

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ARSENAL



NEWCASTLE UNITED

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021 • 8PM • £3.50



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COVER Emile Smith Rowe broke the deadlock last time we hosted Newcastle

THIS IS FAMILY



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MIKEL ARTETA

I felt we missed some freshness and some quality in the final third on Thursday night against Crystal Palace.

That's why we didn't get the win in the end, because we did manage to get into the final third quite often, but without ever really generating any big, big chances for the forwards. We got into dangerous situations but in the end we lacked the final pass or the finish too often. We know we have to create more chances if we want to win games.

We were desperate for the win to keep the run going, but as well you could see there were moments when fatigue played a part in our performance. We started to give the ball away too much and that allowed Palace to attack us on the transition, which we know is their strength.

I can't fault the players over this period though, we have put in so much effort during the last few weeks, and we

just couldn't get that goal we needed that would have changed everything on Thursday.

Credit to Crystal Palace as well of course. This is not the first time we have seen them perform like that. They have beaten a lot of big teams in the past few months because Roy Hodgson has got them very well organised.

We knew that, but in the end our execution and quality was not enough to break them down.

To take the positives, we got a point and another clean sheet but overall it was disappointing not to get all three points.

The foundation to win any game is your defensive work and keeping clean sheets, so it's very pleasing to see us keep that going.

And it's even more pleasing to do that after we had to ►





make some changes at the back.

With this hectic schedule, that's going to happen more and more. We had four injuries last week and we need to manage the squad. Some players are coming back, like Gabi who came back after Covid, Thomas was back after a long injury as well, so it's going to happen. We have to adapt. It's really difficult in this league now to have a consistent starting 11, all the clubs find that. We haven't had the possibility to do it so far, I think for at least six months. So I'm not expecting anything different from now.

That's why we were arguing for five subs. We didn't have a pre-season, then you have a big run of games with no break, so of course there will be injuries. I have to manage the squad, but also when you get on a good run you don't want to change too much. The players want to play as well, they want to keep going.

We will be ready to go again tonight though against Newcastle. We played them only a few days ago, so we can use that to our advantage if we analyse what we did well and not so well in that game. We have assessed and reviewed what we did in the last few games, so we know

"IT'S REALLY DIFFICULT IN THIS LEAGUE NOW TO HAVE A CONSISTENT STARTING 11, ALL THE CLUBS FIND THAT"

what we can do better. Defensively, we were really solid and we are not giving things away easily. We're making it really hard for the opponent. In the final third, we've progressed a lot but Thursday showed there are still things that we have to do better.

That's not down to the attackers only though. As a collective we have to do more going forward. When you look at the way these tight games are won, sometimes it comes down to an individual action, that spark to get something going, and then the game can open up.

It took us a long time to do that in the cup game against Newcastle, but I felt we did a lot of good things before that, and eventually we deserved the win.

So you have to stay patient in these games too, get through the low block, and take your chances when you get them.

Steve Bruce is going through a difficult time at the



moment, but he has so much experience and I have a lot of respect for him so I know he can come through it. We all know how much our colleagues suffer in this job, and he's not one to walk away from a challenge. He's a top manager but a top guy as well. I had a difficult spell recently of course and at times like that you know you need the support of the club and you need to stay true to your principals. Even more than ever in fact. You have to really stick to your beliefs and that can be difficult because everything becomes cloudy. You have to be able to see through that, be adaptable, and change what you need to. The margins are very small though, and sometimes results can just come down to very small factors.

Thanks for your continued support. We know you are continuing to get behind us from home, and we really hope that before too long we'll feel that support in person again, to give us that extra edge. ■

PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

It was disappointing not to keep up our winning run on Thursday, but you have to give credit to Palace too.

They defended well and made it very difficult to play through them, and we couldn't create enough dangerous opportunities to get the goal. We put the effort in, we kept going, but we missed that final pass or that final action at some key moments.

We have to take the point though and try to get back to winning games this evening against Newcastle.

We know we have the talent to do that and we want to get back to the way we were performing in the last few games.

Our young players have been a big part of our recent form and I want to give them some credit for that.

We are so lucky to have this really talented group coming through, and I can see from training and now the games how much progress they are all making.

Emile Smith Rowe is doing really well at the moment, he's still young, so we know he can still progress a lot. But he's helped the team a lot since he came back from injury.

Bukayo Saka has been in the team for a while now, but don't forget that he's still really young as well – it's crazy when you look at all these good young players coming through here. They have all got big, fantastic careers ahead of them, I'm sure about that, because they are all positive guys but humble as well. They want to learn, they want to make a big progression and that's

what makes the difference.

It will be great to see Gabi Martinelli coming with us after his injury too, because it's clear how talented he is. It's great to have him with us for the second half of the season because he can be a really dangerous player for us.

This week the Premier League are doing some really good work to highlight mental health, and this is something I always thought was really important. It's always important, but at the moment, and for the last year, it's been really, really tough to be positive the whole time. But you have to try and be positive and personally that's what I try to do. I do that by spending time with my family and my kids and that is where I am able to find my strength and build a positive mental health. ▶



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"ONE THING THAT I DO OFTEN, THAT I FIND HELPS ME WITH MY MENTAL WELLBEING IS CALL MY FATHER. HE'S LIKE MY PSYCHOLOGIST!"

When they are with me and close to me then it means everything, and that's how I deal with it. My kids are nine and four years old, so let's say they keep me busy! A lot!

One thing that I do often, that I find helps me with my mental wellbeing is call my father. He's like my psychologist! My father gives me so much strength, just by what he is able to say to me, with using some key words, and for me I've found it so important. I've done this ever since I started my career, because he played as well, he was a professional, so he knows what I am going through. I'm really lucky to have him at the end of the phone. After every game I call him and he gives me his feedback on the game and stuff like that. During lockdown as well I called him a lot and he tries to keep me fit. He always said 'Are you training?' and so I would always FaceTime him while I was on the treadmill! So he could see that he was motivating me and that was really important during that first lockdown.

As captain I also try to look out for my team-mates too.

We are all on a WhatsApp group texting each other and during the lockdown when football stopped that was important, to check everyone was doing well, because we didn't see each other as much. I have to say that everyone was doing well. Of course sometimes it was a bit boring because we couldn't do anything, but this group gave everyone strength. I will always remember that time because we came together, some guys on there were really funny, and that helped keep us all strong and happy. We have a lot of clowns in the group! Laca is good on there, Rob Holding too is really funny.

Finally, I've said it before in my notes, and I want to say it again, because it's a difficult time of year – but we really, really miss having you guys all with us inside the stadium. We know that's how it's got to be at the moment, but we miss everything about it. It's hard for us. It's hard to find that extra energy sometimes when we don't have the fans there. We have to keep going, we have to keep trying and that's what we are doing. But we want you to know that we can't wait to have you back at the stadiums too. For sure we are all hoping that can be safe to do soon, and we can enjoy the games together. Until then though, be sure that we're thinking of you all, we know you are supporting us however you can at the moment, and we really appreciate that. ■

VOICE OF ARSENAL



ROB SIGNS NEW CONTRACT

Rob Holding has signed a new long-term contract with us, running until 2024 with an option for a further year.

The centre back has made a memorable return from the knee injury he sustained at Old Trafford two years ago. He was a key part of our Emirates FA Cup victory last season, missing just one match in our run to the final and playing the whole 90 minutes in the Wembley win over Chelsea. He has continued that form and has already made 17 starts this season.

Technical director Edu said: "We are very happy to have signed Rob on a new contract extension. He is 25 years old, so is still coming into the peak of his career, and we are delighted that he'll be with us during these important years. Rob has shown great quality and maturity on and off the pitch in recent months and is developing well. We are looking forward to Rob continuing his progression in the years to come."

Mikel Arteta added: "Since I started as manager, I have been hugely impressed with Rob's contribution to the club and the dressing room, on and off the pitch. The quality of his work every day on the training pitches is excellent and he is translating this into consistently high performances in matches."

"We all know Rob's quality, which he has shown in his displays during the intense moments of those two FA Cup final victories. We are all very happy that Rob has signed a new contract, he is very popular with all the players and staff, and we're looking forward to watching him continue to grow with us in the coming years."

Rob is fast approaching 100 games for the Gunners. His appearance last Thursday against Crystal Palace was his 97th since joining us from Bolton Wanderers in July 2016, during which time he has won the FA Cup twice with memorable performances against Chelsea last year and in 2017.

The matchday programme has a feature with Rob in today's issue, turn to page 26 to hear from him on his Arsenal career so far. ■



Rob's here to stay

FA CUP DATE CONFIRMED

Following our third round win over Newcastle, we can confirm that the fourth round of the FA Cup will be played as follows:

Southampton or Shrewsbury Town v Arsenal
Saturday, January 23
Kick Off: 12.15pm
Live on: BT Sport

The match between Southampton and Shrewsbury at St Mary's takes place tomorrow night, kick-off 8pm. ■



Richard on Premier League duty in China recently

WELCOME RICHARD

Arsenal Football Club are delighted to announce Richard Garlick is joining us as director of football operations.

Richard, who is currently director of football at the Premier League and was previously director of football administration at West Bromwich Albion, will join the club in the coming months. He will be a member of our executive team and will be working closely with technical director Edu, manager Mikel Arteta and academy manager Per Mertesacker. His responsibilities will include football operations in the first team and academy, all player contract management and relationships with football's governing bodies.

Richard, a qualified solicitor specialising in sports law, has been at the Premier League since 2018. He was previously at West Bromwich Albion for eight years. We look forward to welcoming him to Arsenal soon. ■



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHAN

Former central defender Johan Djourou celebrates his 34th birthday today – Happy Birthday Johan!

The Switzerland international joined the Gunners aged 16, and is currently playing in the Danish top flight with Nordsjaelland, having joined from Swiss team Neuchatel Xamax in October.

Any Arsenal game against Newcastle has extra resonance for Johan, who scored his only goal for the Gunners in 144 games when we played 'Toon' at St James' Park nearly 10 years ago on February 5, 2011. In that match, Johan put us two goals ahead after just three minutes as we raced to a 4-0 lead. But he was injured early in the second-half and the ecstasy really did turn to agony for Johan, as the unthinkable happened and Newcastle scored four goals in the final 22 minutes to earn a point. ■



Lighting up the cup last weekend

CONGRATULATIONS, EMILE!

The cover star of this issue is Emile Smith Rowe, celebrating after scoring the opening goal against Newcastle in the third round of the FA Cup on January 9.

Coming on as a 56th minute substitute, Emile's progressive forward play made a huge impact in the match – so much so he has been voted the Emirates FA Cup Player of the Third Round after 51,865 people voted

for him through the FA's social media channels.

Emile came out on top ahead of Aston Villa's young goalscorer Louie Barry, Tottenham's hat-trick scorer against Marine Carlos Vinicius and Crawley Town's Ashley Nadesan, who scored his team's second goal in their superb 3-0 win over Leeds United.

Well done Emile! ■



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AHEAD
OF THE
GAME**

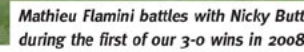


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OF THE
GAME**

THE CHANCE TO WIN
PRIZES AND REWARDS
AND MORE!!!



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Newcastle's Andy Carroll has scored five Premier League goals against Arsenal – against no side has he scored more in the competition. He was the last player to score a winning goal for Newcastle away against the Gunners (November 2010), and had nine of the Magpies' 12 shots in their recent FA Cup meeting against us. ■





REF WATCH

David Coote from Nottinghamshire is a relatively new Premier League referee – his first match in charge at the top level came in 2018 and tonight is his first ever match refereeing Arsenal in the Premier League.

He has officiated one previous Gunners game, our 2-1 win over Blackpool in the League Cup at Emirates on October 31, 2018. On that evening he sent off Matteo Guendouzi and Blackpool's Paudie O'Connor. The game was also notable for Emile Smith Rowe scoring his first goal at Emirates Stadium.

In the Premier League this season, David has been in charge of nine games and dispensed a total of 36 yellow cards and two reds. ■



Married v Unmarried!

ARSENAL NEPAL MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION

Arsenal Nepal Supporters Club conducted its Membership Distribution programme for 2020/21 on Saturday, January 9 in Kathmandu. President of Arsenal Nepal, Nabin Chitrakar and Vice-President Niroj Khatriwada presented Membership Cards and packages to the members.

The members event featured a host of exciting activities, including a women's match and the traditional football match: Nepal Married versus Nepal Unmarried!

Arsenal Nepal was set up in 2009 and now has a total of 209 members. This year's membership packages include Arsenal Nepal scarf, Arsenal Nepal card and FA Cup special brooch pin. ■

ARSENAL REMEMBERS

ALBERT 'EDDIE' GREGORY – Highbury born and lifelong Arsenal supporter sadly passed away NYE 2020. He absolutely loved Arsenal through good and bad times, especially enjoying watching the Invincibles. He was a great husband, dad, grandad, brother and friend and will be missed by all who knew and loved him

STEVE TURNEY – Arsenal born and bred. Last orders and cheerio to our very dear friend Steve. We will all miss your insight and advice, but most of all we will miss the fun and the laughs you shared with so many

ERENC HOLLER – From Szeged, Hungary. Family, friends and former teammates are saying goodbye to a great and loving person. An excellent former player of the Hungarian League and a real Gooner. He'll live in our hearts forever

MARIUS BRUSTAD, 29, sadly lost his life alongside his mother, **LISBETH NERAAS**, 54, during the landslide disaster in Gjerdrum, Norway. Marius was a loyal supporter, watching us play at both Emirates and Wembley, and leaves behind brothers Ola & Rasmus and father, Einar. The best friend you could have, he was always warm, positive and his legacy will live forever in all the lives he touched and changed for the better

VIC JOLLY – Passed away on January 9, 2021 aged 71. Vic was a huge Arsenal supporter and a friend to the Arsenal boys, especially the 70s. He was loved by all and will be sadly missed by family and all his friends. RIP Vic ■



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2

SMITH ROWE 109,
AUBAMEYANG 117



0

EMIRATES FA CUP THIRD ROUND

5.30pm • Saturday, January 9 • Emirates Stadium

FIRST HALF

We started strongly in sub-zero temperatures at Emirates Stadium. Reiss Nelson had our first shot on goal inside 60 seconds, but it was easily dealt with by Martin Dubravka. But it was Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang who had our best chance of the half. Beating the offside trap, he sprinted on to a long Cedric Soares free-kick over the top, and forced a smart save.

