

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

# ARSENAL



**BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION**  
SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021 ■ 4PM ■ £3.50



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ARSENAL v BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION 23/05/21

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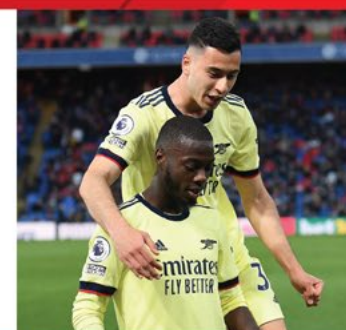
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**EDITOR** Andy Exley **DEPUTY EDITOR** Josh James **DESIGN MANAGER** Simon Wallis **DESIGNERS** Liam Warr, Owen Pinch, Edward Wilkinson  
**PHOTOGRAPHY** Stuart MacFarlane, David Price **CONTRIBUTORS** Aidan Small, Joanne Harney, Mike Hammond, Michael Cox, Michael Donlevy, Jon Spurling **THANKS TO** Fred Ollier **PRINTERS** Bishops Printers  
**COVER** Nicolas Pepe celebrates his double at Palace on Wednesday

# MIKEL ARTETA

We have got to the final day still in the fight for Europe, so let's win our game and see where that takes us.

**T**he reaction the team have shown since we went out against Villarreal has been really encouraging. The pain in the dressing room from that night still hurts and that's what we have been using in the final games to show everybody – and to show ourselves – that we could have done better. We said that we are not going to give up, that we want to challenge until the very last day, and to give Arsenal the chance to be in Europe next season and have that opportunity again to compete at that level.

So far we have done that, by winning our last four games, but there is still more work to be done.

We have to handle that situation. If somebody would

have told us in November or December that we could be in this position that we have – to have the chance in the last game to qualify for Europe, we'd have said you're crazy. But we're here. With the number of points that we've managed to get in those months, I think we have earned the right to be in this position. Now it's time to deliver on the final day.

It was a crucial win for us on Wednesday. We knew we had to win the game, but with the way it was developing, we were running out of time and it looked difficult. But at the end we found a way to do it.

You know that when you go to Selhurst Park, you're going to suffer in periods of the game. I think we controlled ▶





large periods of the game and we played the way we wanted to play. But that domination didn't give us enough chances with the situations that we created. We managed to score the first goal, but then we committed an unnecessary foul and conceded from it. After that we started to give balls away and started to play the game that they wanted to play where everything was about the duels, the long balls, the second balls, set pieces, and there we are in trouble.

I think with the changes we made, we managed to get a little bit away from that game and get back some control. We started to play much more in the final third, and Gabi made a really good action to score the goal.

We all know Gabi's mentality and approach to the game, and on Wednesday he took his chance. He has to grab every opportunity and he's always eager for more.

He's very close to starting in this side. He needs to keep fighting to be closer and closer. They are earning the right to play, and it's a joy to work with them and watch their development.

### ***"WE HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO BE IN THIS POSITION. NOW IT'S TIME TO DELIVER ON THE FINAL DAY"***

I thought Nico did really well against Palace as well. It's my feeling – and it's everybody's feeling in the coaching staff – and his own feeling, that he's come a long way this season. He hasn't had the consistency sometimes in the game time, but I think in Europe he's been terrific and in the Premier League he's started to show much more what he's like, and he's very hungry. I think he's changed a lot in his mentality and his willingness to do much more.

He has a serious mindset. He wants to look at every action, he wants to look at every post-match reflection we do with him individually. He wants to work and he wants to be the best. And when that happens and he has the talent that he has, I think it's a really good mixture.

I want to mention Roy Hodgson as well, and I thought it was great to have the fans in for them to say goodbye to him at the stadium. It was emotional and totally deserved for him. His career has been absolutely incredible, and it wasn't about that game, it was about his whole time in



management and everything he's achieved.

You saw me on the touchline at the end, you saw how happy I was with those late goals because they mean so much. And also when you're able to win a game in the last minute, it's extra pleasing because it shows how much the team want it and how much they believe up to the last whistle.

Let's not waste that work today. We know, unfortunately that it's not in our hands. But that means we need to forget about everything else that we can't control, just focus on ourselves, win our game and then hope.

Brighton showed in the week with their win over Man City what a strong side they are. They are in a good run and will have confidence coming here today. We know only a very strong performance will get us the result.

And we have got a huge helping hand today by having you, our fans, back alongside us in the stadium.

You saw the importance of that on Wednesday. It was touching just being in the dressing room before the game at Selhurst Park. Just listening to them singing, creating an atmosphere. This is how we've grown up, and as a player there's nothing better than that.

And that was with opposition fans! So I'm sure with our own fans behind us today, you will support the team and create again that strong connection that we really need.

I can't tell you how important it is to have you all on board with us. To have you really behind the team, because I'm sure we're going to have some really great moments together.

So welcome back home, get behind the boys, and enjoy the game. ■

# PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

The first thing I want to say is I can't wait to see and hear our fans back inside the stadium again this afternoon.

I've missed that so much – the energy that you give us all, the atmosphere, the feeling around the pitch. I'm a guy who really needs that and I'm so happy that some of you can come back today. It was great to have that atmosphere on Wednesday, even if we were playing away! You could see on the pitch that the home supporters really gave Palace a lift throughout that game.

It gave them an extra motivation, definitely, and they made it really tough for us in the game, especially after they got the equaliser.

I thought we started well and we should have scored a few more goals because we were controlling the game. It was a great move for the first goal. That's what we work on in training so it's always pleasing when we can do it in the games – and it was another great finish from Nico.

But after Palace scored we found it tough, and they defended very well I thought.

We kept going though. We spoke before the game about doing everything we can to get into Europe – until it becomes impossible for us. We want to do our talking on the pitch, so we have no option but to give everything until the end of the season.

I thought the team played really well in our last game here to beat West Brom, and then the victory against Chelsea was about hard work and commitment. We all worked for each other, defended as a unit, from the front to the back, and we got rewarded. Sometimes in a season you

need performances and games like that. You might not get many chances, and you have to take one if you do. That's what happened at Chelsea. We made the most of their mistake, I passed to Emile and he did the rest. From then it was about being organised and working for each other and putting the team first.

We wanted to keep that going at Palace, and that's maybe why we were able to find something right at the end. It was a great pass from Martin to find Gabi at the far post, and you saw how much it meant to us all in the celebrations.

Then Nico scored another – and what a goal that was too! He's been fantastic for us lately, and scored some big goals for us too. He's showing how important he is.

Now we have one game left, and it's up to us to get the





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## ***"I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THAT NOISE INSIDE THE EMIRATES ONCE AGAIN"***

win to give us a chance of getting back into Europe next season.

Personally I'm ready to give everything to make that happen. I spoke in my last programme notes about taking responsibility in the big games, and that's what I want to do. I know the team looks to me to get the goals, and I want to repay that faith.

It's been a really difficult season, for so many reasons, but if we can finish with a win today, and if other results go for us as well, then we can still have something to celebrate this afternoon. But more importantly it will give us something to build on next season. We have shown a good reaction after losing in the Europa League, because as you can imagine, that result hit us hard. We were focussed on that trophy all season, so to lose out the way we did hurt us all. We have responded since then, and we

can take that positive momentum into next season too.

I saw on social media that we have taken the second most points in the Premier League since Christmas, and that tells you what we are capable of and that we are moving in the right direction.

As I said, it's been a difficult season for me personally, and I am so determined to finish strongly this afternoon. I also want to keep up my record of scoring on the last day of the season, which I have done every year since I've been here so far.

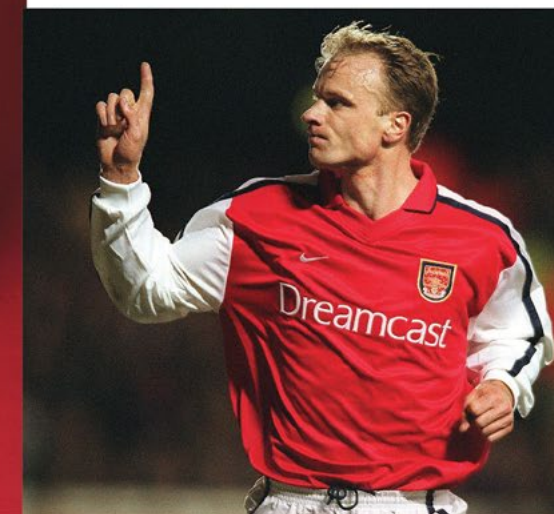
It can make a big difference to our summer if we can go away, knowing we gave everything we could until the very last minute.

So that's our aim today, and to have some of you back here today behind us will only make us stronger.

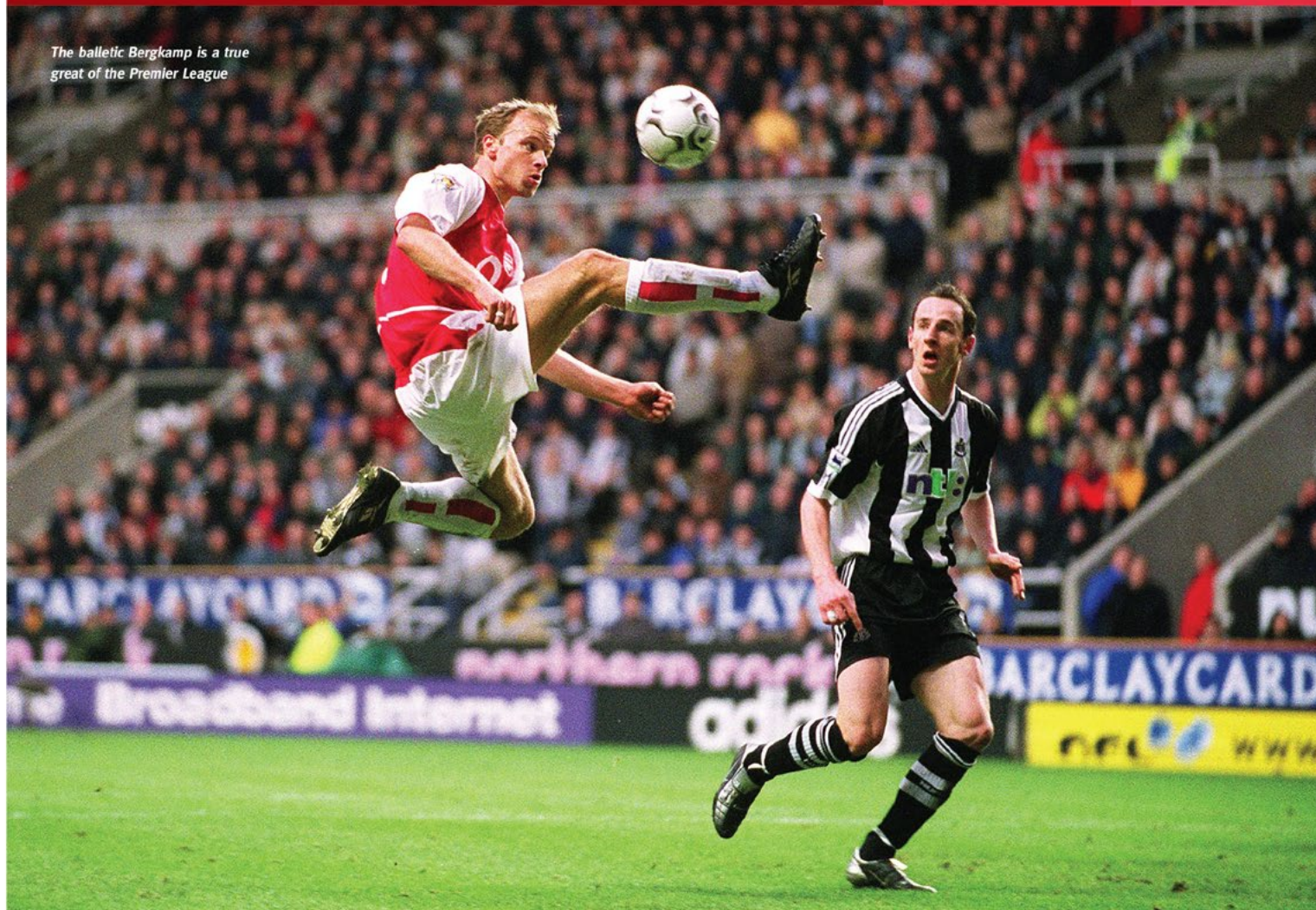
We've missed having you here so much, and I can't wait to hear that noise inside the stadium once again this afternoon.

On behalf of the whole team, thanks for your support. ■

# VOICE OF ARSENAL



The balletic Bergkamp is a true great of the Premier League



## CONGRATULATIONS DENNIS

**D**ennis Bergkamp has been inducted into the Premier League Hall of Fame.

The legendary Dutch striker becomes the sixth player to be named, joining his former Invincibles teammate, Thierry Henry, alongside Alan Shearer, Roy Keane, Eric Cantona and Frank Lampard. Bergkamp scored 87 goals in 315 Premier League appearances for us after signing from Inter Milan in 1995 – including arguably the greatest strike in Premier League history with his pirouette and finish at Newcastle in 2002. He also claimed 94 Premier League assists, a club record. Known as the ‘Iceman’, Bergkamp

flourished under Arsène Wenger and was a central figure as we won Premier League titles in 1998, 2002 and of course the Invincibles in 2004.

“I’m extremely proud if people say I was one of the first foreign players who added something to the English game,” Dennis told [premierleague.com](http://premierleague.com).

“The Premier League most definitely made me a better player. From the moment I arrived in England, I embraced the English mentality and passion for football, it suited me and my style of play.

“Playing every game against good and tough opponents meant I improved all the time. I enjoyed every minute of it.” ■

# TODAY'S PROGRAMME

**F**or those of you attending today's match, we hope you enjoy the complimentary programme and also the extra 1970/71 Double publication.

This special memento was originally created in a bespoke format for the players and families of the 1970/71 squad, to celebrate the 50-year anniversary. In all, 71 of those 'high spec' versions were printed. We subsequently thought that our supporters would also like to reminisce about such a special campaign, so have created a magazine version for those fans attending the match today.

Everyone at the programme would like to thank all supporters for continuing to purchase the publication through the pandemic, primarily via mail order – let's hope normal matchday service will be resumed in August.

Remember, every programme this season – men's and women's – is available on Arsenal Direct in the 'Memorabilia' section if you are missing any for your collection. The men's issues are priced at £5 including postage, the women's £4.

Lastly, we are already planning next season's issue and often the best ideas come from you, the fans. If you have any ideas for features that can run across a whole season, email us at: [programme@arsenal.co.uk](mailto:programme@arsenal.co.uk). ■



## ARSENAL TO PLAY HIBERNIAN

We're pleased to announce we will visit Easter Road on Tuesday, July 13 to play Hibernian in a pre-season friendly. The match will kick off at 6pm.

The game against the Scottish Cup finalists comes a few days before our already confirmed pre-season fixture against Rangers on Saturday, July 17 and forms part of a training camp for our men's first-team squad in Edinburgh. The training camp will run from Monday, July 12 through to the Rangers game.

Hibs, featuring former Gunner Matt Macey, finished the Scottish Premier League season strongly and played in the Scottish Cup final against St Johnstone yesterday and Mikel Arteta recognises the challenge north of the border:

"The matches against Hibs and Rangers will be good tests for us and we're looking forward to playing against two strong opponents. Pre-season is an important time for the squad and we're delighted to have this organised early so we can get the most out of the two matches and the week-long training camp."

Due to current restrictions relating to the coronavirus pandemic, away fans will not be able to attend the matches against Hibs and Rangers. More information, including how our supporters can watch the games, will be released in due course. ■

# ALWAYS TOGETHER

**T**he Arsenal Disabled Supporters' Association (ADSA) contacted us recently to tell us about their new banner: "We have produced a banner with photos of our members and would like to thank Sam @the-cannon who produced the artwork and Mark Brindle (Arsenal SLO) for his help. There has been a great deal of negativity and online abuse recently aimed at not only the players but also the club. ADSA wanted to show their support for the team and the club by having the slogan 'Always Together'. Let us ALL get behind the team by cheering them on." For more on ADSA please go to: [www.arsenaldisabledsupporters.co.uk](http://www.arsenaldisabledsupporters.co.uk).



## ARSENAL REMEMBERS

**JEETEN PATEL** – A lifelong Gooner who came to the end of his game at the premature age of 40. A true gentleman, missed by all who knew him, now has the best seat to watch his beloved Arsenal

**GODFREY CHARLES LOWEN** – Passed away May 2, 2021 aged 72. An Arsenal fan his whole life, he loved the club through and through and took me to my first game at Highbury in 1983. Very sadly missed. Love Jamie (son), Sarah (daughter) & (brother) Richard

**DAVID OAKENFOLD** – 58 years a Gooner, taken suddenly. David leaves behind his wife Julie and children Mitchell, Guy & Fay. Sadly missed by all the family, friends and especially his Arsenal loving cousins

**MICHAEL OLATUNDE FADAYOMI** – July 29, 1980 – April 29, 2021. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measures. To a real-life hero, father, brother and son. Rest in peace Tunde, you'll forever be missed but never forgotten

**WAYNE BERRY** - A lifelong Arsenal fan. Taken too soon from us. A heart of gold, one of the kindest men, always putting others before himself. Long live Wazza. Love Jude, Carly, Fleur, Nadine, Melissa, Bailey & Jamie xxx

## NOTICEBOARD

Wishing IMOGEN ZARA SMITH a very Happy 14th Birthday – With love from Mummy, Daddy, Granny, Grandad, uncle Ray & Rufus xxx

**TOTALISER: £838\***

## WELCOME ST ANNE'S

Arsenal Football Club are delighted to welcome a number of staff and residents from St Anne's nursing home in Finsbury Park to this afternoon's game. We're very thankful for your incredible work, and for the sacrifices you have made to help others during this most difficult year. ■

\*Donations for appearing on the Noticeboard

# THANK YOU DAVID

**T**oday marks a very special occasion for our company secretary, David Miles. This afternoon's game is his last as a full-time employee, as he retires from his role after 50 years loyal service.

David's last day is in fact on the 50th anniversary of joining the club, June 28, 2021 – having arrived when we were basking in the glory of our first Double.

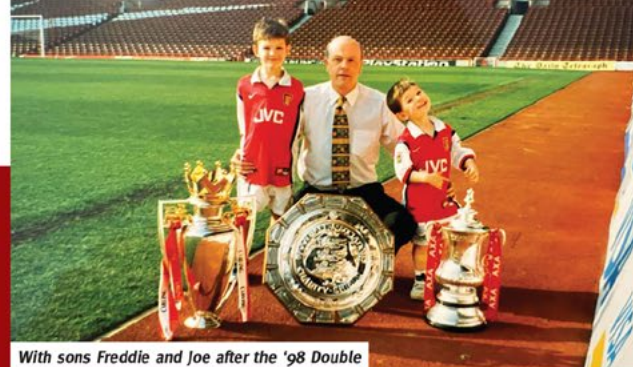
That was an achievement relished by Arsenal-mad David, as have been all of the 28 trophies we have won during his time with the club.



