Cottrell, McEneff, Akinola, Lewis (Azeez 83), Olayinka, Balogun **SUBS**
NOT USED: Okonkwo, Awe, Cirjan, Plange

0

Our hunt for our first Premier League 2 victory of the season continues after we were beaten 3-0 by Chelsea at Kingsmeadow.

Harry Clarke was trusted with the captain's armband



James Olayinka picks a pass against Crawley

against our London rivals, while Ben Cottrell, usually an attacking midfielder, started as a left wing back.

Jonathan Dinzei also made his debut after joining us as a free agent from Tottenham Hotspur in the summer – but was unable to help us overturn our frustrating run of form.

The hosts got the derby underway in wet conditions at Kingsmeadow and they soon took control.

George Nunn and Thierno Ballo linked-up just outside the box and the latter's prod towards goal was blocked by Karl Hein. The resulting corner found its way to Tino Livramento, who tried his luck from range but the ball spun wide of the target.

Folarin Balogun then carved out our first chance of the afternoon, forcing Karlo Ziger into a difficult save, but shortly after Ian Maatsen picked Daniel Oyegoke's pocket to regain possession and open the scoring.

Balogun then went on to create three golden opportunities in quick succession; firing wide from a tight angle inside the area, before being denied by Ziger from close range and firing over the bar from a promising position.

But we were made to pay for our missed chances late on, as Bryan Fiabema and Livramento struck twice in the space of five minutes.

Fiabema nicked the ball off our defence and sent Hein the wrong way from close range, before Myles Peart-Harris spotted the run of Livramento on the left and he made no mistake to powerfully find the net and seal all three points for the hosts. ■

"BALOGUN THEN WENT ON TO CREATE THREE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES IN QUICK SUCCESSION"



WATTERS 37

MCNEFF 15
AZEEL 55

1

EFL Trophy Group Stage
Tuesday, October 13
Broadfield Stadium

ARSENAL U21s

Okonkwo, Alebiosu,
Dinzeyi (Laing 80),
Clarke, Lopez (Kirk 70),
Akinola, Olayinka, Azeez,
Cottrell, McEneff, Taylor-
Hart **UNUSED SUBS**
Smith, Plange, Cirjan,
Edwards, Flores

2

We made it two wins from two in the EFL Trophy with an impressive 2-1 win over League Two outfit Crawley Town.

Jordan McEneff and Miguel Azeez scored their first goals at under-21 level, while Arthur Okonkwo made his return from injury after a year on the sidelines.

With this game arriving in the middle of an international break, Steve Bould was without regulars Karl Hein, Folarin Balogun and Daniel Oyegoke, while George Lewis, who scored in our opening group stage fixture, missed out through injury.

Lining up in a 4-3-1-2 formation, we took control of the midfield early on and soon found ourselves ahead, with Kido Taylor-Hart rounding the 'keeper and teeing up McEneff for a simple finish.

But the hosts bounced back and after creating a number of promising chances, debutant Max Watters beat his marker for pace before slotting home inside the area. Okonkwo produced a fine diving save shortly after to deny the striker a second.

That didn't kill our youngsters' confidence on the ball, though, and shortly after the restart Azeez grabbed his reward for a man-of-the-match performance, firing into the bottom corner from the edge of the box.

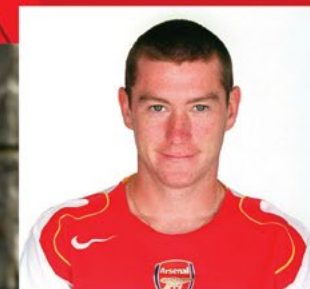
In need of defensive reinforcements, Bould turned to his bench and handed Alex Kirk and Levi Laing their debuts at under-21 level, with Jonathan Dinzeyi and Joel Lopez being replaced.

The hosts continued to press in search of an equaliser, though, and came close through Brian Galach who looked set to pull the trigger after being played through on goal, but once again, Okonkwo was quick off his line to smother the strike and clear the danger.

The visitors then looked to calm down the tempo of the tie but Galach again went close, through one-on-one with the Okonkwo, the shot stopper rushed out quickly to smother the striker's effort.

Moments later, Joe McNerney's glancing header sailed just wide of the far post, before his hopeful delivery was almost turned in amidst the chaos of a goalmouth scramble. Crawley Town had one final chance with a free-kick in the dying embers of the game, but our defence stood strong and Okonkwo climbed high to claim the delivery and secure all three points. ■

A special night for Miguel Azeez who celebrates the winning goal

**ABOVE**

Patrick and Stephen – Gunners in 2004

LEFT

Stephen when appointed as St Patrick's manager last year

ACADEMY ALUMNI

Catching up with former Arsenal Academy players as they continue their pro careers away from Emirates

STEPHEN O'DONNELL AND PATRICK CREGG

If you look in the official handbook for that most famous Arsenal season, 2003/04 the 'young professional' profiles include three talented Irish midfielders. We featured Stephen Bradley in the Sheffield United programme, but alongside Stephen was Patrick Clegg followed by a third Irishman Stephen O'Donnell.

Patrick played three times for the Gunners, all in the

League Cup, before leaving in 2005 for a long career in Scotland at Falkirk, Hibernian, St Mirren and Montrose amongst others. He also played back 'home' for St Patrick's Athletic and Shamrock Rovers. Now coaching, the former Republic of Ireland U21 international is assistant manager at the aforementioned 'St Pat's' in Dublin – where his manager is none other than Stephen O'Donnell!

Appointed in August 2019, Stephen guided St Pat's to fifth place last season – where they sit currently. Stephen's playing career also featured three years (2003-2005) at Arsenal then a stint at Falkirk followed by 12 seasons in the League of Ireland at Bohemians, Cork City, Galway, Shamrock Rovers and then five successful seasons at our visitors tonight, Dundalk, where his natural leadership qualities soon saw him captain the team, skipping them to title wins in 2015 and 2016. On retiring in January 2019, Stephen immediately worked as an analyst and scout for Dundalk, before being snapped up as head coach by St Patrick's that summer, aged just 33.

ACADEMY NEWS

SWEDE DREAMS FOR NIKO!

Nikolaj Moller has joined us from Swedish side Malmo.

He will link up with our Professional Development Phase this season.

The 18-year-old centre forward is a powerful striker and prolific goalscorer. He has spent most of his youth career in Sweden, but recently spent time in Italy at Bologna's academy before returning to Malmo.

We all welcome Nikolaj to Arsenal and look forward to watching his development with us.



Some early coaching from Steve Bould for Niko

JOEL'S DUTCH OF CLASS

Joel Ideho has joined up with our Professional Development Phase this season.

The 17-year-old winger has already impressed so far with his pace and passing ability.

A Netherlands youth international, he was part of the Tilburg Academy of Willem II, before joining Eredivisie side Ajax earlier this year.

We all welcome Joel to Arsenal and look forward to watching his development with us.

JAMES IS SOUTHEND-BOUND

James Olayinka has joined League Two side Southend United until the end of January 2021.

The 20-year-old midfielder has been at the club since he was seven years old.

He spent the first half of this year on loan at League Two side Northampton Town. James helped them to win the play-offs to get the club promoted to League One.

In 2019, James joined our first team's pre-season tour in America, scoring a stunning goal in a 3-0 win against Colorado Rapids.

More recently, he was included in the squad for our Community Shield win over Liverpool in August.

Everyone at Arsenal wishes James all the best for his time at Roots Hall.

HARRY'S ON THE MOVE

Harry Clarke has joined League Two side Oldham Athletic until the end of January 2021.

The 19-year-old academy graduate has been at the club since 2015, having joined us from Ipswich Town.

A ball-playing defender, Harry signed his first professional contract with the club in August 2018, and following an impressive season with our under-23s, signed a new deal in December 2019.

Harry is known for his exceptional professionalism and leadership qualities in the academy.

Everyone at Arsenal wishes Harry all the best for his time at Boundary Park. ■

PLAYING FOR KEEPS

Tom Smith has joined National League side Dover Athletic until the end of January 2021.

The 18-year-old goalkeeper signed his first professional contract with us in December 2019, following a loan spell with Salisbury in the Southern League Premier Division. During that time, he made 10 appearances before unfortunately having to return to the club due to a knee injury.

Since then, the Arsenal Academy graduate has been an integral part of our under-23s side.

Everyone at Arsenal wishes Tom all the best for his time at Dover Athletic. ■



THE BREAKDOWN YOUTH STATS

UNDER-23 FIXTURES

Fri Sept 11	Southampton	H	1-2
Fri Sept 18	Brighton & HA	A	2-2
Sat Sept 26	Tottenham Hotspur	H	0-1
Sun Oct 4	Chelsea	A	0-3
Fri Oct 16	Manchester United	H	3-3
Sat Oct 24	Manchester City	A	1pm
Fri Oct 30	Liverpool	H	7pm
Fri Nov 6	Blackburn Rovers	A	7pm
Fri Nov 20	Everton	H	7pm
Fri Nov 27	Derby County	H	7pm
Fri Dec 18	Leicester City	H	7pm
Fri Jan 8	West Ham United	A	7pm
Sun Jan 17	Southampton	A	2.30pm
Fri Jan 22	Brighton & HA	H	7pm
Fri Jan 29	Tottenham Hotspur	A	12pm
Fri Feb 5	Chelsea	H	7pm
Fri Feb 12	Manchester United	A	7pm
Fri Feb 19	Manchester City	H	7pm
Fri Feb 26	Liverpool	A	7pm
Fri Mar 12	Blackburn Rovers	H	7pm
Sun Mar 21	Everton	A	1pm
Mon Apr 12	Derby County	A	7pm
Mon Apr 26	Leicester City	A	7pm
Fri Apr 30	West Ham United	H	7pm

PREMIER LEAGUE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Chelsea	5	4	0	1	11	5	6	12
Brighton & HA	5	3	2	0	9	5	4	11
Blackburn Rovers	4	3	1	0	9	3	6	10
Tottenham Hotspur	4	3	1	0	7	2	5	10
Manchester City	4	2	1	1	10	6	4	7
Derby County	5	2	1	2	10	12	-2	7
Everton	4	2	0	2	8	4	4	6
Liverpool	4	2	0	2	7	6	1	6
Southampton	5	1	1	3	6	10	-4	4
Leicester City	5	1	0	4	3	13	-10	3
Manchester United	4	0	2	2	8	12	-4	2
Arsenal	5	0	2	3	6	11	-5	2
West Ham United Under	4	0	1	3	4	9	-5	1

