

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ARSENAL



NEWCASTLE UNITED

FA CUP THIRD ROUND

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021 • 5.30PM • £3.50



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ARSENAL v NEWCASTLE UNITED 9/1/21

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EDITOR Andy Exley **DEPUTY EDITOR** Josh James **DESIGN MANAGER** Simon Wallis **DESIGNERS** Liam Warr, Owen Pinch, Edward Wilkinson
PHOTOGRAPHY Stuart MacFarlane, David Price **CONTRIBUTORS** Aidan Small, Joanne Harney, Mike Hammond, Michael Cox, Michael Donlevy, Jon Spurling **THANKS TO** Fred Ollier **PRINTERS** Bishops Printers
COVER The architects of last season's FA Cup triumph with the famous silverware



THIS IS FAMILY



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MIKEL ARTETA

Our last few results have given us a platform and now we need to build from here.

The energy around the club is much more positive than it was a few weeks ago and we will doing everything to keep this convincing momentum going. That comes from picking up wins, but as I said before, I wasn't that concerned with the performances. We lost games where we felt we were really unlucky and for most of them it was our own fault. We made some errors and we lacked some discipline in certain moments and that cost us. But obviously you need to win football matches and now this brings a different momentum and it also gives the confidence to players to get the handbrake off and have more freedom when they play.

We saw that last week against West Brom. It's always tough to win away from home, especially by four goals,

but the way we did it at The Hawthorns was really convincing, even more so in that difficult weather.

We knew we had an important week starting with the Chelsea game, so to win all three of those games was very pleasing.

I really liked the way the team played as well against West Brom. We showed a real purpose in our attacking play, we were really committed defensively, we looked really solid, we scored four goals and we kept a clean sheet. It was terrific.

With a clean sheet at Brighton as well, that gives us the platform to go and win the games. We have to find the right balance between our attacking and defensive play and I think in the last few games we're really close to finding that balance. ▶

*"I think we should play the game
– I have a good feeling about it."*





We had some movement that is exactly what I want and exactly what we try and teach the players to do. But in other moments we became a little bit sloppy when we thought that the game was won. That's something we have to improve. But overall it's close to what we want.

Laca has been great lately – he needed that confidence with the goals, but his work rate is always there. He always fights for the team, but he needed that luck for the ball to land to him in the right place. I think he's in a great moment, we have to take advantage of that and give him minutes because it seems like he's enjoying it.

I really enjoyed Kieran Tierney's goal at West Brom too. The finish and the whole move was great because he wanted to play forward. He was determined to move the ball forward and dribble past his man. It was a terrific shot and you saw his reaction. I'm so happy for him, I think he's been really, really good lately. I think he's been outstanding in some games and I'm really pleased for him to score that goal.

"I SAW A PLAYER [KIERAN TIERNEY] WITH ENORMOUS TALENT WITH THE PERFECT ATTITUDE AND COMMITMENT"

From the moment I came in, and Kieran was going through his shoulder injury, I saw a player with enormous talent with the perfect attitude and commitment. He is a joy to work with and I'm so happy for him with his goal. Every day he puts in everything he's got to be better for the team and for the club. He had some issues to adapt and it was a challenge for him to leave his house, but we are all trying to help him because the kid really deserves it. Also he must have something special in his blood to warm up in the snow in just his tee-shirt and shorts! It's not like he's acting, believe me. He's very comfortable like that.

So it was great to see goals coming from different sources, because as I keep saying: we can't keep putting all the weight on Auba's shoulders to score the goals. We need contributions. The midfielders need to score more and give more assists, and we need goals from our wingers as well. Laca is in great form and has scored five



goals in his last four games, which is what we need from our strikers.

Auba had some chances in the last few games, and I am so pleased because we looked lively and there was plenty of movement in the final third. There is good energy and a real purpose with everybody playing forwards. It's like we are free to play there and the understanding is allowing us to generate a lot of things in the final third.

But the challenge now is to maintain and develop it. It's just a start, we have shown what we can do, so let's keep it up.