SECOND HALF

We were relieved to see Andy Carroll miss from close range when the ball fell to him at the far post before Aubameyang again raced away one-on-one only to skew his shot wide as the game began to open up. There was drama in injury-time. Carroll looked certain to score following a breakaway but Bernd Leno made himself big, made the save, then pounced on the loose ball. Then Emile Smith Rowe was shown a red card for a foul on Sean Longstaff, only for referee Chris Kavanagh to overturn it after viewing again on the VAR monitor.

EXTRA-TIME

The first period remained goalless and penalties looked inevitable, until Smith Rowe latched onto Alexandre Lacazette's pass and finished superbly in off the post. Aubameyang sealed the win late on when he tucked home Kieran Tierney's cross from close range. ■

ARSENAL	NEWCASTLE UNITED
25 TOTAL SHOTS	12
9 SHOTS ON TARGET	2
8 CORNERS	3
1 OFFSIDES	1
17 FOULS	15
61 POSSESSION %	39

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 17 CEDRIC (120) ■
- 23 DAVID LUIZ
- 22 PABLO MARI
- 3 TIERNEY
- 25 ELNENY
- 28 WILLOCK (66)
- 19 PEPE (105)
- 12 WILLIAN (66)
- 14 AUBAMEYANG
- 24 NELSON (56)

SUBSTITUTES

SMITH ROWE (56), XHAKA (66), SAKA (66), LACAZETTE (105), MAITLAND-NILES (120), RUNARSSON, CHAMBERS, NKETIAH

NEWCASTLE UNITED

- 1 DUBRAVKA
- 17 KRAFTH (68)
- 14 HAYDEN ■
- 6 LASCELLES (46) ■
- 2 CLARK ■
- 3 DUMMETT
- 24 ALMIRON (81)
- 36 S LONGSTAFF
- 16 HENDRICK
- 9 JOELINTON (81)
- 7 CARROLL (105) ■

SUBSTITUTES

RITCHIE (46), MURPHY (68), YEDLIN (81), ANDERSON (81), GAYLE (105), GILLESPIE, M LONGSTAFF



MATCH ACTION

FIRST PAGE

Kieran Tierney is too strong
for Miguel Almiron

PREVIOUS PAGE

Emile Smith Rowe celebrates
the breakthrough

RIGHT

Emile fires in off the post

BELOW LEFT

Emile is in there somewhere!

BELOW RIGHT

Nicolas Pepe on the chase

BOTTOM LEFT

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang
claims another cup goal

BOTTOM RIGHT

David Luiz and Andy Carroll
in aerial battle

FACING PAGE

The Hale End boys



MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

MONDAY RECORD AT EMIRATES STADIUM

PLAYED 16



When we lost to Wigan in April 2012, it ended our 15-year winning streak for home Monday night fixtures

LEAGUE TITLES WON ON A MONDAY



1934/35



1970/71



1990/91

ALL-TIME PREMIER LEAGUE RECORD BY DAY

MON	P 71	W 40	D 14	L 17
TUE	P 65	W 31	D 20	L 14
WED	P 104	W 49	D 40	L 15
THU	P 13	W 6	D 3	L 4
FRI	P 9	W 7	D 2	L 0
SAT	P 545	W 312	D 133	L 100
SUN	P 286	W 141	D 64	L 81

MONDAY FOOTBALL AT EMIRATES STADIUM

Date	Opposition	Comp	Result	Score
Feb 11, 2008	Blackburn Rovers	Prem	W	2-0
Feb 16, 2009	Cardiff City	FAC	W	4-0
Jan 9, 2012	Leeds Utd	FAC	W	1-0
Mar 12, 2012	Newcastle Utd	Prem	W	2-1
Apr 16, 2012	Wigan Athletic	Prem	L	1-2
Dec 23, 2013	Chelsea	Prem	D	0-0
Apr 28, 2014	Newcastle Utd	Prem	W	3-0
May 11, 2015	Swansea City	Prem	L	0-1
Aug 24, 2015	Liverpool	Prem	D	0-0
Dec 21, 2015	Man City	Prem	W	2-1
Dec 28, 2015	Bournemouth	Prem	W	2-0
Dec 26, 2016	WBA	Prem	W	1-0
Sep 25, 2017	WBA	Prem	W	2-0
Oct 22, 2018	Leicester City	Prem	W	3-1
Apr 1, 2019	Newcastle Utd	Prem	W	2-0
Jan 6, 2020	Leeds Utd	FAC	W	1-0



The most famous goal we have scored on a Monday night at Emirates Stadium is Thierry Henry's comeback strike against Leeds United in 2012

ARSENAL'S MONDAY EMIRATES SCORERS

	3		1
	3		1
	3		1
	2		1
	2		1
	2		1
	2		1
	1		1

ROB

On Tuesday Rob Holding signed a new contract, running to 2024 with the option of a further year.

Lhe defender has already had plenty of highlights during his Gunners career, since signing from Bolton Wanderers in July 2016. He ended his first season with a towering performance to beat Chelsea in the 2017 FA Cup final at Wembley – a feat he repeated back in August. He's now just a few games away from a century of appearances for the club, a landmark he unquestionably would have brought up sooner were it not for a devastating ACL injury suffered at Old Trafford in late 2018.

We caught up with Rob to go through the highs and lows of his Arsenal career to date, but began by asking him about his contract extension...

First of all Rob, congratulations on your new contract, how are you feeling?

Yeah, I'm delighted to be fair. It's good to secure your future and it feels brilliant to know I will be part of Arsenal's future for another four years.

You must be pleased with your recent form as well?

Yeah we have got a good defence, we are looking solid now and getting a few clean sheets in a row gives you more confidence, as does having a good goalkeeper behind us. We're happy with it but we have to keep it going.

If things had turned out slightly differently, you could have been playing for today's opponents this season...

Yeah, it was looking like I was going to be out on loan for the season and get some Premier League experience because I wasn't sure if I was in the manager's plans this year to play as much as I had been doing. The manager

sat me down after a training session just a few days before the Community Shield. He asked if I was fully focussed because they needed me to play at the weekend. I just said there was no doubt in my mind, that wherever I'm at, then I will be 100 per cent ready. That's the type of person I am. I think reassuring him of that was something he wanted to hear and it seemed to pay off that weekend. He just wanted to make me aware of what was happening, but then he said "I want you here at Arsenal" and as soon as I heard those words, it would have been stupid of me to leave and go elsewhere.

"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN STUPID OF ME TO LEAVE AND GO ELSEWHERE"

There's plenty of competition for places now in your position, how do you approach that challenge?

Well I put in a lot of hard work during the first lockdown because I wanted to make sure that I came back hitting the ground running and was one step ahead of my teammates. It is competitive, we are all fighting for the same job, so if I can get a head start by working that little bit harder, then it's a no brainer for me. When the new signings came in that were centre halves I was thinking 'well where do I fall in the pecking order?' I didn't want a season of me being fourth or fifth choice and having to wait for injuries to get a chance. But the way it's panned out and the way I've performed has meant I've had a lot of game time so far and that's all I wanted. I don't want to be looking back on my career and think 'I didn't do anything that season' – I want to play games so now it's up to me to keep that going.

We've asked our photographer to pick out some of the iconic images from your time at Arsenal so far, we'd love to hear your memories Rob...

**1 JULY 21, 2016
ARRIVING AT ARSENAL**

Why was I wearing shorts? That's what really pops to mind when I see it. I feel so skinny in that photo! It was a Monday morning and I'd gone to Bolton as usual. The manager pulled me in and told me they were accepting the offer from Arsenal and I had to get the train down the next day. Then on Wednesday I did my medical went to the training ground and did all the photos for signing.

I remember the first time that I went out to watch training and Calum Chambers came over. I'd met him that summer in the Toulon Tournament with England and he had a little chat and made me feel welcome. He helped me with day-to-day stuff, from the gym to the canteen, to going out for training and where we had to put our boots on and stuff. He really showed me the ropes in that aspect.

It was a total step up from where I was and how fast the ball was moving. Everyone was playing one-touch passes and I think I adapted to that quite well and after a few training sessions, I sort of got into the swing of things. But yeah, it did take me by surprise with the initial speed of it.

**2 AUGUST 14, 2016
FIRST-TEAM DEBUT AGAINST LIVERPOOL**

It was my first time going to the Emirates, seeing the stadium and seeing the pitch. When I found out I was starting, I think it was the day before, I wasn't really overthinking it that much that night, thinking like 'I'm starting tomorrow' and I didn't really appreciate how big of a game it was. So I was out on the pitch and you realise there's 60,000 people all cheering and that's when I realised that this was actually quite important. The speed of Liverpool – they were sort of in that transition from where they were when Klopp took over to the title contenders that they are now – and I remember Coutinho being so hard to control. He just dropped off the front line and picked up the ball in places that you just couldn't go and press, so it was difficult. But the lads were training at that level as well, so I was sort of used to the level in terms of how fast it was. It was good, it was a baptism of fire but I got through it in the end.

**3 MAY 27, 2017
FA CUP WIN AT WEMBLEY**

I think this was the one I posted on my Instagram. It's a great photo because I could look out and see a sea of fans just all absolutely buzzing. It was just a special moment to raise a trophy to the fans. I don't think I really appreciated it at the time. The Ox came up to me at the end of the game and said 'You won't appreciate what you've done and how you've played today until a couple of days later', which was so true. About a week later, I was looking back as I was just about to go on holiday and I just thought 'Wow, that's surreal... what's just happened there?!' ▶





**4 MAY 27, 2017
BATTLE WITH DIEGO COSTA**

I think it's just my mentality, just a bit rough and ready and if there's a fight, I'm not going to back away from it. I'm going to stand up and not be walked over. I knew he liked to play the mind games and try to get in your head, so I was just adamant that I'd play physical with him but as soon as it would end or the referee had given a decision or whatever, I'd just jog back into my position and get set for whatever happened next. I didn't really need to get involved in what he was maybe trying to do, it just wasn't really in my agenda to do that.

**5 SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
FIRST ARSENAL GOAL V BATE BORISOV**

I went crazy! It was like 3-0 and I went crazy as if it was like a last-minute winner! Theo took the corner and Per flicked it on at the near post. I'd just sort of carried on my run at the back post and it fell in front of me at my feet. I put it in and then the fans were just behind the goal there. I remember running off, just jumping up and down like crazy, just celebrating as if it was a last-minute winner. It was a nice moment to get the first goal, it wasn't something that I had like a weight on my shoulders, thinking that 'I need to score here, I need to

score eventually'. It would happen sooner or later but it was a nice feeling to get your name on the scoresheet.

**6 DECEMBER 5, 2018
INJURY V MANCHESTER UNITED**

It was a difficult one to take, obviously. I was on a really good run and had played 22 games on the bounce or something similar. I had my dad, my grandad, my uncle, my aunty and my cousin all that game. They didn't know what had happened, they obviously saw it but it was just a bit of an innocuous challenge really. It wasn't a devastating challenge. As soon as I could, I just text them to say I'm okay and they think it's a bad injury but don't worry about it too much and enjoy the rest of the game. So they were okay. I think it was my mum that was more worried because she was obviously sitting at home watching on the TV and I had to ring her straightaway and just speak to her and settle her down because you know what mums are like, they get overprotective. ▶

**"IF THERE'S A FIGHT, I'M NOT GOING TO
BACK AWAY FROM IT. I'M GOING TO
STAND UP AND NOT BE WALKED OVER"**



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**7 SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
COMEBACK GOAL AGAINST FOREST**

It's a great photo with Calum behind and then Kieran Tierney just a little bit further back, jogging in. I think the only way that photo could have been any better was if Hector was alongside me as well because he'd just come back from his ACL. It was a crazy game, we ended up winning 5-0. It was just a perfect way for it to come full circle. I went up for a corner late on, I think Mesut was going off so I got the armband. The cross came in and my first touch as a captain, I put it in the back of the net. It was a dream way for it to end and with a lot of good people on the pitch who were supporting me all the way through the journey as well.

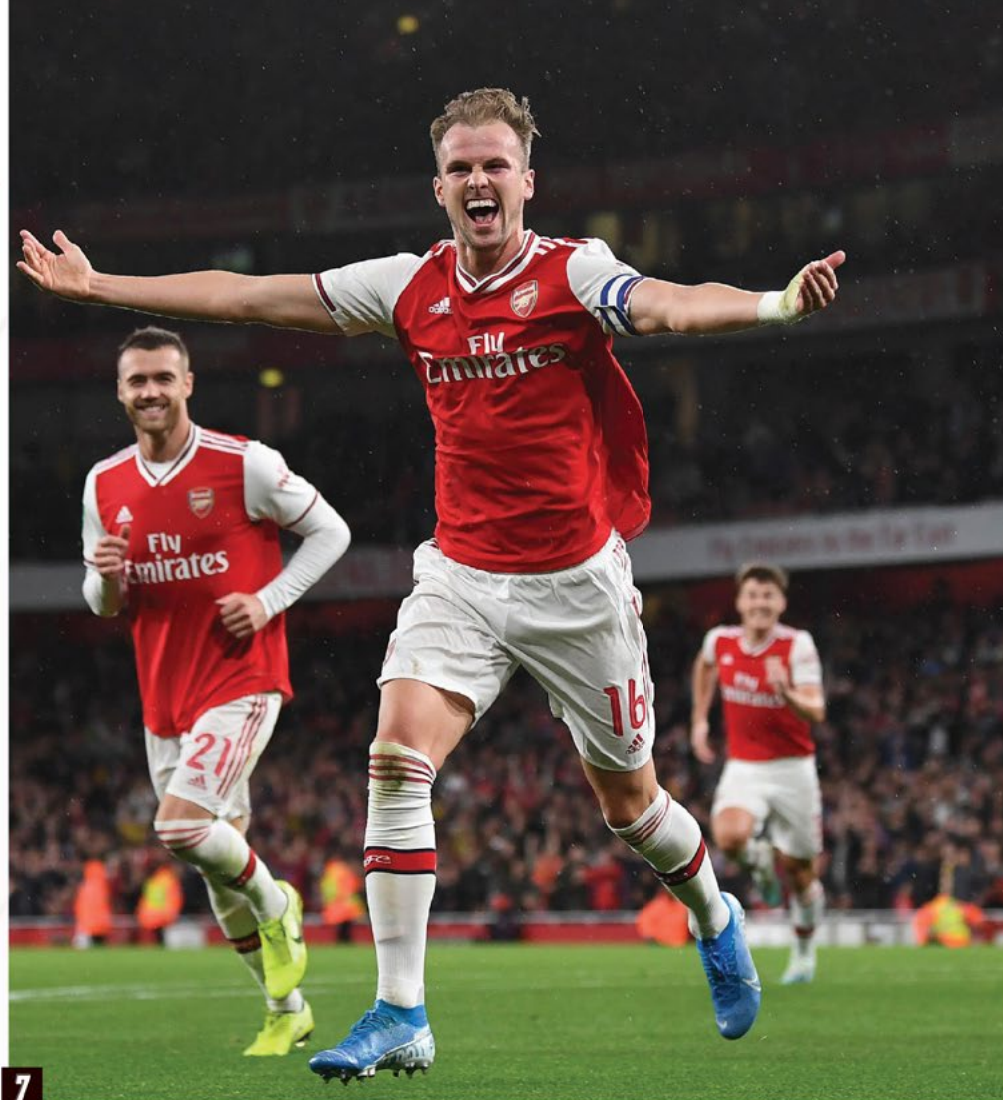
"THE CROSS CAME IN AND MY FIRST TOUCH AS A CAPTAIN, I PUT IT IN THE BACK OF THE NET"

**8 AUGUST 1, 2020
A SECOND FA CUP SUCCESS**

I was doing an interview for BBC at the time and I just remember seeing all the lads have that photo. I thought, 'I'm not missing this photo' so I said I had to go and just ran across, slid back in and dropped at the front there. It's a really good photo with all the team, all the staff. I don't know what it is about Wembley and us, we just seem to step up our game and everyone's together as soon as we're on that pitch, because it's a one-off game as well. It was the end of Mikel's first year after coming in, and to end it with a trophy was brilliant. That's his first trophy as a manager as well so I'm sure it's a massive one he'll never forget.