UNDER-18 FIXTURES

Sat Sept 12	Southampton	H	4-2
Sat Sept 19	Tottenham Hotspur	A	0-2
Sat Sept 26	Crystal Palace	H	3-2
Sat Oct 3	West Ham United	A	2-3
Sat Oct 17	Brighton & HA	H	0-5
Sat Oct 24	West Bromwich Albion	A	12pm
Sat Oct 31	Norwich City	H	11am
Sat Nov 7	Reading	A	11am
Sat Nov 21	Fulham	H	11am
Sat Dec 12	Leicester City	H	11am
Sat Dec 19	Chelsea	H	11am
Sat Jan 9	Aston Villa	A	11am
Sat Jan 16	Southampton	A	11.30am
Sat Jan 23	Tottenham Hotspur	H	11am
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	11am
Sat Feb 13	West Ham United	H	11am
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	11am
Sat Feb 27	West Bromwich Albion	H	12pm
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	11am
Sat Mar 20	Reading	H	11am
Sat Apr 10	Fulham	A	12pm
Sat Apr 24	Leicester City	A	11am
Sat May 1	Chelsea	A	11am
Sat May 8	Aston Villa	H	11am

LEASING.COM TROPHY FIXTURES

Tue Sept 8	Ipswich Town	A	2-1
Tue Oct 13	Crawley Town	A	2-1
Tue Nov 10	Gillingham	A	5.30pm

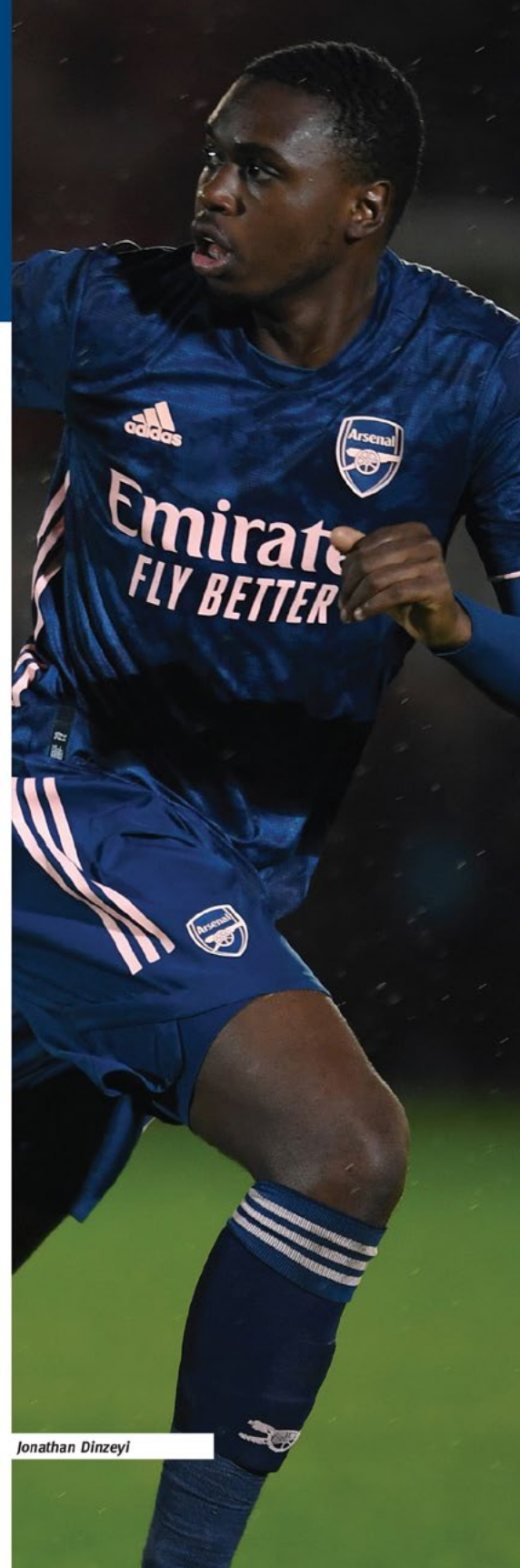
UNDER-18 PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Aston Villa	5	5	0	0	10	3	7	15
Tottenham Hotspur	5	3	1	1	10	4	6	10
Crystal Palace	4	3	0	1	8	6	2	9
Chelsea	5	2	2	1	11	6	5	8
Brighton & Hove Albion	5	2	2	1	10	5	5	8
Norwich City	4	2	0	2	11	7	4	6
Fulham	3	2	0	1	5	5	0	6
Arsenal	5	2	0	3	9	14	-5	6
Southampton	5	1	1	3	12	11	1	4
Reading	4	1	1	2	9	13	-4	4
West Ham United	4	1	0	3	6	12	-6	3
West Bromwich Albion	3	0	1	2	5	10	-5	1
Leicester City	4	0	0	4	7	17	-10	0

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	UI8	FAYC	PLIC	TOTAL
Ben Cottrell	5(2)	2	-	-	-	7(2)
Folarin Balogun	5(2)	1(1)	-	-	-	6(3)
Ryan Adebisi	4+1	2	-	-	-	6+1
James Olayinka	4(1)	2	-	-	-	6(1)
George Lewis	4	1(1)	-	-	-	5(1)
Tim Akinola	3+1	1+1	-	-	-	4+2
Daniel Oyejoke	3+1	1	-	-	-	4+1
Tolaji Bola	3	1	-	-	-	4
Karl Hein	3	-	-	-	-	3
Harry Clarke	2	1	-	-	-	3
Jonathan Dinzei	2	1	-	-	-	3
Catalin Cirjan	2	+1	1	-	-	3+1
Daniel Ballard	2	-	-	-	-	2
William Saliba	2	-	-	-	-	2
Jordan McEnuff	1+3	2(1)	-	-	-	3+3(1)
Miguel Azeez	1+3	1+1(1)	-	-	-	2+4(1)
Salah-Eddine Oulad M'hand	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Reiss Nelson	1(1)	-	-	-	-	1(1)
Mark McGuinness	1	1	-	-	-	2
Alex Kirk	1	+1	4(1)	-	-	5+1(1)
James Hillson	1	-	-	-	-	1
Matt Macey	1	-	-	-	-	1
Emile Smith Rowe	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cedric Soares	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joe Willock	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joel Lopez	+1	1	-	-	-	1+1
Mazeed Ogunbo	+1	-	4	-	-	4+1
Kido Taylor-Hart	-	1	5(1)	-	-	6(1)
Arthur Okonkwo	-	1	-	-	-	1
Matt Smith	-	1	-	-	-	1
Levi Laing	-	+1	5	-	-	5+1
Marcelo Flores	-	-	5(3)	-	-	5(3)
Omari Giraud-Hutchinson	-	-	5	-	-	5
Hubert Graczyk	-	-	5	-	-	5
Charlie Patino	-	-	5	-	-	5
Mauro Bandeira	-	-	4+1	-	-	4+1
Khayon Edwards	-	-	3+2(2)	-	-	3+2(2)
Zach Awe	-	-	2+3	-	-	2+3
Luke Plange	-	-	2+2(1)	-	-	2+2(1)
Taylor Foran	-	-	2+2	-	-	2+2
Brooke Norton-Cuffy	-	-	2	-	-	2
Zane Monlouis	-	-	1	-	-	1
Billy Vigar	-	-	+2	-	-	+2
Jack Henry-Francis	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
James Sweet	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
Own goals	-	-	(1)	-	-	(1)



Jonathan Dinzei

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LAVAZZA
TORINO, ITALIA, 1895



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FOUNTAS 51



DAVID LUIZ 70
AUBAMEYANG 74

1

EUROPA LEAGUE MATCHDAY 1

5.55pm • Thursday, October 22 • Allianz Stadion

2

FIRST HALF

Impressive debutant Thomas Partey was pulling the strings in midfield with his progressive passing, and one line-breaking ball through to Alex Lacazette nearly created a chance for Bukayo Saka. But our new signing showed his value at the other end of the pitch too, making a vital tackle on the edge of our area to deny the dangerous Taxiarchis Fountas. Chances were few and far between, but just before the interval the visitors came close as Ercan Kara received the ball in the area and flashed a shot across the face of goal.

SECOND HALF

The hosts continued to threaten after the restart, as Fountas and then Dejan Ljubicic blasted over – and then they took the lead as the former took advantage of a poor pass out from the back. We started to pile on the pressure with Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Hector Bellerin on to give us some impetus, and with 20 minutes remaining we had an equaliser as David Luiz headed home Nicolas Pepe's free kick. But moments later Vienna nearly retook the lead when Fountas fired wide after a defensive mix-up between Bernd Leno and David Luiz. We responded well though, and less than six seconds later Mo Elneny found Bellerin in behind the Rapid backline, and he picked out Aubameyang to put us in front. That proved to be enough, as we kicked off our latest European campaign with a win on the road.

MATCH STATS	
12 TOTAL SHOTS	11
4 SHOTS ON TARGET	4
4 CORNERS	4
2 OFFSIDES	3
18 FOULS	14
33 POSSESSION %	67

RAPID VIENNA

- 1 Strebinger
- 4 Barac
- 8 Ritzmaier
- 9 Fountas
- 14 Grahovac
- 20 Hofmann
- 22 Stojkovic
- 29 Kara (76)
- 31 Ullmann
- 36 Arase (79)
- 39 Ljubicic

SUBSTITUTES

Gartler, Unger, Greiml, Sonnleitner, Schick (78), Ibrahimoglu, Petrovic, Knasmullner, Alar, Kitagawa (76), Sulzbacher, Savic

ARSENAL

- 1 Leno
- 17 Cedric (61)
- 23 David Luiz
- 6 Gabriel
- 31 Kolasinac
- 18 Partey
- 25 Elneny
- 7 Saka (84)
- 30 Nketiah (61)
- 9 Lacazette (84)
- 19 Pepe (90)

SUBSTITUTES

Maitland-Niles, Khaka, Macey, Bellerin (80), Mustafi, Willock (84), Aubameyang (87), Runarsson, Tierney (84), Nelson (90)



LEFT

David Luiz beats the Rapid rearguard to glance home the equaliser

THIS PAGE

Thomas Partey's first start for the Gunners was hugely impressive

MATCH ACTION

RIGHT

The skipper puts us ahead

BELOW

Sead Kolasinac is too strong for Maximilian Hofmann

BELOW LEFT

"Did you see my throughball for Hector?" Mo Elneny talks to Nicolas Pepe

BELOW RIGHT

It was another enterprising display from Bukayo Saka





WE'RE BACK!