Sharing a joke with Arsène Wenger and Pat Rice



Young David



With sons Freddie and Joe after the '98 Double

landscape has changed beyond all recognition, including the advent of the Premier League, the challenges of regular European competition and the small matter of a stadium move across the borough. His calmness, clarity and organisation in a very complex role has been invaluable to Arsenal Football Club and our longest serving member of staff is not only hugely admired at Arsenal, he is one of the most respected figures in the game as a whole.

David's love of the Gunners remains undimmed and he won't be leaving us entirely – he will still be fulfilling a matchday role in the directors' box, where he has represented Arsenal in such exemplary fashion with the great and the good of the game over many years.

Speaking to the matchday programme earlier this week, Life President Ken Friar gave his thoughts on a great colleague and friend.

"I interviewed David for his position when he was 16 and over the subsequent 50 years, I can tell you that he has demonstrated the most remarkable loyalty I have ever known in a person – a truly wonderful servant for Arsenal Football Club.

"He really does have Arsenal blood running through his veins and has illustrated total dedication to this club. Many a time David would have returned home in the middle of the night – often from European games, where he has flown the flag for us so wonderfully – only to be working at his desk before 8am the following morning.

"He has been an excellent company secretary, possessing the many and varied qualities required for that position and is hugely respected within the game. And above all, David's a great guy.

"I'm delighted we will still see David on matchdays – and his wife Sue, who he met during their time working in the box office.

"I shall be there on June 28 to celebrate his 50-year anniversary and to thank him for providing such magnificent service to Arsenal Football Club." ■

David started with us in the club shop in 1966, working with Jack Kelsey, and after 18 months moved into the box office – being promoted to box office manager on his 21st birthday. In 1983, he became assistant to club secretary Ken Friar and when Mr Friar became managing director in 1996, David assumed the role of club and company secretary.

In his 25 years in that role he has helped guide the club as it has grown significantly and the footballing

## RETURN OF THE CANNON



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# ARSENAL ARE ELECTRIC

**T**he matchday programme recently caught up with sustainability and logistics manager, Mike Lloyd, to hear about the installation of new electric vehicle chargers at Emirates Stadium.

## Can you tell us a bit about the new initiative with Octopus Energy?

We have worked with our Official Energy Partner, Octopus Energy, to install three 7kW electric vehicle chargers in our stadium car park, offering 100 per cent renewable electricity to electric vehicle drivers on matchdays and for events at Emirates Stadium. These chargers are 100 per cent compatible with all electric vehicles.

## How does the installation of these chargers with Octopus Energy align with the wider sustainability goals of the club?

Arsenal and Octopus Energy have been working together for more than five years to make the club more sustainable. We are always striving to improve our infrastructure to support our sustainability objectives and this project with Octopus is the latest in a long line of initiatives the club is undertaking. With the support of Octopus, in 2016 we became the first Premier League club to switch to 100 per cent green electricity and together we have planted 500 trees at our London Colney

training centre, adding to the thousands of trees we have planted since 1999 to create Colney Wood. These are just a couple of the examples of the work we are doing with our partners in this space.

## Why is it important that Arsenal and Octopus Energy are making these provisions for electric cars within the stadium?

From a practical point of view, the installation of the chargers is very important to ensure we cater for our fans as electric vehicles become more widely used. As a Premier League football club with a huge global following, it's also crucial that we use our platform to promote green practices, inspire our communities and push each other towards a more sustainable future. This is just the beginning and hopefully as the numbers of electric vehicles on the roads increase we can match that with the facilities here at Emirates Stadium.

To celebrate the new chargers, Arsenal Under-15s goalkeeper Alexei Rojas Fedorushchenko interviewed first-team members Hector Bellerin, Pablo Mari and Bernd Leno about their views on sustainability, green energy and protecting the environment. Find out more at Arsenal.com/sustainability. ■



## GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK!

Everyone at Arsenal would like to wish Chris Harris and Connor Armstrong well as they move onto pastures new from the club's media team.

Chris has worked for Arsenal for close to 20 years, from the fledgling days of Arsenal.com, progressing to his current role of the club's managing editor. His knowledge of the game, journalistic excellence and approachability have made

Chris a hugely popular and respected colleague.

Connor, our social media producer, has been with the club for five years – in two spells after a brief flirtation with Liverpool FC – and has been a driving force behind much of the club's social media output. Like Chris, Connor is also a very talented journalist and respected greatly by his colleagues.

Thank you both for your outstanding contributions to Arsenal Football Club. Good luck for the future. ■



# COMING SOON: MY ARSENAL REWARDS



**F**or the 2021/22 season we are proud to introduce 'My Arsenal Rewards', our new rewards programme exclusively available to our members. Members will be able to earn My Arsenal Rewards points for their interactions with the club, such as purchasing tickets and attending matches. They can then turn their points into exclusive Arsenal-related rewards, prizes and money can't buy experiences.

Ahead of the 2021/22 season, all members will receive an upgraded My Arsenal Rewards membership card, which will work as an electronic matchday ticket, a rewards card and a payment card. The payment feature on your new My Arsenal Rewards card is powered by Pingit from Barclays. Once payment is activated the card can be used for online and offline purchases at Emirates Stadium, all club stores and anywhere that accepts Visa as a payment method\*.

My Arsenal Rewards will also enable members to earn points by spending at several affiliated high street and online brands, which will be announced soon.

If you're an Arsenal member, keep a look out for more information about My Arsenal Rewards, coming soon!

\*You will be able to pay for goods and services with your My Arsenal Rewards membership card wherever you see the Visa sign, online and in-store. To activate your membership card for Pingit for Clubs you must be 16 or older and a UK resident who is solely resident in the UK for tax purposes. A UK personal current account is required to register for Pingit for Clubs. If you choose not to activate your card for payment, your membership card will still provide access to your club. T&Cs apply. ■



### 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'S CUP WINNERS

1969/70

### EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP WINNERS

1993/94

### FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS

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

### ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB

75 Drayton Park, London, N5 1BU  
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### WEBSITE

www.arsenal.com

### EMAIL

programme@arsenal.co.uk

### TWITTER

@AFCProgramme

### DIRECTORS

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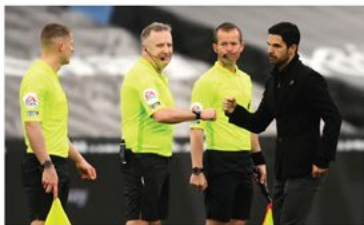
Vinai Venkatesham

### TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Edu

### MANAGER

Mikel Arteta



## REF WATCH

Jon Moss from Yorkshire is refereeing his fourth Arsenal game of the season this evening. He was on duty for our 1-0 home defeats against Manchester City and Everton and the eventful match at the London Stadium when we came back from 3-0 down to draw 3-3 with West Ham.

A very experienced official Jon is in his 11th season as a Premier League referee. ■

## NEXT SEASON

The highest we can finish this season is seventh, which would be enough to qualify for the UEFA Europa Conference League next season. For that to happen we must win and hope that **both** Tottenham and Everton fail to win, against Leicester and Manchester City respectively.

If Arsenal were to qualify, we would enter the ECL at the play-off round, played over two legs on August 19 and 26. The competition then follows the same format as the Europa League, with games played on Thursdays. The final will be held in Tirana, Albania on May 25 and the winners earn a place in the following season's Europa League.

As for the Premier League, next season starts on the weekend of Saturday, August 14 and will conclude on Sunday, May 22.

The fixture list will be published on Wednesday, June 16 at 9am. ■



## THANK YOU DAVID LUIZ

**A**fter two seasons with Arsenal, it was confirmed this week that David Luiz will leave the club when his contract expires at the end of the campaign.

Mikel Arteta worked closely with the Brazil international and says his influence on and off the pitch will be missed.

"He is a player that has won everything in football and has earned every right to do so because of who he is as a player and as a person. I had the privilege to work with him for 18 months, which I really enjoyed. We got on really well, we had some great moments together, he has been really helpful, someone that we really like and appreciate so much, so I just say thank you to him and wish him the best of luck in his next chapter because I am sure, knowing David, that he will have many more to come as a player, and in the future, somehow related to the game.

"When you get to know the person," continued Mikel, "his background, where he was raised in Brazil, what he's done to get to this point, it's remarkable. Then you understand a lot of these things have happened for a reason. It's not just an ability, a quality or determination, it's many other factors. I've really enjoyed learning from him. He's been very helpful every time with the team, and I feel sadness as well because you get attached to the players emotionally. First it's the player that we have to get the maximum out of, and then it's the person. When it gets to these stages, it's tough and it hurts because that relationship is now going to be going away at least in this space of not seeing him every day. Again, I have to say thank you to him." ■

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# 2020/21 SEASON STATS

## 2020/21 SEASON STATISTICS

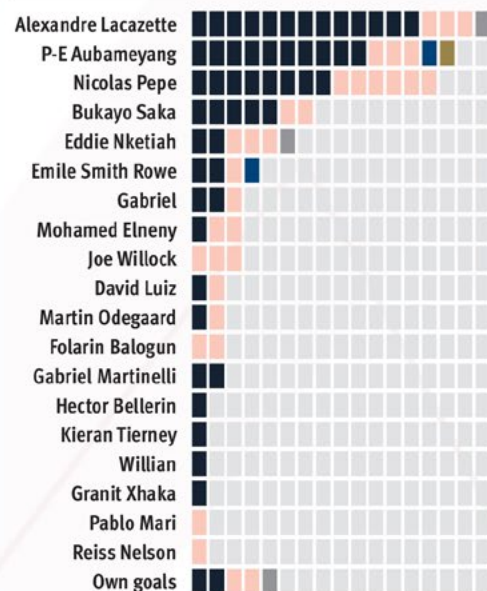
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Premier League	37	17	7	13	53	39
Europa League	14	9	3	2	33	13
FA Cup	2	1	0	1	2	1
Carabao Cup	3	2	0	1	3	4
Community Shield	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total	57	30	10	17	92	58

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	26	11	6	9	37	29
Away	30	18	4	8	54	28
Neutral	1	1	0	0	1	1

## LAST TEN SEASONS RECORDS

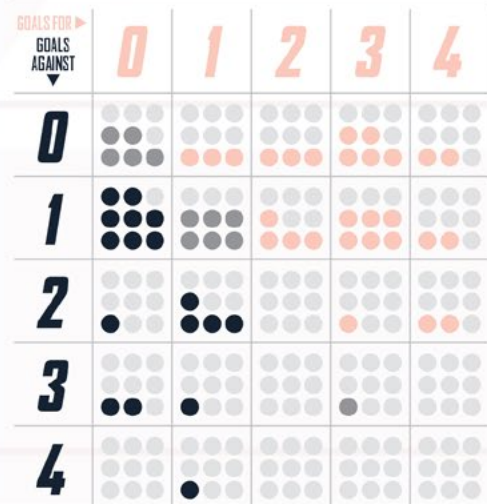
Season	P	W	D	L	F	A	Win%	GPG
2011/12	54	31	9	14	96	67	57.4	1.78
2012/13	53	29	12	12	105	60	54.7	1.98
2013/14	56	37	8	11	99	57	66.1	1.77
2014/15	56	35	11	10	109	53	62.5	1.95
2015/16	54	28	12	14	91	59	51.9	1.69
2016/17	55	35	8	12	121	65	63.6	2.20
2017/18	60	32	10	18	113	73	53.3	1.88
2018/19	58	35	8	15	112	71	60.3	1.93
2019/20	54	25	16	13	93	65	46.3	1.72
2020/21	57	30	10	17	92	58	52.6	1.61

## 2020/21 SEASON GOALS - ALL COMPETITIONS



■ = Prem ■ = UEL ■ = FAC ■ = CC ■ = Com. Shield

## 2020/21 SEASON SCORELINES



### 2020/21 SEASON APPEARANCES - ALL COMPETITIONS

Player	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	Apps
Bernd Leno	34	10	2	2	-	48
Nicolas Pepe	15+13	10+3	2	2+1	-	29+17
Bukayo Saka	30+1	8+1	+2	2	1	41+4
Granit Xhaka	28+2	10	1+1	1	1	41+3
Alexandre Lacazette	22+8	5+3	+2	1+1(1)	-	28+14
Mohamed Elneny	18+6	5+7	2	2+1	1	28+14
Dani Ceballos	17+8	6+6	-	2+1	-	25+15
Rob Holding	27+2	4+1	1	2	1	35+3
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	25+3	5+3	1	-	1	32+6
Willian	16+9	3+6	2	+1	-	21+16
Kieran Tierney	25+1	4+5	1	-	1	31+6
Hector Bellerin	24+1	6+1	1	+1	1	32+3
Emile Smith Rowe	17+2	7+4	+1	+1	-	24+8
Thomas Partey	17+6	6+2	+1	-	-	23+9
Gabriel	21+1	6	1	2	-	30+1
David Luiz	17+3	7	1	1	1	27+3
Eddie Nketiah	4+13	6+2	1	2	1	14+15
Cedric Soares	8+2	7+2	2	2	+1	19+5
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	5+6	5	+1	2+1	1	13+8
Gabriel Martinelli	7+6	+5	1	1	-	9+11
Martin Odegaard	8+5	5+1	-	-	-	13+6
Joe Willock	2+5	4+1	1	3	+1	10+7
Pablo Mari	10	5	1	-	-	16
Calum Chambers	7+2	3+3	-	-	-	10+5
Sead Kolasinac	1	4	-	3	+1	8+1
Shkodran Mustafi	+3	5	-	1	-	6+3
Reiss Nelson	+2	3+1	1	1	+1	5+4
Alex Runarsson	+1	4	-	1	-	5+1
Folarin Balogun	-	+5	-	+1	-	+6
Mat Ryan	3	-	-	-	-	3
Miguel Azeez	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Ben Cottrell	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Emiliano Martinez	-	-	-	-	1	1



33

**We used 33 different players this season and nine players made their debut**

# KIERAN

When Kieran Tierney pulled up with a knee injury against Liverpool on April 3, the left back immediately began to fear the worst.

**W**as his season over? Was his participation at the Euros now in doubt? But 'KT' took exactly the same level of determination and total commitment that he displays on the pitch every game, into his rehab. And with the help and expertise of the medical team, he managed to come back well ahead of schedule, missing just one month of action in the end.

In fact his comeback was accelerated even more at the very last hurdle, when he was thrown in to the starting line up at virtually the last minute, after Granit Xhaka picked up an injury in the warm-up prior to the Europa League semi-final second leg at home to Villarreal. Ultimately his night ended in disappointment, as we narrowly failed to make it to the final. It was, admitted Kieran, the biggest disappointment of his career to date. But he's already looking to the future – and the return of fans today can help herald a positive fresh start for the team, not to mention Scotland's first appearance at a major international tournament since 1998 coming up next month as well.

The matchday programme caught up with our 23-year-old full back at the start of the week to discuss his injury and comeback, while taking a look at what the next few months might hold.

**How are feeling at the moment, are you totally over the injury now?**

No, not totally, I'd say I've just done well to get back on the pitch already. Firstly I thought it was going to be

about six weeks but with the help of the medical team, I was back playing again at four and a half, which was really quick. So I'm still feeling it here and there but I'm nearly back fully.

**How did you manage to get back so quickly? How hard were you working to get back sooner?**

Well the physios were brilliant with me, especially Jordan Reece and Sam Wilson our sports scientist. The two of them worked closely with me every day. They pushed me to the boundaries every time and helped me through as there were some tough days when my knee was extra sore. They kept pushing me and kept my spirits up and got me back on the pitch.

**You said six weeks, but did you fear your season was over, and maybe the Euros at first?**

Yes that's obviously your first thought, that I will miss the rest of the season, and if I'd done that then I would miss the Euros as well probably. So you always think the worst, because it was terrible timing. But again, thanks to the rehab and the medical team, I was back in plenty of time.

**Talk us through what happened for your comeback, when you were drafted into the side to face Villarreal at the 11th hour...**

So on the Wednesday, the day before, that was the first day I had joined in training with the team. I had that one session, and felt OK, but still wasn't sure if I would make the squad. But then I was told I was on the bench, and ▶



**BORN** June 5, 1997, Douglas, Isle of Man  
**JOINED ARSENAL** from Celtic, August 8, 2019  
**PREVIOUS CLUBS** Celtic  
**DEBUT** v Nottingham Forest (h), League Cup, September 24, 2019 (won 5-0)  
**FIRST GOAL** v Watford (h), League, July 26, 2020 (won 3-2)  
**SCOTLAND CAPS** 19



## **"I NEVER PLAY WITHIN MYSELF – I ALWAYS GO IN FOR ALL THE CHALLENGES"**

might be able to get 10 or 15 minutes depending on what happened in the game. Or if not, just to be in the squad and be part of it. So then I was doing the pre-match warm up with Calum Chambers, and went back inside at the very end, after the shooting practice, still thinking I wasn't playing. Then I was in the dressing room and one of the coaches told me that Granit might be injured, so I could be needed. So I warmed up but didn't think much of it, expecting him to be fine, then about three or four minutes before the game I was told I was starting! I was obviously buzzing to be playing but a bit nervous at the same time because it was my first game back, and I'd only had one training session. But I had to do it, I put my body on the line and risked everything for the team. We

didn't get the result at the end, but on a personal fitness level it was encouraging for me to get through the game without any setbacks.

### **How did you approach the game, did you have to play within yourself at all?**

No the thing was I was taking Granit's role and the game plan had been with him starting of course. Normally I play high and wide, but with Granit the plan was for him to be sitting back a bit more. So I had to take on that position because there wasn't time to change the game plan. It was a straight swap. So it was a slightly different position to what I maybe usually have and that's why I was a bit more defensive than usual, because I never play within myself – I always go in for all the challenges and stuff like that.

### **As you say though, it was a disappointing result and one that leaves us facing up to the prospect of**

### **no European football next season...**

Yes, it will be the first season in my career I've not been in Europe and the first time at Arsenal for a long, long time as well so it's obviously not something we want to have against us or something we make a habit of. So if it does happen, we need to give 100 per cent for the fans and for the club to make sure it was just a one-off and it doesn't happen again any time soon.

### **The Europa League trophy had become our big priority, so how difficult was it to deal with that result?**

It was obviously a huge disappointment, and to be honest probably the biggest of my career so far. It was a big roller coaster of emotions, from being on the bench, to starting the game, and then not going through. There were a load of emotions after the game, we were all very down of course. Just a really sad night, so deflating. We're a group that wants to win, so it's so hard to take moments like that. The way we bounced back in the next couple of games though shows me that we're still fighting. That's all we can do at the moment. It's easy to talk and say what you want to do, but to go on the pitch

and show it – against the Champions League finalists – is what matters more, and it gives us hope for the future.

### **And with the Euros just round the corner, is that an extra motivation for you?**

Well of course I want to go into that competition fully fit, fully confident and with games under my belt. But to be honest the first priority is to finish the season strongly with Arsenal.

### **How confident are you about Scotland's prospects at the Euros?**

Yeah we've got a good group of players with a good manager, and it's something the country needed for a long time – a good group who can qualify for a major tournament. But now we have done that we don't want to stop there – of course we are pleased with what we've done but we don't want to rest on that, we want to make ourselves proud and most importantly the country proud now when we get there.