**9 DECEMBER 19, 2020
CAPTAINING THE SIDE IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE**

It's a massive moment for me personally. You're stepping into the big shoes of legends in the past that have worn the armband. In a Premier League game, it feels that bit more special. I know we didn't get the result but I enjoyed having the responsibility and being the guy to get the team going, to be an extra motivation for the team. I don't do anything special or overthink things in terms of, 'I need to do this to be a leader', it just sort of happens. I think that's why I end up wearing the armband for this game. ■



7



8



9

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CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY

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

GEORGE GRAHAM STROLLING INTO MIDFIELD

“I had a tendency to disappear in games, and I'd been too inconsistent for everyone's taste, including my own,” explained George Graham following his move (on Arsenal coach Don Howe's say so) to midfield during the 1969/70 campaign. The elegant Scot had been one of new Arsenal manager Bertie Mee's earliest recruits when he joined from Chelsea in September 1966, which saw Gunners' striker Tommy Baldwin move in the opposite direction.

Graham's goal statistics at Chelsea were highly impressive, averaging a goal every other game, and Mee was convinced that he'd be a perfect foil to emerging striker John Radford. In a sense, Mee proved spot on in his assessment. Graham topped the scoring charts in his first two campaigns at Highbury, and supporters appreciated his silky touch, close control and prodigious heading ability. But not for nothing was Graham nicknamed 'Stroller,' and no amount of deft passing could disguise the fact that Graham lacked acceleration. At times, the Arsenal side of the late '60s could look cumbersome and pedestrian, and it was partly a lack of pace which meant that they were unable to break down increasingly well marshalled defences of the era, such as Don Revie's

Leeds United in the 1968 League Cup final.

In the wake of the catastrophic defeat to Swindon Town in the 1969 League Cup final, Bertie Mee and Don Howe informed right half Frank McLintock that he would be moving into central defence (McLintock initially opposed the idea) and Graham (who was a substitute in the Wembley showpiece) that he would be shifting into the old fashioned left half role. Graham wholeheartedly agreed with the tactical switch. “It felt like a millstone had been lifted from around my neck,” he explained. “I felt that I'd have the time and space to influence the game more effectively from the middle of the park.” Mee and Howe were also aware that young forwards Charlie George and Ray Kennedy were blossoming in the reserves, and would soon be ready for regular first team action. “The switch worked for everyone – eventually,” ▶





Graham added. "It took some time for everything to click into place though."

For the Bargeddie-born Graham, the move appealed to his sense of tradition, fascinated as he was by the work of midfield maestros including Alfredo di Stefano at Real Madrid and Ian McMillan at Airdrie. "For me, midfield was a place where cerebral players could thrive," he argued.

"MIDFIELD WAS A PLACE WHERE CEREBRAL PLAYERS COULD THRIVE"

Graham, Bob McNab and George Armstrong formed the tightest of triangles out on the left, and knew instinctively how to find one another on the pitch. Graham even described them as "a team within a team."

Graham used his experience not only to bring his team-mates into play, but to arrive late to support the attack. "It was a question of timing," he explained. This was never better illustrated than when he marauded forward to score a superbly taken goal against Sporting Lisbon in the early rounds of the 1969/70 Fairs Cup at Highbury, and in an era when the game was a far more

aerial one, Graham continued to weigh in with a raft of spectacular headers. During the 1970/71 Double campaign, in which Graham scored 11 goals from midfield, he nodded home against Manchester United in Arsenal's 4-0 win in August, and a thumping header against Stoke City set Arsenal on their way in the FA Cup semi-final replay against Stoke City at Villa Park. Another one of his specialities was the 'wall pass.' Against Liverpool in the '70/71 campaign, Graham volleyed home spectacularly after a clever one-two with John Sammels in Arsenal's 2-0 home win. He possessed a rocket shot when the occasion presented itself, and scored a cracker from just outside the box against Ipswich at Highbury in home win early on in the 1971/72 campaign.

When Graham became Arsenal boss in 1986, he was fond of saying: "George Graham the manager would not have picked George Graham the player in his teams," implying that he was more than a little diffident on the pitch. But, as Arsenal won the Fairs Cup and the Double in the early '70s, their Scottish playmaker, who combined the timing and artistry of a midfielder with a striker's killer instinct, played an integral role in the club's resurgence. ■



PETER SIMPSON POLISHED PERFORMER'S EARLY YEARS ELSEWHERE

Although the laid back defender later made the centre back spot his own at Highbury – forging a superb partnership with Frank McLintock – Norfolk-born Peter Simpson was talented enough to play wherever he was needed. "I'd do whatever was asked of me. I wanted to play for Arsenal, at the end of the day," he explained. After making his debut in 1964 (and suffering the ignominy of seeing direct opponent Bobby Tambling score all four goals against him for Chelsea), Simpson was moved around the Arsenal team as the club (initially) struggled to find the right combination within the team. "Peter was a fine example of how many of the players in that Arsenal team had to work seriously hard for success," explained coach Don Howe, "and he got shifted from pillar to post on occasions." The player later explained how his stints at full back and in midfield "helped me read the game better, and anticipate what my team mates would do next." As his former Arsenal colleagues testify, there was no more polished performer at Highbury by the early '70s than the impressive – and versatile – Peter Simpson. ■

FIRST PAGE

George handed the striker baton to Charlie George

OPPOSITE PAGE

The man behind the move, Don Howe, celebrates with George after reaching the 1971 FA Cup final

TOP

Peter with another wonderful centre half of the era, Jack Charlton of Leeds

ABOVE

Peter was quietly one of the key components of the 1971 double



ON PARADE



ALWAYS
AHEAD
OF THE
GAME



Happy 11th Birthday, Toby!



They don't get any more passionate about the Gunners that Hamish!



Liam can't wait to see the team get another win!



Bradley's favourite player is Aubameyang



Kayden loved going on the Emirates Stadium tour!

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



WTOW WELCOME, JASPER!

Jasper Baker might only be six months old, but he's already a member and we've won lots of games since he got his new kit! In this photo he's wearing leggings inspired by Ainsley Maitland-Niles!

Would you like to welcome someone to our world? Send a photo to 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



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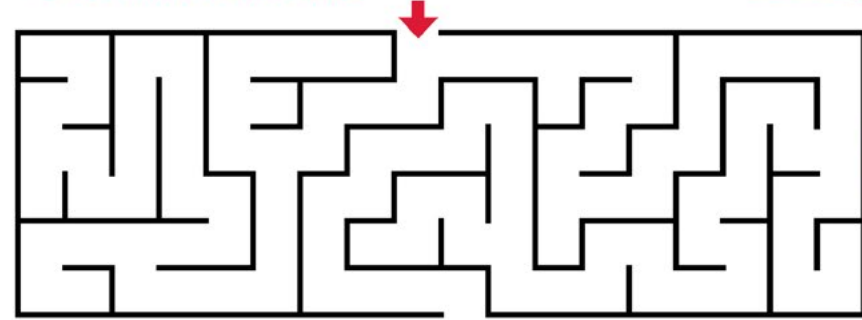
We've teamed up with FUSE and Arsenal Football Development to award one lucky JG a space at an upcoming five-day coaching experience.

The focus of a FUSE experience is to encourage players to be the best version of themselves, with our Arsenal Football Development coaches recreating a training week that our academy players go through using the same topics, themes and coaching styles that have been successful in developing some of the best young talent in the world.

Head to arsenal.com/juniorgunners or download the JG app to find out more



BEAT THE MAZE



TODAY'S VIRTUAL MASCOT



Name: Dexter
Age: 9

Info: Dexter is a nine-year-old JG, and his first ever outfit was an Arsenal kit. He loves playing football with his team Flyers Eagles, and hopes to follow in Saka's footsteps and make it into the Arsenal team! In his spare time, Dexter loves to play video games and practice Aubameyang-style goal celebrations.

Find out how you could be our next virtual mascot at arsenal.com/juniorgunners or download the JG app

FOURTEEN TIMES

Ahead of our next Emirates FA Cup match at the weekend, we take a look back at our record-breaking 14 wins to date.

APRIL 26, 1930 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Lambert, James) **HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 0**

Team: C Preedy, T Parker, E Hapgood, A Baker, W Seddon, R John, J Hulme, D Jack, J Lambert, A James, C Bastin. Manager: Herbert Chapman

APRIL 25, 1936 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 1 (Drake) **SHEFFIELD UNITED 0**

Team: A Wilson, G Male, E Hapgood, W Crayston, H Roberts, W Copping, J Hulme, R Bowden, E Drake, A James, C Bastin. Manager: George Allison

APRIL 29, 1950 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Lewis 2) **LIVERPOOL 0**

Team: G Swindin, L Scott, W Barnes, A Forbes, L Compton, J Mercer, F Cox, J Logie, P Goring, R Lewis, D Compton. Manager: Tom Whittaker

MAY 8, 1971 Wembley Stadium (AET)

ARSENAL 2 (Kelly, George) **LIVERPOOL 1**

Team: B Wilson, P Rice, R McNab, P Storey (E Kelly), F McLintock, P Simpson, G Armstrong, G Graham, J Radford, R Kennedy, C George. Manager: Bertie Mee

MAY 12, 1979 Wembley Stadium (AET)

ARSENAL 3 (Talbot, Stapleton, Sunderland) **MAN UNITED 2**

Team: P Jennings, P Rice, S Nelson, B Talbot, D O'Leary, W Young, L Brady, A Sunderland, F Stapleton, D Price (S Walford), G Rix. Manager: Terry Neill

MAY 20, 1993 Wembley Stadium (Replay, AET)

ARSENAL 2 (Wright, Linighan) **SHEFF WED 1**

Team: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn, P Davis, A Linighan, T Adams, J Jensen, I Wright (D O'Leary), A Smith, P Merson, K Campbell. Manager: George Graham

RIGHT

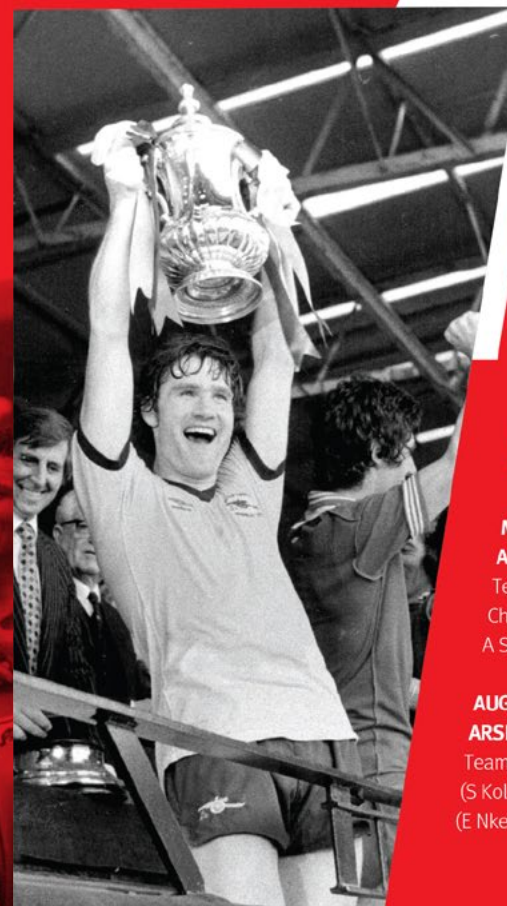
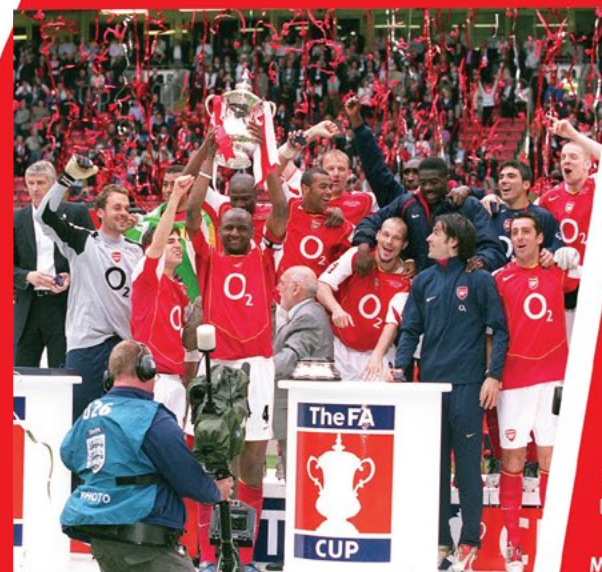
Patrick Vieira lifts the cup after our penalty shootout win over Manchester United in 2005

BOTTOM RIGHT

Skipper Pat Rice with the trophy at Wembley in 1979

BELOW

Joe Mercer is carried by team mates, clutching the cup at Wembley in 1950



MAY 16, 1998 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Overmars, Anelka) **NEWCASTLE UNITED 0**

Team: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn, P Vieira, T Adams, N Anelka, M Overmars, M Keown, R Parlour, E Petit, C Wreh, D Platt. Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 4, 2002 Millennium Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Ljungberg, Parlour) **CHELSEA 0**