We have a great challenge again in front of us today because we are back in a competition that we all love at this club – the FA Cup. When you are winning you have to maintain it because that brings more confidence and more joy. Then you can evolve the things that we want to do. So let's do that today in the FA Cup. We are the holders, we want to defend it and you can only do that if you start the competition with the right spirit and attitude from the very beginning. You don't get a second chance here. Thanks for your continued support. ■

PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

We are all feeling much better now than we did before our last game here at the Emirates

I always said that things can change quickly in football and getting three wins in a row in the space of a week has given everyone a really big lift.

We have trained really well over the last few days, you can see the confidence is back and we're enjoying it again. We just want it to carry on now!

The good thing about those wins we had, was that everybody is playing their part and making things happen.

Our defence has looked really solid lately and what a save it was from Bernd at the end of the Chelsea game! We could have been under pressure for those last few minutes so that was a big moment for us and he deserves it the way he's been playing.

And going forward we are looking really dangerous again. Just like our defending relies on the whole team working hard, a lot of our attacking play starts from the back as well. The full backs are getting forward more and Kieran's goal last week was fantastic. I was right behind him when he hit it – with his right foot! And it flew in to the top corner – what a goal. He enjoyed the celebration too!

Our second goal was just what we want to do as well. Again I was behind Bukayo when he scored and the way the play was going I could see it would be a goal as soon as Emile got past his defender. That's what we work on in training and it's great to do it in games.

Then in the second half Laca scored two more – he's on fire at the moment and it just shows that there is a big

difference when you get that confidence back.

As for me I was trying everything I could to get a goal. I know it will come, I'm working hard in training and it's great to have my team-mates behind me. But as I always say, as long as the team is winning, then that's the most important thing.

And that's exactly what the FA Cup is about. I am really looking forward to be back in this competition because we have got amazing memories from last season.

Looking back to the final at Wembley, it was one of those afternoons when it all worked for us. Everybody on the team gave their best and that's why we deserved the win and to lift the cup. It was the longest, strangest season we have ever known, the journey was so long for ▶



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us to get to the final, so it was extra special to be able to lift the trophy at the end of a hard year for us. We really enjoyed it. I enjoyed it personally as well, that's for sure! It was great to be able to help my team on the day to win the trophy.

I was pleased with the winning goal as well. I had the thought to do that because Zouma knows me well, he knows my strengths and knows I'm right-footed, so that's why I thought to take it on my left instead, and it worked out well!

"THERE WAS A BIT OF A MIX UP THERE TO TELL THE TRUTH, ALL I HEARD WAS 'TAKE THE BASE'"

But what I remember from that game as well is the attitude and spirit we showed. Remember we were behind early in the game, and after the difficult season we have had, that could have been tough for us. But as you saw, everyone reacted with exactly the right attitude and that's why we got the job done in the end. We were calm and determined and we turned things round. I don't think anybody can argue that we deserved to win it.

It was my first trophy with Arsenal, so it was a special day for me, and a special day for the club – I'm only sorry that I dropped the cup!

There was a bit of a mix up there to tell you the truth, all I heard was "take the base!" but what he had actually said was "don't take the base!" It was difficult to hear because the guy from the FA had a mask on and was quite far behind.

It means that hopefully I can lift the trophy again this season and this time I will do it right!

We always go into this competition looking to win it, but it's a very long journey. The important thing is to still be in with a chance of it at full-time today.

Everyone in football knows about the FA Cup, so it's a big honour that this club has won it more than anyone else.

We are all proud of that and we are all proud of our history in the FA Cup. The players are aware of it and we want to protect it.

Arsenal and the FA Cup is a love story, and we all want it to continue.

Thanks for your support, and from all of the players here, happy New Year! ■

@AFCProgramme



VOICE OF ARSENAL

WILLIAM SALIBA JOINS NICE ON LOAN

Young central defender William Saliba has joined French Ligue 1 side Nice on loan for the remainder of the season. The move is designed to give the 19-year-old France youth international defender the chance for more competitive playing time.