AUGUST 12, 2020

After being 'locked down' for what felt like an eternity, Arsenal in the Community finally undertook their first community session for five months. It couldn't have been enjoyed more – by coaches or participants



DUNDALK'S FINEST
MAY 26, 1989

Steve Staunton is Dundalk's most famous sporting son. Not only did he earn 102 caps for Republic of Ireland, captaining them at the 2002 World Cup, he also managed his country too. So we thought we'd feature a picture of Steve playing against Arsenal – and we never need an excuse to remind everyone of May 26, 1989 at Anfield! Steve and fellow Irishman Ronnie Whelan stop Kevin Richardson in his tracks with David Rocastle in the background



BIG LITTLE PICTURE

OCTOBER 13, 2020

Thomas Partey posed for dozens of pictures and videos at his first photoshoot as an Arsenal player. Official snapper Stuart MacFarlane got creative with this picture within a picture of a colleague's video viewfinder



REMEMBERING SGT RATANA

OCTOBER 4, 2020

Arsenal and Sheffield United unveiled a touching memorial to the late Metropolitan Police officer Matt Ratana – who was tragically shot dead inside a police station on September 25. Sgt Ratana had spent five years on the beat in Hackney, close to our Islington home



FORGOTTEN GOAL...

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Our last Europa League game at Emirates featured this superb 113th-minute goal from Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang against Olympiacos. But with the result such an agonising defeat, we rarely get chance to marvel at this beauty of a scissor kick



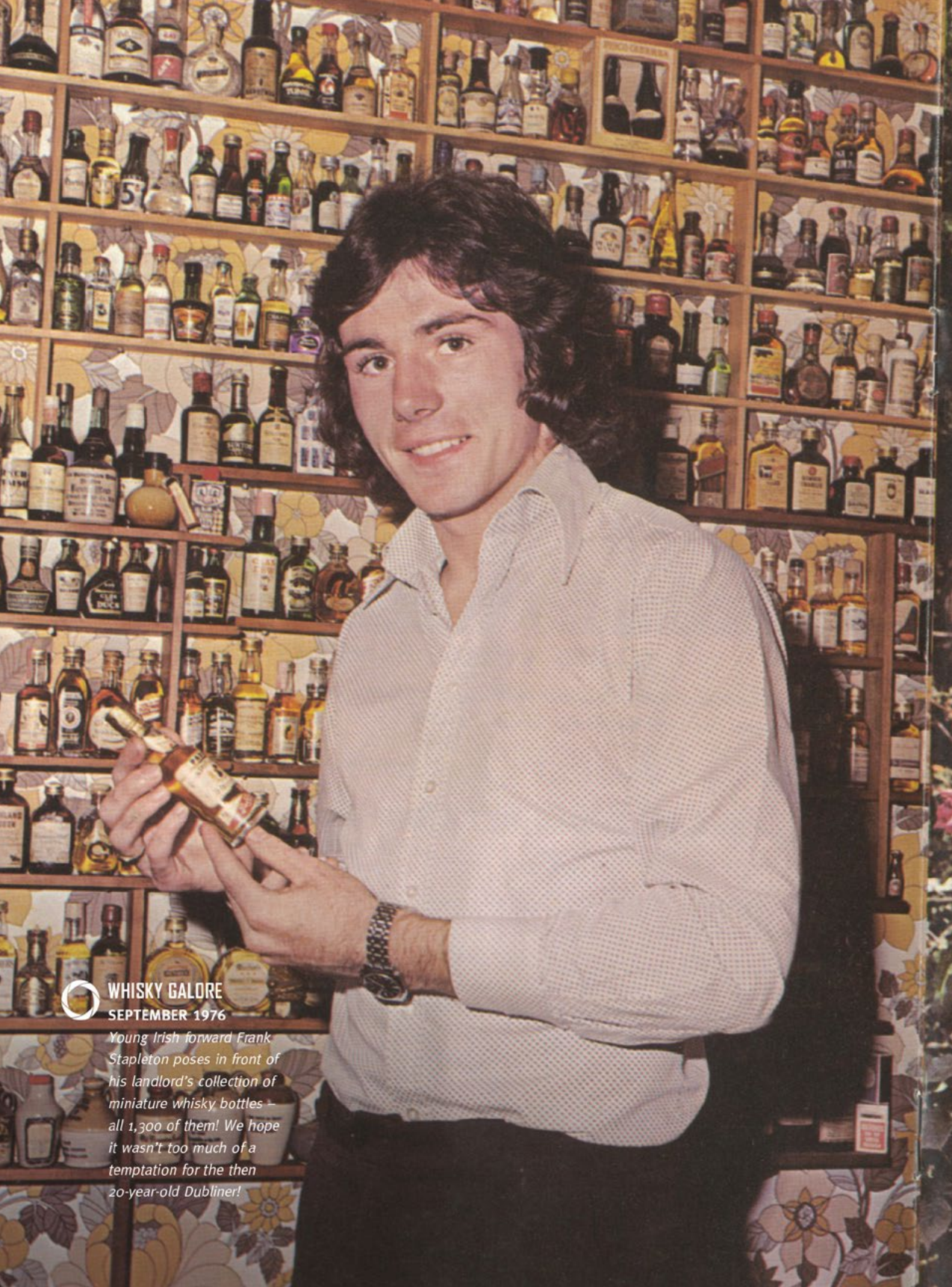


YOUNG LIONS
OCTOBER 8, 2020

Bukayo Saka is substituted on his England debut by Arsenal team-mate Ainsley Maitland-Niles, earning his third cap. The duo helped Gareth Southgate's team earn a 3-0 win over Wales in the Nations League



MIEDEMA IN DEMAND
OCTOBER 18, 2020
After a hat-trick against Tottenham that ensured Vivianne Miedema became the first player to score 50 WSL goals (and 51, and 52!), the media were understandably keen to talk to our 'GOAT' about her unparalleled goalscoring



WHISKY GALORE
SEPTEMBER 1976

Young Irish forward Frank Stapleton poses in front of his landlord's collection of miniature whisky bottles – all 1,300 of them! We hope it wasn't too much of a temptation for the then 20-year-old Dubliner!

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FORWARD



EMILE SMITH ROWE

Arsenal Football Club prides itself on always looking forward, so we're asking our players to gaze into the future to see what's on the horizon.



How far in advance is your training schedule arranged? Would you know what your plan is for this time next week for example?

No, probably not that far in advance, just because there are so many games at the moment and training sometimes changes around that. Sometimes we train in the mornings, other times in the afternoon, so it depends on the games and who has been involved. But we have an app that we are all on which tells us our schedule and it plans it out for the next week – but that can change as well so we could get a message at any time telling us that the time has changed or whatever.

And when it comes to matchdays, what are you like the night before?

Well if I knew I was going to be involved then of course I'd be really excited to play the game. I try to stay relaxed because on matchday itself I do get quite nervous. But the night before I try to stay relaxed, not think too much about the next day and just chill out at home with my family. I don't run through the game or anything like that. All the preparation is done earlier in the week. We have team meetings and study the

ARSENAL

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WHAT WOULD BE
YOUR NEXT...**

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Got to be the Premier League

HOLIDAY DESTINATION

The Maldives



NEW TEAM-MATE

Lionel Messi - I'd love to play with him



FORWARD ARSENAL EMILE SMITH ROWE



TOP

Sharing a joke in training with one of the senior pros

LEFT

In action in pre-season against MK Dons

opposition so during those meetings I always try to picture myself on the pitch and who I might be playing against. I'd always watch the clips of my direct opponent so I am aware what to expect in the game.

Personally, how far ahead into the season do you look? Do you study the fixture list to think when you might be involved?

No, not really. I don't like to do that. For me as a young player it's more about working hard every day in training. I can't let anything upset me if I'm not in the squad for example, I need to stay focused on my job.

"I'VE BEEN AN ARSENAL FAN FROM A VERY YOUNG AGE, SO IT WOULD DEFINITELY BE AN HONOUR TO BE A LEGEND HERE"

How about taking your career generally, do you have specific ambitions of what you'd like to achieve?

As an Arsenal fan, it would be a dream to become an Arsenal legend if I'm honest. I want to win trophies with the team because I can't express how much love I have for the club. I've been a fan from a very young age, so it would definitely be an honour to be a legend here. I could see myself being a one-club man if everything works out.

Even though you are still only 20, have you given any thought yet as to what you might want to do after your playing days?

No, I've not really thought about it yet. I've got lots of little cousins and I love playing football with them so I'd definitely like to get involved in coaching kids or something like that.

Away from playing, is there anything you want to achieve or do personally?

I really want to travel. There are a lot of places in the world that I really want to visit and of course I don't get much time for that during the season, but it's something I want to do in my life in future. There's so many places that I want to see. It sounds really bad but first of all I've never seen the Eiffel Tower, so I need to visit there at some point. That should be an easy one to tick off! Maybe that's one for next summer. Other than that I want to go to Brazil and a few places in America. ▶



What else are you interested in away from the game? Is there anything you are working on right now when you aren't training or playing?

Well it might sound funny, but I'm actually learning to cook at the moment!

I can't cook so I want to do something about that. I'm taking lessons from my mum and dad because they're both very good cooks. We've just done the basics so far, I'm just getting started, but we've started with the healthy stuff – chicken, salmon and so on. I'm really enjoying it though to be fair. I'm really getting in to it. Well I enjoy the cooking and the eating, not so much the cleaning up afterwards!