### **That England game on June 18 will be huge too...**

Yes it's a massive game, and as a Scotland player it



doesn't come much bigger than playing in an international tournament against England. It's huge for both sides. Of course England will start as favourites, as tournament favourites probably, but emotions will be high, so anything can happen. Of course I could be up against Bukayo, but to be honest I'm looking forward to it, whoever I'm up against, because they are all world-class players.

**"THE WAY I'VE TRIED TO MAINTAIN THE CONNECTION WITH THE FANS IS BY TRYING TO GIVE 100 PER CENT EVERY SINGLE TIME I PLAY AND TRYING TO REPRESENT THEM ON THE PITCH"**

**Finally, how pleased are you to be able to play in front of fans again at the Emirates today?**

For sure, I can't wait, because the fans have been brilliant for well over a year now, through everything that has gone on in the world, and have stayed behind us even when they haven't been able to get in the stadiums to support us. I think if the team and the fans can be together again then it can start something special, hopefully from next season. It's nearly impossible to keep the connection that we need to have with the fans, when they can't be inside the stadium. The way I've tried to maintain the connection with the fans is by trying to give 100 per cent every single time I play and trying to represent them on the pitch. It's hard though when you don't get to see them every weekend, so all I can do is give everything I have out on the pitch. But it will be great to have them here so we can show how much we appreciate that support.

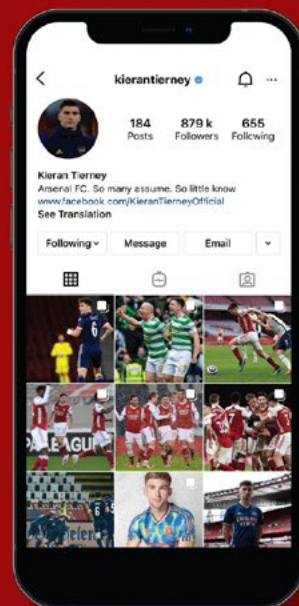
**Are you looking ahead already to next season, when hopefully we will be at full capacity again?**

Yeah it will be brilliant. It's obviously going to be a big summer for the club, we can hopefully start fresh and have a really positive start next season. We've got a good team, and a great manager so going forward if we have all our fans back in a full stadium, you never know what can happen. It's about being positive, looking to the future and all sticking together. ■



**FOLLOW ME**

Follow Kieran on Instagram! @kierantierney



# No room for racism anywhere

Arsenal and the rest of the Premier League will not tolerate racism, anywhere, and we are taking action to combat all forms of discrimination. But we can all do more.

Challenge it, report it, change it, and together we can make a positive impact. Visit [premierleague.com/noroomforracism](https://premierleague.com/noroomforracism) to find out more. #NoRoomForRacism

**Challenge it.  
Report it. Change it.**





3

SMITH ROWE 29,  
PEPE 35, WILLIAN 90



1

PEREIRA 67

MATCH STATS		
15	TOTAL SHOTS	12
7	SHOTS ON TARGET	1
6	CORNERS	6
1	OFFSIDES	2
7	FOULS	9
66	POSSESSION %	34

#### ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 21 CHAMBERS
- 6 GABRIEL
- 16 HOLDING
- 7 SAKA
- 8 CEBALLOS (76)
- 25 ELNENY
- 35 MARTINELLI (60)
- 32 SMITH ROWE (63)
- 12 WILLIAN
- 19 PEPE

#### SUBSTITUTES

LACAZETTE (60), TIERNEY (63), PARTEY (76), BELLERIN, CEDRIC, ODEGAARD, AUBAMEYANG, NKETIAH, RUNARSSON

#### WEST BROMWICH ALBION

- 1 JOHNSTONE
- 2 FURLONG
- 5 BARTLEY
- 6 AJAYI
- 14 TOWNSEND
- 18 GALLAGHER
- 10 PHILLIPS
- 35 YOKUSLU
- 7 ROBINSON (68)
- 12 PEREIRA
- 17 DIAGNE (56)

#### SUBSTITUTES

ROBSON-KANU (56), DIANGANA (68), PELTIER, O'SHEA, TAYLOR, LIVERMORE, GRANT, GARDNER-HICKMAN, BUTTON

## PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 35

7pm • Sunday, May 9 • Emirates Stadium

### FIRST HALF

It took some time to get going, and in fact it was the visitors who twice went closest in the early stages through the dangerous Matheus Pereira. We soon began to assert our dominance, with Bukayo Saka influential on the left, and on the half-hour mark it was no surprise that our opening goal was created by him. Following patient build-up play, Saka looked up and picked out Emile Smith Rowe, who had raced into the box and volleyed in on the run with his left foot. Five minutes later we doubled the advantage. Calum Chambers – enjoying another eye-catching display – fed Nicolas Pepe, who cut inside and curled a sensational strike into the top-left hand corner. We had further chances to add to our advantage before the break through Gabriel Martinelli, Chambers and Saka.

### SECOND HALF

We continued to pile forward after the interval, but out of the blue, the Baggies pulled one back when Pereira raced at our defence and fired a low shot into the corner. The goal offered the visitors hope, and we had some nervy moments during the closing stages. But in the 90th minute, Willian stepped up to curl a free kick into the top corner to wrap up the win, open his account for the club and relegate Sam Allardyce's side in the process. ■



MATCH ACTION

FIRST PAGE  
*Gabriel Martinelli is challenged by Semi Ajayi*

PREVIOUS PAGE  
*Emile Smith Rowe celebrates his first ever Premier League*

TOP  
*Nicolas Pepe smashes a perfect shot into the top corner*

MIDDLE LEFT  
*Bukayo Saka gets in a tangle with Darnell Furlong*

MIDDLE RIGHT  
*Willian crashes home his first Gunners goal*

BOTTOM LEFT  
*Emile crashes home the opener*

BOTTOM RIGHT  
*Willian is all smiles after his perfect free-kick*



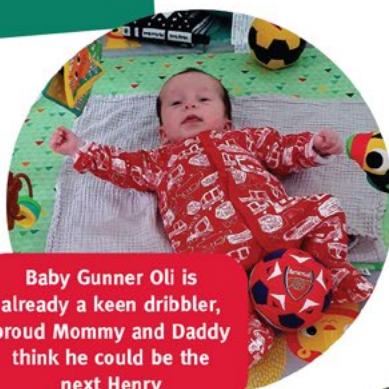
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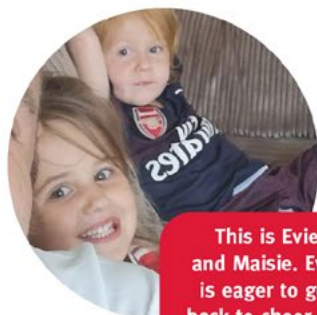
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**Juni  
GUNNERS**

# ON PARADE



Baby Gunner Oli is already a keen dribbler, proud Mommy and Daddy think he could be the next Henry



This is Evie and Maisie. Evie is eager to get back to cheer the Arsenal on and Maisie still awaiting her first time!



Naoise recently broke her femur but she had to get an Arsenal jersey sent down to the hospital when she was in!



Lockdown has been so hard for lots of kids but James has been out nearly every day in all weather through the winter training hard

If you'd like to feature in JGs on Parade send your photos to JuniorGunners@Arsenal.co.uk or tweet to @JuniorGunners



**ALWAYS  
AHEAD  
OF THE  
GAME**



**WTOW WELCOME,  
LEO!**

Leo's going to be a big Arsenal fan just like his dad.

Would you like to welcome someone to our world? Send a photo to [JuniorGunners@arsenal.co.uk](mailto:JuniorGunners@arsenal.co.uk) and let us know all about them



WTOW membership is for our youngest fans aged 0-3 years. As a WTOW member your little one gets access to fun competitions, special events and loads of other benefits including Gunners' Membership pack! Find out more at [Arsenal.com/Membership](https://www.arsenal.com/Membership)

GET INVOLVED!



## BIG SPRING GIVEAWAY

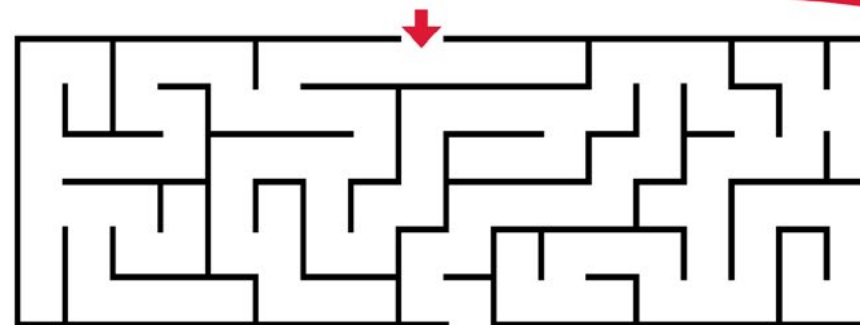
There's still a chance to enter one of our biggest ever competitions! As we're giving away over 50 prizes to Junior Gunners.

You could win player signed items, limited edition club merchandise, Arsenal toys, games and more.

Head to [arsenal.com/juniorgunners](https://arsenal.com/juniorgunners) or download the JG app to find out more



## BEAT THE MAZE



## TODAY'S VIRTUAL MASCOT



Name: Charlie

Charlie is a passionate Arsenal fan who wants to follow in the footsteps of his heroes as he starts playing matches this summer. His favourite players are Aubameyang, Lacazette and Pepe.

Find out how you could be our next virtual mascot at [arsenal.com/juniorgunners](https://arsenal.com/juniorgunners) or download the JG app

# OUR 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's emergency Covid fund has helped a huge number of local charities provide food, shelter and support during the pandemic. And this is what else The Arsenal Foundation has been doing to help our community...

**T**he Covid-19 pandemic quickly brought our usual face-to-face delivery to a halt, but it was vital to ensure that even though we were physically apart from our community we were still able to support them.

From the outset we worked closely with our local councils in Camden, Islington and Hackney. We wanted to play our part in making the machine move faster.

It was clear that food poverty was an urgent focus. The long-standing relationships we've built up with our local councils and the charity His Church meant we could respond quickly and on a large scale. His Church specialises in providing charitable solutions for residual stock and we've partnered with them since 2016. In April 2020 our first delivery of 30,000 meals arrived into Islington.

Our deliveries then expanded to include other essentials such as toilet paper, shower gel and sanitary products, as well as sustenance to local hospitals to support staff working in full PPE.

The project soon became a collective endeavour of the wider Arsenal family. Shkodran Mustafi donated 16,000 meals on his 28th birthday, while The 100 Club made a donation too. There was also large-scale support from fans, and the Arsenal Vision podcast rallied listeners to donate £10,000 to fund another delivery.

Arsenal in the Community staff had been volunteering to



Delivering free meals to Islington



A huge team effort

unpack and organise deliveries, and by May they had reinforcements as students from our Kicks programme were trained and enrolled by Islington Council to support distributing the food. Then, working with our Stadium Management team, we turned the Emirates Stadium concourse into a pantry to host Islington's food distribution centre from June until August.

**When we first started delivering food and emergency supplies into our local boroughs, we didn't have a target or timeline in mind.** We were simply responding to the needs of our community and had agreed to do so until that need was met. As support grew from the wider Arsenal family, we realised our impact was providing vital support to our community and bringing people together. To date we have delivered 521,428 free meals into Camden, Islington and Hackney, which equates to around 219 tonnes of food.

While we hope we never have to provide such a service again, we're not naive to the fact that food poverty remains a huge issue. As a result of our Covid-19 response, we've been invited to join the Islington Food Poverty Network and we're exploring the possibility of setting up local food cooperatives as a more sustainable solution.

The cooperatives will pool buying power and purchase directly from suppliers to provide the community with food at more affordable prices. We hope this initiative will become the long-lasting legacy of Arsenal's community response to Covid-19. ■

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# CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY

Football historian **Jon Spurling** looks at the evolution of Arsenal players' positions – past and present

## VAN ON THE MOVE

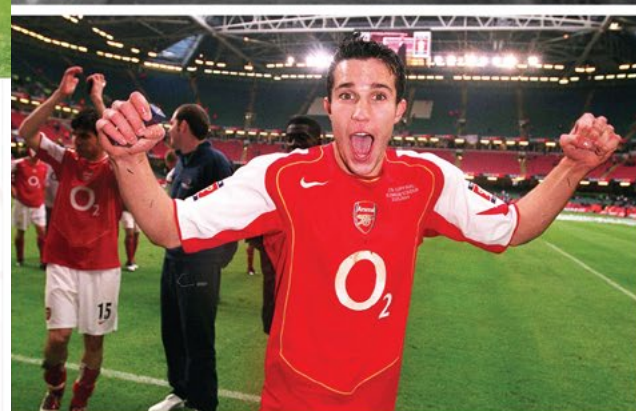
**T**he vibe surrounding the prodigiously gifted young Feyenoord left winger Robin van Persie was sensational. Manager Bert van Marwijk explained: "Robin is such an amazing footballer. He hardly needs any space or time to become dangerous." After a troubled 2003/2004 campaign, during which the player and his manager regularly clashed, Arsenal swooped to sign him for a bargain £2.75 million, just over half of Feyenoord's original asking price. Gunners' boss Arsène Wenger insisted: "Robin has touch and anticipation, and he will be able to play in any offensive position for Arsenal. He can play on the left side of midfield, as a creative player behind the main strikers or as a target man." Wenger later revealed that it was always his plan to convert his new signing into a centre forward, and during his eight season tenure in N5, the Dutchman excelled in multiple roles up front for the club.

Keen to blood his new signing in slowly, Wenger deployed van Persie as a supporting forward during cup matches in the 2004/2005 campaign, and he scored his first Gunners goal in a 2-1 win away at Manchester City in October. Van Persie replaced Dennis Bergkamp as lone striker to score twice as a substitute in the 3-0 FA Cup semi-final win against Blackburn at the Millennium Stadium.

Both were opportunist strikes, sublimely executed, and Wenger enthused: "Here I think that perhaps we see the future, with Robin able to operate very strongly as a lone striker when the occasion demands." For the next two campaigns, the Dutchman operated as supporting striker to Thierry Henry, and scored what Wenger described as "the goal of a lifetime" against Charlton at the Valley, when he volleyed home spectacularly from 30 yards.

After Thierry Henry departed in 2007, van Persie assumed the role as Arsenal's main striker, and after Emmanuel Adebayor left for Manchester City in 2009, he frequently operated as the main man in Wenger's 4-3-3 system. Although a succession of injuries regularly interrupted his progress, van Persie flourished, and grew more prolific as time went by. In the 2010/11 season, he hit a hot streak early in the new year, scoring his first career





hat trick against Wigan, and a brace of goals against both Wolves and Newcastle United. The ten goals he plundered between January 1 and February 12 set a new Premier League record for the most goals scored in the first two months of a calendar year. In the 2011/2012 campaign, with van Persie finally injury free and frequently operating as a lone striker, his goal to game ratio improved further. His litany of goals that season lives long in the memory. The Dutchman destroyed Chelsea at Stamford Bridge in October, scoring a hat-trick as Arsenal ran out 5-3 winners. Arguably the pick of the bunch was his final goal, when he latched onto a Mikel Arteta pass and slammed the ball past Petr Cech from a tight angle. From Alex Song's lofted pass, van Persie volleyed home superbly to win the game against Everton as Arsenal celebrated their 125th birthday at the Emirates Stadium in December. In late February, with Arsenal needing a win over Tottenham to close the gap on the top four, van Persie's bewitching turn and curling shot drew the two sides level, and inspired Arsenal's stirring second half display which saw Wenger's

### **"ONE OF THE MOST VERSATILE AND POSITIONALLY AWARE PLAYERS OF THE MODERN ERA"**

men run out 5-2 winners. At Anfield a few weeks later, an emphatic header from Bacary Sagna's cross, and a coruscating left foot volley in the 92nd minute saw Arsenal win the match 2-1. With Arsenal qualifying for the Champions League, van Persie had signed off at the club (he joined Man United that summer) with a 30-goal Premier League haul, scoring 132 goals in all for the club.

After a spell at Fenerbahce in Turkey, he returned home to Feyenoord for a final season in 2018/2019 before moving into coaching and he is currently an assistant manager at his boyhood club. In a career that even saw van Persie turn out in central midfield on several occasions, Arsène Wenger once claimed that the Dutchman was "one of the most versatile and positionally aware players of the modern era." ■

#### **FIRST PAGE**

*One of many goal celebrations at the Emirates*

#### **OPPOSITE PAGE**

*Scoring the first goal against Barcelona in a famous 2-1 win*

#### **ABOVE**

*A 2005 FA Cup winner. He took – and scored – a first ever penalty in the shoot out*

#### **TOP**

*Dave Bowen skipping the Gunners at Leicester in 1958*

## **CAPTAIN'S CALLING**

**T**he Glamorgan-born Dave Bowen arrived at Highbury in 1950 from Northampton Town as a left winger, but was soon converted to a deeper wing half, with manager Tom Whittaker believing that Joe Mercer's illustrious career was winding down. In fact, due to Mercer's longevity (he skippered the club to the league title in 1953), Bowen had to wait patiently, appearing only sporadically until 1954, when Mercer retired. Bowen's impassioned performances in the No 6 shirt throughout the mid to late '50s made him a crowd favourite, and Bowen was deservedly made skipper during the 1957/58 campaign. In a period when Arsenal failed to recapture the glory of previous eras, Bowen's wholehearted approach was one of the few consolations for Gunners fans. ■

# FOURTEEN TIMES

## EDDIE'S SHIRT FIRST

Last August we lifted the FA Cup for a record-extending 14th time. But it's not just our rich, illustrious history in football's oldest knock-out competition that is synonymous with the number 14. The club has many other links with the number, and we conclude our series by looking at the first time an Arsenal player wore 14.

Before squad numbers were introduced, the number 14 shirt was first worn by a substitute – typically the second player introduced that game.

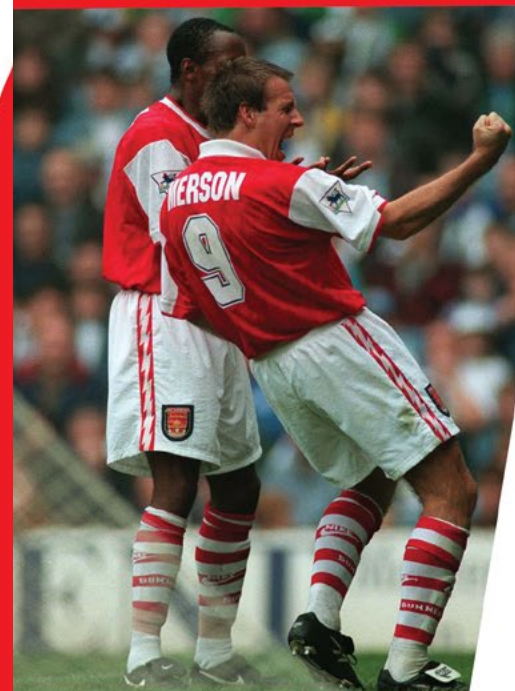
Substitutions were first brought into the English league in 1965/66, and for the first two seasons each team were only allowed a maximum of one sub per game, and only then when a

### BOTTOM LEFT & RIGHT

*Young Eddie Kelly had the honour of wearing what became a very famous number for the very first time*

### TOP RIGHT

*Paul Merson celebrates opening the scoring against Leeds with fellow goalscorer Ian Wright*



OCT 1995

14

## IT HAPPENED ON THE 14TH...

**LEEDS 0-3 ARSENAL**

In one of Bruce Rioch's early games in charge, Dennis Bergkamp scored his first away goal for the club as he began to show he had settled in to life in London. Rioch's eight-game unbeaten start to life at Highbury had ended in the previous league game against Chelsea, but following a 5-0 thumping of Hartlepool in the League Cup, we turned in an excellent performance to see off Leeds. Paul Merson scored from long distance at the end of the first half, then Bergkamp flicked home the second before Ian Wright rounded off the scoring with an excellent chip over John Lukic.

player was injured.