Team: D Seaman, Lauren, A Cole, T Adams, S Campbell, P Vieira, R Parlour, F Ljungberg, D Bergkamp (Edu), S Wiltord (M Keown), T Henry (Kanu). Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 17, 2003 Millennium Stadium

ARSENAL 1 (Pires) **SOUTHAMPTON 0**

Team: D Seaman, Lauren, M Keown, O Luzhny, A Cole, R Pires, R Parlour, Gilberto, F Ljungberg, T Henry, D Bergkamp (S Wiltord). Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 21, 2005 Millennium Stadium (AET, won 5-4 on pens)

ARSENAL 0 **MANCHESTER UNITED 0**

Team: J Lehmann, Lauren, P Senderos, K Toure, A Cole, R Pires (Edu), F Fabregas (R van Persie), P Vieira, Gilberto, JA Reyes, D Bergkamp (F Ljungberg). Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 17, 2014 Wembley Stadium (AET)

ARSENAL 3 (Cazorla, Koscielny, Ramsey) **HULL CITY 2**

Team: L Fabianski, B Sagna, P Mertesacker, L Koscielny, K Gibbs, M Arteta, A Ramsey, S Cazorla (T Rosicky), M Ozil (J Wilshere), L Podolski (Y Sanogo), O Giroud. Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 30, 2015 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 4 (Walcott, Alexis, Mertesacker, Giroud) **ASTON VILLA 0**

Team: W Szczesny, H Bellerin, P Mertesacker, L Koscielny, N Monreal, F Coquelin, S Cazorla, A Ramsey, M Ozil (J Wilshere), A Sanchez (A Oxlade-Chamberlain), T Walcott (O Giroud). Manager: Arsène Wenger

MAY 27, 2017 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Alexis, Ramsey) **CHELSEA 1**

Team: D Ospina, H Bellerin, R Holding, P Mertesacker, N Monreal, A Oxlade-Chamberlain (F Coquelin), A Ramsey, G Khaka, M Ozil, D Welbeck (O Giroud), A Sanchez (M Elneny). Manager: Arsène Wenger

AUGUST 1, 2020 Wembley Stadium

ARSENAL 2 (Aubameyang 2) **CHELSEA 1**

Team: E Martinez, H Bellerin, R Holding, D Luiz (Sokratis), K Tierney (S Kolassinac), A Maitland-Niles, G Khaka, D Ceballos, N Pepe, A Lacazette (E Nketiah), P-E Aubameyang. Manager: Mikel Arteta

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MY 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 School-Home Support, a charity that provides personalised support to children and families to tackle the barriers to a successful education. Practitioner Sam Williams, 35 and from Devon, tells us how it has helped at Grafton Primary School

I spent five years as a primary school teacher before joining School-Home Support in April. As a teacher I wanted to play a greater role in supporting the most vulnerable children in my school. I felt SHS offered me a way to help those most vulnerable families, so I jumped at the opportunity to join the charity.

We have been helping families in a number of ways during the Covid-19 crisis: delivering Magic Breakfast food parcels, providing home baking kits thanks to a collaboration with a local youth group and supplying Raspberry Pi kits and internet access for pupils to use technology at home, which in turn enabled them to complete school work during lockdown periods. This helps children feel excited about learning while schools are closed and also more confident about returning to school when they reopen. This support also ensures we are able to promote education and enable consistent learning during lockdown.

I've also been running some pastoral sessions with children most at risk of poor attendance. We spend time together discussing emotions, feelings and positive communication. One of the girls in the group was finding school challenging and things were tough at home – her mum was struggling to support her six children who all share the same bedroom and weren't sleeping well at



Sam Williams has been busy in lockdown

night. Her mum told me that her daughter looks forward to going to school on the days we have our sessions together, and as a result of introducing the sessions to our week we have seen a dramatic improvement in her attendance. I'm really pleased with how I have been able to support this child.

I have a big role to play in encouraging attendance and punctuality, and I'm proactive in ensuring families have access to appropriate support – especially during a time when Covid has had such a huge impact on many aspects of daily life and mental health and wellbeing.

We also provided Christmas gifts through our partners to some of the children. They make a massive difference to many children and especially so when many families are impacted upon financially due to the pandemic.

I do follow football and I'm very proud to say I'm a big Exeter City fan! I think it's really important that football clubs help their community and support charities and groups to make a difference to people's lives.

Football clubs are really influential – you only have to look at what Marcus Rashford has achieved to see the impact and influence that players and clubs have in society. It's great when that influence is used positively to help make a difference to disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

For more info visit shs.org.uk



PS4

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FIFA 21



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DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG GUNNERS

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Mark Howard

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Results and fixtures



@ArsenalAcademy



YOUNG GUN MAURO BANDEIRA

TALKING TO Aidan Small

BORN

Loures, Portugal,
November 18, 2003

SIGNED FOR ARSENAL

August 2016 as an
under-13

SCHOOL

St Andrew the Apostle
Secondary School,
East Barnet

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

5'9" and 73kg

POSITION

Midfielder

For as long as I can remember, I've been completely and utterly in love with football. When I think back to where it all started, I've got to thank my brother for putting that passion in me. I was only four when I started playing and he was 16, but that didn't matter to him! He'd go out with his friends and I'd always tag along just so I could watch them play. For a long time, I obviously couldn't join in because it would have been impossible to keep up, but I'd be sat there on the side-line, desperate to get out there and play with them. I've always been such a competitive person, so even as a kid, I wanted to be better than everyone else.

Around that time, Ronaldinho became a real inspiration to me too. He was the first footballer that just made me say 'wow...'. With his style, personality and skill, he was like no other footballer in history and I remember just wanting to be him.

Growing up on an estate, I experienced a little bit of everything in terms of football. I played down at my local park, a little bit of futsal, which really helped my

footwork, and a lot of street football on the block with mates too. You know the type... the one where you have to go under cars to get your ball back, knock on the next-door neighbour's door, accidentally smash a window, etc. I'd play anywhere and for anyone as a kid, I just wanted the experience.

School football was big for my development as a player too. My primary school, Sacred Heart in Barnet, was known for being a good footballing school and we've had a few decent players come through over the years, so it was a good education for me. I wanted to be the

"I'M A BOX-TO-BOX MIDFIELDER WHO LIKES TO PLAY WITH A LOT OF FREEDOM. I'M DOMINANT ON AND OFF THE BALL"

best in my school first, and as things progressed, I started playing for my district team in Year 5. From there I was scouted by QPR as an under-11, but over the next year or so, I generated interest from a few clubs, and as a family, we had to make a decision about my future. But



ever since moving to England from Portugal, Arsenal have always been my team, so when I heard about their interest, that was it. I told my mum that we're going to the trial next day because my mind was so set on it. Growing up as a fan, you always want to see what it's like in and around your club, and after my first training session I just remember feeling so happy and comfortable with the atmosphere and culture of the club. I just fell in love with it. It was so competitive, yet so caring at the same time. It felt like everyone cares about your development, and as a player, that's so important. That hasn't changed one bit over the years.

But what kind of player am I today? Well, I'd say that I'm a box-to-box midfielder who likes to play with a lot of freedom. I'm dominant both on and off the ball, and I'm explosive in both of those scenarios too. That's a key part of my game. When I'm driving at someone or making a run in behind, I'm very explosive and difficult to catch up with. I've always liked playing at speed because when you're charging at someone, you've got the advantage because the moment they hesitate, you can shift into gear and pull away from them or pass it. I'm a goalscorer too, I love those late runs into the area and having that attacking freedom.

My midfield partner for the under-18s is Charlie Patino and I think we've got a lot of balance between us. We're both intelligent players and we've got a good understanding of each other's game. When you see us in a match, you'll notice that we don't talk too much, but it's

because we work off each other's movements and triggers. I think Charlie is the better ball-player. Whenever we're playing out from the back and linking things up, he's the more dominant player, so I'll let him sit a little deeper. He's probably the best youth player I know for building play from the back and evading pressure. He can get himself out of situations that I've never seen before, whereas I'm the player who finds pockets of space a little further forward for Charlie to pick me out. Then I can drive and progress forward. Obviously sometimes we switch those duties around because you always need to be flexible in games, but generally, that's where we're at our best.

Speaking of the best, I had the honour of joining in with first-team training for the first time earlier this season and it was incredible. There was a week where I joined in three times and I honestly learnt so much. The tempo of their play is just crazy, so when I found myself keeping up, I actually surprised myself. I love a challenge. I'm never one to back away from a challenge.

They were all so encouraging to us too. There's so rarely any moaning in training because they're always preparing for the next action, and that's something that Mikel places a lot of emphasis on. You can definitely see it in training. If someone misses an easy chance, it's okay, we just need to get back, recover and create another. It was an absolute honour to train with the first team, so I hope that if I keep working hard and remain focused, there will be more opportunities down the line. ■



MAURO BANDEIRA

LOWDOWN

Earliest memory of football

Tagging along to the park and watching my older brother and his friends play.

First footballer looked up to

Ronaldinho

Favourite football shirt owned

Portugal home shirt for the 2016 Euros

Best friend in football

Brooke Norton-Cuffy

Team supported as a child

Arsenal

Best players faced

Alfie Devine (Tottenham) or Malcolm Ebiowei (Rangers)

Best performance

Versus Chelsea in the U-16 PL Cup

Best piece of skill I've done in a game

Flip flap (elastico)

RATE YOURSELF

SPEED		90
SHOOTING		84
DRIBBLING		85
STRENGTH		86
PASSING		84
DEFENDING		81

Best moment of my career so far

Getting my national team call up

One stadium I'd like to score in

Santiago Bernabeu

One type of goal I'd like to score

Last-minute winner in a Cup final

A player to score a one-on-one to save my life

Khayon Edwards

My football memorabilia

I collect boots used on certain occasions

Another sport I'm good at

Swimming

Ambition this season away from the pitch

Complete my driving license

The important non-playing attributes for young footballers

Determination and



perseverance. Always believe in yourself no matter what others think or say about you

Best training ground tip I've had

Always know what's around you

Biggest lesson learnt off the pitch at Arsenal

When recovering from a long term injury I learned that being on the pitch is a privilege – you have to embrace it.

ME

Favourite footballer of all-time

Ronaldinho, CR7 and Yaya Toure, I couldn't pick just one!

Favourite follow on Instagram

TheF2

Most played Spotify artist

Lil Baby

Favourite musician right now

J. Cole

Favourite pre-match song

Social Distancing – Lil Baby

Best football attribute

My explosiveness

What I need on an away day

Headphones and coffee

If I wasn't a footballer

I'd be a swimmer

First-team player I look up to most

Emile Smith Rowe

Best thing about being at Arsenal

I'm able to play with freedom

Something not many people know about me

I used to be a very good martial artist.

AROUND THE ACADEMY

Will definitely make it

Omari Hutchinson and Brooke Norton-Cuffy

Most skills in their locker

Kido Taylor-Hart

Best passing range

Miguel Azeez

Most committed

Brooke Norton-cuffy

Strongest

Jonathan Dinzei

Captain material

Taylor Foran

Funniest

Levi Laing

Better than they think they are

lack Francis





James Olayinka in action against Barrow

ACADEMY NEWS

ACADEMY LOAN WATCH

Seven of our academy stars were in action for their loan clubs last week.

Daniel Ballard played 89 minutes as Blackpool knocked out West Brom in the FA Cup third round. Jerry Yates opened the scoring for Blackpool, before ex-Arsenal man Semi Ajayi levelled the score on 52 minutes. The Seaside then retook the lead through Gary Madine, before Matheus Pereira struck late for West Brom to send the game to extra time. A goalless half hour took the tie to penalties, where three misses from West Brom gifted Blackpool progression to the next round.

Harry Clarke played the full match as Oldham were beaten 4-1 by Bournemouth in the FA Cup.



Tyreece John-Jules on the attack for Doncaster against Blackburn in the cup

Clarke's side went in at the break on level terms after Dylan Bahamboula cancelled out an early strike from David Brooks – but Bournemouth restored their lead just four minutes after the interval. Rodrigo Riquelme fired past Ian Lawlor in the Oldham net, before a brace from Josh King settled the tie.

Tyreece John-Jules made his first start of the year as Doncaster beat Blackburn 1-0 in the FA Cup. Taylor Richards scored just before the break to put our young forward into the fourth round.

Ben Sheaf was also in FA Cup action as Coventry were beaten 2-0 by Norwich at Carrow Road. Two goals in as many minutes from Kenny McLean and Jordan Hugill

"TYREECE JOHN-JULES MADE HIS FIRST START OF THE YEAR AS DONCASTER BEAT BLACKBURN IN THE FA CUP"

were enough to secure progression for the hosts.

James Olayinka played 80 minutes as Southend beat Barrow 1-0 in League Two. Reeco Hackett-Fairchild struck early and put Southend on their way to a vital win to avoid the drop this season. Our 20-year-old midfielder was replaced late on by Richard Taylor as Southend hung on for all three points at Roots Hall.

Mark McGuinness played the full match as Ipswich were beaten 3-2 by Swindon at Portman Road. A brace from Diallang Jaiyesimi and a first league goal of the season for Scott Twine were enough to see the visitors over the line. James Norwood and Alan Judge both notched in vain for Ipswich, who now slip to eighth in League Two.

Matt Smith also featured in the game, playing 95 minutes for Swindon, before being replaced by Anthony Grant deep into added time. ■

BALLARD AND JOHN-JULES SET FOR PREMIER LEAGUE TEST

Daniel Ballard and Tyreece John-Jules are set to face Premier League opposition in the FA Cup fourth round.

Ballard's Blackpool have been drawn against Brighton, while John-Jules' Doncaster will face West Ham United.

Ballard lined up against Premier League opposition in the form of West Brom in the last round of the competition, but this will be a new experience for John-Jules, who is finding his flow after recently recovering from injury. All fourth round ties are scheduled to be played across the weekend of January 23 and 24. ■



REKIK TRAINS WITH FIRST TEAM

Omar Rekik took part in first-team training for the first time last week, as we prepared for an FA Cup third round clash with Newcastle United.

The young defender became our first academy signing of the January transfer window when he joined us from Hertha Berlin on Thursday, January 7.

Comfortable and composed in possession, Omar is a left-sided centre back who enjoys dictating play and stepping into midfield.

He's yet to make his debut for our under-23s, but will hope to be involved when they return to action this Friday evening at home to Brighton.

Fellow youth strikers Folarin Balogun and Nikolaj Moller were also involved in the training session at London Colney. ■



ABOVE
Lincolnshire is his latest stop

LEFT
Mark during pre-season at Arsenal in 2005

ACADEMY ALUMNI

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

MARK HOWARD

Joining Arsenal as a first-year scholar in the Gunners' famous 2003/04 season, goalkeeper Mark Howard's most recent move sees him playing in League Two with Scunthorpe United.