Are you good at planning generally? Do you always remember birthdays etc?

Honestly, not really! I try to be, but it often goes wrong. When it comes to football and training, I'm really well

"I CAN'T COOK SO I WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT. I'M TAKING LESSONS FROM MY MUM AND DAD BECAUSE THEY'RE BOTH VERY GOOD COOKS"

organised and always know where to go, but for other stuff at home I think I'm too chilled. My friends and family would probably say I'm lazy – but I would say that I save all my energy for my job!

Finally, you are told there's a spare seat on the next trip to the International Space Station – do you go? Why? And if there were two seats, who do you want with you?

Yeah I would, I said I wanted to travel so why not? I'm going! I'd take my brother with me, he'd like the trip. I wouldn't take my mum – because she'd be so scared the whole time! ■



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ARSENAL WOMEN

News and reports from England's most successful women's football team

GUNNERS GIRLS IN GREEN

The influence of Irish players in Arsenal Women's history is immense. **Katie McCabe** is a key member of Joe Montemurro's team, illustrated by her sensational free-kick which opened the scoring in the team's most recent game, the 6-1 win over Tottenham. Katie looks certain to reach 100 appearances with the team this season, having 94 to her name which have included 18 goals from her position on the left side of midfield or at left back.

Katie was regularly joined in the team by another Irishwomen in recent seasons, **Louise Quinn**. The centre half was a key member of the 2018/19 WSL winning squad and played 76 times for us up until leaving the club for

Fiorentina in the summer, scoring seven goals.

Further back in Arsenal history, the influence of the Irish has been huge. In fact numbers one and two in our all-time appearance records are both from the emerald isle.

Top of the pile is Dubliner **Emma Byrne** who made an incredible 459 first team appearances for the team between 2000 and 2016, winning trophies galore, including the Uefa Women's Cup in 2007 when she kept two clean sheets in our 1-0 aggregate win over Umea.

Behind Emma in the list is Galway girl **Ciara Grant** – who actually alerted Vic Akers to Emma's availability! Ciara played 403 games between 1995 and 2012, initially as a box-to-box midfielder and later slotting in at centre-back. Another multiple title winner, including the Uefa Women's Cup, Ciara scored a remarkable 102 goals for the club, putting her seventh in our all-time scoring charts.

There was a third Irishwoman in the Arsenal squad for the Uefa Women's Cup win, defender **Yvonne Tracy**, who made 139 appearances for Vic Akers' Gunners, scoring eight goals between 2000 and 2014 and just ahead of Yvonne in the appearance charts is **Niamh Fahey** on 144. Another fine defender – and talented Gaelic footballer – Niamh won multiple Arsenal honours with us between 2008 and 2014 and grabbed eight goals. Niamh currently plays for Championship side Liverpool.

A number of other players from the Republic of Ireland have played for us: **Caroline Thorpe** (19 games), **Michele O'Brien** (7), **Elaine O'Connor** (5), **Carol Conlon** (5), **Susan Heapes** (4), **Grainne Kierans** (3), **Ashley Hutton** (2), **Sarah McGrath** (1), **Seana Cooke** (1) and **Ruesha Littlejohn** (1).



CONGRATULATIONS, ANOUK!

Our recent win over Tottenham provided a particularly special moment for Anouk Denton – who made her first team debut for Arsenal Women. The 17 year old came on as a late substitute for Caitlin Foord, realising a dream which has been burning since she joined the Arsenal Academy four years ago.

The defender from St Albans, who wears number 31, will be hoping for more opportunities to taste first-team action as the season progresses. She's certainly used to the big stage, having represented England at the Uefa Women's Under-17 Championships last year.

Congratulations Anouk! ■



ARSENAL WOMEN FOR THE HUMANRACE

Arsenal Women always get involved in the club's kit launches nowadays – and the launch of the new Pharrell-inspired Humanrace kit was no exception?

Here's Danielle van de Donk and Beth Mead relaxing at Emirates Stadium in what's been a very popular shirt with supporters – and is available in both men's and women's sizes.

What's not to like?! ■



2020/21 FIXTURES

SEPT 6	READING	6-1
SEPT 12	WEST HAM UNITED	9-1
SEPT 26	TOTTENHAM (FA CUP QF)	4-0
OCT 1	MAN CITY (FA CUP SEMI-FINAL)	1-2
OCT 4	BRISTOL CITY	3-1
OCT 7	CHELSEA (CC)	1-4
OCT 11	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	5-0
OCT 18	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	6-1
NOV 4	LONDON CITY LIONESSES (CC)	A
NOV 8	MANCHESTER UNITED (12PM)	A
NOV 15	CHELSEA (2.30PM)	H
NOV 18	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (CC)	A
DEC 6	BIRMINGHAM CITY	H
DEC 13	MANCHESTER CITY	A
DEC 20	EVERTON	H
JAN 9/10	ASTON VILLA	A
JAN 16/17	READING	A
JAN 23/24	WEST HAM UNITED	H
FEB 6/7	MANCHESTER CITY	H
FEB 10/11/12	CHELSEA	A
MAR 6/7	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A
MAR 17/18	MANCHESTER UNITED	H
MAR 27/28	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A
APR 3/4	BRISTOL CITY	A
APR 24/25	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H
MAY 1/2	EVERTON	A
MAY 8/9	ASTON VILLA	H

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (AT OCT 20)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GO	PTS
ARSENAL	5	5	0	0	29	4	25	15
EVERTON	5	4	1	0	16	3	13	13
MANCHESTER UNITED	5	4	1	0	14	5	9	13
CHELSEA	4	3	1	0	14	2	12	10
MANCHESTER CITY	5	2	2	1	8	5	3	8
READING	5	2	1	2	6	9	-3	7
BIRMINGHAM CITY	5	2	0	3	7	8	-1	6
BRIGHTON & HA	5	1	2	2	4	10	-6	5
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	5	0	1	4	3	13	-10	1
WEST HAM UNITED	5	0	1	4	5	18	-13	1
ASTON VILLA	3	0	0	3	1	11	-10	0
BRISTOL CITY	4	0	0	4	1	20	-19	0

Katie McCabe and Louise Quinn celebrate winning the WSL last year



Arsenal Women's greatest moment – the greatest achievement by any English women's football team – was heavily influenced by our 'girls in green'
Ciara Grant (left), goalkeeper Emma Byrne and Yvonne Tracy



THE GRASS WAS OFTEN GREENER

Football historian **Jon Spurling** looks at the significant influence of Irish footballers at Arsenal, in particular during the 1970s

The club's history is littered with unsung heroes, whose contribution to Arsenal's cause has sometimes been overlooked. Such a figure is Bill Darby – who passed away earlier this year – and who, in the 1970s, was the Gunners' Dublin-based scout. Chief scout Gordon Clarke oversaw a network of scouts across the UK, but in the late 1960s, received a letter from Darby informing him that Arsenal were missing out on a raft of Irish talent. Darby pointed out that United had signed the likes of Tony Dunne, John Giles and Eamon Dunphy thanks to the 'local knowledge' of their scout Billy Behan, and that it was time the Gunners gave United some competition in nabbing the cream of Irish talent.

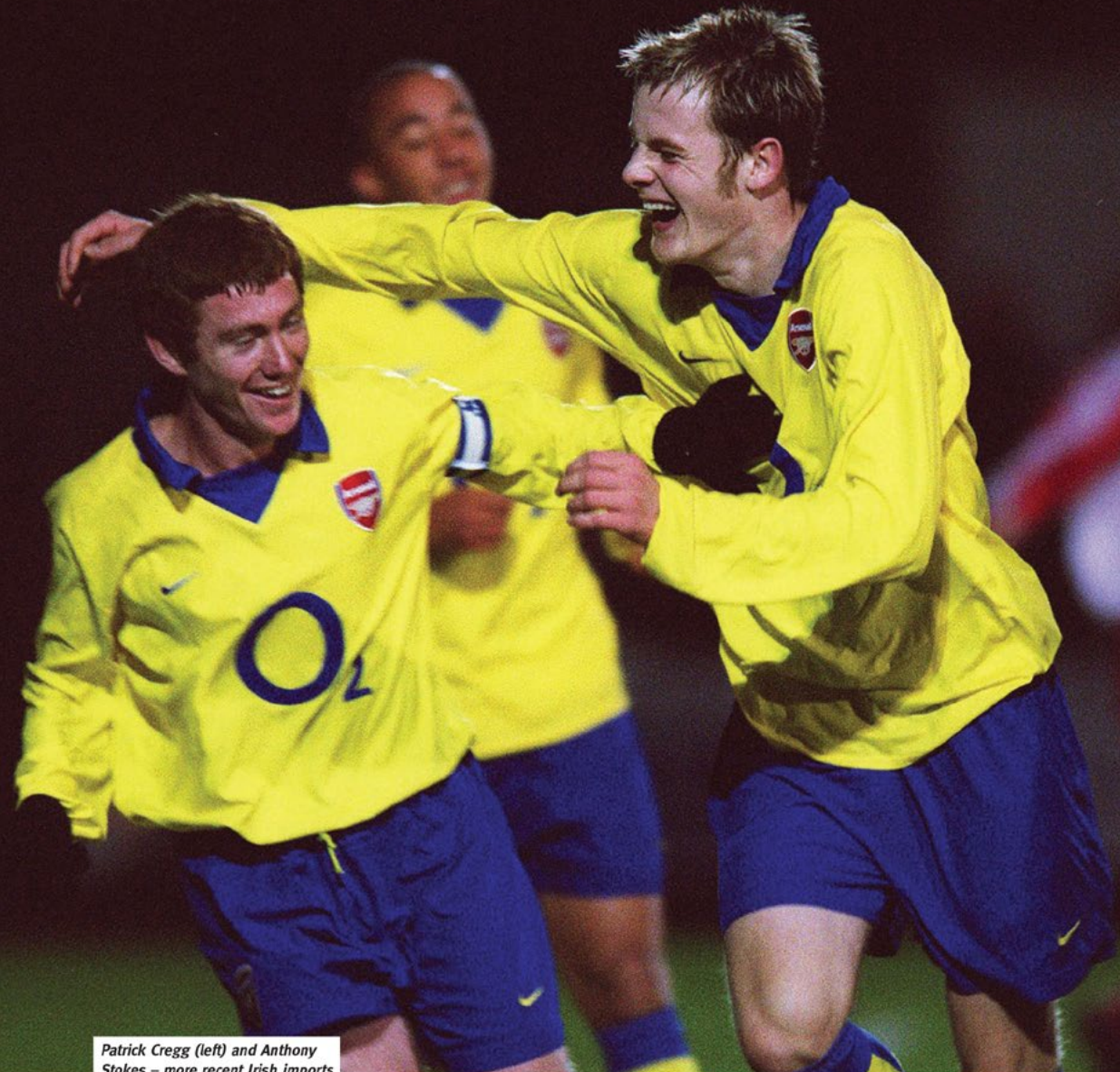
Essentially, Darby was pitching for the job, and Gordon Clarke, his interest well and truly piqued, sent Arsenal's scout Malwyn Roberts over from Wales to follow up the lead. Roberts arrived in Dublin one Saturday morning and said to Darby: "Take me to a good game where I'm going to see good players". That afternoon, the pair enjoyed their first official sighting of a 13-year-old Liam Brady, starring for St Kevin's Boys. "We were probably the top schoolboy club at the time, in that under-13 age group, and Malwyn saw me playing and said, 'I like him'," Brady explained.