Alan Skirton became our first ever sub, wearing the number 12 shirt, 11 games into the 65/66 campaign, when he replaced Jon Sammels during a 1-1 draw at home to Northampton on September 28, 1965.

Two subs were not allowed in league football until 1987, but two replacements had been permitted in European football much earlier than that.

The first time Arsenal called up two substitutes in a game, and the first time a player had sported the number 14 shirt for us, was in the Fairs Cup first round, first leg match at home to Northern Irish side Glentoran, on September 9, 1969.

Sammy Nelson had already come on for Bob McNab before Bertie Mee then introduced Eddie Kelly, with David Court making way.

Kelly, aged 18, had made his debut just three days earlier – at home to Sheffield Wednesday in the league – also as a sub for Court.

He went on to have a long, successful Gunners career, and his experience as a sub came in handy. He became the first player ever to score off the bench in an FA Cup final, netting our equaliser against Liverpool in 1971 as we completed the double. The previous year he scored in the Fairs Cup final against Anderlecht as we won our first ever European honour.

It was still very rare for a team to make two subs during a game right through until the late 1980s. The first sub took the 12 shirt and the second took number 14, as the superstitious usually wanted to avoid number 13. It was when substitute goalkeepers became commonplace that the No. 13 shirt was used more often.

Since squad numbers were introduced in 1993/94 we have had a No. 14 play for us every season except 2007/08, following Thierry Henry's departure. ■



# COMMUNITY



All smiles for Ross McConnell on the Arsenal Gap Programme

## ARSENAL GAPPERS – 2020/21

Seventeen participants from Islington, the UK and beyond joined the club in October as part of the Arsenal Gap Programme, ready to undertake a journey that would see them gain qualifications, knowledge and experience leading and supporting sessions across Arsenal Community projects. Despite a heavily disrupted year, the group have shown a real commitment to make the most of the opportunity to develop themselves and have helped to make a real difference in the community.

Thank you to all the Arsenal Gap Programme participants for your hard work this season!

**"I HAVE BEEN WELCOMED IN TO A COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE PUSHING ME TO SUCCEED. OUR COACHES AREN'T JUST THERE TO TEACH FOOTBALL AND COACHING SKILLS, THEY'VE REALLY SUPPORTED ME THROUGH PERSONAL STRUGGLES TOO. I NOW FEEL MUCH MORE CONFIDENT PUSHING MYSELF TO STEP OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE"**  
(AMY MITCHELL)

**"THERE HAVE BEEN SOME TOUGH DAYS THIS YEAR SO GETTING THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO OUT AND REPRESENT ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB HAS REALLY MEANT A LOT TO ME"** (GRAEME HAWKINS)

**"WE HAVE HAD LOADS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN; LEARNING FROM DEDICATED AND EXPERIENCED COACHES IS A PLEASURE AND A DREAM!"** (CHRIS LENCE)

**"IT'S BEEN A REALLY TOUGH YEAR FOR EVERYONE, BUT IT HAS MASSIVELY HELPED TO FEEL LIKE PART OF A TEAM. THE GAP PROGRAMME HAS PROVIDED ME WITH A FOCUS AND ALLOWED ME TO KEEP LEARNING OVER LOCKDOWN. IT'S DEVELOPED ME AS A COACH AS WELL AS A PERSON"** (ROSS MCCONNELL)

**"GIVEN THE UNIQUE & CHALLENGING YEAR WE HAVE ALL ENCOUNTERED, THE GAP YEAR COACHES HAVE EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS. MANY WERE HAPPY TO STEP OUTSIDE OF THEIR COMFORT ZONES AND CHALLENGE THEMSELVES TO SUPPORT A VARIETY OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES. WE HAVE SEEN THE POSITIVE IMPACT MADE ON MANY COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS THROUGHOUT THIS PANDEMIC, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS".**

**ADAM HENRY (GAP YEAR COORDINATOR)**

If you would like more information on our Gap year, please contact Adam at [ahenry@arsenal.co.uk](mailto:ahenry@arsenal.co.uk)



Gapper Amy Mitchell (centre) at the Emirates



Graeme Hawkins



Chris Lence (right)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Arsenal in the Community's Twitter account @AFCCommunity highlight some of this month's community work...

**THE #PLPRIMARYSTARS TEAM ARE ALL SET UP AND READY FOR Y4 PE AT @RHYLPRIMARY THIS AFTERNOON! @PLCOMMUNITIES @CAMDENCOUNCIL**



0



1

SMITH ROWE 16

MATCH STATS		
19	TOTAL SHOTS	5
5	SHOTS ON TARGET	2
9	CORNERS	1
4	OFFSIDES	2
7	FOULS	6
68	POSSESSION %	32

#### CHELSEA

- 1 KEPA
- 24 JAMES
- 28 AZPILICUETA (78)
- 6 THIAGO SILVA
- 15 ZOUHA
- 21 CHILWELL
- 5 JORGINHO
- 23 GILMOUR (46)
- 19 MOUNT
- 10 PULISIC
- 29 HAVERTZ (65)

#### SUBSTITUTES

HUDSON-ODDI (46), GIROUD (65), ZIYECH (78), ALONSO, WERNER, EMERSON, ANJORIN, LIVRAMENTO, WENDY

#### ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 3 TIERNEY
- 22 MARI
- 16 HOLDING
- 6 GABRIEL
- 25 ELNENY
- 18 PARTEY
- 7 SAKA (65)
- 32 SMITH ROWE
- 14 AUBAMEYANG (79)
- 11 ODEGAARD

#### SUBSTITUTES

BELLERIN (65, 68), LACAZETTE (79), CHAMBERS (88), RYAN, CEDRIC, CEBALLOS, WILLIAN, PEPE, MARTINELLI

## PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 36

8.15pm • Wednesday, May 12 • Stamford Bridge

### FIRST HALF

Pablo Mari – one of our three centre-halves in a new look formation – was caught in possession to gift Chelsea an early chance. Kai Havertz nicked the ball off the Spaniard's toes to race away on goal, but he blazed over when one-on-one. It was Chelsea's turn to hand out the gifts next though. Jorginho's wayward backpass put Kepa in difficulty. The keeper managed to palm away from his own goalline, but Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang was lurking to pull the loose ball back to Emile Smith Rowe and his low shot squirmed in off the post. Rob Holding made a superb close-range block from Mason Mount's shot to keep us ahead, but Chelsea kept knocking on the door, drawing two smart stops from Bernd Leno.

### SECOND HALF

The hosts continued to pin us back after the break but we remained organised although Christian Pulisic did have a goal disallowed for a clear offside after VAR intervened. Hector Bellerin was introduced and immediately shot tamely at goal after good build up play involving Martin Odegaard. The Norwegian then blazed over from a promising position. Chelsea piled forward late on and hit the woodwork twice in succession in injury time. But we were rewarded for an excellent defensive effort with a 1-0 win, securing our first double over the Blues since 2003/04. ■



MATCH ACTION

FIRST PAGE

Match winner Emile Smith Rowe takes a shot at goal

PREVIOUS PAGE

Goalscorer and provider embrace

TOP

England v Scotland. Kieran Tierney takes on Reece James

MIDDLE LEFT

Thomas Partey shields the ball from Callum Hudson-Odoi

MIDDLE RIGHT

The skipper is too strong for Thiago Silva

BOTTOM LEFT

Emile squeezes in the winning goal

BOTTOM RIGHT

A crucial late save from Bernd Leno



Emile  
GAME DAY

AVAILABLE IN-STORE & ONLINE

PRE-MATCH JERSEY ANTHEM JACKET PRE-MATCH JERSEY ANTHEM JACKET PRE

PS4

PLAY ONLINE  
WITH PLAYSTATION PLUS

WIN AS ONE



FIFA 21



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CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE [www.ea.com/games/fifa/fifa-21/game-play-disclaimers](http://www.ea.com/games/fifa/fifa-21/game-play-disclaimers) FOR DETAILS.



DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG

GUNNERS

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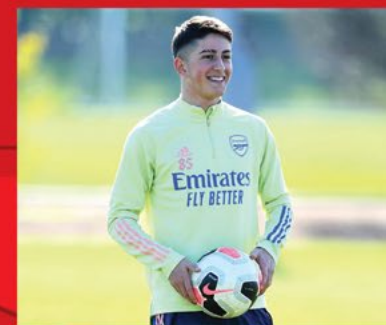
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Goals, goals, goals

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Appearance data



# YOUNG GUN

# LUIGI GASPAR

TALKING TO Aidan Small

**BORN**  
Reino Unido, Brazil,  
March 11, 2004

**YEAR JOINED ARSENAL**  
2019

**POSITION**  
Central midfielder

**HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**  
177cm and 70kg



**M**y life has been surrounded by football for as long as I can remember. I was even born during the Invincibles season when my dad [Edu] was playing for the first team and I've got so many good memories that we've shared together as a family.

I used to love watching my dad play football as a kid, and one of my earliest memories is quite a funny story now. It was back in 2008 and my dad was at Valencia. They were about to take the team photo before the game and that's when I decided to run on the pitch and join them! I just wanted to be part of the team. The security ran onto the pitch, picked me up and took me off!

We moved back to Corinthians when I was five and that's when my football journey really started. All of my friends played football growing up. That's the way it is in Brazil, and obviously because my dad played football too, it's always been something I love and something that's pushed me. For as long as I can remember I've just loved sports. I used to play a lot of tennis when I lived in Valencia too. I used to play with my friend a few times a week and back then it was only for fun, only for joy and something to do after school.

Anyway, I kept playing football for this small team in my

local area and one day they hosted this tournament. I was only seven at the time, but the coaches came over to me and my dad and said that it was too easy for me already. I was scoring 20 goals in four games and things like this, so they told me to go to a club and I eventually went to Corinthians for a trial. It was actually for the Futsal team first. And after

**"I WAS SCORING 20 GOALS IN FOUR GAMES AND THINGS LIKE THIS"**

the first week they said they wanted to keep me.

I stayed there throughout most of my youth career, until the speculation started that we would move to England as a family. In that first moment, I wanted to stay in Brazil because I had a contract with Corinthians and I was in a really good moment on the pitch. But after some discussions between the two clubs, I came to Arsenal on trial for a month and they decided they wanted to keep me. I scored on my first game for the U-16s at the start of the season and a few months later I was offered a scholarship. That was amazing.

I felt like I had more pressure on me and that I had to prove myself a little more because everyone knows who my

dad is, but to be fair, I've had this throughout my life. It was like this at Corinthians too and my family have worked so hard to make sure my head is switched on with these things. It was all about being sensible, measured and mature, because I know some people will think I'm only here because of my dad. But I know that it's down to my football, because a lot of talented players have come to Arsenal on trial and not received an offer, so it's important to remind myself that I have earned my place here.

As for my style of play, growing up in Brazil I used to be a striker. But as I got older, the coaches started pushing me further back. For a while I was a No 10 and then I was a No 8, but then things changed even more when I arrived here.

We had an U-16s game against Chelsea and my coach played me as a No 4. We won 3-2 and I think it was my best game for Arsenal. It changed my life because it was the moment that Per gave me a scholarship, and I was so grateful for that. I've since stayed as a defensive midfielder.

I ended up playing 17 games in a row for the U-16s, so I was really confident as a player and I felt like I'd improved a lot thanks to my coaches. I love the battles and intensity in the middle of the park, so I'm really happy there right now.

Wearing that Arsenal shirt for the first time was amazing. I've grown up my whole life surrounded by the Arsenal badge and seeing my dad's kits at home and on the walls, so to finally have one of my own was special. I was nervous that day. Not only to represent Arsenal, but also because English football is so different. It's so much quicker and more physical here, so I knew I had to adapt quick. Scoring after 15 minutes certainly helped me relax!

This season I was really hoping to kick on but I've been really unlucky with injury and I've only been able to get on the pitch over the past couple months. I had three injuries this season and they all happened in the same place; my hamstring. It's been frustrating for me, but there have also been a lot of positives too. In Brazil, we don't do as much gym work compared to England, so during my rehab I've really used my time wisely to get bigger, stronger and fitter because I wasn't as strong as some of the other boys when I joined. It's a shame that the season has come to an end just as I'm fully fit, but I was still able to start two games for the under-18s and make my debut for the U-23s. Now I'm desperate to kick on and in future, who knows, maybe I can wear the No. 17 shirt for the first team, just like my dad did. ■



## LUIGI GASPAR LOWDOWN

**First footballer I looked up to** Edu

**Favourite shirt I've owned**  
Corinthians season 2011 third kit

**Best friend in football**  
Marcelo Flores

**Team supported as a child**  
Corinthians

**Best goal of all-time** Neymar Jr  
season 2011 in Santos

**Important non-playing attributes  
for young footballers** Be ready, work  
hard, because your time will come

**Best player I've faced** Guilherme  
(Biro) Corinthians

**Best game I've had**  
Arsenal U16, 3-2 win v Chelsea

**Best piece of skill I've done in a  
game** Rainbow flick

**Best moment of my career so far**

## RATE YOURSELF

SPEED	80
SHOOTING	85
DRIBBLING	70
STRENGTH	75
PASSING	90
DEFENDING	80

My debut for Arsenal

**One stadium I'd like to score in**  
Emirates Stadium

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

**If I could completely change  
position** I'd be a striker

**Best training ground tip** Do your job  
but be yourself

**A player to score a one-on-one to  
save your life?** Neymar Jr

**Another sport I'm good at** Padel

**Best goal I've scored** Corinthians v  
Sao Paulo 2015 in the top bins

**Biggest lesson you've learnt off  
the pitch at Arsenal** Humility

## ME

**Favourite footballer of all-time**  
Ronaldo R9 (right)

**Favourite follow on Instagram** Mc  
Kevin / Wesley Alemão

**Most played Spotify artist** KayBlack

**Favourite pre-match song** In general  
I listen to Pagode or Samba

**Best football attribute** Passing

**One thing I want to do in my  
football career** Win the World Cup

**First-team player I look up to most**  
The Brazilian boys

**Something not many people know  
about me** I love playing poker

## AROUND THE ACADEMY

**Will definitely make it** Miguel Azeez

**Most skills** Omari Hutchinson  
and Marcelo Flores

**Best touch** Charlie Patino

**Most committed**  
Miguel Azeez

**Best singer** Me!

**Funniest** Me!



ODUBEKO 55  
RICHARDS 87



MOLLER 75 PEN  
TAYLOR-HART 90

2

**Premier League 2**  
**Friday, May 7**  
**Rush Green Stadium**

**Arsenal U23** Smith,  
Norton-Cuffy, Kirk,  
Monlouis (Rekik 76), Bola,  
Azeez, Henry-Francis,  
Taylor-Hart, Flores (Butler-  
Oyedeji 61), Moller,  
Balogun. **SUBS NOT**  
**USED** Ejeheri, Dinzeyi,  
Lewis



ur under-23s maintained their place in the Premier  
League 2 for another season with a late 2-2 draw  
away to West Ham.

Steve Bould's side came into this fixture  
knowing that a point would guarantee safety, and thanks  
to an impressive individual performance from Kido  
Taylor-Hart, we were able to secure a share of the spoils  
deep into stoppage time.

Marcelo Flores was handed his debut at this level,  
while Omar Rekik made his first appearance since joining  
the club in January.

The opening 45 minutes proved to be a tightly-contested  
affair with little to separate the two sides. Nikolaj Moller had  
the best chance of the first half as he was picked out by  
Folarin Balogun, but his powerful header sailed over the bar.

Following the restart, we knew that maintaining a 0-0  
draw would guarantee our safety, but the hosts started  
brightly and opened the scoring through Ademipo  
Odubeko. A corner was whipped into the back post  
and West Ham's No 9 was on hand to provide the  
finishing touch.

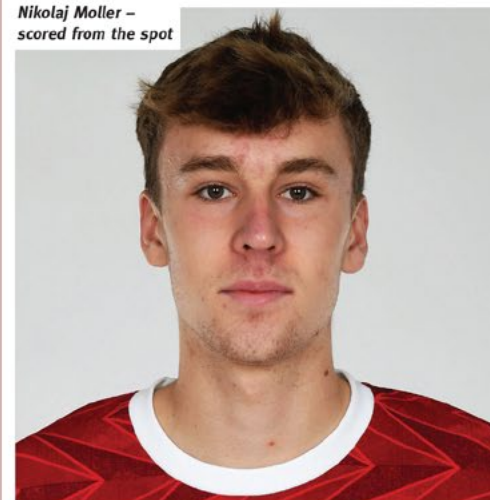
Moments later, Balogun came agonisingly close to an  
equaliser, curling just around the post, before eventually  
winning a penalty after being played through on goal by  
Taylor-Hart and forcing a foul from the keeper. Moller  
stepped up and made no mistake in finding the bottom  
corner, sending the keeper the opposite way.

We looked set for a share of the spoils as we defended in  
numbers and the closing stages approached, but there  
would be late drama, as Andriy Yarmolenko crossed from



Kido Taylor-Hart – late leveller

Nikolaj Moller –  
scored from the spot



the edge of the area and picked out Pierre Ekwah Elimby,  
who fired into the top corner.

By this stage, our safety rested in the hands of results  
elsewhere, but with one last roll of the dice, Miguel Azeez  
picked out Alex Kirk at the far post with an inch-perfect  
delivery, and there was Taylor-Hart to convert the  
knockdown from close range and guarantee safety on the  
final day of the season. ■



6

GOWER 29  
RICHARDS 44 PEN  
BENNETT 66 77  
NWANERI 88  
LEWIS-SKELLY 90



1

EHIBHATIOMHAN 62

**U18 Premier League South**  
**Tuesday, May 4**  
**Hale End**

**Arsenal U18** Kovacevic, Walters, Robinson, Brayne, Quamina, Bennett, Ibrahim, Roberts (Quesada-Thorn 78), Richards (Cozier-Duberry 56), Gower (Lewis-Skelly 67), Nwaneri. **SUBS NOT USED** Green, Telfer

**E**ight youngsters made their debuts for our under-18s as we beat Reading 6-1 at Hale End.

Our entire side was comprised of schoolboys after our involvement in the FA Youth Cup on the Friday night – and there were some outstanding individual performances that will fill Ken Gillard with hope for next season. Alex Kovacevic, Tino Quamina, Cameron Brayne, Mathaeus Roberts, Jimmy Gower and Aaron Benn were all handed their debuts at this level, while 14-year-olds Ethan Nwaneri and Myles Lewis-Skelly marked their first appearances with stunning strikes.