A regular for Arsenal Under-18s and Reserves, Mark's Arsenal highlights included being on the substitutes' bench for the 2005 Community Shield at the Millennium Stadium and playing in Martin Keown's Testimonial for David Beckham's England XI.

A loan to Falkirk in the Scottish Premier League led to a permanent move to Cardiff City in 2006, but after a loan at Swansea it was back in Scotland at St Mirren where he first began to play regularly after moving there in 2007, making more than 50 appearances for them. Spells at Aberdeen and Blackpool followed before he enjoyed a very productive four years at Sheffield United, where he played more than 100 games. He left the Blades for Bolton in 2016 and had spells there and back at Blackpool – playing more than 40 times for each club – before a loan at Salford in 2019. After a spell without a club, Neil Cox's Scunthorpe snapped up the 34 year old in October last year and he has already played 16 games for 'The Iron' this campaign. ■

THE BREAKDOWN YOUTH STATS

UNDER-23 FIXTURES

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

PREMIER LEAGUE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Chelsea	11	7	1	3	25	16	9	22
Manchester City	10	5	3	2	29	19	10	18
Blackburn Rovers	10	5	3	2	16	15	1	18
Derby County	10	5	2	3	20	20	0	17
Tottenham Hotspur	11	5	2	4	20	21	-1	17
Liverpool	11	5	1	5	21	22	-1	16
Brighton & Hove Albion	12	4	4	4	17	21	-4	16
Everton	11	4	3	4	16	11	5	15
Manchester United	11	4	3	4	25	28	-3	15
Arsenal	11	4	2	5	19	18	1	14
Leicester City	11	4	0	7	18	24	-6	12
Southampton	11	3	2	6	18	21	-3	11
West Ham United	10	1	2	7	12	20	-8	5

UNDER-18 FIXTURES

* = 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 16	Southampton	A	11.30am
Sat Jan 23	Tottenham Hotspur	H	11am
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	11am
Sat Feb 13	West Ham United	H	11am
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	11am
Sat Feb 27	West Bromwich Albion	H	12pm
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	11am
Sat Mar 20	Reading	H	11am
Sat Apr 10	Fulham	A	12pm
Sat Apr 24	Leicester City	A	11am
Sat May 1	Chelsea	A	11am
Sat May 8	Aston Villa	H	11am
TBA	Reading	A	TBA
TBA	Chelsea	H	TBA
TBA	Aston Villa	A	TBA

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	9	7	1	1	21	8	13	22
Aston Villa	9	7	1	1	19	12	7	22
Tottenham Hotspur	10	6	3	1	29	10	19	21
Brighton & Hove Albion	10	5	3	2	25	13	12	18
Crystal Palace	9	6	0	3	14	14	0	18
Arsenal	9	5	1	3	19	17	2	16
Chelsea	9	4	2	3	26	16	10	14
Norwich City	11	4	1	6	23	25	-2	13
West Ham United	9	3	1	5	14	22	-8	10
West Bromwich Albion	9	2	2	5	16	23	-7	8
Reading	10	2	2	6	22	30	-8	8
Southampton	10	1	2	7	17	28	-11	5
Leicester City	10	0	1	9	12	39	-27	1

FA YOUTH CUP FIXTURES

Tue Dec 15	Rotherham United	A	2-1
Wed Jan 27	Blackburn Rovers	A	R4

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	UIB	FAYC	PLIC	TOTAL
Ben Cottrell	10(3)	4	-	-	-	14(3)
Folarin Balogun	10(3)	2(1)	-	-	-	12(4)
Tim Akinola	9+1	3+1	-	-	-	12+2
Ryan Alebiosu	7+1	3	-	-	-	10+1
Nicolaj Moller	6(4)	1	-	-	-	7(4)
William Saliba	6	2	-	-	-	8
Miguel Azeez	5+4	2+1(1)	-	-	-	7+5(1)
Catalin Cirjan	5+1(1)	2+1(1)	1	-	-	8+2(2)
Karl Hein	5	1	-	-	-	6
Joel Lopez	4+1	3	-	-	-	7+1
Jonathan Dinzei	4+1	1	-	-	-	5+1
James Olayinka	4(1)	2	-	-	-	6(1)
George Lewis	4	1(1)	-	-	-	5(1)
Jordan McEnuff	3+3	2(1)	-	-	-	5+3(1)
Daniel Oyejoke	3+1	1	-	-	-	4+1
Brooke Norton-Cuffy	3+1	+1	5	1	-	9+2
Emile Smith Rowe	3(3)	1	-	-	-	4(3)
Calum Chambers	3(1)	1	-	-	-	4(1)
Tolaji Bola	3	1	-	-	-	4
Harry Clarke	2	1	-	-	-	3
Matt Macey	2	1	-	-	-	3
Arthur Okonkwo	2	1	-	-	-	3
Daniel Ballard	2	-	-	-	-	2
Pablo Mari	2	-	-	-	-	2
Kido Taylor-Hart	1+1(1)	1+1	7(4)	1	-	10+2(5)
Salah-Eddine Oulad M'hand	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Alex Kirk	1+1	+1	6(1)	1	-	8+2(1)
Joel Ideho	1+1	+1	1	-	-	2+2
Reiss Nelson	1(1)	-	-	-	-	1(1)
Mark McGuinness	1	1	-	-	-	2
Sokratis Papastathopoulos	1	1	-	-	-	2
Levi Laing	1	+2	6+1	-	-	7+3
Zach Awe	1	-	6+3	-	-	7+3
Hubert Graczyk	1	-	6	-	-	7
James Hillson	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joseph Olowu	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cedric Soares	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joe Willock	1	-	-	-	-	1
Zane Monlouis	+1	1	4+1	1	-	6+2
Khayon Edwards	+1	-	5+3(3)	-	-	5+4(3)
Mazeed Ogunbo	+1	-	4	1(1)	-	5+1(1)
Taylor Foran	+1	-	3+2	-	-	3+3
Gabriel Martinelli	-	1	-	-	-	1
Matt Smith	-	1	-	-	-	1
Omari Giraud-Hutchinson	-	-	9(1)	1	-	10(1)
Charlie Patino	-	-	8	1(1)	-	9(1)
Marcelo Flores	-	-	7+2(3)	1	-	8+2(3)
Mauro Bandeira	-	-	7+1	-	-	7+1
Luke Plange	-	-	6+2(4)	-	-	6+2(4)
Ovie Ejeheri	-	-	3	1	-	4
James Sweet	-	-	2+1(1)	1	-	3+1(1)
Nathan Butler-Oyediji	-	-	1+2	1	-	2+2
Jack Henry-Francis	-	-	1+2	-	-	1+2
Henry Jeffcott	-	-	1+1	-	-	1+1
Billy Vigar	-	-	+3	-	-	+3
Jason Sraha	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
Own goals	(1)	-	(2)	-	-	(3)



Kido Taylor-Hart



COMMUNITY

Here's part two of our 2020 review in pictures from the community department's twitter account throughout this unique & challenging year

1 JULY
Massive thanks to @ReissNelsong and @Joewillock for joining our young #PLKicks participants for a Zoom Q&A recently 🙌

2 JULY
Check out the moment @DavidLuiz_4 told Tia the laptop she was borrowing was actually hers to keep!!

3 AUGUST
It feels so good to be back in our community ♥ Some of our @PLCommunities #PLKicks groups were back in small numbers yesterday for the first time in five months.

4 AUGUST
Congratulations to our Level 3 students who collected their results today. An amazing group that displayed creativity, resilience and a high level of professionalism to match their academic excellence. 🎉🎉🎉

5 SEPTEMBER
Our Arsenal Students are eating at the Little Wonder Cafe thanks to the generosity of club partners @CadburyUK

6 SEPTEMBER
It wasn't only the first team who returned to action today. Welcome back to our @LondonMarathon @PLCommunities #PLKicks Girls participants! 🏃‍♀️🏃‍♀️



7 OCTOBER
Young people also took part in anti-racism workshops. We are passionate about educating our young people on the topic of racial equality and embracing the diversity within our community. 🌍

8 OCTOBER
We celebrated #BlackHistoryMonth2020 with three of our 🌟 #PLPrimaryStars 🌟 schools yesterday.

9 NOVEMBER
We have @IslingtonGp administering flu vaccinations here at The Arsenal Hub today for local residents who have been referred by their GP.

10 NOVEMBER
Raf, thank you for supporting young people and providing positive pathways for them through #PLKicks #PLCF10yearawards @PLCommunities

11 DECEMBER
🗣️ "We can't deliver as usual, but we can still be there for people. Our sessions provide vital social and mental support for participants, particularly those on our longest-running programme: **BOWLS**"

12 DECEMBER
Christmas hampers delivered 📦
Our staff have been dropping off goodies to care leavers in Islington ahead of our Christmas Day Zoom 🎄



FORWARD



NICOLAS PEPE

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



What are your plans for tonight?

I'm just going to watch the Champions League matches tonight, I'm not sure which one yet though.

What are your plans for the end of your career?

I don't know yet, I haven't really thought about it yet to be honest.

If you had to work in either coaching, the media or away from football, what would you choose?

I would like to be a coach or a manager. I have started my qualifications already in fact, I have passed one but it's just the basic one. So I haven't looked into it in any detail yet, but it's a start. It doesn't necessarily mean it will lead into coaching by the way. It can do, but it can also lead into a more general football management role, but as I said, I am not focussed on that at the moment.

Before retiring, what do you still want to achieve in your playing career?

I definitely want to play in the Champions League, that's for sure. Also I want to win a European trophy with

Arsenal, and win a trophy with my country. I would love to play in the World Cup as well.

What club would you never sign for?

Tottenham!

How far forward do you plan your week? Do you get told what you will be working on in training at the start of the week?

It all depends on the games we have coming up and what our schedule is. Games move all the time so the training routine can change too. Lots of things can change every day in football. For example when I was suspended for three games, during that time I wasn't really involved in training with the rest of the group ahead of the weekend games. But I had the Europa League games to play so I was more focussed on those in training.

And away from football, how are you at planning your week, do you plan meals in advance for example?

I'm not planning for the week ahead, but I have a chef ▶

ARSENAL

IN A DREAM WORLD, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR NEXT...

MEAL

It would be a burger that when you see it, you think it's going to be tough to finish it, with fries too!



NEW CAR

I don't know, a flying car, maybe, since we're in a dream world!

THING YOU BUY

A cage for my dogs.

HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Somewhere like Tanzania or South Africa.



NEW TEAM-MATE

Yves Bissouma.



who cooks for me. We have a programme which allows me to eat whatever I want once in the week. I follow a special programme to be fit on the pitch. It means that the day I choose for my treat meal depends on the fixtures' schedule. If I have two games ahead – one on Thursday and the other on Saturday or Sunday – then it is more important to plan it better.

Did you make any new year's resolutions?

Yes, to score more!

What type of training do you most look forward to, what bit do you dread?

I enjoy possession drills and small games in general. We sometimes have individual training, with one-on-one or two-on-one situations, this is what I enjoy in particular. There isn't really anything I don't like, but let's say some bits are less enjoyable when it's cold, like eleven-on-zero situations. They're very important for the team, but when it's very cold and you're not moving as much, it can be hard work. It's the same for set-pieces, but as I'm the one who takes them, it doesn't bother me! I honestly enjoy any type of training, but I'm still getting used to the weather!

"I'D LIKE TO GO ON SAFARI, IN TANZANIA OR SOUTH AFRICA OR IN RWANDA. I ENJOY ANIMALS."

How far forward do you look at the fixture list?

I don't really look at it, I prefer to only think about the game coming up next.

What do you do on the night before a big game? Are you nervous?

I like to play the PlayStation and not think about the game too much. And even on matchday, I listen to music until 15 minutes before coming on the pitch. I'm focused on the game, but I don't put direct pressure on myself 45 minutes before the game. I'd rather listen to some music to relax and be calm. As soon as I take out my earphones, I'm fully focused on the game, without pressure, but with 100 per cent focus.

What are you looking forward to doing once you retire that you can't do now?

What am I looking forward to doing once I'm retired... I can't pick one thing in particular, but there's so many ▶



No room for racism anywhere

things I can't do now that I want to do after football! I can't pick one, but there's really a lot of things.

What country or city will you live in once you stop playing football?

France. I don't know which city, but definitely France. It might be Paris or Lille for example.

What other countries would you like to see once you stop playing?

Even before I retire, I'd like to go on safari, in Tanzania or South Africa, that's what I'd like to do. Or in Rwanda, as they have a partnership with Arsenal. That's the type of activity I'd like to do, as I enjoy animals.

What do you still want to achieve away from football?

I'd like to get involved in charity organisations, to help

the hungry or people who can't go to school, for example. This is something I have to do because I think it's important to help people.

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

No I don't! I don't want to, but if I did have to go then I would take my brother along with me. ■



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 to find out more. #NoRoomForRacism

Challenge it.
Report it. Change it.





Andy Carroll



NEWCASTLE UNITED

By: Mike Hammond

FORMED
1892

NICKNAME
The Magpies


STADIUM
St James' Park (52,305)


HONOURS
First Division/Premier League winners **1904/05, 1906/07, 1908/09, 1926/27**
Second Division/Championship winners **1964/65, 1992/93, 2009/10, 2016/17**
FA Cup Winners **1910, 1924, 1932, 1952, 1955**
Charity Shield **1909**
Inter-Cities Fairs Cup winner **1969**
Uefa Intertoto Cup outright winner **2006**


OWNER
Mike Ashley


CHAIRMAN
Lee Charnley


SOCIAL FOLLOWERS
Twitter **1.6M**
Instagram **631K**
Facebook **2.3M**

 Defeated 2-0 after extra-time by the FA Cup holders at Emirates Stadium nine days ago, Newcastle United return to north London hoping for better fortune as they bid to add to their total of 19 points in the 2020/21 Premier League. Steve Bruce's side had chances to knock Arsenal out of the competition in normal time but they went a-begging and the Magpies have now gone over 500 minutes without scoring at the Gunners' home – an unenviable run that they will be determined to bring to an end this evening.