"So himself and Bill came round to the house and it started from there." Brady came over for a trial in 1969, before signing on as an apprentice in 1971. Brady also recalled Darby's "ability to build strong relationships with players' parents, which is a key element because convincing the families that a club is the right place for

their son is integral to signing young players."

Now installed in the role by Clarke, Darby spotted striker Frank Stapleton, who joined Arsenal in 1972, and central defender David O'Leary, who arrived in 1973. There was also full back John Devine, and Johnny Murphy, another talented footballer of the time, who, although he didn't make the grade at Arsenal, would go on to be capped for his country as a rugby full back. Ten years later, Darby ▶

Liam Brady talks to one of the players who illustrated Arsenal were 'missing out' Johnny Giles



Patrick Clegg (left) and Anthony Stokes – more recent Irish imports

"YOU'D GET PEOPLE COMING UP TO YOU ASKING IF WE SPENT THE WHOLE TIME ARGUING ABOUT POLITICS OR RELIGION, BUT THE FACT IS WE NEVER DISCUSSED IT."

alerted the club to the talents of lanky striker Niall Quinn, who was playing football for Lourdes Celtic and Drimnagh Castle and hurling for the Dublin minors. He also toured Australia with the Dublin Colleges gaelic football team. Darby stepped in and convinced Quinn that he should head to Highbury. When Brady later became head of youth

development at Arsenal, he still relied on (the now retired) Darby's tips about whom to appoint as talent scouts in Ireland, and on the back of that, Graham Barrett, Patrick Clegg, and Anthony Stokes, who later went on to have a fine career at Sunderland and Celtic, came to N5.

But unquestionably, the fruits of Darby's labour were never better illustrated than in the late 1970s, when Brady, Stapleton and O'Leary were at the cornerstone of Arsenal's renaissance. It wasn't always easy for the young Irishmen, as Bertie Mee's '71 double winners faded from the scene, and the club was beset by infighting and cliques within the dressing room. Opportunities for the young Irish contingent

**ABOVE**

Celebrating the 1979 FA Cup win, including Liam Brady, David O'Leary and Frank Stapleton from southern Ireland and Sammy Nelson, Pat Jennings and Pat Rice from the north

ABOVE RIGHT

Arsenal and Ireland legend David O'Leary's 722 Gunners' games is a club record

RIGHT

A feature in Arsenal's programme v Manchester City on October 4, 1975

FAR RIGHT

Ulsterman Terry Neill is introduced to Prince Charles before the 1979 cup final

**ARSENAL'S IRISHMEN**

David O'Leary, Terry Mancini, Frank Stapleton, Bobby Duffy, Sammy Nelson, John Devine, Pat Rice, Liam Brady.



seemed sparse, particularly after Bertie Mee's new coach Bobby Campbell told a pack of journalists immediately after arriving in 1973: "I'm only interested in today. The future will take care of itself...." But there was no holding back their respective talents. Along with a raft of Northern Ireland internationals, including club skipper Pat Rice, Sammy Nelson and goalkeeper Pat Jennings – signed from Tottenham – the 'London Irish' (managed by Ulsterman Terry Neill) turned themselves into a cup side to be reckoned with by the late '70s. The Irish contingent always bristled at any suggestions they were a clique. Liam Brady explained: "I always found it odd that people thought I would naturally socialise with David and Frank simply because they were Irish. It's not like the rest of the team didn't speak the same language!" Pat Jennings recalls: "You'd get people coming up to you asking if we spent the whole time arguing about politics or religion, but the fact is we never discussed it. Sammy Nelson is a Unionist and proud of it. Frank Stapleton is a Catholic. Others have their own beliefs and opinions. It was a good example of how men from different backgrounds can mix."

In May 1979, the 'London Irish,' together with Scotsman Willie Young and Englishmen Graham Rix, Brian Talbot, David Price and Alan Sunderland defeated Dave Sexton's Manchester United in the FA Cup Final. The masterful Liam Brady set up Frank Stapleton for the second goal – a header which Stapleton bulleted past Gary Bailey – and the surge forward in the dying seconds to push the ball wide to Graham Rix, whose cross was steered home by Alan Sunderland for the winner. At the back, David O'Leary was as unflappable as ever – until the final three minutes anyway. Looking on proudly was Bill Darby. Liam Brady recalled: "He later said to me his proudest moment was when myself, Frank and David all played in the 1979 FA Cup-winning side against United. It was ironic that it should be against them, because that was the reason he wanted to come in and scout players, because they were all ending up at United instead!"

Thanks to the persuasive powers and talent spotting abilities of Bill Darby, Arsenal had now more than matched United both on and off the pitch. ■



REMARK UK! – AND IT'S REMARKABLE! CLUB

MY  **The Arsenal Foundation**

STORY

The work of The Arsenal Foundation and the partners and initiatives it supports have touched the lives of a great number of people in a variety of ways

The Arsenal Foundation has helped to fund Remark UK!, an organisation that offers British Sign Language training and supports deaf people to live independently. Katie Matthews, 27, from Surrey, tells us about the charity's Remarkable! Club

I don't have day-to-day problems being deaf but I do wish people would know how to communicate with deaf people. That's especially true when I tell them I'm deaf and they do nothing but, worse, I've faced discrimination at work because of it.

I came into contact with the Remark! Community when I was feeling depressed after going through a break-up. I didn't know what to do and I honestly thought I should just give up. My friend Yigit suggested I join the Remarkable! Club, where deaf people meet every week, and although I felt like I couldn't be bothered it was a good thing that I went. My first memory was a trip to The Maritime Museum in Greenwich – I was so shy and quiet.

The second time I went was very emotional. I cried, in what turned out to be a good way. It was a workshop about Positive Relationships and Positive Mindset, and it was going well until we started talking about negative impacts. I tried to keep my tears back as it reminded me of the break-up, but I just sobbed. Then I saw a lovely woman with bright red hair. Annie came to ask if I was alright and if I'd like some space to calm down and talk in a private room. I was so grateful that I was able to express my feelings – throughout my teens I had nobody to talk to so I bottled up my emotions. I'm so glad that two years on I'm still a member of the club.



Katie has found it... Remarkable!

I've made lots of new friends and I have really embraced my deaf identity.

We meet every Tuesday in London to socialise. We do indoor activities – board games, arts and crafts – and go to museums and funfairs, play ball sports and do things like kayaking, which I loved, and cycling.

We also have workshops, including learning about Positives and Negatives, Sexting Advice, Food Safety and lots more, which are very useful.

It's a great opportunity to make and stay in touch with friends – I usually see friends once a month, but with the club I know I'll see them at least once a week.

I also volunteered for the Remark! Playscheme for a year and in February I became a Playworker for the scheme. I've achieved a lot since I joined Remark!

I think back and I was heartbroken when my first boyfriend broke up with me. I felt like I wanted to give up. I didn't want to go out. But I joined Remark! and everything changed. I enjoy it so much.

For more info visit remark.uk.com ■



Enjoying one of the many day outs



Patrick Hoban celebrates scoring against Cork City earlier this month



DUNDALK

By: Mike Hammond

FORMED
1903

NICKNAME
The Lilywhites, The Town

STADIUM
Oriel Park (4,500)

HONOURS
League of Ireland/Premier Division winners

11 times FAI Cup winners

7 times Irish League Cup winners

7 times Leinster Senior Cup winners

2 times League of Ireland First Division winners

2 time Presidents cup winners

1 time Champions Cup (all Ireland)

OWNER
Dundalk Town FC Limited

CHAIRMAN
Bill Hulsizer

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS
Twitter 38,300
Instagram 25,100
Facebook 50,700

The reigning champions of the Republic of Ireland are the visitors to Emirates Stadium for the second round of matches in UEFA Europa League Group B. Dundalk have actually won the League of Ireland Premier Division title in five of the last six years, but it is their presence in the group stage of a European competition – for the second time in five seasons – that has really captured the imagination of the Irish public. Unfortunately they were beaten 2-1 at home by Molde in their opening fixture despite taking the lead through a header from midfielder Sean Murray – his third goal in as many European games.

The Lilywhites from County Louth look likely to cede their domestic championship crown this year, with Dublin duo Shamrock Rovers and Bohemians both some way ahead of them at the top of the 2020 table, but a return to big-time continental football – and the chance to play against a team of Arsenal's stature – is ample compensation for a club that savoured Europa League group stage football for the first time in 2016/17, when they drew their opening game 1-1 away to AZ Alkmaar and then beat Maccabi Tel-Aviv 1-0 at home on Matchday Two before falling to four successive one-goal defeats.