Despite the lack of experience, we started the game full of confidence and opened the scoring through Gower, who forced a mistake from the keeper then tapped in.

Amani Richards then went on to maintain his fine goalscoring form, doubling our advantage on the stroke of half-time after winning a penalty and duly firing into the bottom corner. Reading pulled one back following the restart with Kelvin Ehibhatiomhan converting from close range, but we soon restored our two-goal advantage, as Benn provided the finishing touch to a lovely team move.

He wasn't done there, and with our next sweeping attack, Benn pulled away from his marker before coolly finding the far corner. Our next goal was the pick of the bunch, as Nwaneri curled a stunning effort into the top corner. There was still time for Lewis-Skelly to slalom past three defenders, shift the ball out from under his feet and fire past the keeper with a ferocious strike. ■



5

BUTLER-OYEDEJI 7 PEN  
IDEHO 31 PEN 86  
COZIER-DUBERRY 66  
RICHARDS 88



2

O'REILLY 50  
ABLDEEN-GODDRIDGE 60

**U18 Premier League South**  
**Saturday, May 8**  
**London Colney**

**Arsenal U18** Graczyk (Mitchell 46), Walters, Foran, Awe, Jeffcott, Ibrahim, Gaspar (Quamina 70), Sagoe Jr, Butler-Oyedemi (Cozier-Duberry 46), Ideho, Richards. **SUBS NOT USED** Robinson

**O**ur under-18s delivered an outstanding attacking performance in the penultimate game of the season to secure a 5-2 victory over Aston Villa.

Amani Richards delivered a man-of-the-match display, winning two penalties and converting our fifth of the afternoon, while Nathan Butler-Oyedemi and Amario Cozier-Duberry scored their first goals at this level.

Schoolboys Bradley Ibrahim and Reuell Walters were also trusted to start. Ken Gillard's side began brightly at London Colney and took the lead after just seven minutes. Richards won a penalty following a slick turn inside the area and Butler-Oyedemi duly fired into the bottom corner.

It wasn't long before we doubled our advantage, as once again, Richards wreaked havoc on Villa's defence with the drop of a shoulder and a turn of pace to force another penalty. This time it was Joel Ideho to score from 12 yards.

It was an impressive first-half performance, but in the space of 15 minutes after the restart, Villa drew level. Tommi O'Reilly chipped over the onrushing Remy Mitchell, who replaced Hubert Graczyk at the break, before Tristan Abldeen-Goddridge pounced on a loose ball to equalise.

Our youngsters then kept their cool and eventually restored the lead. Ideho fizzed a ball across the face of goal and a deflection allowed it to drop for sub Cozier-Duberry, to fire into the roof of the net. Ideho then went on to score his second of the afternoon, before Richards grabbed his reward for an outstanding performance, pouncing on a goalkeeper error to net his third in just three U18 starts. ■



1

HAIGH 68



2

AZEEZ 16  
HENRY-FRANCIS 43

**U18 Premier League South**  
**Wednesday, May 12**  
**Cobham Training Ground**

**Arsenal U18** Mitchell, Oyegoke, Kirk, Monlouis, Ogungbo, Azeez, Henry-Francis, Ideho (Richards 72), Flores, Taylor-Hart, Butler-Oyedemi (Awe 87). **SUBS NOT USED** Kovacevic, Jeffcott, Sagoe Jr

**O**ur under-18s finished their season in style as they ran out 2-1 winners over Chelsea in a London derby at Cobham Training Ground.

Miguel Azeez ran the show in midfield and scored a stunning solo goal, while Jack Henry-Francis opened his account at this level on his 18th appearance.

Heading into this game unbeaten in our last four league outings, we were full of confidence and opened the scoring after just 16 minutes with a moment of magic from Azeez.

Our No 8 picked up the ball just past the halfway line and drove towards the Chelsea goal, skipping past three defenders on the edge of the area before nutmegging his final marker and firing into the bottom right corner.

Azeez was involved in another sweeping attacking move just moments later too, pushing forward through midfield and playing in Kido Taylor-Hart, who twisted and turned before seeing his drilled effort pushed away by Ted Curd.

Curd then went on to produce another fine diving save, tipping Joel Ideho's powerful effort over the bar after a mazy run.

We dominated the first half, creating chance after chance, and we eventually doubled our advantage before the break with Henry-Francis playing a neat one-two with Marcelo Flores and firing past the keeper.

The hosts pulled one back in the second half through Joe Haigh, who converted a stunning free-kick after we gave away a sloppy foul, but our defence stood strong to secure all three points and end the season on a high note. ■



Jack Henry-Francis – first goal of the season

Miguel Azeez – stunner against Chelsea



# ACADEMY NEWS

## U-18S FINISH ON A HIGH

Our under-18s ended their 2020/21 league season in fine form, going five games unbeaten to climb up to fourth on the final day.

Our impressive run started with a 2-1 victory over Chelsea in the London derby, before drawing 1-1 with Leicester City and defeating Reading 6-1 with a squad of schoolboys. This was followed by another emphatic 5-2 victory over Aston Villa and more derby day delight, as we defeated Chelsea 2-1.

Our final position in the table was out of our hands with Tottenham trailing by three points with a game in hand, but they were beaten 3-1 by Leicester City, securing our place in fourth, 16 points behind the champions, Fulham.

Ken Gillard's side finished the season with 12 wins and four draws from 24 games, scoring 52 and conceding 45. Best of luck for next season, lads! ■

*Our excited under-9s!*



## THE NEXT GENERATION

Our Hale End academy welcomed in their latest crop of under-9s last week, as preparations began for the 2021/22 season.

This is their first step in academy football and the start of their journey to becoming Strong Young Gunners – a key characteristic that we've seen from the likes of Bukayo Saka, Joe Willock and Ainsley Maitland-Niles, who also joined the club at this age.

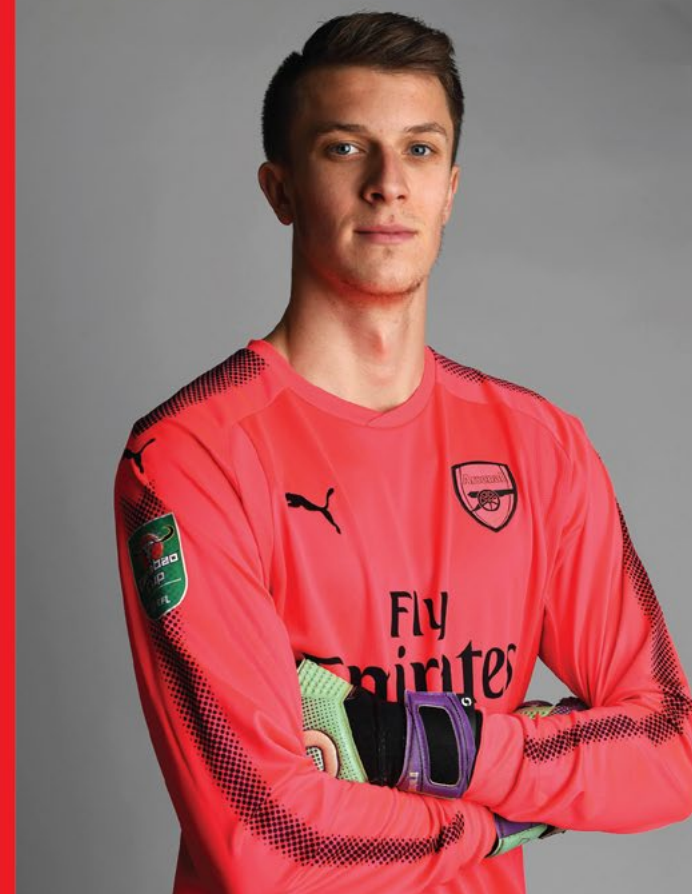
We would like to congratulate these youngsters on being selected from thousands of talented footballers in and around London – and we look forward to working on their development as players and people over the coming years! ■

## WILLOCK'S FINE FORM

Hale End graduate Joe Willock has been in exceptional form for loan club Newcastle United in recent weeks, finding the net for the fifth time in as many games during a 4-3 defeat to Manchester City.

Midfielder Willock, who played the full 90 minutes, saw his penalty saved by Ederson in the 62nd minute, but as always, he was alive inside the penalty and scored the rebound.

Prior to this, he'd scored against Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham, Liverpool and Leicester. Willock has scored 11 first-team goals for Arsenal, and he's now scored six in 12 games for the Magpies. Keep it up, Joe! ■



**LEFT**

*Matt as part of the first-team squad in 2018/19*

**BELOW**

*And now keeping goal for Hibernian in Scotland*



## ACADEMY ALUMNI

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

### MATT MACEY

**A**rsenal are due to be reunited with our former youth goalkeeper Matt Macey in pre-season, when we travel to Scotland to take on Hibernian on July 13. Matt joined the Scottish Premiership side in a permanent deal in January after nearly eight years with the Gunners.

He was just 19 when we signed him from Bristol Rovers in 2013, and he was soon involved in first-team squads on matchdays, but hadn't made his debut by the time he went on his first loan spell, to Accrington Stanley in League Two.

At the start of 2017 Matt was back out on loan, this time with Luton Town, before returning to the Gunners and making his first-team debut early in the 2017/18 season. It came in the Carabao Cup win over Norwich at the Emirates, and a week later he kept his first clean sheet, in a goalless draw with Red Star Belgrade in the Europa League. He was sent back out on loan for 2018/19, when he was a regular starter for Plymouth Argyle, and after winning an FA Cup winners' medal for us in 2020, he signed for Hibs at the start of 2021, making his debut in a 1-1 draw with Celtic. He has played seven times in all this season, as Hibs finished third, and secured a place in the FA Cup final, which took place yesterday (against St Johnstone). ■

# THE BREAKDOWN

## YOUTH STATS

### UNDER-23 RESULTS

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

### PREMIER LEAGUE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Manchester City	24	17	5	2	79	30	49	56
Chelsea	24	12	6	6	50	36	14	42
Tottenham Hotspur	24	11	5	8	45	44	1	38
Blackburn Rovers	24	10	7	7	48	41	7	37
Everton	24	10	6	8	44	28	16	36
Derby County	24	11	3	10	43	49	-6	36
Liverpool	24	10	5	9	48	50	-2	35
Manchester United	24	10	4	10	58	59	-1	34
Brighton & Hove Albion	24	7	9	8	36	42	-6	30
<b>Arsenal</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>26</b>
West Ham United	24	6	6	12	32	48	-16	24
Leicester City	24	6	4	14	41	55	-14	22
Southampton	24	4	4	16	29	65	-36	16

### UNDER-18 RESULTS

\* = won on penalties

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	3-1
Sat Oct 31	Norwich City	H	5-1
Sat Nov 21	Fulham	H	0-0
Sat Dec 5	Leicester City	H	2-1
Sat Jan 23	Tottenham Hotspur	H	4-1
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	2-3
Tue Feb 16	West Ham United	H	1-0
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	2-3
Sat Feb 27	West Bromwich Albion	H	0-3
Tue Mar 9	Aston Villa	A	0-0
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	1-4
Sat Mar 27	Reading	H	4-3
Tue Apr 6	Southampton	A	2-2
Sat Apr 10	Fulham	A	1-3
Tue Apr 20	Chelsea	H	2-1
Sat Apr 24	Leicester City	A	1-1
Tue May 4	Reading	A	6-1
Sat May 8	Aston Villa	H	5-2
Wed May 12	Chelsea	A	2-1

### EFL TROPHY RESULTS

Tue Sept 8	Ipswich Town	A	2-1
Tue Oct 13	Crawley Town	A	2-1
Tue Nov 10	Gillingham	A	1-1*
Tue Dec 8	AFC Wimbledon	A	0-3

### UNDER-18 PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Fulham	24	18	2	4	78	25	53	56
Crystal Palace	24	18	2	4	67	32	35	56
Brighton & Hove Albion	24	14	3	7	63	40	23	45
<b>Arsenal</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>
Aston Villa	24	11	5	8	45	52	-7	38
Tottenham Hotspur	24	10	7	7	52	37	15	37
Chelsea	24	11	3	10	57	43	14	36
West Bromwich Albion	24	9	3	12	51	62	-11	30
Norwich City	24	9	2	13	58	58	0	29
West Ham United	24	6	7	11	35	57	-22	25
Reading	24	5	4	15	51	83	-32	19
Leicester City	24	4	6	14	38	73	-35	18
Southampton	24	3	4	17	35	75	-40	13

### FA YOUTH CUP RESULTS

Tue Dec 15	Rotherham United	A	2-1
Sat Mar 20	Blackburn Rovers	A	4-1
Fri Apr 16	West Ham United	A	3-1
Fri Apr 30	Liverpool	A	1-3

# THE BREAKDOWN

## YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	U18	FAYC	TOTAL
Tim Akinola	18+3	3+1	-	-	21+4
Nicolaj Moller	18(8)	1	-	-	19(8)
Folarin Balogun	17(7)	2(1)	-	-	19(8)
Ryan Alebiosu	16+1	3	-	-	19+1
Ben Cottrell	16(4)	4	-	-	20(4)
Joel Lopez	13+1	3	-	-	15+1
Jonathan Dinzei	12+4	1	-	-	14+4
Miguel Azeez	11+4(1)	2+1(1)	2(1)	3(2)	18+5(5)
Kido Taylor-Hart	9+4(4)	1+1	11(6)	4(2)	25+5(12)
Catalin Cirjan	9+2(1)	3+1(1)	4	1	17+3(2)
Karl Hein	9	1	-	-	10
Alex Kirk	8+1	+1	10(1)	4	22+2(1)
Daniel Oyegoke	7+3	1	4	-	12+3
George Lewis	6+3	1(1)	-	-	7+3(1)
Tolaji Bola	6+2	1	-	-	7+2
Arthur Okonkwo	6+1	1	-	-	7+1
Reiss Nelson	6(2)	-	-	-	6(2)
William Saliba	6	2	-	-	8
Zane Monlouis	5+2	1	10+1(1)	4	20+3(1)
Brooke Norton-Cuffy	4+1	+1	14	4	22+2
James Olayinka	4(1)	2	-	-	6(1)
Charlie Patino	4(1)	-	9	1(1)	14(2)
Tom Smith	4	-	-	-	4
Jordan McEnuff	3+3	2(1)	-	-	5+3(1)
Trae Coyle	3+2(1)	-	-	-	3+2(1)
Emile Smith Rowe	3(3)	1	-	-	4(3)
Calum Chambers	3(1)	1	-	-	4(1)
Joseph Olowu	3	-	-	-	3
Joel Ideho	2+1	+1	10+2(4)	+3	12+7(4)
Harry Clarke	2	1	-	-	3
Matt Macey	2	1	-	-	3
Zach Awe	2	-	13+4	-	15+4
Daniel Ballard	2	-	-	-	2
Pablo Mari	2	-	-	-	2
Salah-Eddine Oulad M'hand	1+1	1	-	-	2+1
Taylor Foran	1+1	-	11+2	-	12+3
Mark McGuinness	1	1	-	-	2
Sokratis Papastathopoulos	1	1	-	-	2
Levi Laing	1	+2	6+1	-	7+3
Jack Henry-Francis	1	-	11+3(1)	2+1	14+4(1)
Hubert Graczyk	1	-	11+1	-	12+1
Marcelo Flores	1	-	10+3(4)	3	14+3(4)
James Hillson	1	-	-	-	1
Eddie Nketiah	1	-	-	-	1
Cedric Soares	1	-	-	-	1
Joe Willock	1	-	-	-	1
Mazeed Ogunbo	+3	-	13+1(2)	4(1)	17+4(3)
Omari Hutchinson	+1	-	18+1(5)	3(2)	21+2(7)
Khayon Edwards	+1	-	10+7(5)	3(2)	13+8(7)
Nathan Butler-Oyediji	+1	-	10+2(1)	2	12+3(1)
Luigi Gaspar	+1	-	2+3	-	2+4
Amani Richards	+1	-	1+2(1)	-	1+3(1)
Omar Reik	+1	-	-	-	+1
Gabriel Martinelli	-	1	-	-	1
Matt Smith	-	1	-	-	1
Mauro Bandeira	-	-	13+2	1	14+2
Ovie Ejeheri	-	-	8	4	12
Henry Jeffcott	-	-	7+2	-	7+2
Luke Plange	-	-	6+3(4)	-	6+3(4)
James Sweet	-	-	5+2(2)	1	6+2(2)
Remy Mitchell	-	-	3+1	-	3+1
Charles Sagoe Jr	-	-	3+1	-	3+1
Reuell Walters	-	-	3+1	-	3+1
Bradley Ibrahim	-	-	3	-	3
Amani Richards	-	-	2(2)	+1	2+1(2)
Billy Vigar	-	-	1+4	-	1+4
Timo Quamina	-	-	1+1	-	1+1
Josh Robinson	-	-	1+1	-	1+1
Aaron Benn	-	-	1(2)	-	1(2)
Jimmy Gower	-	-	1(1)	-	1(1)
Ethan Nwaneri	-	-	1(1)	-	1(1)
Cameron Brayne	-	-	1	-	1
Alex Kovacevic	-	-	1	-	1
Mathaeus Roberts	-	-	1	-	1
Amario Cozier-Duberry	-	-	+2(1)	-	+2(1)
Kristopher Quesada-Thorn	-	-	+2	-	+2
Myles Lewis-Skelly	-	-	+1(1)	-	+1(1)
Kaleel Green	-	-	+1	-	+1
Jason Sraha	-	-	+1	-	+1
Own goals	(2)	-	(2)	-	(4)

Tim Akinola



# ARSENAL WOMEN

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



9

LITTLE 6, MEAD 42, VAN DE DONK 45, MARITZ 62, 88, NOBBS 70, MIEDEMA 77, ROORD 86, MCCABE 90



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**Vitality Women's FA Cup  
Sunday, May 16  
Meadow Park**

**ARSENAL** Zinsberger, Maier, Patten, Catley (Goldie 71), Maritz, Walti (Williamson 46), Little (McCabe 46), Van de Donk (Roord 57), Nobbs, Foord, Mead (Miedema 57)  
**SUBS NOT USED** Williams, Wubben-Moy

Joe Montemurro's final game as head coach will certainly go down as a memorable one, as we beat Crystal Palace 9-0 to finish our season and reach the quarter-finals of the Vitality Women's FA Cup.

Our head coach will depart north London with an outstanding record of 85 wins in 108 games – and this was yet another thrilling attacking performance that we've come to expect during his time at the club.

There was plenty of positive news in our starting XI too, as Steph Catley made her first start since returning from injury, while Anna Patten was included in central defence.

We made a fast start at Meadow Park and took the lead after just six minutes. Jordan Nobbs received the ball with her back to goal and beat her marker with an improvised flick, forcing a foul from the defender and winning a penalty. Kim Little stepped up and made no mistake in finding the bottom corner.

Chloe Morgan then went on to make a number of



impressive saves, denying Caitlin Foord and Nobbs, before Beth Mead broke free down the right wing and fired back across the keeper to double our advantage.

Danielle van de Donk made it three with just seconds remaining of the first half, applying the finishing touch to a slick counter-attacking move.