Technical director Edu said: "William Saliba is a player with a huge amount of talent and potential. We're confident he will have a great career with us but we must remember that he is still only 19 years old and has a lot of time ahead of him."

"William experienced a very challenging time last year, with his playing time limited by injury and the early ending of the Ligue 1 season due to the pandemic."

"So together with William, we have decided that spending the rest of the season on loan with Nice is the best way for him to develop. We will be keeping in close contact with William during his time with Nice and look forward to seeing him make good progress until the end of the season."

William joined us in a permanent deal from Saint-Etienne in July 2019 and spent the 2019/20 on loan at the Ligue 1 side. Everyone at Arsenal wishes William all the best with Nice. ■

William is heading
back to France on loan



Let's hope Ainsley's on the
pitch if there's a shoot out!

RULES AND REGS

Supporters will be interested in the confirmation of the following for this season's FA Cup:

- There are no replays in the FA Cup this year. If a match ends in a draw after 90 minutes, two 15 minute periods of extra time will be played. If the two teams are still level after extra time, penalty kicks will ensue, using the traditional ABAB schedule
- A maximum of nine substitutes can be named with five used during the match (including extra-time). Each team is permitted a maximum of three opportunities to make substitutions during the match. If the match goes to extra time, an additional (fourth) opportunity to make a substitution (excluding (i) the break between full time and extra time and (ii) at half time of extra time) can be made
- Fixtures will feature Video Assisted Referees at the discretion of the Football Association – today's tie will have VAR
- The draw for both the fourth and fifth rounds of the FA Cup will be made on Monday night at approximately 7.10pm on BT Sport 1. The winners of today's tie will be ball number 12. ■

GWEN FRIAR

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Gwen Friar after a long illness. The wife of Life President Ken Friar, Gwen will be remembered with great fondness by all those who knew her at Arsenal Football Club and the many people who enjoyed her company on matchdays at Highbury and Emirates.

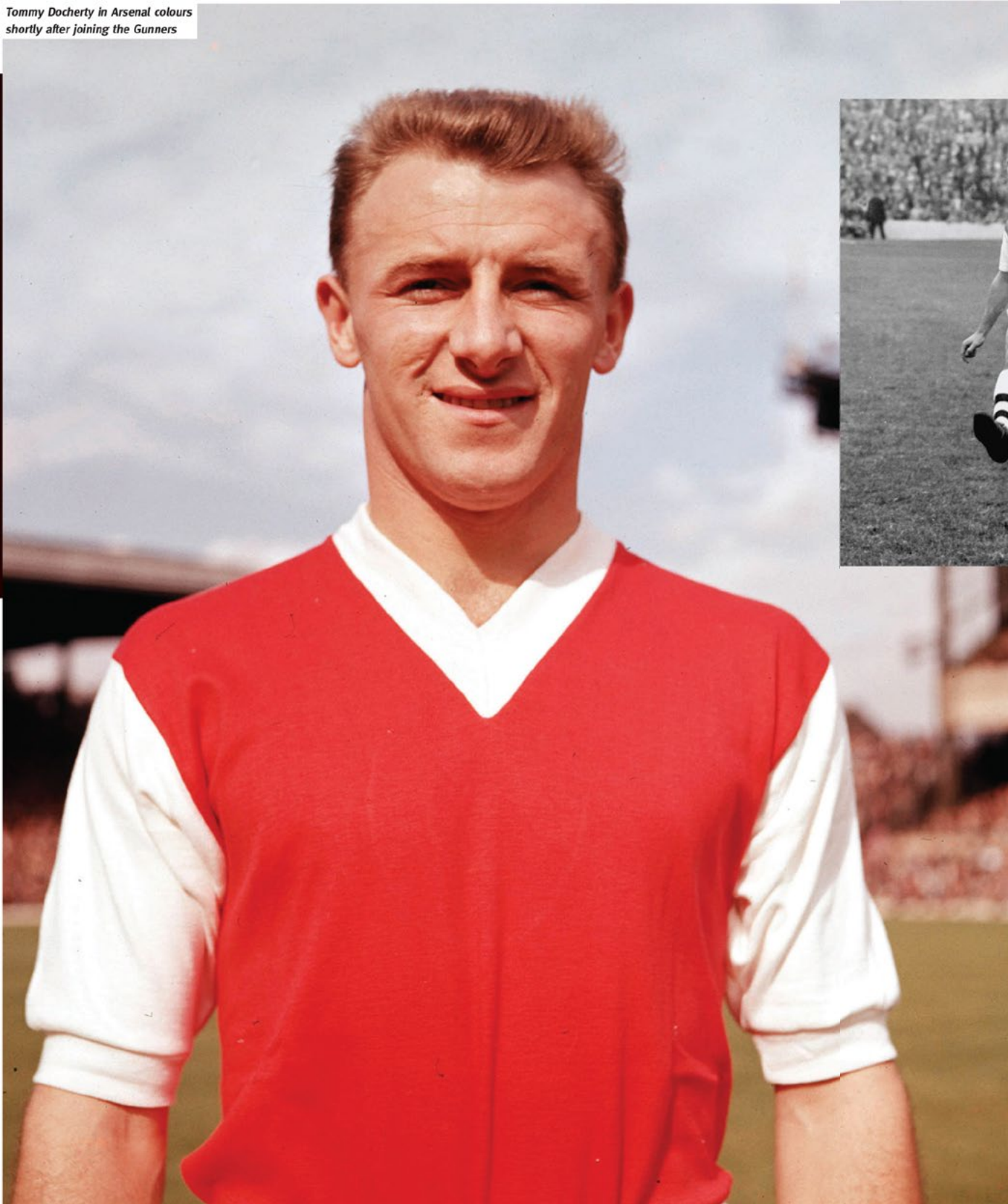
Our thoughts in particular are with Mr Friar, their children Neil and Susan and their grandchildren.