Dundalk gave a more than respectable showing last time out. They made it this far thanks to three wins in the Europa League play-offs – although not before they had been dumped out of the Champions League in the first qualifying round by Celje, losing the one-off tie 3-0 in Slovenia. A change of head coach, with Italian Filippo Giovagnoli replacing Vinny Perth, prompted a winning run in the Europa League qualifiers as Inter d'Escaldes were beaten 1-0 in Andorra, Sheriff Tiraspol 5-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in Moldova and, in the play-off, Faroe Isles champions KI Klaksvik were seen off 3-1 at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin.

This is the seventh successive season of European competition for Dundalk and 24th in all, so they are no strangers to competing against foreign teams. They have been paired with English clubs, however, on only three previous occasions. The first, against Liverpool, in the 1969/70 Fairs Cup, is best forgotten as they lost it 14-0 on aggregate, but in the second round of the 1981/82 Cup Winners' Cup they ran Tottenham close, drawing the home leg 1-1 before losing the return 1-0 at White Hart Lane. Their last English opponents were Liverpool again, in the 1982/83 European Cup, a 4-1 loss at home preceding another 1-0 defeat in England.

Arsenal have never hosted a club from the Republic of Ireland in UEFA competition, so Dundalk are the first to tick that particular box. Although clear second favourites, they will evidently be keen to put on a good show on the club's first official visit to England for 38 years. The shame of course is that none of their fans will be able to witness this historic encounter, but if Dundalk do themselves justice this evening and manage to ruffle a few Arsenal feathers, their supporters will surely be proud of them from afar.



Turlough O'Connor talks to manager Vic Buckingham during the Dundalk star's Fulham days

IRISH XI

Eleven players have represented the Republic of Ireland whilst they were playing for Dundalk.

Robert Egan played his country in 1929, as did Joey Donnelly and Billy O'Neill who played in a number of games between 1935 and 1937. Mick Hoy played in a World Cup qualifier in 1937 – controversially as Mick was from Northern Ireland.

Dicky Lunn played in a couple of games in 1938 and, after the war, Terry Murray featured in a defeat to Belgium in 1950 before a gap of 16 years until Tony O'Connell played in a 0-0 draw against Spain in 1966.

Tommy McConville won six caps for Republic of Ireland, one of them was as a Dundalk player, versus Austria in 1971 when team-mate Turlough O'Connor also played and featured four more times for his country whilst at Dundalk. Teenager Synan Braddish played in a friendly against Turkey in 1978 and most recently Mick Fairclough made two appearances on a South American tour in 1982.

1 THE VETERAN KEEPER GARY ROGERS GOALKEEPER

BORN Navan, Rep Ireland, 25/9/81

PREVIOUSLY Shelbourne, St Francis (I), Drogheda, Dublin City, Bray Wanderers, Galway, St Patrick's Athletic, Sligo
At 39 years of age goalkeeper Gary is one of the oldest participants in this season's Europa League and made his 50th European appearance last week against Molde. He has been a Dundalk player since 2015, joining the Lilywhites after successful stints with four other League of Ireland Premier Division clubs and also a brief spell as a Gaelic football player. He has won 18 pieces of silverware during his career, two thirds of them with Dundalk.

2 THE RIGHT-BACK SEAN GANNON DEFENDER

BORN Dublin, Rep Ireland, 11/7/91

PREVIOUSLY Shamrock Rovers, St Patrick's Athletic

An Irish champion with Shamrock Rovers and St Patrick's Athletic, Dubliner Sean has added five more Premier Division titles since joining Dundalk in 2014. An overlapping right back, he has been voted into the PFAI Team of the Year in each of the last six years and started all six games in Dundalk's 2016/17 Europa League group stage adventure. He had rather a forgettable Matchday 1 encounter against Molde, however, deflecting in the visitors' first goal and conceding a penalty for the second.

3 THE LYNCHPIN BRIAN GARTLAND DEFENDER

BORN Dublin, Rep Ireland, 4/11/86

PREVIOUSLY Bray, Shelbourne, Monaghan, Portadown

A no-nonsense right-sided centre back, Brian has been the cornerstone of the Dundalk defence since joining the club from Northern Irish side Portadown in 2013. A key contributor to the club's five League of Ireland titles and two FAI Cups in the past six years, both in defence and in attack at set pieces, the 33 year old is considered the leader in the dressing room. He started all six matches in the 2016/17 Europa League group stage and has appeared 28 times in Europe.

44 THE STOPPER ANDY BOYLE DEFENDER

BORN Palmerstown, Rep Ireland, 7/3/91

PREVIOUSLY UCD, Shelbourne, Dundalk, Preston, Doncaster (I), Dundee (I), Ross County (I)

One of several players in the Dundalk squad who have tried their luck in England, central defender Andy made a handful of appearances for Preston in the Championship and Doncaster Rovers in League One. After a stint in Scotland he returned last year to Dundalk, where he was practically an ever-present for four successive seasons, winning three league titles and captaining the side to their historic first Europa League group stage win against Maccabi Tel-Aviv.

5 THE SKIPPER CHRIS SHIELDS MIDFIELDER

BORN Dublin, Rep Ireland, 27/12/90

PREVIOUSLY Bray Wanderers

A Dundalk player since 2012, when he arrived from Bray Wanderers, Chris is the club captain and a doughty midfield enforcer who acts as a screen in front of the defence, timely tackles and clever distribution his speciality. He has made over 300 appearances for the County Louth side, including 31 in Europe, six of them in the Europa League group stage. The five-time Irish champion scored the winning penalty against Sheriff in the third qualifying round shoot-out.

7 THE SET-PIECE SPECIALIST MICHAEL DUFFY ATTACKER

BORN Derry, Northern Ireland, 28/7/94

PREVIOUSLY Derry City, Celtic, Alloa Athletic (I), Dundee (I)

A right-footed left winger who is often in charge of taking free-kicks and corners, Michael hails from Northern Ireland and did enough as a youngster for hometown club Derry City to earn a move to Celtic in February 2015. He never saw any first-team action for the Glasgow giants but the experience in Scotland served him well as his contribution to Dundalk's 2018 domestic double earned him recognition as that year's PFAI Players' Player of the Year.

11 THE CREATIVE HUB PATRICK MCELENEY MIDFIELDER

BORN Derry, Northern Ireland 26/9/92

PREVIOUSLY Derry City, Dundalk, Oldham

Though only a substitute last week against Molde, Patrick is the source of much of the side's midfield creativity. He returned to the club for a second spell midway through the 2018 double-winning season after a short shift with League One side Oldham. Renowned not just for his skill but also his knack of scoring important goals, he was the match-winner in the 2018 FAI Cup final at the Aviva Stadium when his header sealed a 2-1 win against Cork City.

9 THE SPEARHEAD PATRICK HOBAN ATTACKER

BORN Loughrea, Rep Ireland, 28/7/91

PREVIOUSLY Mervue United, Bristol City, Clevedon Town (I), Mervue United, Dundalk, Oxford United, Stevenage (I), Grimsby (I), Mansfield

A prolific scorer for Dundalk over two spells, Patrick has scored more than 100 goals for the club and has been their top marksman once again in 2020 though has yet to get off the mark in Europe this term. On his return in 2018, after three seasons plying his trade in England, mostly in League Two with Oxford and Mansfield, he struck a remarkable haul of 29 league goals to scoop the Premier Division top scorer award – the highest winning total for 42 years.

THE BOSS FILIPPO GIOVAGNOLI

BORN December 1, 1970 in Citta di Castello, Italy

PREVIOUSLY None

There was surprise among the locals when Dundalk announced a couple of months ago that their new interim head coach was Filippo Giovagnoli. A 49-year-old Italian with next to no experience of club management, he had been acquired to replace the departed Vinny Perth after spending six years as the head of coaching at the Metropolitan Oval Academy in New York. Any concern from fans turned to celebration, however, as he led Dundalk through three qualifiers into the Europa League group stage.

REALLY?!

– Dundalk have already played in two different 'home' stadiums in their Europa League campaign – neither of them in Dundalk after Uefa decreed that Oriel Park didn't meet their specifications.

The club opted to play their crucial play-off match against Ki from the Faroe Islands at the **AVIVA STADIUM** in Dublin, 52 miles away from Dundalk. They were back in Dublin again for their 2-1 defeat to Molde on Matchday One but this time at the Tallaght stadium. The visit of Arsenal will see them revert to the 52,000 capacity Aviva.

– Dundalk's manager **FILIPPO GIOVAGNOLI**, will be a proud man as he leads out the Lilywhites against the Gunners – though for UEFA licensing reasons his assistant Shane Keegan is nominally the man in charge this evening

– Almost seven years ago, Dundalk's **NATHAN ODUWA** was man-of-the-match for Tottenham Under-18s in a 4-2 win over Arsenal's Under-18s in which he contributed two assists. The England U18 international was playing in a Spurs side that included Harry Winks and Kyle Walker-Peters, while the Arsenal side included Matt Macey, Alex Iwobi, Dan Crowley and Stephy Mavididi.



DUNDALK'S RECENT MATCHES

Sunday, October 25, 2020

League of Ireland

Waterford 1 (Martin 57)

Dundalk 0

Dundalk's match at the weekend ended in a 1-0 home defeat at Waterford, leaving their hopes of qualifying for European qualification next season in the balance.

DUNDALK: Aaron McCarey; John Mountney, Brian Gartland, Andy Boyle, Cameron Dummigan (Darragh Leahy 65); Chris Shields (Greg Sloggett 77), Jordan Flores (Patrick Hoban 61); Stefan Colovic (Sean Gannon 65), Sean Murray (Patrick McLeney 61), Michael Duffy; David McMillan SUBS Gary Rogers, Sean Hoare

LEAGUE OF IRELAND TABLE

(as at Monday, October 26)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Shamrock Rovers	14	12	2	0	38	7	38
Bohemians	17	11	1	5	21	11	34
Dundalk	16	7	4	5	24	20	25
Waterford	17	7	3	7	17	21	24
Sligo Rovers	17	7	1	9	17	23	22
Derry City	16	5	4	7	17	15	19
St Patrick's	14	5	4	5	10	11	19
Shelbourne	17	5	4	8	13	21	19
Finn Harps	15	3	5	7	11	20	14
Cork City	17	2	4	11	9	29	10

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020

Europa League Matchday 1

Dundalk 1 (Murray 35)

Molde 2 (Hussain 62, Omoijuanfo 72 pen)

Dundalk's first match in the competition's group stages ended in heartbreak after taking the lead in the first half through Sean Murray

DUNDALK: Gary Rogers; Sean Gannon (Cameron Dummigan 77), Brian Gartland, Darragh Leahy (David McMillan), Dan Cleary; Chris Shields, John Mountney, Greg Sloggett (Patrick McLeney 64), Sean Murray (Andy Boyle 77), Michael Duffy (Stefan Colovic 80), Patrick Hoban SUBS NOT USED Aaron McCarey, Sean Hoare, Jordan Flores, Jamie Wynne, Daniel Kelly



TOP
Midfielder Jordan Flores

RIGHT

Sean Murray celebrates scoring against Ki Klaksvik in the final Europa League qualifier – he also notched against Molde last week



SCOUTING REPORT

By: Michael Cox

They might have only faced sides from Andorra, Moldova and the Faroe Islands, but in their qualification campaign for the Europa League group stage, Dundalk have proved capable of playing out from defence and getting the ball into dangerous positions out wide. They also appear well-drilled defensively under new manager Filippo Giovagnoli.