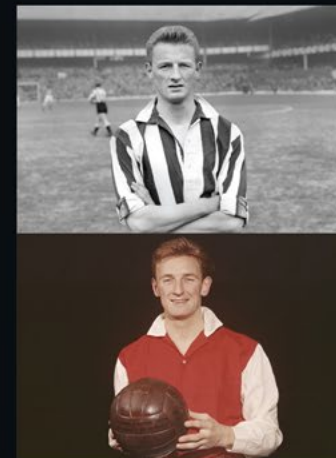
 An even worse statistic is Newcastle's current stretch of nine straight losses at Emirates Stadium. The last time they avoided defeat at the venue was in November 2010 when Andy Carroll scored the winner in a 1-0 Premier League victory. Ironically it was the big Geordie striker who came closest to ending the run a week last Saturday. As it is, the last Newcastle player to score here remains Ayoze Perez, the current Leicester forward, who found the net in a 4-1 defeat in December 2014. Since then the Magpies have lost 1-0, 1-0, 2-0 and 4-0 in the league as well as that latest extra-time defeat in the FA Cup.

 Having also gone out of the Carabao Cup in London just before Christmas – they were surprisingly beaten 1-0 in the quarter-final at Brentford – Newcastle have only their position in the Premier League to concern themselves with for the remainder of the season. First and foremost they need to ensure that they do not get embroiled in the scrap to avoid relegation. That fate has befallen them twice before – in 2008/09 and 2015/16 – though on both occasions the club bounced straight back up by winning the Championship title.

 Since the club's return to the elite in 2017 the Magpies have finished tenth, 13th and 13th again. The last time they challenged in the upper echelons of the Premier League table was back in 2011/12, when, under Alan Pardew, they won 19 of their 38 matches to finish fifth – earning them a place in the UEFA Europa League, where they would go on to reach the quarter-finals before eventually meeting their match in Benfica – Arsenal's forthcoming round of 32 opponents in the same competition – who eliminated them 4-2 on aggregate.

 Newcastle United supporters continue to be among the longest-suffering in the country. The club has not won a major trophy since the 1969 Inter Cities Fairs Cup, and many headlines have been made in recent years over the fans' dissatisfaction with a perceived lack of progress off the field as well as on. Even Geordie boy Bruce was given a lukewarm reception when he was appointed to replace Rafa Benitez as manager two summers ago. He had a good first campaign, which dipped only in the last few weeks after safety had been assured, but he will be eager for his team to end their current run of nine matches without a win – most recently a disappointing 1-0 defeat at bottom club Sheffield United last Tuesday – as the pressure mounts over the second half of the season.

VISITORS NEWCASTLE UNITED



MUTUAL ADMIRATION

One of the most lavishly skilled attacking midfielders of his generation, George Eastham played four seasons for Newcastle, scoring 34 goals in 129 games and earning England under-23 honours. Out of contract at the end of the 1959/60 season, Eastham wanted to leave St James Park but the 'retain and transfer' system of the time meant that Newcastle held his player registration and refused to let him go. He went on strike, took Newcastle to court and changed the transfer system forever, with the 'retain' element effectively removed from contracts. Arsenal swooped in December 1960 for the 24 year old and he shone for the Gunners over six seasons, playing 19 times for England and being part of the 1966 World Cup winning squad. In all he played 223 times for George Swindin/Billy Wright and scored 41 goals before leaving for Stoke City in December 1966.

Now aged 84, George resides in South Africa with his family.



6 THE SKIPPER JAMAAL LASCELLES DEFENDER

BORN Derby, 11/11/93

PREVIOUSLY Nottingham Forest, Stevenage (loan), Nottingham Forest (loan)

A former England youth and Under-21 international, Jamaal was signed by Newcastle from Nottingham Forest in 2014 before spending his first season back on loan at the City Ground. He came into his own at St James' Park as captain during the club's 2016/17 Championship-winning campaign and has been a pillar of the Magpies' defence since their return to the Premier League, although his appearance against Arsenal in the recent FA Cup tie was his first in seven weeks due to Covid-19.



26 IN GOAL KARL DARLOW GOALKEEPER

BORN Northampton, 8/10/90

PREVIOUSLY Nottingham Forest, Newport (loan), Walsall (loan), Nottingham Forest (loan)

A former first-choice keeper for Nottingham Forest, Karl joined Newcastle in 2014 but had managed only a smattering of Premier League outings for the Toon before this season, when he stood in for the injured Martin Dubravka and earned several rave reviews during the first half of the campaign, not least in last month's 0-0 draw at home to champions Liverpool. The 30 year old Midlander signed a new five-year contract extension in September.



2 AT THE BACK CIARAN CLARK DEFENDER

BORN Harrow, 26/9/89

PREVIOUSLY Aston Villa

A former England Under-19 captain, Ciaran subsequently opted to play for the land of his ancestors and has won 34 senior caps for the Republic of Ireland, the last of them in November 2019. The 31-year-old centre back had six full Premier League campaigns with Aston Villa before joining Newcastle in 2016 just after the club had dropped into the Championship. He has not always been a regular in the Magpies' back line but has been a mainstay in recent weeks.



9 THE RECORD SIGNING JOELINTON ATTACKER

BORN Alianca, Brazil, 14/8/96

PREVIOUSLY Sport Recife, Hoffenheim, Rapid Vienna (loan)

Signed from German side Hoffenheim after an impressive 2018/19 Bundesliga campaign for a reported club-record fee of £40m, Brazilian forward Joelinton has found adaptation to English top-flight football something of a challenge. Despite frequent selection – either as a central striker or winger – he managed just four goals in all competitions last season and has found them equally hard to come by this term, his one league goal coming in a 2-0 win at Crystal Palace.



13 THE NEW BOY CALLUM WILSON ATTACKER

BORN Coventry, 27/2/92

PREVIOUSLY Coventry, Kettering (I), Tamworth (I), Bournemouth

Callum became a Newcastle player last summer, signing a four-year contract with the Magpies after six progressive seasons with Bournemouth during which he became an England international. He scored 20 goals in his debut season for the Cherries in the Championship, and despite several injury lay-offs proved himself repeatedly at Premier League level for the south coast club. He also got off to a good start at St James' Park with six goals in his first seven league games.



22 THE AMERICAN DEANDRE YEDLIN DEFENDER

BORN Seattle, USA, 9/7/93

PREVIOUSLY Seattle Sounders, Tottenham, Sunderland (loan)

A member of the USA side that reached the last 16 of the 2014 World Cup, the pacy full back joined Tottenham after that tournament but made just one appearance before joining Sunderland on loan and fixing a permanent deal to Newcastle in August 2016. A member of the Magpies' Championship-winning side in his debut season, he has generally been the club's first-choice right back since then though has been laid low with a number of injuries.



36 THE LOCAL LAD I SEAN LONGSTAFF MIDFIELDER

BORN North Shields, 30/10/97

PREVIOUSLY Kilmarnock (loan), Blackpool (loan)

Sean is a product of the Newcastle United academy and boyhood supporter of the club who, after a fine loan spell at Blackpool, came to prominence with some outstanding displays a couple of years ago that featured a first Premier League goal, prompting reported interest from Manchester United, until he suffered a season-ending knee injury. This campaign has seen the 23 year old restored in central midfield, though he has yet to rediscover his best form.



4 THE LOCAL LAD II MATTY LONGSTAFF MIDFIELDER

BORN Rotherham, 21/3/00

PREVIOUSLY None

Sean younger brother burst on to the Premier League scene in dramatic fashion on October 6, 2019 when he scored a spectacular winner on his Premier League debut at home to Man United. Matty also scored in the reverse fixture at Old Trafford (a 4-1 defeat) but struggled for much of 2020 with a thigh injury and has only recently returned to first-team duties, starting a league game alongside his brother for the first time this season in the recent defeat by Leicester.



THE BOSS STEVE BRUCE MANAGER

BORN December 31, 1960, Corbridge

PREVIOUSLY Sheff Utd (1998-99), Huddersfield (1999-2000), Wigan (2001), Crystal Palace (2001), Birmingham (2001-07), Wigan (2007-09), Sunderland (2009-11), Hull (2012-16), Aston Villa (2016-18), Sheff Weds (2019) Newcastle became the 10th different club on Steve Bruce's managerial CV when he was appointed in July 2019. The native Geordie began his playing career with Gillingham and Norwich, but it was at Man United that he cemented his status as an outstanding central defender. During nine years at Old Trafford (1987-96), he collected an impressive haul of winner's medals, including three FA Cups. Yet to win a major trophy as a manager, however, and was an FA Cup runner-up to Arsenal as Hull City boss in 2014.

REMEMBER KIT WILL

1980-86 – NEWCASTLE BREWERIES

1986-91 – GREENALLS

1991-95 – MCEWANS LAGER

1995-2000 – NEWCASTLE BROWN ALE

2000-03 – NTL

2003-11 – NORTHERN ROCK

2012-13 – VIRGIN MONEY

2013-17 – WONGA

2017-21 – FUN88

REALLY?!

Sean and younger brother Matty Longstaff are not the only sporting stars in their family. Dad David is a former Great Britain ice hockey player with over 100 caps to his name and current player-coach of Whitley Warriors, his cousin is Alan Thompson, who played for Newcastle, Bolton, Aston Villa and Celtic, once scoring for Bolton in a 4-1 defeat at Highbury against Arsenal in 1997.

If it was ice hockey growing up for the Longstaffs, for Jamaal Lascelles it was basketball – his dad, Tim, played professionally in the British Basketball League for over a decade for Derby Storm and his brother, Rema, is currently with Derby Trailblazers.

Fabian Schar played alongside the Gunners' Mo Elneny for two-and-a-half seasons. The pair were together from when Mo joined Basel in February 2013, to when Fabian left for Hoffenheim in July 2015.





FIRST IMPRESSION

We find the oldest picture in our archives featuring today's opponents

The first picture we have from a competitive game between today's two teams comes from way back in our Woolwich days on September 28, 1912.

With 18,000 packed into the Manor Ground stands, the photographer captures the moment when visitors striker Jimmy Stewart scores for Newcastle United. Fortunately, Scottish striker Joe McLaughlan scored for George Morrell's Gunners as the match ended 1-1.

The Gunners had won their previous game – 3-1 at Sheffield United on September 21 – but their next league victory didn't arrive until March 8, 1-0, at Man City and a wretched season ended with Arsenal 20th and bottom of the First Division, to slip back into the second tier after nine seasons in the top flight. Newcastle finished 14th with 34 points – 16 more than Arsenal – and had won the First Division as recently as 1908/09.

It was Arsenal's final season 'south of the river' with plans already afoot for a move to Highbury – and a long and glittering history in north London.■

PREMIER LEAGUE RECORD

AFC WINS

30

DRAWS

10

NUFC WINS

10

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 60

ALL-TIME RECORD

AFC WINS

80

DRAWS

38

NUFC WINS

67

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 43

42

In the crazy 4-4 draw between tonight's teams on February 5, 2011, there was a 42 minute spell – virtually a half – with no goals at all. Arsenal scored on 1, 3, 10 and 26 minutes. Newcastle responded on 68, 75, 83 and 87 minutes.

5

When Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain scored on 50 minutes to put Arsenal 2-1 up in the Gunners 7-3 win at Emirates on December 29, 2012, it heralded a spell of 40 minutes that featured a goal every five minutes – blink and you missed one!

TOP

Isaac Hayden is crestfallen after receiving a booking against Sheffield United last Tuesday

BOTTOM

Callum Wilson comprehensively beats United's Jayden Bogle



SCOUTING REPORT

BY Michael Cox

It's been barely a week since Steve Bruce's Newcastle last arrived at the Emirates, and although there are likely to be several changes in his starting XI for tonight's clash, the general approach is likely to be similar.

Granted, Newcastle's key man for that 2-0 defeat was unquestionably striker Andy Carroll, who has a good record against Arsenal and threatened to win the tie for the Magpies last weekend, missing two fine chances. Carroll's statistics from that game were remarkable – he attempted nine of Newcastle's 12 shots, and won 14 aerial duels, nine more than anyone else on the pitch. He was particularly effective defending corners inside his own penalty box.

Perhaps Carroll's prominence will mean he starts again here, but Newcastle's attack this season has generally been spearheaded by the nippier Callum Wilson, who works the channels well while also linking play effectively.

He's a better counter-attacking force, and his presence means that Joelinton is now almost exclusively used from wide. He offers speed on the break, although he's struggled for goals since arriving in English football. Miguel Almiron, peripheral last weekend, is another threat on the counter.

In terms of system, Bruce has generally favoured a 5-4-1 in recent weeks, and last weekend this featured former Arsenal man Isaac Hayden – generally used in midfield – as a third centre back. Bruce can, in theory, change between the two systems with Hayden reverting to midfield, although he tends to stick with his starting system unless Newcastle are chasing the game.

Several players who missed last weekend's game are likely to return here. Goalkeeper Karl Darlow has impressed this season in the absence of Martin Dubravka, who made his first start of the season here but might find himself with a fight to return to his status at Newcastle's number one. Centre back Federico Fernandez has missed only one game this season, while left back Jamal Lewis offers great speed up and down the flank.

Perhaps the biggest question mark in Bruce's starting XI is his midfield pairing. Sean Longstaff started last weekend alongside Jeff Hendrick, but Hayden and Jonjo Shelvey have generally been Bruce's preferred two this season, with Matty Longstaff another option. Shelvey's long-range passing can prompt breaks down the flanks.

Right back is also something of a question mark, with playing time this season split roughly equally between four players. Javier Manquillo has started most regularly, but they have a speedier option in Jacob Murphy – who can also play on the right of midfield – and the absolutely rapid DeAndre Yedlin could be preferred, especially if Bruce fears the threat of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang down that side. Emil Krafth is more cautious with his positioning, and looks more suited to playing as a full back in a four-man defence, rather than as a wing back.

Despite last weekend's defeat, don't expect too much different from Bruce this time around in terms of ambition – Newcastle largely blunted Arsenal's attack in the initial 90 minutes, while also creating a couple of fine chances. ■



ARSENAL WOMEN

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

FA CUP PUT ON PAUSE

Last week the Football Association confirmed that the Women's FA Cup has been paused until lockdown restrictions have been lifted.

Arsenal Women were due to enter the competition at the fourth round at the end of January, however with second and third round games unable to be completed, as participating clubs are not considered 'elite sport', it could be a significant time before the Gunners embark in a competition they last won in 2016. Like the men's team, the women have lifted the FA Cup 14 times – more than any other team.

The FA said: "We can confirm that, following the latest national lockdown enforced by the government, the 2020-21 Vitality Women's FA Cup will not resume during this period and will remain on pause. With all sport across the country outside of the elite level currently shut down, the competition is not in a position where the second and third rounds can be played, with clubs currently in the competition not permitted to train or play due to being at amateur level.

"Whilst it would have been possible to play elite-versus-non-elite fixtures under elite criteria with Government support, as seen in the Emirates FA Cup, fixtures involving all non-elite teams do not meet elite criteria and cannot currently go ahead. Therefore, the competition will remain paused during the current lockdown, with a number of options currently being explored on how best to complete it."