Ken often described Gwen as 'the best decision I ever made' and the pair were by each other's side for over 63 years, providing constant support for one another.

We are all thinking of you Mr Friar. ■



Tommy Docherty in Arsenal colours shortly after joining the Gunners



ARSENAL REMEMBERS

TOMMY DOCHERTY

Arsenal Football Club were saddened to hear of the recent death of Tommy Docherty, aged 92. Tommy, who played for the Gunners for three seasons, was our oldest living player. Signed by George Swindin from Preston North End in August 1958 for £21,000 – then our record transfer fee – the Scotland international wing-half played almost three seasons for us, making 90 appearances and scoring one goal – on his debut – before heading to Chelsea in February 1961 in a player-coach role. 'The Doc' went on to become one of the most high profile managers in the country. He progressed to become manager at Stamford Bridge before becoming boss at numerous clubs, notably Aston Villa, Porto, Manchester United, Derby County and Wolverhampton Wanderers as well as taking charge of Scotland. His crowning moment as a manager came in the FA Cup, when his Manchester United side beat league champions elect Liverpool in the 1977 final.

A charismatic and much loved figure in the game our thoughts are with his wife Mary and their family and friends. ■

SEAD KOLASINAC JOINS SCHALKE ON LOAN

Sead Kolasinac has joined Bundesliga side Schalke on loan for the remainder of the season.

The Bosnia & Herzegovina international will be returning to the club he joined as a youth player and spent five years in their first team before signing for us in June 2017.

Sead has made 113 appearances for us and his fine performances on our way to the 2019 Europa League final were recognised when he was named in the 2018/19 Uefa Europa League squad of the season. Sead was also part of our FA Cup-winning squad against Chelsea last August.

Technical director Edu said: "Sead needs to be playing regularly, so we have decided together that a move back to Germany with Schalke will benefit him at this moment. We will be keeping in close contact with Sead, and wish him huge success for the remainder of the season with Schalke."

Good luck for the rest of the season, Sead. ■



Sead's heading to familiar territory



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On March 23, 2002, Arsenal beat Newcastle 3-0 in an FA Cup quarter final replay courtesy of goals from Sol Campbell, Robert Pires and Dennis Bergkamp



PROGRAMME ITK

This is our first home game of 2020. We have only once lost our first game of the calendar year at the Emirates (v Manchester City in 2013).