Thus far, Giovagnoli has stuck to the 4-3-3 system that Dundalk have generally played over the last couple of seasons. This approach is based around a proper No 9, Patrick Hoban, who is in his second spell at the club after a stint in the English lower leagues.

Hoban has more to his game than simply being a target man, but it's notable that he flattened an opponent within seconds in an aerial challenge at the start of Dundalk's meeting with Sheriff Tiraspol in the third qualifying round, and his teammates are keen to supply him with searching

crosses whenever possible.

Despite that, Dundalk's wingers tend to cut inside. Michael Duffy, who won the PFAI Player's Player of the Year award in 2018, starts on the left but cuts inside and uses his right foot for shooting or playing through-balls for teammates. On the opposite flank, Serbian Stefan Colovic is a new arrival, and has demonstrated his threat by cutting inside onto his left foot. Sean Gannon has also been used on the right wing, although he's more accustomed to playing at full back, as his No 2 shirt would suggest.

In midfield, Giovagnoli plays one defensive midfielder and two breaking forward into attack. Chris Shields is tasked with the holding role, reliably screening the defence. Ahead of him, Sean Murray scored twice in the qualification rounds, on both occasions netting with his head after a storming late run into the box. Greg Sloggett does something similar on the right of the midfield.

Defensively, left back Darragh Leahy is the most notable individual, because he overlaps energetically and is capable of whipping in dangerous free-kicks. Daniel Cleary and veteran Brian Gartland form a reliable centre-back partnership while Sean Hoare is a solid right-back capable of pushing forward energetically. Dundalk are capable of playing out from the back, although Arsenal's level of pressing may prove more intense than the challenges they've faced earlier in the competition.

Goalkeeper Gary Rogers is now 39 and briefly interrupted his League of Ireland career to play Gaelic football for Meath, before returning to soccer. He's been called up to Republic of Ireland squads in the past, without making a senior appearance, and was the hero of the penalty shootout victory over Sheriff Tiraspol.

Giovagnoli can call upon some reliable back-ups – Daniel Kelly is an energetic midfielder while David McMillan is an alternative to, or potential partner for, Hoban up front.

Dundalk are unlikely to take the game to Arsenal, and the classic underdog strategy of sporadic counter-attacking and a set-piece threat is likely to be the order of the day, but Giovagnoli's side do boast technical quality out wide, and shouldn't be underestimated.■

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1

VARDY 80

PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 6

7.15pm • Sunday, October 25, 2020 • Emirates Stadium

FIRST HALF

It looked as though we had taken the lead inside just five minutes when Alexandre Lacazette rose superbly at the near post to head home a corner off the post. However the linesman's flag was up for offside against Granit Xhaka, who was deemed to be obstructing keeper Kasper Schmeichel. However we continued to make most of the running, with Leicester seemingly happy to soak up pressure. Hector Bellerin was denied inside the area before Bukayo Saka had a shot saved. Lacazette also brought a save from Schmeichel and Saka hit the side netting but we were unable to break the deadlock in the opening 45 minutes.

SECOND HALF

The injured David Luiz was replaced by Shkodran Mustafi early in the second half and we continued to find Leicester difficult to break down. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang found Bellerin with a great cross, but the Spaniard's volley was well saved by Schmeichel. We began to run out of ideas and with just 10 minutes remaining we got caught on the counter-attack. Cengiz Under squared for fellow substitute Jamie Vardy to head home and inflict our first home league defeat of 2020. ■

ARSENAL	LEICESTER CITY
12	6
4	2
9	3
1	0
13	9
56	44

ARSENAL

- 1 Leno
- 23 David Luiz (49)
- 6 Gabriel
- 2 Bellerin
- 3 Tierney (81)
- 34 Xhaka
- 18 Partey
- 8 Ceballos
- 7 Saka (65)
- 9 Lacazette
- 14 Aubameyang

SUBSTITUTES

Mustafi (49), Pepe (65), Nketiah (81), Maitland-Niles, Willock, Elneny, Runarsson

LEICESTER CITY

- 1 Schmeichel
- 3 Fofana
- 6 Evans
- 28 Fuchs
- 27 Castagne
- 8 Tielemans
- 24 Mendy
- 2 Justin
- 26 Praet (60)
- 10 Maddison (85)
- 15 Barnes (75)

SUBSTITUTES

Vardy (60), Under (75), Albrighton (85), Morgan, Iheanacho, Choudhury, Ward



Alexandre Lacazette's early goal is disallowed for offside

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THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD



GABRIEL TOUCHMAP
RAPID VIENNA 1-2 ARSENAL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020
EUROPA LEAGUE MATCHDAY ONE

GOLDEN GABRIEL

Gabriel Magalhaes is fast becoming a fans' favourite. Granted, it was Thomas Partey who stole the headlines and picked up the man-of-the-match award against Rapid Vienna last week – but the performance of our No 6 shouldn't go unnoticed.

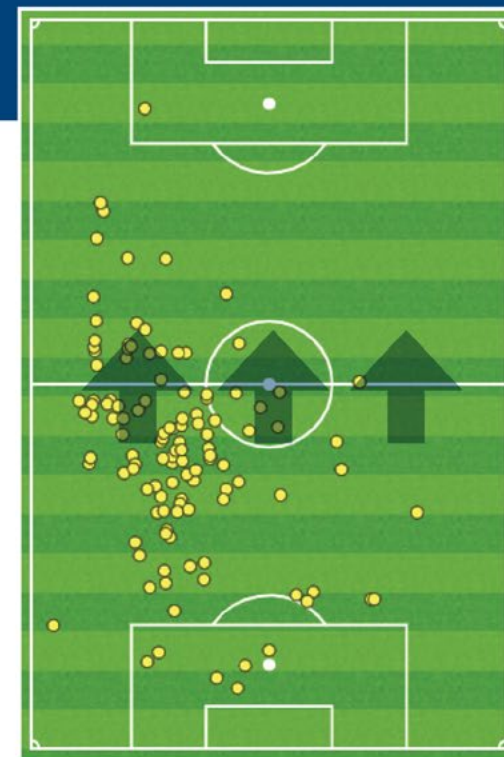
Calculated in the tackle and dominant in the air, Gabriel has made an instant impact at the heart of our defence, cementing his place as our left-sided central defender with a number of exceptional displays.

On that night in Austria, Gabriel made five clearances, four interceptions and regained possession eight times – more than any other player on the pitch. He also won a total of 14 duels at success rate of 71.4 per cent.

The Brazilian played a vital role in our build-up play too, registering 119 touches and 88 successful passes – again, the highest of any player on the pitch.

Just take a look at his touch map (right) to see his advanced positioning while we're in possession of the ball. With an attack-minded left flank of Kieran Tierney and Bukayo Saka, Gabriel is often responsible for pulling further across to the left and providing cover in the channels. Even more so when we're operating in a back three.

2020/21 may only just be getting started, but the early signs are promising – and we can't wait to see more from Gabriel. ■