We stepped things up a gear in the second half too and after a fortunate bounce on the edge of the area, the ball dropped to Noelle Maritz who unleashed a powerful strike into the bottom corner for her first Arsenal goal.

Nobbs made it five with a thumping finish following some fine footwork from Foord, before the substitutes combined as Vivianne Miedema latched on to Jill Roord's delivery to head home at the far post.

As we approached the final five minutes we could have easily dropped off and maintained possession without purpose, but that's never been the Montemurro way.

After announcing her departure to Wolfsburg last week, Roord put her name on the scoresheet as an Arsenal player just one last time, firing home from close range, before Maritz scored her second of the afternoon, applying the all-important touch at the end of a smart team move.

We weren't done there, though, and with just seconds remaining, Katie McCabe stood over a free-kick from 20 yards and rifled the ball into the bottom corner.

It was an outstanding team performance from start to finish – and the perfect send off for our head coach.

The quarter-finals of the competition will be played on Wednesday, September 29. ■



**TOP**

*Our new away kit made its debut in the last game of the season*

**ABOVE**

*Beth Mead was one of eight different scorers*

**TOP RIGHT**

*Danielle van de Donk in possession against Palace*

**RIGHT**

*Steph Catley made a welcome return from injury*





## EMOTIONAL DAY FOR JOE

After the 9-0 victory over Palace, featuring some typically swashbuckling play from his team, Joe Montemurro admitted it had been an emotional afternoon.

"I can't put into words what all the words and tributes I've received this week mean to me," said the departing manager. "It's been brilliant from all of the Arsenal fans and it's been absolutely amazing and I have cherished every word and everyone that has reached out. It's been really emotional and I am going to miss the place.

"I felt all week that the players wanted to finish the season on a high and really set things up for next year and all credit to the players, they were fantastic today and it was great to get everyone involved and tinker with a few things so it was a nice send off.

And asked for a final message for supporters, Joe was typically self-effacing.

"You've put me on the spot here! But look, I've grown up as an Arsenal fan and loved the club in a big way and in a way that means a lot to me, so I hope that I've been able to do everything possible for the team and for the club, and I hope that I've brought a little joy to the fans in terms of the way that we play, but more importantly to represent the club in the way that it should be represented. I just want to say thank you for your support, for having me at this club and for being part of this amazing feeling."

You have bought more than a little joy, Joe. Thanks for your superb service to Arsenal Football Club, and best of luck for the future. ■

### LEFT

Joe captures one for posterity on his final matchday

### 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)	4-0
NOV 8	MANCHESTER UNITED	0-1
NOV 15	CHELSEA	1-1
NOV 18	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (CC)	2-2*
DEC 6	BIRMINGHAM CITY	3-0
DEC 13	MANCHESTER CITY	1-2
DEC 20	EVERTON	4-0
JAN 17	READING	1-1
FEB 7	MANCHESTER CITY	1-2
FEB 10	CHELSEA	0-3
FEB 28	ASTON VILLA	4-0
MAR 7	BIRMINGHAM CITY	4-0
MAR 19	MANCHESTER UNITED	2-0
MAR 27	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	3-0
APR 4	BRISTOL CITY	4-0
APR 18	GILLINGHAM (FAC4)	10-0
APR 25	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	2-0
T8A	WEST HAM UNITED	2-0
MAY 2	EVERTON	2-1
MAY 9	ASTON VILLA	0-0
MAY 16	CRYSTAL PALACE (FAC5)	9-0

### WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (FINAL)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
CHELSEA	22	18	3	1	69	10	59	57
MANCHESTER CITY	22	17	4	1	65	13	52	55
ARSENAL	22	15	3	4	63	15	48	48
MAN UNITED	22	15	2	5	44	20	24	47
EVERTON	22	9	5	8	39	30	9	32
BRIGHTON	22	8	3	11	21	41	-20	27
READING	22	5	9	8	25	41	-16	24
TOTTENHAM	22	5	5	12	18	41	-23	20
WEST HAM UNITED	22	3	6	13	21	39	-18	15
ASTON VILLA	22	3	6	13	15	47	-32	15
BIRMINGHAM CITY	22	3	6	14	15	44	-29	14
BRISTOL CITY	22	2	6	14	18	72	-54	12

## VILLARREAL REPORT



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## EUROPA LEAGUE SEMI-FINAL, SECOND LEG

8pm • Thursday, May 6 • Emirates Stadium

### FIRST HALF

It was a cautious, almost nervy approach from both sides early on. The first scare came when Bernd Leno had to hurriedly head clear an overhit back pass from Thomas Partey, that almost lobbed his own keeper. But with Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's first real involvement we could have taken the lead. A poor defensive clearance fell straight to the skipper, and his first-time shot beat the keeper, but bounced to safety off the post. Aubameyang was then set free by Emile Smith Rowe on the counter, and his shot nearly squirmed through the grasp of Geronimo Rulli, but the Villarreal keeper grabbed it at the second attempt. But in terms of goalmouth action, that was about it from a low-key first half.

### SECOND HALF

We showed more intent at the start of the second half, and Nicolas Pepe fired a low drive wide after being set up by Kieran Tierney. Smith Rowe then missed a great opportunity, lifting his shot just over the bar with the keeper prone on the floor. The visitors were next to threaten – Gerard Moreno shot tamely at Leno. As the game entered the final 15 minutes we threw more caution to the wind. Substitute Gabriel Martinelli thrashed an effort wide before Aubameyang headed against the post. But there was to be no late dramatic winner, and we exited in heart-breaking fashion. ■

	MATCH STATS	
14	TOTAL SHOTS	8
1	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
8	CORNERS	5
1	OFFSIDES	1
13	FOULS	6
56	POSSESSION %	44

### ARSENAL

1	LENO
2	BELLERIN (89)
3	TIERNEY (80)
16	HOLDING
22	MARI
7	SAKA
18	PARTHEY
11	ODEGAARD (66)
14	AUBAMEYANG (79)
32	SMITH ROWE
19	PEPE

### SUBSTITUTES

MARTINELLI (66), LACAZETTE (79), WILLIAN (80), NKETIAH (89), GABRIEL, CEDRIC, CHAMBERS, ELMENY, NELSON, OKONKWO, RYAN

### VILLARREAL

13	RULLI
2	MARIO
3	ALBIOL
4	TORRES
5	PARERO
11	CHUKWUEZE (30)
14	TRIGUEROS
19	COQUELIN
24	ALFONSO (89)
7	MORENO
17	ALCÁCER (72)

### SUBSTITUTES

PINO (30, 89), BACCA (72), GOMEZ (89), PEREZ (89), MORI, ESTUPINAN, COSTA, JIMENEZ, BAENA, RABA, NINO, ASENJO

Pierre-Emerick heads against the post late on





Danny Welbeck celebrates scoring last weekend



# BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION

**FORMED**  
1901

**NICKNAMES**  
The Seagulls

**STADIUM**  
Falmer Stadium (30,750)

**HONOURS**  
Second Division/Championship runners up **1978/79, 2016/17**  
Third Division/League One winners **1957/58, 2001/02, 2010/11**  
Fourth Division/League Two winners **1964/65, 2000/01**  
Southern Football League champions **1909/10**  
FA Cup runners-up **1983**  
FA Charity Shield winners **1910**

**OWNER**  
Tony Bloom

**SOCIAL FOLLOWERS**  
Twitter **411k**  
Instagram **420k**  
Facebook **505k**

With a fifth successive season of Premier League football guaranteed, Brighton & Hove Albion can tick off the 2020/21 season as mission accomplished. Now they will hope to end the campaign on a high by beating Arsenal at Emirates Stadium for the second season in a row and avenging their 1-0 home defeat by the Gunners back in late December – only the Seagulls' second loss to Arsenal in the seven encounters since the club's promotion to the top flight, as Championship runners-up, in 2017.

Graham Potter's second season as Brighton manager is set to end in the same way as his first, with the team playing attractive football but finding victories hard to come by and eventually clawing their way to safety. Only the three relegated teams – Sheffield United, West Brom and Fulham – have managed fewer wins in this Premier League campaign, although, like several top-flight teams in this largely spectator-free season, Brighton have actually posted more victories on the road than at home, with wins at Newcastle (3-0), Aston Villa (2-1), Leeds (1-0), Liverpool (1-0) and south coast rivals Southampton (2-1).

The Seagulls, who did not win a league game at home this season until the last day of January, when they beat Spurs 1-0, finally got the opportunity to play in front of several thousand of their fans on Tuesday night – and it was a thriller for the Amex Stadium faithful, as Potter's team came from 2-0 down to beat champions Manchester City 3-2. This afternoon they sign off the campaign in front of 10,000 at Emirates Stadium, hoping to end a run of disappointing form on their travels which has seen them take just one point from their last four away fixtures, their only point during that sequence coming in a 0-0 draw at Chelsea, the other three games all ending in defeat – at Manchester United (1-2), Sheffield United (0-1) and Wolves (1-2).

The most recent of those encounters, at Molineux, holds particularly unhappy memories as Brighton were 1-0 up before skipper Lewis Dunk was red-carded early in the second half, then conceded twice, the second goal in the 90th minute, after which another player, striker Neal Maupay, was also given his marching orders. Dunk is back from suspension this afternoon, when Brighton will hope for better fortune as they close out a season that saw them play three games apiece in the two domestic knockout competitions before eliminations by Manchester United in the Carabao Cup (3-0 at home) and eventual winners Leicester in the FA Cup (1-0 away).

Despite the season-long battle to stay in the Premier League, Potter and his players can be largely satisfied with the 2020/21 campaign and will be confident of making further progress next season, especially if they can supplement their constructive and adventurous build-up play with some more ruthless finishing in front of goal. It should be an interesting summer in the transfer market for the club.

## VISITORS BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION



### MUTUAL ADMIRATION

After arriving from Northern Ireland as a 16 year old in 1966, Sammy Nelson spent 15 years with Arsenal. The regular left back through much of the 70s – with his compatriot Pat Rice at right back – Sammy played 339 games for the Gunners, scoring 12 goals. A left-back who loved to get forward, very much in the modern style, a young Nelson played two games in the run to the 1969/70 Fairs Cup triumph and was involved in league and cup matches in 1970/71. When firmly established, he played in the 1978, 1979 and 1980 FA Cup finals and the 1980 European Cup Winners' Cup final.

After the arrival of Kenny Sansom, Nelson left for Brighton and played two seasons at the Goldstone Ground, and was part of the squad that reached the Seagulls' one and only FA Cup final in 1983, though he wasn't involved in the final or the replay and retired at the end of the 1982/83 season. Capped 51 times by Northern Ireland, and a squad member at the 1982 World Cup, he has a close link to one of Sussex's most famous sportsmen in that his daughter is married to ex-Sussex and England wicketkeeper Matt Prior.



**THE SKIPPER**  
**LEWIS DUNK**  
DEFENDER

**BORN** Brighton, 21/11/91

**PREVIOUSLY** Bristol City (loan)

Local lad Lewis came through the club's youth ranks and has been the team's central defensive linchpin for the past seven seasons, helping the club win promotion before establishing himself as a Premier League mainstay and also winning a first England cap in November 2018. The big centre back scored and was sent off on his last outing, at Wolves, and has now found the net 11 times in the Premier League, with five of those goals recorded this season.



**THE SCHEMER**  
**PASCAL GROSS**  
MIDFIELDER

**BORN** Mannheim, Germany, 15/6/91

**PREVIOUSLY** Hoffenheim, Karlsruhe, Ingolstadt

Two impressive seasons in the German Bundesliga for Ingolstadt prompted a £3m transfer to Brighton following their promotion in 2017, and Pascal quickly made club history by becoming the Seagulls' first goalscorer in the Premier League with a double against West Brom. The club's ever-present player of the season in 2017/18, he has had to endure a few injury lay-offs since then, but the skilful 29 year old has been a regular starter since Christmas.



**THE TALL GUY**  
**DAN BURN**  
DEFENDER

**BORN** Blyth, 9/5/92

**PREVIOUSLY** Darlington, Fulham, Yeovil (loan), Birmingham (loan), Wigan

A giant left-footed defender who arrived from Wigan in January 2019, Dan has spent most of his career in the lower divisions, but after a brief top-flight fling at Fulham – he made his Premier League debut in a 2-0 defeat to Arsenal here in January 2014 – he is not only back in the big time with Brighton but has become a key man under Graham Potter, whether as a central defender or left wing back and scored the winner against Manchester City on Tuesday.



**THE MAVERICK**  
**LEANDRO TROSSARD**  
WINGER

**BORN** Maasmechelen, Belgium, 4/12/94

**PREVIOUSLY** Genk, Lommel United (loan), Westerlo (loan), Lommel United (loan), OH Leuven (loan)

A skilful 26 year old winger-cum-attacking midfielder, Leandro was signed following an outstanding 2018/19 season in which he helped Genk win the Belgian league title, scoring 14 goals plus eight more in Europe. His debut campaign in England was comparatively moderate but he has come of age this term, scoring in wins against Spurs, Southampton, Newcastle and Man City and establishing himself as a regular both for Brighton and in the Belgium squad.



**THE KEEPER**  
**ROBERT SANCHEZ**  
GOALKEEPER

**BORN** Cartagena, Spain, 18/11/97

**PREVIOUSLY** Forest Green Rovers (loan), Rochdale (loan)

The 2020/21 season has been a memorable one for Robert, whose sudden rise to prominence as Brighton's first-choice goalkeeper not only led to Mat Ryan's loan move to Arsenal but also earned him a shock call-up for Spain's opening three 2022 World Cup qualifiers. The 23 year old, who has been on Albion's books since he was 15, has pulled off some spectacular saves to help the club's Premier League survival bid and signed a new long-term contract in February.



**THE ANCHORMAN**  
**YVES BISSOUMA**  
MIDFIELDER

**BORN** Issia, Ivory Coast, 30/8/96

**PREVIOUSLY** Real Bamako, Lille

Today's encounter will complete Yves' third season as a Premier League performer with Brighton, and it will certainly go down as the best yet for the Mali international, who has been one of the Seagulls' most consistent players in 2020/21. The 24 year old holding midfielder, who joined from French side Lille in 2018, has repeatedly caught the eye – and the covetous attention of other clubs – with his energy, industry and ability to recycle the ball with pace and precision.



**THE EX-GUNNER**  
**DANNY WELBECK**  
ATTACKER

**BORN** Manchester, 26/11/90

**PREVIOUSLY** Man United, Preston (loan), Sunderland (loan), Arsenal, Watford

An Arsenal player for five seasons, from 2014 to 2019, during which he managed 32 goals in 126 games and helped the Gunners win the 2017 FA Cup, Danny was relegated last season with Watford but returned to the top flight with Brighton in October and has enjoyed some memorable moments with the Seagulls in recent weeks, during which he has rediscovered the scoring touch that once made him a regular striker for England.



**THE RISING STAR**  
**BEN WHITE**  
DEFENDER

**BORN** Poole, 8/10/97

**PREVIOUSLY** Newport (loan), Peterborough (loan), Leeds (loan)

A graduate of the Brighton academy, Ben had made just two appearances for the club before being farmed out on loan to three different clubs, but he is now firmly established as a key member of the Albion defence. Versatile, strong and comfortable on the ball, the 23 year old had a fabulous 2019/20 season at Leeds, playing all 46 games as the Yorkshire club won the Championship, and he has carried on in the same vein back at his parent club.



**THE BOSS**  
**GRAHAM POTTER**  
MANAGER

**BORN** May 20, 1975, Solihull

**PREVIOUSLY** Ostersund (2011-18), Swansea (2018-19)

A 2-1 winner on each of his two previous visits to the Emirates – with Swedish side Ostersunds in the 2017/18 Europa League and last season with Brighton – Graham will be looking to complete a hat-trick today. The native Brummie, who turned 46 on Thursday, made his name by steering Ostersunds up the Swedish football ladder, which peaked with a 2017 domestic cup triumph, and in 2018 he was appointed manager by just-relegated Swansea. Graham steered them to tenth in the Championship but, after one season in south Wales, returned to the top flight with Brighton, succeeding Chris Hughton.

## VISITORS BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION

### REMEMBER KIT WELL

Brighton's home kit sponsors  
1980-83 – BRITISH CALEDONIAN  
1983-86 – PHOENIX BREWERY  
1986-91 – NOBO  
1991-93 – TSB  
1993-98 – SANDTEX  
1998-99 – DONATELLO  
1999-2008 – SKINT RECORDS  
2008-11 – IT FIRST  
2011-13 – BRIGHTON&HOVEJOBS.COM  
2013-21 – AMERICAN EXPRESS



Terry Conner  
in 1984

### REALLY?!

Alireza Jahanbakhsh is only the fourth Iranian to play in the Premier League, following Karim Bagheri (Charlton Athletic 2000-01), Andranik Teymourian (Bolton Wanderers, Fulham 2006-09) and Ashkan Dejagah (Fulham 2012-14). Having played 48 league games for Brighton, Jahanbakhsh could soon become the first Iranian to play 50 Premier League games.

Brighton have a very diverse playing squad. Their matchday 20 for the game against West Ham last weekend featured **13 different nationalities** from four different continents: Argentina, Belgium, Colombia, Ecuador, England, Germany, Iran, Mali, Republic of Ireland, Romania, South Africa, Spain and Switzerland

Brighton's Argentina forward **Alexis Mac Allister** – who has family ties to Fife in **Scotland** – has two brothers, Francis and Kevin, who both play professionally in Argentina (for Talleres and Argentinos Juniors respectively). Their **dad, Carlos Mac Allister**, was a stalwart for both Argentinos and Boca Juniors and **played three times for Argentina**, he has also been Argentina's Sports Secretary.



Brighton's Mark Lawrenson closes down Alan Sunderland in the teams' first-ever league encounter



## FIRST IMPRESSION

*Reproducing the oldest picture in our archives featuring today's opponents.*

Arsenal had only played Brighton once previously – a 2-0 FA Cup win in 1935 – when they travelled to the Goldstone Ground on August 18, 1979 for a first-ever league match between the teams.

Alan Mullery's side's first-ever top-flight game started with Gerry Ryan going close on three occasions as the fans reached fever pitch. But midway through the first half, the Gunners burst the Brighton bubble as Frank Stapleton scored from 20 yards past Eric Steele, followed almost immediately by an Alan Sunderland strike who added another before half-time. Liam Brady made it 4-0 from the penalty spot in the second-half, leaving Mullery to comment: "They taught us a lesson in cold, clinical finishing. It was like a Clint Eastwood movie. Out came the guns, and bang bang – we were dead."

The Gunners finished fourth that season and Brighton could consider their first season a success with a creditable 16th place, six points above the relegation zone. ■

## PREMIER LEAGUE RECORD

AFC WINS

2

DRAWS

2

BHA WINS

3

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 29

## ALL-TIME RECORD

AFC WINS

13

DRAWS

4

BHA WINS

5

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 59

9

Brighton didn't win any of their first nine games against the Gunners – losing seven. They eventually won, 2-1, on April 10, 1982.

15

Brighton have finished in 15th place in two of their three Premier League seasons (they were 17th in 2018/19). Following their win over Man City on Tuesday, they were in... 15th position.