Arsenal have only been eliminated at the third round stage of the FA Cup in one of the last 24 campaigns, with that coming against Nottingham Forest the last time they entered the competition as holders (2017/18).

Newcastle have been eliminated from 10 of their last 11 FA Cup ties against fellow Premier League opposition, with the exception being a 2-1 win against Blackburn in January 2012. ■

VOICE OF ARSENAL



LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

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

FA CUP WINNERS

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

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

1986/87, 1992/93

CHARITY/COMMUNITY SHIELD WINNERS

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

FAIRS CUP WINNERS

1969/70

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP WINNERS

1993/94

FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS

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

ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB

75 Drayton Park, London, N5 1BU
020 7619 5000

WEBSITE

www.arsenal.com

EMAIL

programme@arsenal.co.uk

TWITTER

@AFCProgramme

DIRECTORS

Lord Harris of Peckham,
Stan Kroenke, Josh Kroenke,
Tim Lewis

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David Miles

LIFE PRESIDENT

Ken Friar OBE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Vinai Venkatesham

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Edu

MANAGER

Mikel Arteta



2020 OVERALL RECORD



Across the whole of 2020, Arsenal played 52 games, with an overall win percentage of 59.6%.

The full record is featured here, along with all calendar years this millennium.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Premier League	34	15	7	12	46	37
Europa League	8	7	0	1	22	7
FA Cup	6	6	0	0	11	3
League Cup	3	2	0	1	3	4
Community Shield	1	1	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	52	31	7	14	83	52

PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR RECORDS

Year	P	W	D	L	F	A	Win%
2000	57	30	13	14	105	66	52.6
2001	60	34	11	15	105	65	56.7
2002	60	40	11	9	117	52	66.7
2003	57	35	16	6	115	49	61.4
2004	60	37	16	7	128	59	61.7
2005	56	37	8	11	96	40	66.1
2006	61	32	15	14	102	45	52.5
2007	59	36	15	8	113	52	61
2008	58	30	16	12	105	60	51.7
2009	60	37	12	11	126	55	61.7
2010	53	30	8	15	111	62	56.6
2011	60	31	15	14	102	70	51.7
2012	52	27	11	14	109	67	51.9
2013	54	35	8	11	93	50	64.8
2014	56	32	13	11	102	64	57.1
2015	55	37	6	12	103	52	67.3
2016	53	28	15	10	106	54	52.8
2017	59	37	8	14	115	70	62.7
2018	58	31	10	17	115	77	53.5
2019	57	26	13	18	103	77	45.6

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

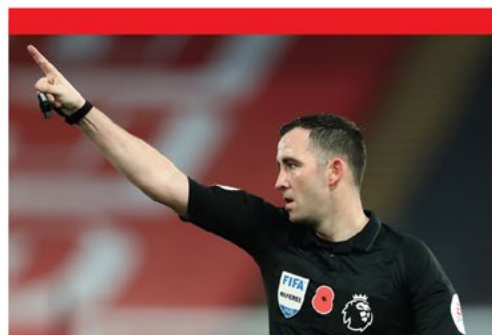
Happy 50th Birthday MARK RAYNER - Love Cath, Chloe & Hannah xxx

TOTALISER: £170

ARSENAL REMEMBERS

JANE LONDON – A lifelong Arsenal supporter. Jane, a wheelchair user, would attend home matches with her friends Glenn or Linda. Jane will be lovingly remembered for her kindness, humour and enthusiasm

EDWARD SENA YAO DEY – aged 50. A very kind soul and lifelong Gooner. Taken 'off duty' in 2020 from this mortal coil; in Accra, Ghana. Gone but never forgotten. Rest in Peace. Love from family and friends.