Gabriel has quickly settled into life at Arsenal



	DATE	OPPOSITION	F-A	POS /RND	ATT/KD	STARTING XI										SUBSTITUTES										REFEREE		
SEPTEMBER	Sat 29	Liverpool	1-1+	CS	1	BCD #	Martinez	Bellerin	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Saka	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(59)	Nelson(82)	Willock(82)	Kolasinac(83)	Saliba	Smith Rowe	John-Jules	Olayinka	Leno	A. Marriner	
	Sat 12	Fulham	3-0	CS	1	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Willian	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(75)	Ceballos(78)	Nketiah(87)	Saka	Willock	Kolasinac	Macey		C. Kavanagh		
	Sun 20	West Ham United	2-1	CS	2	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	Willian	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(64)	Nketiah	David Luiz(77)	M-Niles	Elneny	Willock	Macey		M. Oliver		
	Wed 23	Leicester City	2-0*	CC	3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	DAVID LUIZ	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Willock	Pepe	Nelson	Nketiah	Willian(72)	Ceballos(78)	Bellerin(87)	Saliba	Lacazette	Xhaka	Runarsson		P. Banks		
	Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3	CS	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Willian	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60)	Pepe(68)	Nketiah(74)	Gabriel	Saka	Kolasinac	Runarsson		C. Pawson		
OCTOBER	Thur 1	Liverpool	0-0+	CC	4	BCD	Leno	Cedric	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Willock	XHAKA	Ceballos	Pepe	Nketiah	Elneny(68)	Lacazette(82)	M-Niles(86)	Tierney	David Luiz	Nelson	Runarsson		K. Friend		
	Sun 4	Sheffield United	2-1	CS	4	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Elneny	Ceballos	Willian	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(58)	Xhaka(81)	M-Niles(87)	Willock	Holding	Lacazette	Runarsson		L. Mason		
	Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1	CS	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	Pepe	Willian	AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(69)	Nketiah(83)	Partey(83)	Elneny	M-Niles	Runarsson		C. Kavanagh			
	Thur 22	Rapid Vienna	2-1	CS	MD1	3,000	Leno	Cedric	David Luiz	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Partey	Pepe	LACAZETTE	Nketiah	Aubameyang(61)	Bellerin(61)	Tierney(84)	Willock(84)	Nelson(90)	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Runarsson	Macey	P. Kralovec
	Sun 25	Leicester City	0-1	CS	10	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Partey	Xhaka	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Mustafi(49)	Pepe(65)	Nketiah(81)	Elneny	M-Niles	Willock	Runarsson		C. Pawson		
	Thur 29	Dundalk		MD2	8pm																							
NOVEMBER	Sun 1	Manchester United				4.30pm																						
	Thur 5	Molde		MD3	8pm																							
	Sun 8	Aston Villa																										
	Sun 22	Leeds United				4.30pm																						
	Thur 26	Molde		MD4	5.55pm																							
	Sun 29	Wolverhampton Wanderers																										
DECEMBER	Thur 3	Rapid Vienna		MD5	8pm																							
	Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur																										
	Thur 10	Dundalk		MD6	5.55pm																							
	Sun 13	Burnley																										
	Wed 16	Southampton																										
	Sat 19	Everton																										
	T/W 22/23	Manchester City		QF																								
	Sat 26	Chelsea																										
	Mon 28	Brighton & HA																										
JANUARY	Sat 2	West Bromwich Albion																										
	T/W 5/6	Carabao Cup SF		SF																								
	Sat 9	FA Cup R3		3																								
	T/W 12/13	Crystal Palace																										
	Sat 16	Newcastle United																										
	Sat 23	FA Cup R4		4																								
	T/W 26/27	Southampton																										
	Sat 30	Manchester United																										
	T/W 2/3	Wolverhampton Wanderers																										
	Sat 6	Aston Villa																										
	T/W 9/10	FA Cup R5		5																								
FEBRUARY	Sat 13	Leeds United																										
	Thur 18	UEL R32 L1		R32																								
	S/S 20/21	Manchester City																										
	Thur 25	UEL R32 L2		R32																								
	S/S 27/28	Leicester City/CC Final																										
	Sat 6	Burnley																										
MARCH	Thur 10	UEL R16 L1		R16																								
	S/S 13/14	Tottenham Hotspur																										
	Thur 17	UEL R16 L2		R16																								
	S/S 20/21	West Ham United		FAC 6																								
	Sat 3	Liverpool																										
	Thur 8	UEL QF L1		QF																								
	S/S 10/11	Sheffield United																										
	Thur 15	UEL QF L2		QF																								
	S/S 17/18	Fulham		FACSF																								
	Sat 24	Everton																										
	Thur 29	UEL SF L1		SF																								
	S/S 1/2	Newcastle United																										
	Thur 6	UEL SFL2		SF																								
	S/S 8/9	West Bromwich Albion																										
MAY	T/W 11/12	Chelsea																										
	Sat 15	Crystal Palace/FA Cup Final																										
	Sun 23	Brighton & HA																										
	Wed 26	UEFA Europa League Final																										

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1. Everton	6	4	1	1	5	13
2. Liverpool	6	4	1	1	1	13
3. Aston Villa	5	4	0	1	7	12
4. Leicester City	6	4	0	2	5	12
5. Leeds United	6	3	1	2	3	10
6. Southampton	6	3	1	2	1	10
7. Crystal Palace	6	3	1	2	-1	10
8. Wolves	6	3	1	2	-2	10
9. Chelsea	6	2	3	1	4	9
10. Arsenal	6	3	0	3	1	9
11. Tottenham H	5	2	2	1	7	8
12. West Ham United	6	2	2	2	4	8
13. Manchester City	5	2	2	1	0	8
14. Newcastle United	6	2	2	2	-2	8
15. Manchester Utd	5	2	1	2	-3	7
16. Brighton & HA	5	1	1	3	-2	4
17. West Brom	5	0	2	3	-8	2
18. Burnley	4	0	1	3	-5	1
19. Sheffield United	6	0	1	5	-6	1
20. Fulham	6	0	1	5	-9	1

FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

PLAYER	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	20/21
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	6(1)	+1(1)	-	-	1(1)	7+1(3)
Hector Bellerin	6	+1	-	+1	1	7+2
Bernd Leno	6	1	-	2	-	9
David Luiz	5+1	1(1)	-	1	1	8+1(1)
Granit Xhaka	5+1	-	-	1	1	7+1
Gabriel	5(1)	1	-	1	-	7(1)
Kieran Tierney	5	+1	-	-	1	6+1
William	5	-	-	+1	-	5+1
Dani Ceballos	4+2	-	-	1+1	-	5+3
Alexandre Lacazette	4+1(3)	1	-	+1	-	5+2(3)
Bukayo Saka	4(1)	1	-	2	1	8(1)
Mohamed Elrny	3	1	-	1+1	1	6+1
Rob Holding	3	-	-	2	1	6
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	2+1	-	-	1+1	1	4+2
Eddie Nketiah	1+5(1)	1	-	2(1)	1	5+5(2)
Nicolas Pepe	1+5(1)	1	-	2	-	4+5(1)
Thomas Partey	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Sead Kolasinac	1	1	-	2	+1	4+1
Shkodran Mustafi	+1	-	-	-	-	+1
Cedric Soares	-	1	-	1	+1	2+1
Reiss Nelson	-	+1	-	1	+1	1+2
Joe Willock	-	+1	-	2	+1	2+2
Emiliano Martinez	-	-	-	-	1	1



NEW 20/21 HOME KIT
ON SALE IN-STORE & ONLINE





ARSENAL

MANAGER MIKEL ARTETA
RED SHIRTS WITH WHITE SLEEVES,
WHITE SHORTS AND SOCKS

P	S	SO	
00	🇩🇪	1	BERND LENO (GK)
00	🇪🇸	2	HECTOR BELLERIN
00	🇸🇬	3	KIERAN TIERNEY
00	🇫🇷	4	WILLIAM SALIBA
00	🇺🇸	5	SOKRATIS PAPASTATHOPOULOS
00	🇧🇷	6	GABRIEL
00	🇬🇧	7	BUKAYO SAKA
00	🇪🇸	8	DANI CEBALLOS
00	🇫🇷	9	ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE
00	🇩🇪	10	MESUT OZIL
00	🇧🇷	12	WILLIAN
00	🇸🇬	13	ALEX RUNARSSON (GK)
00	🇨🇮	14	PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG
00	🇬🇧	15	AINSLEY MAITLAND-NILES
00	🇬🇧	16	ROB HOLDING
00	🇵🇹	17	CEDRIC SOARES
00	🇮🇪	18	THOMAS PARTEY
00	🇮🇪	19	NICOLAS PEPE
00	🇩🇪	20	SHKODRAN MUSTAFI
00	🇬🇧	21	CALUM CHAMBERS
00	🇪🇸	22	PABLO MARI
00	🇧🇷	23	DAVID LUIZ
00	🇬🇧	24	REISS NELSON
00	🇪🇬	25	MOHAMED ELNENY
00	🇬🇧	28	JOE WILLOCK
00	🇬🇧	30	EDDIE NKETIAH
00	🇳🇱	31	SEAD KOLASINAC
00	🇬🇧	32	EMILE SMITH ROWE
00	🇬🇧	33	MATT MACEY (GK)
00	🇨🇮	34	GRANIT XHAKA
00	🇧🇷	35	GABRIEL MARTINELLI

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DUNDALK

MANAGERS FILIPPO GIOVAGNOLI & SHANE KEEGAN
WHITE SHIRTS WITH BLACK AND RED TRIM, BLACK SHORTS,
WHITE SOCKS

P	S	SO	
00	🇮🇪	1	GARY ROGERS (GK)
00	🇮🇪	2	SEAN GANNON
00	🇮🇪	3	BRIAN GARTLAND
00	🇮🇪	4	SEAN HOARE
00	🇮🇪	5	CHRIS SHIELDS
00	🇬🇧	6	JORDAN FLORES
00	🇬🇧	7	MICHAEL DUFFY
00	🇮🇪	8	JOHN MOUNTNEY
00	🇮🇪	9	PATRICK HOBAN
00	🇮🇪	10	GREGORY SLOGGETT
00	🇮🇪	11	PATRICK MCELENEY
00	🇮🇪	12	ANDREW QUINN
00	🇮🇪	15	DARRAGH LEAHY
00	🇮🇪	16	SEAN MURRAY
00	🇬🇧	17	NATHAN ODUWA
00	🇮🇪	20	AARON MCCAREY (GK)
00	🇮🇪	21	DANIEL CLEARY
00	🇮🇪	22	STEFAN COLOVIC
00	🇮🇪	23	CAMERON DUMMIGAN
00	🇮🇪	24	JAMIE WYNNE
00	🇮🇪	27	DANIEL KELLY
00	🇮🇪	29	DAVID MCMILLAN
00	🇮🇪	30	JIMMY CORCORAN (GK)
00	🇮🇪	44	ANDY BOYLE

TODAY'S FIXTURES

8pm unless stated

GROUP A

Roma v CSKA Sofia
CFR Cluj v Young Boys

GROUP B

Molde v Rapid Vienna

GROUP C

Slavia Prague v Bayer
Leverkusen
Nice v H. Beer-Sheva

GROUP D

Benfica v Standard
Liege
Rangers v Lech Poznan

GROUP E

Granada v PAOK
Salonika
Omonia Nicosia v PSV
Eindhoven

GROUP F

Real Sociedad v
Napoli
AZ Alkmaar v Rijeka

GROUP G

Zorya v Braga (5.55pm)
AEK Athens v Leicester
City (5.55pm)

GROUP H

Milan v Sparta Prague
(5.55pm)
Lille v Celtic (5.55pm)

GROUP I

Sivasspor v Maccabi
Tel Aviv (5.55pm)
FK Qarabag v Villarreal
(5.55pm)

GROUP J

Royal Antwerp v
Tottenham (5.55pm)
LASK Linz v
Ludogorets (5.55pm)

GROUP K

Feyenoord v Wolfsburg
(5.55pm)
CSKA Moscow v
Dinamo Zagreb
(5.55pm)

GROUP L

Gent v Hoffenheim
(5.55pm)
Red Star v Slovan
Liberec (5.55pm)



UEFA
EUROPA
LEAGUE





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