8

The 'and' in Brighton & Hove Albion is always written with an ampersand

BELOW

Leandro Trossard celebrates in front of the fans after scoring against Man City on Tuesday

BOTTOM

Ex-Gunner Danny Welbeck scores past ex-Gunner Lukasz Fabianski last weekend



## SCOUTING REPORT

BY Michael Cox

Brighton's second campaign under Graham Potter looks disappointing on paper – the club have only just mathematically confirmed their Premier League survival – but the league table doesn't entirely tell the story of the Seagulls' campaign.

Brighton have continually been let down by wasteful finishing, often to a barely believable extent. Indeed, those who place a big emphasis upon the 'expected goals' metric, essentially a shots statistic that takes into account the position of the shots, suggest that Brighton are the fifth-best side in the Premier League at creating goalscoring

opportunities and denying them to their opponents. All that, of course, is futile with poor finishing.

Potter is a serial formation switcher, but has tended to use a three-man defence this season. Lewis Dunk continues to be the club's most dependable defender, while Ben White, who has also played in midfield under Potter, generally plays to the right with 6ft 7in Dan Burn to the left, although he's also featured as a marauding wing-back at times, with Adam Webster playing in the middle.

Potter has occasionally used a very unusual approach with his wing backs, asking them to drift inside to become central midfielders in possession, rather than overlapping down the flanks. That means that he's sometimes used midfielders like Pascal Gross and Jakub Moder in those roles, in part because his first-choice duo, Tariq Lamprey and Solly March, have been out injured for long periods. On other occasions he has used Burn and Joel Veltman, a natural full back. When the wing backs drift inside, this gives license to Potter's wide forwards to remain out on the flanks, rather than moving inside into the middle.

In midfield, Potter has often used the 'Adam and Yves' combination of Lallana and Bissouma, with the former pushing forward to create from between the lines, and the latter holding his position more and dictating play from in front of the defence. Gross is another option in a right-centre role, with Steven Alzate a very versatile player capable of playing the left-centre role, with Alexis Mac Allister also an option.

Going forward, Potter has tended to name a consistent front three in recent weeks. Leandro Trossard usually plays a tricky elusive role between the lines, trying to play passes in behind for the two strikers. Neal Maupay has been the biggest culprit in Brighton's season of missed opportunities, but Danny Welbeck has managed four goals in the last couple of months, with his finishes against Leeds and West Ham being particularly impressive.

Potter has other attacking options – Alireza Jahanbakhsh is most comfortable playing from the right, while Aaron Connolly adds extra speed up front. With survival now secured, and perhaps a wider range of tactical options than anyone else in the Premier League, Potter might use this final day as an opportunity to simply have some fun. ■



BENTEKE 62

PEPE 36, 90+5  
MARTINELLI 90+1

1

## PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 37

7pm • Wednesday, May 19 • Selhurst Park

3

## FIRST HALF

We dampened the spirits of the 6,500 fans with slick passing and movement early on, delivering a number of dangerous crosses. There was controversy when Jeffrey Schlupp was booked for an over-the-top tackle on Calum Chambers, and while VAR reviewed the incident, no further punishment was forthcoming. We continued to push on, but soon Bernd Leno was called into action to save from James Tomkins and Schlupp, while Christian Benteke blazed a header over the bar for Palace. But just as it looked like the home side would take control, we made the breakthrough as superb interplay between Bukayo Saka and Kieran Tierney saw the latter cross for Nicolas Pepe, who volleyed home.

## SECOND HALF

Benteke glanced one over the bar seconds into the second half, but just after the hour mark the Belgian equalised as he headed in from a free kick. The Eagles started to pile on the pressure. Jordan Ayew forced a save from Leno with a close-range header, while seconds later Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang poked Chambers' cross wide at the other end. We needed a goal to maintain a chance of playing in Europe next season and in the 91st minute it arrived as Martin Odegaard swung in a cross and fellow sub Gabriel Martinelli raced in to score. Pepe sealed the win with a twisting run inside the box and a cool finish. ■

## MATCH STATS

12	TOTAL SHOTS	6
6	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
6	CORNERS	7
3	OFFSIDES	2
7	FOULS	7
31	POSSESSION %	69

## CRYSTAL PALACE

31	GUAITA
2	WARD
24	CAHILL
5	TOMKINS
27	MITCHELL
22	MCCARTHY (82)
8	KOUYATE
15	SCHLUPP
10	TOWNSEND
20	BENTEKE (79)
11	ZAHA

## SUBSTITUTES

RIEDELWELD (82), BUTLAND, KELLY, VAN AANHOLT, CLYNE, RAK-SAKYI, AYEW (79), MATETA, BATSHUAYI

## ARSENAL

1	LENO
21	CHAMBERS
16	HOLDING
6	GABRIEL
3	TIERNEY (78)
18	PARTEY (78)
25	ELNENY
7	SAKA (65)
32	SMITH ROWE
19	PEPE
14	AUBAMEYANG

## SUBSTITUTES

DOEGGAARD (65), RYAN, CEDRIC, MARL, XHAKA (78), CEBALLOS, WILLIAN, LACAZETTE, MARTINELLI (78)



Nicolas Pepe celebrates opening the scoring with the architects of the goal

Our injury-time heroes  
celebrate the third goal





## THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD

### SUPERB SMITH ROWE

**W**e delivered an excellent team performance from start to finish during our 1-0 victory over Chelsea last week – but the individual display of Emile Smith Rowe was particularly encouraging for the future.

Having broken his Premier League duck in the previous win over West Brom, our Hale End graduate made it two in two, ensuring our first Premier League double over the West Londoners since the 2003/04 season.

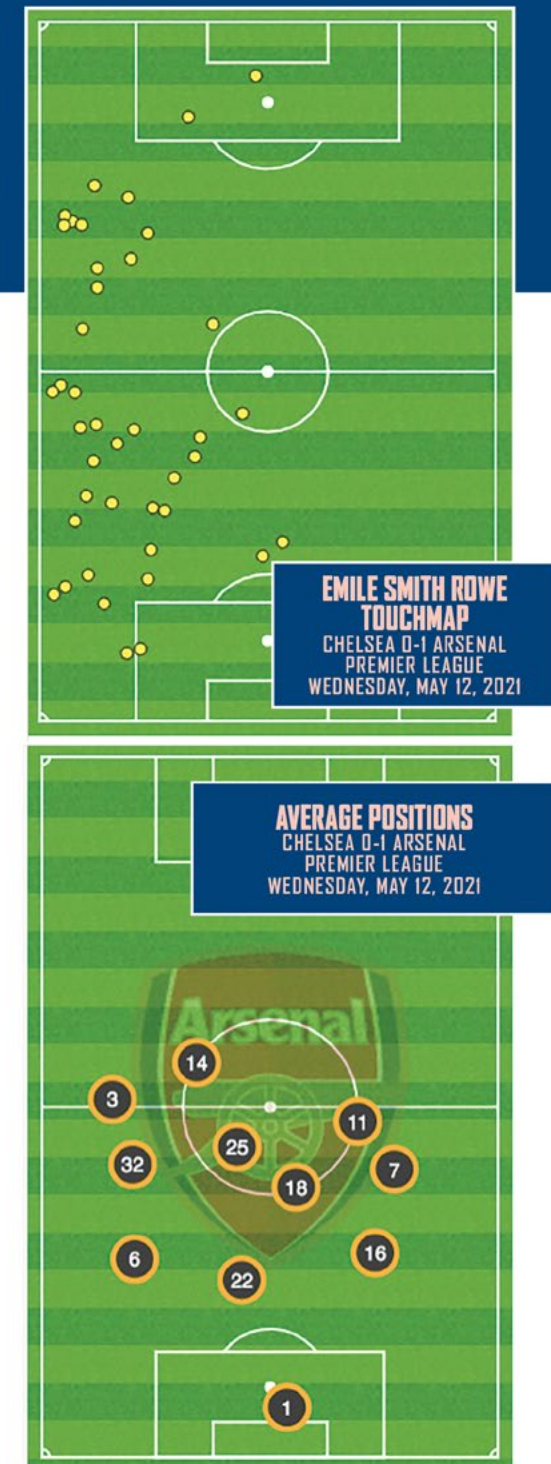
Lining up 3-4-3 system with Bukayo Saka and Kieran Tierney as wing backs, Emile started behind Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang in attack and alongside Martin Odegaard, taking up the half spaces on the left side of the pitch.

In possession, he was responsible for progressing play and driving the team upfield, where he could pick out Tierney's overlapping runs, and out of possession, he tucked in alongside Mohamed Elneny to provide support in midfield and prevent combinations down Chelsea's right side.

The 20 year old carried out his role to devastating effect, and the numbers back up his performance. On that night at Stamford Bridge, Emile finished the game with a pass completion rate of 90 per cent, in addition to registering 41 touches and scoring with his only shot on target.

His defensive work was outstanding too, making six ball recoveries, one tackle and one interception. It said it all when the youngster dropped to the ground at the final whistle in exhaustion, having chased every loose ball and darting run from Thomas Tuchel's side.

Just take a look at Emile's average position against the Blues, highlighting his commitment to track back and defend first. His touch map also helps to illustrate his tendency to receive the ball in the half spaces in the final third, rather than hugging the touchline, where Tierney was charging forward. ■



Green = 1st sub  
Gold = 2nd sub  
Blue = 3rd sub  
Magenta = 4th sub  
Pink = 5th subWin  
Draw  
Loss  
+ = Won on pensPremier League  
UEFA Europa League  
Carabao Cup  
Emirates FA Cup  
Community ShieldBold fixture = Scorer  
Bold player = Goal scored  
Goal  
Penalty\* = Own Goal  
CAPS = Captain  
Yellow card  
Red card  
# = Played at Wembley Stadium

	DATE	OPPOSITION	F-A	POS /RND	ATT/KO	STARTING XI	SUBSTITUTES										REFEREE
SEPTEMBER	Sat 29	Liverpool	1-1	CS	BCD #	Martinez Bellerin Holding David Luiz Tiemey M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	Saka Nketiah AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(59) Nelson(82) Willock(82) Kolasinac(83) Saliba	Smith Rowe John-Jules Olayinka Leno	A. Manniner							
	Sat 12	Fulham	3-0	1	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(75) Ceballos(78) Nketiah(87) Saka	Willock Kolasinac Macey	C. Kavanagh							
	Sat 19	West Ham United	2-1	2	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Ceballos Xhaka	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(64) Nketiah(77) David Luiz(89) M-Niles	Elneny Willock Macey	M. Oliver							
	Wed 23	Leicester City	2-0*	CC3	BCD	Leno M-Niles Holding DAVID LUIZ Kolasinac Saka Elneny Willock	Pepe Nelson Nketiah	William(72) Ceballos(78) Bellerin(87) Saliba	Lacazette Xhaka Runarsson	P. Bankes							
OCTOBER	Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3	5	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding David Luiz Tiemey M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60) Pepe(68) Nketiah(74) Gabriel	Saka Kolasinac Runarsson	C. Pawson							
	Thur 1	Liverpool	0-0+	CC4	BCD	Leno Cedric Holding Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Willock XHAKA	Ceballos Pepe Nketiah	Elneny(68) Lacazette(82) M-Niles(86) Tiemey	David Luiz Nelson Runarsson	K. Friend							
	Sun 4	Sheffield United	2-1	4	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Saka Ceballos	Pepe(58) Xhaka(81) M-Niles(87) Willock	Holding Lacazette Runarsson	L. Mason								
	Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1	5	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Saka Ceballos Xhaka	Pepe William AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(69) Nketiah(83) Partey(83) Elneny	M-Niles Runarsson	C. Kavanagh							
NOVEMBER	Thur 22	Rapid Vienna	2-1	MD1	3,000	Leno Cedric David Luiz Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Elneny Partey	Pepe LACAZETTE Nketiah	Aubameyang(61) Bellerin(61) Tiemey(84) Willock(84) Nelson(90)	Mustafi M-Niles Xhaka Runarsson Macey	P. Kralovec							
	Sun 25	Leicester City	0-1	10	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Saka Ceballos Partey	Xhaka Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Mustafi(49) Pepe(65) Nketiah(81) Elneny	M-Niles Willock Runarsson	C. Pawson							
	Thur 29	Dundalk	3-0	MD2	BCD	Runarsson Cedric XHAKA Mustafi Kolasinac M-Niles Elneny Willock	Nelson Pepe Nketiah	Ceballos(61) William(62) Tiemey(74) Balogun(74) Gabriel	Saka Partey Aubameyang Bellerin Lacazette Leno Hein	E. Gioia							
	Sun 1	Manchester United	1-0	8	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey Saka Elneny Partey	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Nketiah(76) M-Niles(86) Mustafi(87) Xhaka	Pepe Ceballos Runarsson	M. Dean							
DECEMBER	Thur 5	Molde	4-1**	MD3	BCD	Leno M-Niles David Luiz Mustafi Kolasinac Willock Ceballos XHAKA	William Pepe Nketiah	Cedric(64) Saka(64) Elneny(80) Tiemey(80) Lacazette	Gabriel Bellerin Aubameyang Partey Holding Runarsson Macey	H. Meier							
	Sun 8	Aston Villa	0-3	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey Saka Elneny Partey	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(46) Pepe(65) Nketiah(65) M-Niles	David Luiz Xhaka Runarsson	M. Atkinson							
	Sun 22	Leeds United	0-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Ceballos Willock	Pepe William AUBAMEYANG	Nelson(46) Saka(57) M-Niles(90) Lacazette	Mustafi Nketiah Runarsson	A. Taylor							
	Thur 26	Molde	3-0	MD4	600	Runarsson Cedric David Luiz Mustafi M-Niles Xhaka Willock Nelson	Pepe Nketiah LACAZETTE	Holding(46) Ceballos(62) Tiemey(75) Smith Rowe(75) Balogun(82)	Cottrell Azeez Bellerin Macey Hein	I. Peljto							
JANUARY	Sun 29	Wolves	1-2	14	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Ceballos Willock	William Saka AUBAMEYANG	Holding(46) Nelson(65) Lacazette(80) Cedric	Nketiah Elneny Runarsson	M. Oliver							
	Thur 3	Rapid Vienna	4-1	MD5	2,000	Runarsson Cedric Mustafi Kolasinac M-Niles Elneny Nelson	Saka Nketiah LACAZETTE	Smith Rowe(63) Ceballos(63) William(63) Chambers(70) Balogun(81)	Tiemey Saka Holding Willock Azeez Macey Leno	R. Petrescu							
	Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur	0-2	15	2,000	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(45) Nketiah(75) Mustafi Elneny	Willock M-Niles Runarsson	M. Atkinson							
	Thur 10	Dundalk	4-2	MD6	BCD	Runarsson Cedric Mari Chambers Mustafi M-Niles Elneny Willock	Smith Rowe Pepe Nketiah	Ceballos(62) Balogun(62) Cottrell(77) Azeez(83)	Holding Saka Hein Macey	I. Bebek							
FEBRUARY	Sun 13	Burnley	0-1	15	2,000	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Saka	William Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60) M-Niles(74) Nketiah(77) Willock	Smith Rowe Mustafi Runarsson	G. Scott							
	Wed 16	Southampton	1-1	15	BCD	Leno M-Niles Holding Gabriel Tiemey Ceballos Elneny Saka	Pepe Nketiah AUBAMEYANG	David Luiz(65) Willock(67) Cedric(85) William	Lacazette Mustafi Runarsson	P. Tierney							
	Sat 19	Everton	1-2	15	2,000	Leno M-Niles HOLDING David Luiz Tiemey Ceballos Elneny Saka	Pepe William Nketiah	Willock(64) Martinelli(71) Lacazette(76) Cedric	Bellerin Smith Rowe Kolasinac Mustafi Runarsson	A. Manniner							
	Tue 22	Manchester City	1-4	QF	BCD	Runarsson Cedric Mustafi Gabriel Kolasinac Ceballos Elneny M-Niles	Willock Martinelli LACAZETTE	Pepe(49) Smith Rowe(66) Balogun(77) Mari	Tiemey Nketiah Leno	S. Attwell							
MARCH	Sat 26	Chelsea	3-1	14	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Saka	Smith Rowe Martinelli LACAZETTE	Willock(65) Pepe(71) Mustafi(90) Ceballos	Aubameyang Cedric Nketiah M-Niles Runarsson	M. Oliver							
	Tue 29	Brighton & HA	1-0	13	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Saka	Smith Rowe Martinelli AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(63) Ceballos(81) M-Niles(89) Willock	Cedric Mustafi Pepe Nketiah Runarsson	M. Atkinson							
	Sat 2	West Brom	4-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tiemey Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	M-Niles(54) William(71) Willock(77) Pepe	David Luiz Elneny Martinelli Nketiah Runarsson	M. Atkinson							
	Sat 9	Newcastle United	2-0	R3	BCD	Leno Cedric David Luiz Mari Tiemey Willock Elneny Nelson	William Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Smith Rowe(56) Xhaka(66) Saka(66) Lacazette(105)	Balogun(120) Chambers Nketiah Runarsson	C. Kavanagh							
APRIL	Thur 14	Crystal Palace	0-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding David Luiz M-Niles Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(65) Partey(69) Nketiah(81) Willock	Cedric Gabriel William Chambers Runarsson	A. Manniner							
	Mon 18	Newcastle United	3-0	10	BCD	Leno Cedric Holding David Luiz Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Elneny(67) William(79) Martinelli(81) Willock	Bellerin Gabriel Nketiah Pepe Runarsson	D. Coote							
	Sat 23	Southampton	0-1	R4	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Elneny William	Pepe Martinelli Nketiah	Partey(57) Saka(58) Lacazette(72) Willock	M-Niles Chambers David Luiz Ryan Runarsson	P. Bankes							
	Tue 26	Southampton	3-1	8	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	William(72) Elneny(78) Willock(90) Gabriel	M-Niles Chambers Nketiah Martinelli Ryan	K. Friend							
MAY	Sat 30	Manchester United	0-0	9	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Martinelli	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	William(46) Odegaard(83) Nketiah(90) Gabriel	M-Niles Chambers Elneny Willock Runarsson	M. Oliver							
	Tue 2	Wolves	1-2	10	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Gabriel(46) Aubameyang(61) Runarsson(74)	Ceballos Odegaard Chambers Elneny Martinelli William	C. Pawson							
	Sat 6	Aston Villa	0-1	10	BCD	Ryan BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Aubameyang(59) Odegaard(65) William(74)	Ceballos Chambers Martinelli Elneny Mari Runarsson	C. Kavanagh							
	Sun 14	Leeds United	4-2	9	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odegaard AUBAMEYANG	William(62) Elneny(78) Holding(89) Pepe	Chambers Lacazette Mari Martinelli Ryan	S. Attwell							
JUNE	Thur 18	Benfica	1-1	R32	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odegaard AUBAMEYANG	Tiemey(64) Pepe(77) Martinelli(77) William(89)	Elneny(89) Chambers Lacazette Mari Nketiah Ryan Runarsson	C. Cakir							
	Sun 21	Manchester City	0-1	10	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Saka	Odegaard Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(73) Smith Rowe(73) David Luiz(82)	Ceballos(86) Gabriel William Martinelli Cedric Ryan	J. Moss							
	Thur 25	Benfica	3-2	R32	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odegaard AUBAMEYANG	William(63) Partey(63) Lacazette(78) Chambers(86)	Elneny(89) Cedric Pepe Mari Nketiah Martinelli Ryan Hein	B. Kuipers							
	Sun 28	Leicester City	3-1	10	BCD	Leno Cedric David Luiz Mari Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Pepe	Smith Rowe William LACAZETTE	Odegaard(42) Partey(66) Aubameyang(83)	Bellerin Saka Ceballos Holding Martinelli Ryan	P. Tierney							
JULY	Sat 6	Burnley	1-1	10	BCD	Leno Chambers David Luiz Mari Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	Odegaard William AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(63) Pepe(69) Ceballos(80)	Bellerin Gabriel Holding Elneny Martinelli Ryan	A. Manniner							
	Thur 11	Olympicos	3-1	R16	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	Odegaard William AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(55) Smith Rowe(82) Pepe(82)	Elneny(82) Lacazette(88) Holding Cedric Martinelli	Mari Chambers Hein Ryan	D. Siebert						
	Sun 14	Tottenham Hotspur	2-1	10	BCD	Leno Cedric David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	Odegaard Smith Rowe LACAZETTE	Pepe(46) William(77) Elneny(88) Bellerin	Ceballos Holding Aubameyang Chambers Ryan	M. Oliver							
	Thur 18	Olympicos	0-1	R16	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tiemey Xhaka Elneny Ceballos	Smith Rowe Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Partey(57) Odegaard(57) Martinelli(81)	Chambers(82) Holding Lacazette Cedric Mari Nelson Nketiah Ryan Okonkwo	C. Grande							
AUGUST	Sun 21	West Ham United	3-3**	9	BCD	Leno Chambers David Luiz Mari Tiemey Xhaka Partey Saka	Odegaard Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(74) Smith Rowe(74) Martinelli(81)	Gabriel Ceballos Holding Cedric Elneny Ryan	J. Moss							
	Sat 3	Liverpool	0-3	9	BCD	Leno Chambers Holding Gabriel Tiemey Ceballos Partey Pepe	Odegaard Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(45) Elneny(58) Martinelli(77)	Bellerin William Mari Nelson Nketiah Ryan	S. Attwell							
	Thur 8	Slavia Prague	1-1	QF	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe William Lacazette	Martinelli(73) Aubameyang(78) Elneny(78)	Pepe(78) Ceballos(88) Mari Nelson Nketiah Lopez Ryan Hein	A. Ekberg							
	Sun 11	Sheffield United	3-0	9	BCD	Leno Chambers Holding Mari Xhaka Ceballos Partey Pepe	Saka Martinelli LACAZETTE	William(69) Elneny(83) Nketiah(89)	Bellerin Cedric Gabriel Nelson Azeez Ryan	P. Bankes							
SEPTEMBER	Thur 15	Slavia Prague	4-0	QF	750	Leno Chambers Holding Mari Xhaka Ceballos Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe LACAZETTE	Elneny(67) Martinelli(78) Cedric(78) Nketiah(78)	Balogun(88) Bellerin William Gabriel Nelson Azeez Ryan Hillson	C. Cakir							
	Sun 18	Fulham	1-1	9	BCD	Ryan BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Xhaka Ceballos Elneny Saka	Smith Rowe Martinelli Lacazette	Pepe(68) Partey(68) Nketiah(70) William	Mari Cedric Chambers Nelson Leno	C. Pawson							
	Fri 23	Everton	0-1	10	BCD	Leno Chambers HOLDING Mari Xhaka Ceballos Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Nketiah	Martinelli(74) Odegaard(74) William(83)	Bellerin Gabriel Cedric Elneny Nelson Ryan	J. Moss							
	Thur 29	Villarreal	1-2	SF	BCD	Leno Chambers HOLDING Mari Xhaka Ceballos Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Odegaard Pepe	Martinelli(63) Aubameyang(85) William(89)	Elneny(89) Bellerin Gabriel Cedric David Luiz Nelson Nketiah Okonkwo Ryan	D. Soares							
OCTOBER	Sun 2	Newcastle United	2-0	9	BCD	Ryan Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Xhaka Ceballos Elneny William	Odegaard Martinelli AUBAMEYANG	Chambers(53) Pepe(78) Partey(85) Cedric	Smith Rowe Saka Mari Nketiah Leno	M. Dean							
	Thur 6	Villarreal	0-0	SF	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tiemey Odegaard Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Martinelli(67) William(80) Lacazette(80)	Nketiah(90) Elneny Cedric Chambers Gabriel Nelson Okonkwo Ryan	S. Vindic							
	Sun 9	West Brom	3-1	9	BCD	Leno Chambers HOLDING Gabriel Saka Ceballos Elneny Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Martinelli	Lacazette(60) Tiemey(63) Partey(76)	Cedric Odegaard Bellerin Aubameyang Nketiah Runarsson	P. Bankes							
	Wed 12	Chelsea	1-0	8	BCD	Leno Saka Holding Mari Gabriel Tiemey Elneny Partey	Smith Rowe Odegaard AUBAMEYANG	Bellerin(66) Lacazette(79) Chambers(88)	Cedric Ceballos William Pepe Martinelli Ryan	A. Manniner							
NOVEMBER	Wed 19	Crystal Palace	3-1	9	6,500	Leno Chambers Holding Gabriel Tiemey Partey Elneny Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Odegaard(65) Xhaka(78) Martinelli(78)	Cedric William Mari Lacazette Ceballos Ryan	A. Taylor							