REF WATCH

Today's referee is Chris Kavanagh from Lancashire. This is Chris's third Arsenal appointment of the season – he was the man in the middle for our 3-0 opening day win at Fulham and the 1-0 defeat at Man City in October. Last season, Chris officiated five Gunners' games in the Premier League. He was in charge for both matches against Leicester City (2-0 defeat and 1-1 draw at Emirates), the 0-0 draw against Burnley at Turf Moor, the 1-0 defeat at Aston Villa and – the highlight – our 2-0 win over Manchester United at Emirates on New Year's Day. ■

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*Selected products only

THE FA CUP THIRD ROUND

ARSENAL'S FA CUP THIRD ROUND RECORD

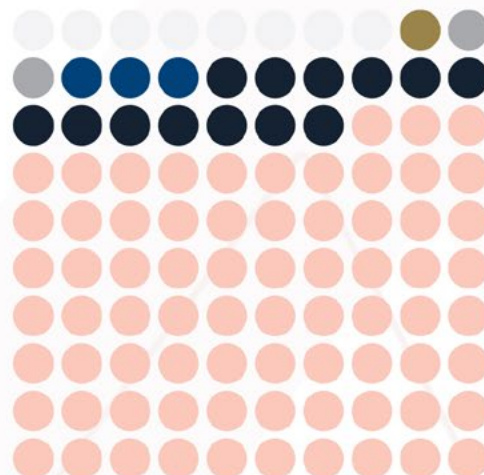
PLAYED **119**
INCLUDING REPLAYS



WHERE DRAWN IN THIRD ROUND



FA CUP THIRD ROUND SUCCESS RATE



Qualified	73
Eliminated at away ground	13
Eliminated at home ground	3
Eliminated at neutral ground	2
Eliminated over two legs	1



There has been just one FA Cup third round penalty shoot-out involving Arsenal, against Port Vale in 1998. The Gunners triumphed 4-3 on spot kicks

THIRD ROUND RESULTS SINCE 2000

Season	Opposition	Venue	Score	W/D/L	Scorers
1999/2000	Blackpool	H	3-1	W	Grimandi, Adams, Overmars
2000/01	Carlisle United	A	1-0	W	Wiltord
2001/02	Watford	A	4-2	W	Henry, Ljungberg, Kanu, Bergkamp
2002/03	Oxford United	H	2-0	W	Bergkamp, McNiven (og)
2003/04	Leeds United	A	4-1	W	Henry, Edu, Pires, Toure
2004/05	Stoke City	H	2-1	W	Reyes, van Persie
2005/06	Cardiff City	H	2-1	W	Pires 2
2006/07	Liverpool	A	3-1	W	Rosicky 2, Henry
2007/08	Burnley	A	2-0	W	Eduardo, Bendtner
2008/09	Plymouth Argyle	H	3-1	W	van Persie 2, Gray (og)
2009/10	West Ham United	A	2-1	W	Ramsey, Eduardo
2010/11	Leeds United	H	1-1	D	Fabregas
Replay	Leeds United	A	3-1	W	Nasri, Sagna, van Persie
2011/12	Leeds United	H	1-0	W	Henry
2012/13	Swansea City	A	2-2	D	Podolski, Gibbs
Replay	Swansea City	H	1-0	W	Wilshere
2013/14	Tottenham Hotspur	H	2-0	W	Cazorla, Rosicky
2014/15	Hull City	H	2-0	W	Mertesacker, Alexis
2015/16	Sunderland	H	3-1	W	Campbell, Ramsey, Giroud
2016/17	Preston NE	A	2-1	W	Ramsey, Giroud
2017/18	Nottingham Forest	A	2-4	L	Mertesacker, Welbeck
2018/19	Blackpool	A	3-0	W	Willock 2, Iwobi
2019/20	Leeds United	H	1-0	W	Nelson

ALL-TIME FA CUP WINS

14	8	6	5
12	7	6	5
8	7	6	5



3

LACAZETTE 35 (PEN),
XHAKA 44, SAKA 56



1

ABRAHAM 85

PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 15

5.30pm • Saturday, December 26 • Emirates Stadium

FIRST HALF

Emile Smith Rowe was in for his first Premier League start of the season and instantly caught the eye with the way he took up space between the lines, while Gabriel Martinelli was his usual ball of industry and energy. We made a strong start and, with mere seconds on the clock, Martinelli scuffed a volley just wide but Chelsea soon grew into the game and came close themselves when Mason Mount clipped the post with a free kick. But we kept coming forward, and were soon awarded a penalty when Kieran Tierney was clipped by Reece James in the area – and Alex Lacazette made no mistake from the spot. Even better was to come when, minutes before half time, Granit Xhaka arrowed a stunning free kick into the top corner.