VOTE FOR CAITLIN!

Our Australian forward Caitlin Foord has been nominated for the Asian Women's Footballer of the Year for 2020.

Caitlin has enjoyed a superb start to her Arsenal career, scoring nine goals in 18 matches for compatriot Joe Montemurro's team and is a worthy nominee and joins a list of 10 Asian stars. The full list is as follows:

- JANG SEL-GI** South Korea, Madrid CFF, Incheon Hyundai Steel Red Angels
- SAKI KUMAGAI** Japan, Olympique Lyonnais
- CAITLIN FOORD** Australia, Arsenal
- TANG JIALI** China, Shanghai Shengli
- ELLIE CARPENTER** Australia, Melbourne City/Olympique Lyonnais
- YUIKA SUGASAWA** Japan, Urawa Red Diamonds
- SAM KERR** Australia, Chelsea
- RIKAKO KOBAYISHI** Japan, Nippon TV Beleza
- JI SO-YUN** South Korea, Chelsea
- WU HAIYAN** China, Wuhan Jiangda

You can vote (for Caitlin, obviously!) by going to the Asian Football Confederation: www.the-afc.com – the results will be announced on Sunday, January 24.

GOOD LUCK CAITLIN! ■

LEFT AND FAR LEFT Caitlin is a deserved candidate for Asian Women's Footballer of the Year – pictured here with fellow nominee, Ji

BELOW LEFT The wait for FA Cup action goes on

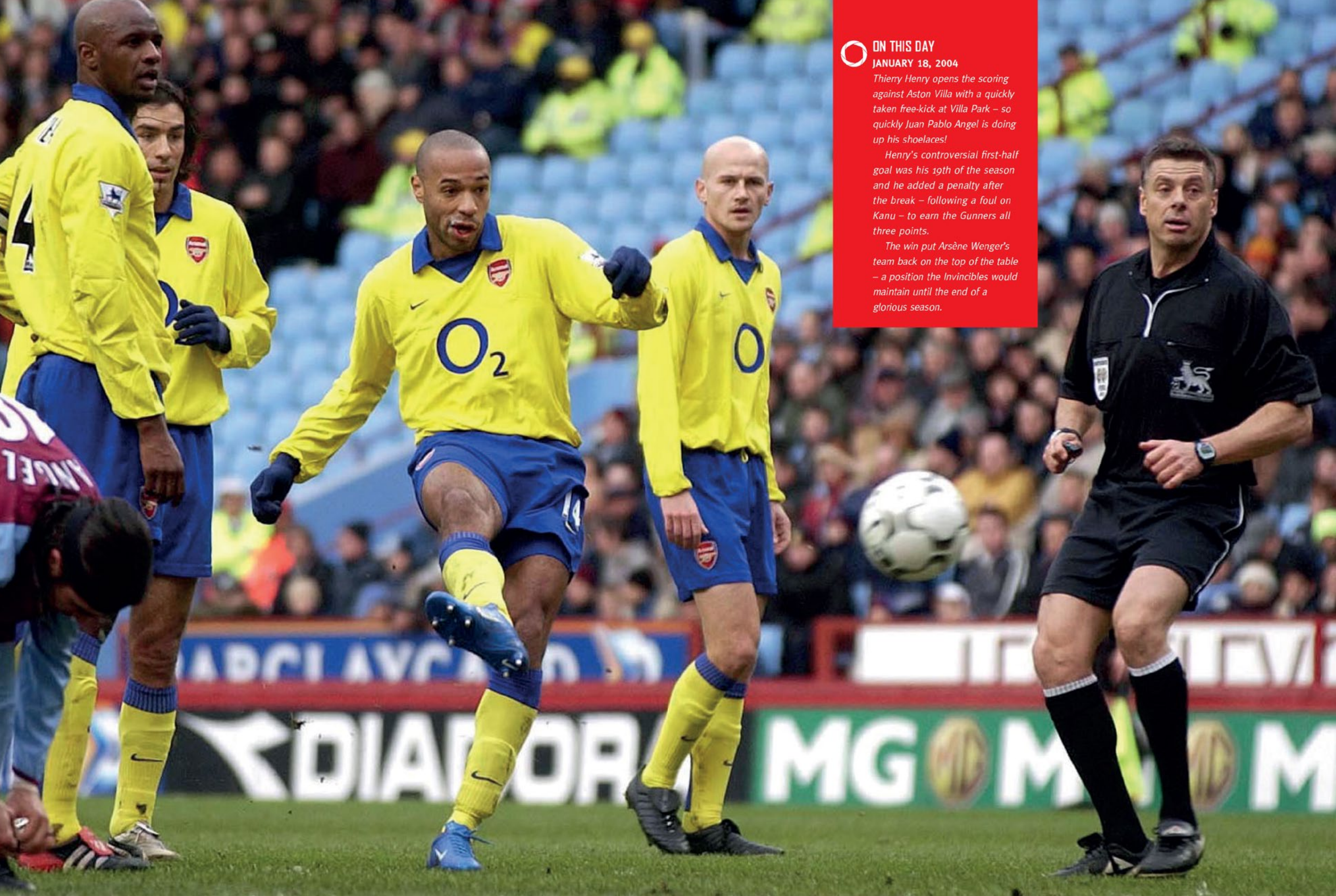
2020/21 FIXTURES

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	A
JAN 24	WEST HAM UNITED	H
FEB 7	MANCHESTER CITY	H
FEB 10	CHELSEA	A
MAR 7	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A
MAR 17/18	MANCHESTER UNITED	H
MAR 27/28	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A
APR 3/4	BRISTOL CITY	A
APR 24/25	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H
MAY 1/2	EVERTON	A
MAY 8/9	ASTON VILLA	H
TBA	ASTON VILLA	A

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (AT JAN 8)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GO	PTS
MANCHESTER UNITED	10	8	2	0	27	9	18	26
ARSENAL	10	7	1	2	38	8	30	22
CHELSEA	8	6	2	0	23	5	18	20
MANCHESTER CITY	9	5	3	1	23	9	14	18
EVERTON	9	4	2	2	17	15	2	14
READING	10	3	4	3	13	15	-2	13
BIRMINGHAM CITY	8	3	0	5	9	13	-4	9
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	9	2	3	4	12	18	-6	9
BRIGHTON & HA	10	2	2	6	7	19	-12	8
WEST HAM UNITED	9	2	1	6	13	23	-10	7
ASTON VILLA	8	2	0	6	8	17	-9	6
BRISTOL CITY	10	0	2	8	6	45	-33	2

*Arsenal won on penalties



ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 18, 2004

Thierry Henry opens the scoring against Aston Villa with a quickly taken free-kick at Villa Park – so quickly Juan Pablo Angel is doing up his shoelaces!

Henry's controversial first-half goal was his 19th of the season and he added a penalty after the break – following a foul on Kanu – to earn the Gunners all three points.

The win put Arsène Wenger's team back on the top of the table – a position the Invincibles would maintain until the end of a glorious season.



PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 18

8pm • Thursday, January 14 • Emirates Stadium

FIRST HALF

Aiming for a fifth consecutive win, Arsenal looked the brighter side in the early exchanges, culminating in Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang testing Vicente Guaita on 20 minutes, but the Spaniard was equal to our captain's effort. Crystal Palace came into the game and after 28 minutes, Christian Benteke fired over the bar. Ten minutes later, James Tomkins came agonisingly close, heading an Eberichi Eze free-kick against Bernd Leno's bar. The German then had to make a good save to deny a Benteke header and the Gunners were glad to head in for half-time with the scores still level.

SECOND HALF

We needed to step it up after the break, and within 30 seconds we carved out a decent opportunity as Hector Bellerin fired inches wide from the edge of the area. Ainsley Maitland-Niles had a shot from the edge of the area that was comfortably held just after the hour mark, as we found it tough to break down the obdurate visitors. Nicolas Pepe and Thomas Partey were soon introduced off the bench as we pushed for the breakthrough, with Rob Holding threatening with a header he diverted wide from a corner. We kept pushing and probing for a late winner, but it wasn't to be and we had to settle for a point from a frustrating night. ■

ARSENAL	CRYSTAL PALACE
11 TOTAL SHOTS	12
4 SHOTS ON TARGET	2
7 CORNERS	3
1 OFFSIDES	1
10 FOULS	11
67 POSSESSION %	33

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 2 BELLERIN
- 16 HOLDING
- 23 DAVID LUIZ
- 15 MAITLAND-NILES (65)
- 8 CEBALLOS (69)
- 34 XHAKA
- 7 SAKA
- 32 SMITH ROWE
- 14 AUBAMEYANG
- 9 LACAZETTE (81)

SUBSTITUTES

WILLIAN, PARTEY (69), WILLOCK, RUNARSSON, CHAMBERS, NKETIAH (81), GABRIEL, PEPE (65), CEDRIC

CRYSTAL PALACE

- 31 GUAITA
- 2 WARD
- 5 TOMKINS
- 8 KOUYATE
- 27 MITCHELL
- 10 TOWNSEND
- 18 MCARTHUR
- 4 MILIVOJEVIC (89)
- 25 EZE
- 20 BENTEKE (81)
- 11 ZAHA

SUBSTITUTES

J. AYEWE (81), DANN, VAN AANHOLT, CLYNE, MCCARTHY (89), CAHILL, BATSHUAYI, RIEDEWALD, BUTLAND



Dani Ceballos takes on Andros Townsend

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THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD



MARI MAGIC

Pablo Mari's appearance against Newcastle last weekend was his eighth full-90 minutes for the Gunners, and he recorded his eighth consecutive win.

We have only conceded four goals in that time too, so it's safe to say the defender has settled well after his move from Flamengo a year ago.

And since returning from injury last month, the towering defender has been in excellent form at the heart of our defence, but perhaps his finest performance arrived in our 2-0 victory over Newcastle United in the FA Cup.

Composed on the ball and calculated in the tackle, Mari exuded confidence throughout, and remained in constant communication with David Luiz, who replaced his usual partner, Rob Holding.

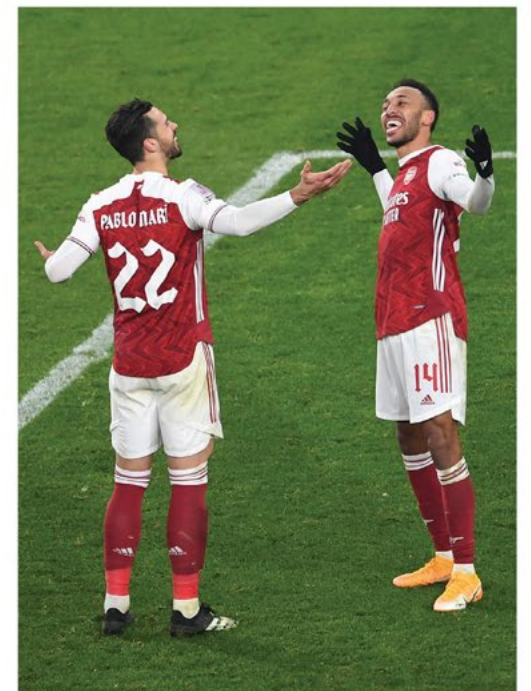
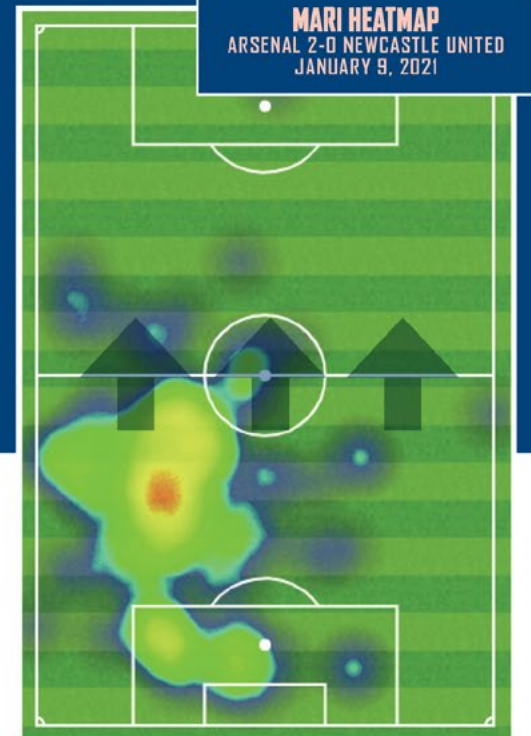
On that hard-fought night at Emirates Stadium, Mari attempted 78 passes at a completion rate of 94 per cent – the second highest on the pitch – in addition to making four tackles and two interceptions.

Kieran Tierney wreaked havoc on Newcastle's defence all evening, but without cover and support from Mari down the left flank, his movement and creativity in the final third would have been restricted. Just take a look at his heat map to see the areas our No 22 was covering and stepping in to.