Benfica away game played in Rome, home game played in Athens

# THE BREAKDOWN FIRST-TEAM

## FIXTURES, RESULTS & LINE-UPS

### FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

PLAYER	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	20/21
Bernd Leno	34	10	2	2	-	48
Bukayo Saka	30+1(5)	8+1(2)	+2	2	1	41+4(7)
Granit Xhaka	28+2(1)	10	1+1	1	1	41+3(1)
Rob Holding	27+2	4+1	1	2	1	35+3
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	25+3(10)	5+3(3)	1(1)	-	1(1)	32+6(15)
Kieran Tierney	25+1(1)	4+5	1	-	1	31+6(1)
Hector Bellerin	24+1(1)	6+1	1	+1	1	32+3(1)
Alexandre Lacazette	22+8(13)	5+3(3)	+2	1+1(1)	-	28+14(17)
Gabriel	21+1(2)	6(1)	1	2	-	30+1(3)
Mohamed Elneny	18+6(1)	5+7(2)	2	2+1	1	28+14(3)
Dani Ceballos	17+8	6+6	-	2+1	-	25+15
Thomas Partey	17+6	6+2	+1	-	-	23+9
David Luiz	17+3(1)	7(1)	1	1	1	27+3(2)
Emile Smith Rowe	17+2(2)	7+4(1)	+1(1)	+1	-	24+8(4)
Willian	16+9(1)	3+6	2	+1	-	21+16(1)
Nicolas Pepe	15+13(8)	10+3(6)	2	2+1	-	29+17(14)
Pablo Mari	10	5(1)	1	-	-	16(1)
Martin Odegaard	8+5(1)	5+1(1)	-	-	-	13+6(2)
Cedric Soares	8+2	7+2	2	2	+1	19+5
Gabriel Martinelli	7+6(2)	+5	1	1	-	9+11(2)
Calum Chambers	7+2	3+3	-	-	-	10+5
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	5+6	5	+1	2+1	1	13+8
Eddie Nketiah	4+13(2)	6+2(3)	1	2(1)	1	14+15(6)
Mat Ryan	3	-	-	-	-	3
Joe Willock	2+5	4+1(3)	1	3	+1	10+7(3)
Sead Kolasinac	1	4	-	3	+1	8+1
Shkodran Mustafi	+3	5	-	1	-	6+3
Reiss Nelson	+2	3+1(1)	1	1	+1	5+4(1)
Alex Runarsson	+1	4	-	1	-	5+1
Folarin Balogun	-	+5(2)	-	+1	-	+6(2)
Miguel Azeez	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Ben Cottrell	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Emiliano Martinez	-	-	-	-	1	1
Own goals	(2)	(2)	-	(1)	-	(5)

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1. Manchester City	37	26	5	6	46	83
2. Manchester United	37	20	11	6	28	71
3. Chelsea	37	19	10	8	23	67
4. Liverpool	37	19	9	9	24	66
5. Leicester City	37	20	6	11	20	66
6. West Ham United	37	18	8	11	12	62
7. Tottenham Hotspur	37	17	8	12	21	59
8. Everton	37	17	8	12	4	59
9. Arsenal	37	17	7	13	14	58
10. Leeds United	37	17	5	15	6	56
11. Aston Villa	37	15	7	15	8	52
12. Wolves	37	12	9	16	-15	45
13. Crystal Palace	37	12	8	17	-23	44
14. Southampton	37	12	7	18	-18	43
15. Newcastle United	37	11	9	17	-18	42
16. Brighton & HA	37	9	14	14	-4	41
17. Burnley	37	10	9	18	-21	39
18. Fulham	37	5	13	19	-24	28
19. West Brom	37	5	11	21	-39	27
20. Sheffield United	37	6	2	29	-44	20

As at Thursday, May 20

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At the last home game of every season, we remember those Arsenal supporters who passed away during the course of the campaign. Rest In Peace.

ABDURDUF ROGHAY  
AIDEN HOLDER  
ALAN REID  
ALBERT 'EDDIE' GREGORY  
ALEX THOMPSON  
ALFRED DENHART  
ALLAN ANDREWS  
ALUN OWEN  
ALVIN NEW  
ANDREW NEWBOLD  
ANDREW QUANN  
ANDREW WESTWOOD  
ANITA AYLING  
ANNA MARIA FARRELL  
ANNE HART  
ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM  
AUDREY WHITE  
AZRA KEMAL  
BARBRA HUNTLEY  
BARBARA WINDSOR  
BARRINGTON SINGH  
BARRY HUBER  
BARRY O'NEILL  
BEN BEST  
BERNARD TIMMS  
BILL SAUNDERS  
BRIAN BUTLIN  
BRIAN STIBBONS  
BRIAN WAKLIN  
BROGAN-MARIE PHILLIPS-TOWNSEND  
CAROL CAPON  
CHARLES BARNES  
CHRIS GIBBONS  
CHRIS SCOTT  
CHRISTOPHER BROSAN  
CHRISTOPHER DAVIS  
CHRISTOPHER JOHN CHARLES  
CAVALIER  
CLAUDIO CALLEGARI  
CONDOR SCULLY  
CRAIG D'ARCHEVILLE  
DAHOO MEFLAH

DAMIEN BLAKE  
DARREN McDONALD  
DARRIN MAYO  
DAVID (DAVE) ALAN MARTIN  
DAVID BREWER  
DAVID COOKE  
DAVID ELEY  
DAVID MARTIN  
DAVID DAKENFOLD  
DAVID PHILLIPS  
DAVID SAMMAN  
DAVID SOLE  
DAVID SOUTHAM  
DEAN PHILIPS  
DONALD BEARD  
DONALD JAMES  
DONALD SOLE  
DOR HAY DARMAN  
EDWARD SENA YAO DEY  
ELAINE MCVEIGH  
ERIC WILCOCKS  
ETHAN BOURNE  
EVANS AMADI  
FERENC HOLLER  
FRANK DAY  
GARETH BRYANT  
GARY BECK  
GEOFF BARNETT  
GEOFFREY BRAIN  
GEORGE & JOAN COBBOLD  
GEORGE ASHBY  
GEORGE OLD  
GEORGE SOTERIOU  
GEORGE WEST  
GODFREY CHARLES LOWEN  
GORDON BREMNER  
GRAHAM COULSON  
GRAHAM CURSON  
HARRY LESTER  
HAZEL CHAPMAN  
HORACE GOOCH  
HOW PANG  
IAN YEDMANS  
JACK RONALD  
JACK STEPANSKY  
JAGBHANDA SINGH LANDA  
JANE LANDON  
JASON FERDINANDO  
JAVAD AKHTAR

JAY SCARBOROUGH  
JEETEN PATEL  
JEREMY HIND  
JIM WRIGHT  
JOE MURPHY  
JOHN CARROLL  
JOHN FARRELL  
JOHN HOWSE  
JOHN KINGTON  
JOHN MCKEIGUE  
JOHN TUCK  
KEITH CRUST  
KEITH TUFFS  
KEN CORDING  
KEN GOLDMAN  
KENNETH CAMPFIELD  
KENNETH EVANS  
KENNETH IRISH  
KEVIN NOLAN  
KOBY PAPWORTH  
KRISH KENT  
LAURENCE CONSIDINE  
LEE ATKINSON  
LESLIE DOUGLAS LEIGHTON  
LINDA BUTTON  
LIONEL FRANCIS MASSETTI  
LIONEL HAYDN DUNN  
LORD SACKS  
LUKE KOURDOULLOU  
MACORLIE WOOD  
MALACHY MCSORLEY  
MALCOLM DOUGLAS CRIDLAND  
MARIUS BRUSTAD &  
LISBETH NERAAS  
MARTYN PARRIS (PAZ)  
MAURICE HUNTLEY  
MERVYN MORSON  
MICHAEL OLATUNDE FADAYOMI  
MICHAEL TAYLOR  
MYLES PATRICK ROCHE  
NATHAN MITRA  
NICK TAYLOR  
NORMAN AMES  
PAUL MAHONEY  
PAUL MORRIS  
PAUL ROGERS  
PETER GOY  
PETER RICHARDS  
PETER SIMMS

PETER STILWELL  
PETER WINGROVE  
PHIL BONE  
PHILIP BORER  
QUENTON SOUTHBY (BILL)  
RAHUL PHADNIS  
RAWAZ TAHA  
RAYMOND IVAN JESSUP  
RAYMOND LOCK  
REGGIE KINGSLEY MASON RIGBY  
RICHARD SHANNON  
RITA GALLAGHER  
ROBERT SEDGWICK  
ROBERT SHARP  
ROBERT STEPHEN LAWRENCE  
ROBERT WILSON  
SAMIR HAMI  
SANDRA WHITE  
SIDNEY BEAUFY  
SIMON COX  
SIMON EDEN  
SIMONE PALMER  
STEPHEN HALLIDAY  
STEVE STRATTON  
STEVE TURNER  
STEVEN LAMPEY  
STUART HASLER  
TED ARCHARD  
TERENCE SUSSEX  
TERRACE TODD  
TERRY HARMAN  
TERRY HUDSON  
THOMAS JAMES MASHARI  
TOM BUTLER  
TOMMY DOCHERTY  
TONY BROWN  
TONY DOYLE  
URSULA PEARSON  
VIC JOLLY  
VICTOR BARRETT  
VIOLET DEVENISH  
WADOON JHAN  
WAYNE BERRY  
WILLIAM EARLS  
WILLIAM HUMPHRY  
WILLIAM MEADER  
WILLIAM SAUNDERS  
ZACHARY BYGRAVE  
ZAHARI BIN AWANG NGAH



## ARSENAL

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

P	S	SO	
00	00	00	1 BERND LENO (GK) (34)
00	00	00	2 HECTOR BELLERIN (24+1/1)
00	00	00	3 KIERAN TIERNEY (25+1/1)
00	00	00	6 GABRIEL (21+1/2)
00	00	00	7 BUKAYO SAKA (30+1/5)
00	00	00	8 DANI CEBALLOS (17+8)
00	00	00	9 ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE (22+8/13)
00	00	00	11 MARTIN ODEGAARD (8+5/1)
00	00	00	12 WILLIAN (16+9/1)
00	00	00	13 ALEX RUNDARSSON (GK) (0+1)
00	00	00	14 PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG (25+3/10)
00	00	00	16 ROB HOLDING (27+2)
00	00	00	17 CEDRIC SOARES (8+2)
00	00	00	18 THOMAS PARTEY (17+6)
00	00	00	19 NICOLAS PEPE (15+13/8)
00	00	00	21 CALUM CHAMBERS (7+2)
00	00	00	22 PABLO MARI (10)
00	00	00	23 DAVID LUIZ (17+3/1)
00	00	00	24 REISS NELSON (0+2)
00	00	00	25 MOHAMED ELNENY (18+6/1)
00	00	00	30 EDDIE NKETIAH (4+13/2)
00	00	00	32 EMILE SMITH ROWE (17+2/2)
00	00	00	33 MAT RYAN (GK) (3)
00	00	00	34 GRANIT XHAKA (28+2/1)
00	00	00	35 GABRIEL MARTINELLI (7+6/2)
00	00	00	38 FOLARIN BALOGUN
00	00	00	41 BEN COTTRELL
00	00	00	66 MIGUEL AZEEZ



## BRIGHTON

MANAGER GRAHAM POTTER  
BLUE AND WHITE SHIRTS, BLUE SHORTS  
AND WHITE SOCKS

P	S	SO	
00	00	00	2 TARIQ LAMPTHEY (11/1)
00	00	00	3 BEN WHITE (35)
00	00	00	4 ADAM WEBSTER (28/1)
00	00	00	5 LEWIS DUNK (32/5)
00	00	00	6 MICHAL KARBOWNIK
00	00	00	7 AARON CONNELLY (9+7/2)
00	00	00	8 YVES BISSOUMA (34+1/1)
00	00	00	9 NEAL MAUPAY (29+4/8)
00	00	00	10 ALEXIS MAC ALLISTER (12+8/1)
00	00	00	11 LEANDRO TROSSARD (29+5/5)
00	00	00	13 PASCAL GROSS (26+7/3)
00	00	00	14 ADAM LALLANA (16+13/1)
00	00	00	15 JAKUB MODER (6+5)
00	00	00	16 ALIREZA JAHANBAKHSH (5+15)
00	00	00	17 STEVEN ALZATE (10+4/1)
00	00	00	18 DANNY WELBECK (17+7/6)
00	00	00	19 JOSE IZQUIERDO (0+1)
00	00	00	20 SULLY MARCH (19+2/2)
00	00	00	21 FLORIN ANDONE
00	00	00	22 PERCY TAU (1+2)
00	00	00	23 JASON STEELE (GK)
00	00	00	24 DAVY PROPPER (2+5)
00	00	00	25 MOISE CAICEDO
00	00	00	26 ROBERT SANCHEZ (GK) (26)
00	00	00	29 ANDI ZEQRIRI (0+8)
00	00	00	31 CHRISTIAN WALTON (GK)
00	00	00	33 DAN BURN (22+4/1)
00	00	00	34 JOEL VELTMAN (25+3/1)
00	00	00	67 REDA KHADRA (0+1)

## MATCH OFFICIALS

### REFEREE

Jon Moss

### ASSISTANT REFEREES

Marc Perry  
Timothy Wood

### FOURTH OFFICIAL

Dean Whitestone

### VAR

Simon Hooper

### ASSISTANT VAR

Derek Eaton

## TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES

(All games kick off at 4pm)

Aston Villa v Chelsea

Fulham v Newcastle United

Leeds United v  
West Bromwich Albion

Leicester City v  
Tottenham Hotspur

Liverpool v Crystal Palace

Sheffield United v Burnley

Manchester City v Everton

West Ham United v  
Southampton

Wolverhampton Wanderers  
v Manchester United



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