SECOND HALF

After soaking up some early pressure in the second half we extended our lead as Bukayo Saka curled the ball over Edouard Mendy and into the far corner. It was no more than we deserved – and Martinelli twice came close to adding a fourth. Lacazette had a big chance as Mendy cleared straight to him, but the visitors' goalkeeper spared his own blushes with a diving save. There was still time for Mohamed Elneny to hit the bar, and Rob Holding to see his follow-up shot cleared off the line, before Tammy Abraham scored a late consolation. Bernd Leno then saved a penalty from Jorginho in injury time, but despite the tense finale we held on for a big, big three points. ■

MATCH STATS	
15 TOTAL SHOTS	19
7 SHOTS ON TARGET	3
7 CORNERS	9
1 OFFSIDES	0
13 FOULS	10
39 POSSESSION %	61

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 2 BELLERIN
- 16 HOLDING
- 22 PABLO MARI ■
- 3 TIERNEY ■
- 34 XHAKA
- 7 SAKA
- 25 ELNENY
- 32 SMITH ROWE (65)
- 35 MARTINELLI (71)
- 9 LACAZETTE (90)

SUBSTITUTES

CEBALLOS, RUNARSSON, AUBAMEYANG, WILLOCK (65), PEPE (71), MUSTAFI (90), CEDRIC, NKETIAH, MAITLAND-NILES

CHELSEA

- 16 MENDY
- 24 JAMES
- 15 ZOUMA
- 6 THIAGO SILVA ■
- 21 CHILWELL
- 17 KOVACIC (46)
- 7 KANTE (74)
- 19 MOUNT
- 10 PULISIC
- 9 ABRAHAM
- 11 WERNER (46)