Mari has been so impressive in fact, that many Gooners are starting to draw a comparison between the Spaniard and our current academy manager, Per Mertesacker, due to their ability to read the game and anticipate danger. High praise, indeed. Keep it up, Pablo! ■

*Celebrating another win
with the skipper*

MARI HEATMAP
ARSENAL 2-0 NEWCASTLE UNITED
JANUARY 9, 2021



	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	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Saka	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(59)	Nelson(82)	Willock(82)	Kolasinac(83)	Saliba	Smith Rowe	John-Jules	Olayinka	Leno	A. Marriner					
	Sat 12	Fulham	3-0	CS	1	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(75)	Ceballos(78)	Nketiah(87)	Saka	Willock	Kolasinac	Macey	C. Kavanagh						
	Sat 19	West Ham United	2-1	CS	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	CS	CC3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	DAVID LUIZ	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Willock	Pepe	Nelson	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	William(72)	Ceballos(78)	Bellerin(87)	Saliba	Lacazette	Xhaka	Runarsson	P. Banks					
	Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3	CS	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60)	Pepe(68)	Nketiah(74)	Gabriel	Saka	Kolasinac	Runarsson	C. Pawson						
OCTOBER	Thur 1	Liverpool	0-0	CS	CC4	BCD	Leno	Cedric	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Willock	XHAKA	Ceballos	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Elneny(68)	Lacazette(82)	M-Niles(86)	Tierney	David Luiz	Nelson	Runarsson	K. Friend					
	Sun 4	Sheffield United	2-1	CS	4	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Elneny	Ceballos	William	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(58)	Xhaka(81)	M-Niles(87)	Willock	Holding	Lacazette	Runarsson	L. Mason						
	Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1	CS	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	Pepe	William	AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(69)	Nketiah(83)	Partey(83)	Elneny	M-Niles	Runarsson		C. Kavanagh						
	Thur 22	Rapid Vienna	2-1	CS	MD1	3,000	Leno	Cedric	David Luiz	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Partey	Pepe	LACAZETTE	Nketiah	Aubameyang(61)	Bellerin(61)	Tierney(84)	Willock(84)	Nelson(90)	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Runarsson	Macey	P. Kraljovic			
	Sun 25	Leicester City	0-1	CS	10	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Partey	Xhaka	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Mustafi(49)	Pepe(65)	Nketiah(81)	Elneny	M-Niles	Willock	Runarsson		C. Pawson					
Thur 29	Dundalk	3-0	CS	MD2	BCD	Runarsson	Cedric	XHAKA	Mustafi	Kolasinac	M-Niles	Elneny	Willock	Nelson	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(61)	William(62)	Tierney(74)	Balogun(74)	Gabriel	Saka	Partey	Aubameyang	Bellerin	Lacazette	Leno	Hein	E. Glova	
NOVEMBER	Sun 1	Manchester United	1-0	CS	8	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Elneny	Partey	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Nketiah(76)	M-Niles(86)	Mustafi(87)	Xhaka	Pepe	Ceballos	Runarsson		M. Dean					
	Thur 5	Molde	4-1	CS	MD3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	David Luiz	Mustafi	Kolasinac	Willock	Ceballos	XHAKA	William	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(64)	Saka(64)	Elneny(80)	Tierney(80)	Lacazette	Gabriel	Bellerin	Aubameyang	Partey	Holding	Runarsson	Macey	H. Meler
	Sun 8	Aston Villa	0-3	CS	11	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	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	CS	11	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Willock	Pepe	William	AUBAMEYANG	Nelson(46)	Saka(57)	M-Niles(90)	Lacazette	Mustafi	Nketiah	Runarsson		A. Taylor					
	Thur 26	Molde	3-0	CS	MD4	600	Runarsson	Cedric	David Luiz	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Willock	Nelson	Pepe	Nketiah	LACAZETTE	Holding(46)	Ceballos(62)	Tierney(75)	Smith Rowe(75)	Balogun(82)	Cottrell	Azeez	Bellerin	Macey	Hein	I. Peljto			
Sun 29	Wolves	1-2	CS	14	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Willock	William	Saka	AUBAMEYANG	Holding(46)	Nelson(65)	Lacazette(80)	Cedric	Nketiah	Elneny	Runarsson		M. Oliver						
DECEMBER	Thur 3	Rapid Vienna	4-1	CS	MD5	2,000	Runarsson	Cedric	Mari	Mustafi	Kolasinac	M-Niles	Elneny	Nelson	Saka	Nketiah	LACAZETTE	Smith Rowe(63)	Ceballos(63)	William(63)	Chambers(70)	Balogun(81)	Tierney	Saka	Holding	Willock	Azeez	Macey	Leno	R. Petrescu	
	Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur	0-2	CS	15	2,000	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Partey	Saka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(45)	Nketiah(75)	Mustafi	Elneny	Willock	M-Niles	Runarsson		M. Atkinson					
	Thur 10	Dundalk	4-2	CS	MD6	BCD	Runarsson	Cedric	Mari	Chambers	Mustafi	M-Niles	Elneny	Willock	Smith Rowe	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(62)	Balogun(62)	Cottrell(77)	Azeez(83)	Holding	Saka	Hein	Macey	I. Bebek				
	Sun 13	Burnley	0-1	CS	15	2,000	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	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	CS	15	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Ceballos	Elneny	Saka	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	David Luiz(65)	Willock(67)	Cedric(85)	William	Lacazette	Mustafi	Runarsson		P. Tierney					
JANUARY	Sat 19	Everton	1-2	CS	15	2,000	Leno	M-Niles	HOLDING	David Luiz	Tierney	Ceballos	Elneny	Saka	Pepe	William	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Willock	Martinelli(71)	Lacazette(76)	Cedric	Bellerin	Smith Rowe	Kolasinac	Mustafi	Runarsson	A. Marriner			
	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	Tierney	Nketiah	Leno		S. Attwell					
	Sat 26	Chelsea	3-1	CS	14	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	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	CS	13	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	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	CS	11	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Saka	Smith Rowe	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	M-Niles(54)	William(71)	Willock(77)	Pepe	David Luiz	Elneny	Martinelli	Nketiah	Runarsson	M. Atkinson				
FEBRUARY	Sat 9	Newcastle United	2-0	CS	R3	BCD	Leno	Cedric	David Luiz	Mari	Tierney	Willock	Elneny	Nelson	William	Pepe	AUBAMEYANG	Smith Rowe(56)	Xhaka(66)	Saka(66)	Lacazette(105)	Balogun(120)	Chambers	Nketiah	Runarsson		C. Kavanagh				
	Thur 14	Crystal Palace	0-0	CS	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. Marriner			
	Mon 18	Newcastle United			8pm																										
	Sat 23	Shrewsbury/Southampton			4	12.15pm																									
	Tue 26	Southampton				8.15pm																									
MARCH	Sat 30	Manchester United				5.30pm																									
	Tue 2	Wolverhampton Wanderers																													
	Sat 6	Aston Villa																													
	T/W 9/10	FA Cup R5				5																									
	Sat 13	Leeds United																													
APRIL	Thur 18	Benfica				R32	8pm																								
	Sun 21	Manchester City																													
	Thur 25	Benfica				R32	5.55pm																								
	Sun 28	Leicester City																													
	Sat 6	Burnley																													
MAY	Thur 10	UEL R16 L1				R16																									
	S/S 13/14	Tottenham Hotspur																													
	Thur 17	UEL R16 L2				R16																									
	S/S 20/21	West Ham United				FAC 6																									
	Sat 3	Liverpool																													
JUNE	Thur 8	UEL QF L1				QF																									
	S/S 10/11	Sheffield United																													
	Thur 15	UEL QF L2				QF																									
	S/S 17/18	Fulham				FACSF																									
	Sat 24	Everton																													
JULY	Thur 29	UEL SF L1				SF																									
	S/S 1/2	Newcastle United																													
	Thur 6	UEL SF L2				SF																									
	S/S 8/9	West Bromwich Albion																													
	T/W 11/12	Chelsea																													
AUGUST	Sat 15	Crystal Palace/FA Cup Final																													
	Sun 23	Brighton & HA																													
	Wed 26	UEFA Europa League Final																													

FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

PLAYER	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	20/21
Bernd Leno	18	2	1	2	-	23
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	16(3)	+1(1)	1(1)	-	1(1)	18+1(6)
Kieran Tierney	16(1)	+4	1	-	1	18+4(1)
Hector Bellerin	16	+1	-	+1	1	17+2
Bukayo Saka	15+1(2)	1+1	+1	2	1	19+3(2)
Rob Holding	14+1	+1	-	2	1	17+2
Granit Xhaka	13+1(1)	3	+1	1	1	18+2(1)
William	12+1	1+2	1	+1	-	14+4
Gabriel	12(2)	1	-	2	-	15(2)
Alexandre Lacazette	11+4(7)	3(1)	+1	1+1(1)	-	15+6(9)
Mohamed Elneny	11	4+1(1)	1	2+1	1	19+2(1)
Dani Ceballos	10+6	1+4	-	2+1	-	13+11
David Luiz	7+2	3(1)	1	1	1	13+2(1)
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	5+6	5	+1	2+1	1	13+8
Nicolas Pepe	4+8(2)	6(3)	1	2+1	-	13+9(5)
Thomas Partey	4+2	1	-	-	-	5+2
Emile Smith Rowe	4	+3(1)	+1(1)	+1	-	4+5(2)
Eddie Nketiah	3+10(1)	6(3)	-	2(1)	1	12+10(5)
Pablo Mari	3	2(1)	1	-	-	6(1)
Joe Willock	2+4	4+1(3)	1	3	+1	10+6(3)
Gabriel Martinelli	2+1	-	-	1	-	3+1
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)
Cedric Soares	+1	5+1	1	2	+1	8+3
Alex Runarsson	-	4	-	1	-	5
Calum Chambers	-	1+1	-	-	-	1+1
Folarin Balogun	-	+4(2)	-	+1	-	+5(2)
Miguel Azeez	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Ben Cottrell	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Emiliano Martinez	-	-	-	-	1	1
Own goals	-	(2)	-	(1)	-	(3)

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1. Manchester Utd	17	11	3	3	10	36
2. Liverpool	17	9	6	2	16	33
3. Manchester City	16	9	5	2	12	32
4. Leicester City	17	10	2	5	10	32
5. Everton	17	10	2	5	7	32
6. Tottenham	17	8	6	3	14	30
7. Southampton	17	8	5	4	7	29
8. Aston Villa	15	8	2	5	13	26
9. Chelsea	17	7	5	5	11	26
10. West Ham United	17	7	5	5	3	26
11. Arsenal	18	7	3	8	1	24
12. Leeds United	17	7	2	8	-3	23
13. Crystal Palace	18	6	5	7	-7	23
14. Wolves	18	6	4	8	-7	22
15. Newcastle United	17	5	4	8	-9	19
16. Burnley	16	4	4	8	-12	16
17. Brighton & HA	18	2	8	8	-8	14
18. Fulham	16	2	6	8	-10	12
19. West Brom	17	1	5	11	-28	8
20. Sheffield Utd	18	1	2	15	-20	5

As at Friday, January 15



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MY ARSENAL

Name Ollie Wyse

Age 18

Live in Reigate, Surrey

Occupation Student – studying for my A-Levels

Type of Membership Digital

Why are you an Arsenal fan?

My dad influenced me from an early age as his dad had ensured he was an Arsenal fan too.

First Arsenal game?

Versus Fulham, opening day of the 2007/08 season. We won 2-1 with Alex Hleb scoring in the last minute!

Favourite Arsenal game?

Definitely the 2014 FA Cup final. Very privileged that my first final was the one that broke our nine-year trophy drought.

Favourite away ground?

Craven Cottage, I just love the old-school feel of the Cottage – looking forward to seeing what their newly developed stand is like.

Do you collect any memorabilia?

I love collecting shirts and programmes but my parents think it's getting a bit out of hand! I get a programme at every game and I get extras throughout the season from the online store. The oldest one I own is from Arsenal v Real Madrid in 1962. My dad passed it down to me from his dad.

Whose name and number do you have on your shirt?

I've got a few from down the years, Fabregas, Ozil, Van Persie, Henry, Bellerin etc.

Favourite ever Arsenal shirt?

Either the 1995/96 away shirt or the 2003/04 away shirt.

All-time favourite player and why?

Cesc Fabregas, I spent many hours in my garden and in the playground pretending I was him.



Ollie in the home dressing room at Emirates

Best Arsenal goal you've ever seen live?

Fabregas' free kick vs Aston Villa on Boxing Day 2009. He'd just come back from injury and won us the game on his return.

Best debut performance you've seen?

Eddie Nketiah vs Norwich in the Carabao Cup in 2017/18. Instant impact!

Which current Arsenal player would you most like to go for dinner with?

Hector Bellerin. I would love to just chat to him for ages about Arsenal and his attitude and style off the pitch – he's unique.

If you could erase one Arsenal moment from history?

2006 Champions League Final in Paris. The team and the manager deserved to win that trophy.

You can be present at any Arsenal match in history?

Anfield 1989. The atmosphere would have been crazy.

If you could play in any Arsenal team in history, which would it be?

The Invincibles. I would love the feeling of every game going into it knowing that every opposition team and fan wants you to fail! I would probably choose to replace Dennis Bergkamp as I think of myself as quite a creative player and it would be a dream to partner Thierry Henry in the starting lineup every week! ■



ARSENAL

MANAGER MIKEL ARTETA

RED SHIRTS WITH WHITE SLEEVES,
WHITE SHORTS AND SOCKS

P	S	SQ
00		1 BERND LENO (GK)
00		2 HECTOR BELLERIN
00		3 KIERAN TIERNEY
00		5 SOKRATIS PAPASTATHOPOULOS
00		6 GABRIEL
00		7 BUKAYO SAKA
00		8 DANI CEBALLOS
00		9 ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE
00		10 MESUT OZIL
00		12 WILLIAN
00		13 ALEX RUNARSSON (GK)
00		14 PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG
00		15 AINSLEY MAITLAND-NILES
00		16 ROB HOLDING
00		17 CEDRIC SOARES
00		18 THOMAS PARTEY
00		19 NICOLAS PEPE
00		20 SHKODRAN MUSTAFI
00		21 CALUM CHAMBERS
00		22 PABLO MARI
00		23 DAVID LUIZ
00		24 REISS NELSON
00		25 MOHAMED ELNENY
00		28 JOE WILLOCK
00		30 EDDIE NKETIAH
00		32 EMILE SMITH ROWE
00		33 MATT MACEY (GK)
00		34 GRANIT XHAKA
00		35 GABRIEL MARTINELLI
00		38 FOLARIN BALOGUN
00		41 BEN COTTRELL
00		66 MIGUEL AZEEZ



NEWCASTLE UNITED

MANAGER STEVE BRUCE

BLACK & WHITE SHIRTS, BLACK SHORTS AND SOCKS

P	S	SQ
00		1 MARTIN DUBRAVKA (GK)
00		2 CIARAN CLARK
00		3 PAUL DUMMETT
00		4 MATTY LONGSTAFF
00		5 FABIAN SCHAR
00		6 JAMAAL LASCELLES
00		7 ANDY CARROLL
00		8 JONJO SHELVEY
00		9 JOELINTON
00		10 ALLAN SAINT-MAXIMIN
00		11 MATT RITCHIE
00		12 DWIGHT GAYLE
00		13 CALLUM WILSON
00		14 ISAAC HAYDEN
00		15 JAMAL LEWIS
00		16 JEFF HENDRICK
00		17 EMIL KRAFTH
00		18 FEDERICO FERNANDEZ
00		19 JAVIER MANQUILLO
00		21 RYAN FRASER
00		22 DEANDRE YEDLIN
00		23 JACOB MURPHY
00		24 MIGUEL ALMIRON
00		26 KARL DARLOW (GK)
00		29 MARK GILLESPIE (GK)
00		30 CHRISTIAN ATSU
00		36 SEAN LONGSTAFF
00		41 DAN LANGLEY (GK)

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE

David Coote

ASSISTANT REFEREES

Marc Perry

Nick Hopton

FOURTH OFFICIAL

Graham Scott

VAR OFFICIAL

Peter Bankes

ADDITIONAL VAR

OFFICIAL

Sian Massey-Ellis



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