SUBSTITUTES

JORGINHO (46), HUDSON-ODDI (46), HAVERTZ (74), RUDIGER, KEPA, GIROUD, GILMOUR, AZPILICUETA, EMERSON



LEFT
Alexandre Lacazette makes no mistake from 12 yards

THIS PAGE
Granit Xhaka celebrates his thumping free-kick with his fellow scorer

MATCH ACTION

FACING PAGE

*That winning feeling
for Bukayo Saka*

TOP

*Edouard Mendy can
only watch as Saka's
shot sails into the net*

MIDDLE LEFT

*Bernd Leno pulls off a
fine penalty save*

MIDDLE RIGHT

*Kieran Tierney
on another run*

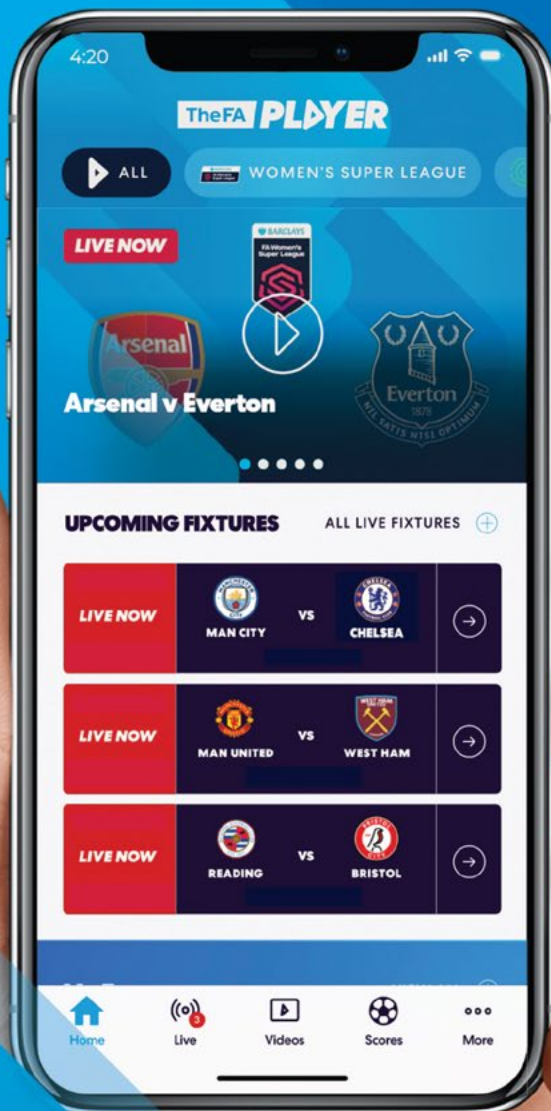
BOTTOM LEFT

*Gabriel Martinelli head
down and accelerating*

BOTTOM RIGHT

*An excellent performance
from youngster
Emile Smith Rowe*





EVERY GOAL
EVERY CELEBRATION
EVERY MOMENT
EVERY TEAM

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DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG

GUNNERS

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YOUNG GUN

BEN COTTRELL

TALKING TO Aidan Small

BORN

Watford,
October 31, 2001

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

5' 8" and 65kg

SCHOOL

Haydon School,
Pinner

POSITION

Central midfield

SIGNED FOR ARSENAL

At under-9s

2020 was a pretty crazy year for me. This time last year I was fighting for my place in the under-23s, and I remember saying in an interview that I'd love to start training with the first team. Yet here I am now, writing this not long after making my debut for this incredible football club. I still can't quite believe it.

The year started off so brightly for me. I was regularly playing 90 minutes for the under-23s and I really felt like I was coming into form, but then we were hit by COVID and lockdown, and this is obviously something that's affected everyone in all kinds of different ways.

After months away from football with lockdown, I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to resume training and join the first team for pre-season. I was involved in a friendly against MK Dons and that was an incredible experience. I was so proud to be given that chance because it showed that they've been keeping tabs on my hard work. It motivated me to work even harder and they kept telling me that the opportunities are there, but I

didn't expect it to come as soon as it did, I've got to be honest!

My whole first-team involvement started with the trip to Norway in the Europa League. I was told to bring in my passport just in case, but I had no idea if I was going or not until they handed me a first-team tracksuit.

It was a really valuable experience to just join them on the plane, train and watch on from the sidelines, so when we went to Dundalk, I was expecting more of the same. I hadn't been told anything about making my debut, so when I was warming up along the side with Bukayo and

"WHEN MIKEL CALLED MY NAME, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT. IT WAS SUCH A SURREAL FEELING"

Mikel called my name, I couldn't believe it. It was such a surreal feeling and to be honest, I'm really happy that it all happened so quickly! I didn't have any time to sit around and think about it, so I just stripped off my warm-up kit as quick as possible and got myself out



there. I didn't want to keep the boss waiting! I won't forget the way the squad encouraged and supported me before I came on too. I had a few worries deep inside, but they gave me so much positive energy. Stepping on to the pitch... wow. It's just impossible to describe. I've dreamed of that moment ever since I was a kid and suddenly it was there!

It was a privilege to be on that trip with my mates too. I've known Bukayo since I was seven years old and after the game, he was genuinely so buzzing for me. I could see the excitement in his face! Miguel made his debut too. He's the year below me but I've known him for a very long time and he's a really talented footballer. He went to my secondary school and grew up in the same areas as me too, so I'll always be supporting him. It was nice to have a familiar face alongside me!

But obviously because I had no idea that I'd be making my debut, my family had no idea either, so I was buzzing to speak to them. When I finally got back on the coach, I called my mum instantly and it was so nice to have a quick moment with her. She was so proud of me. My phone was just full of messages for the next 24 hours and it was amazing to just feel that love from so many important people in my life. That's what it's all about at the end of the day.

So, what's next? The same as before. I've just got to keep working hard and keep improving, every single day. Being around the likes of Bukayo and Emile, of course they're some of the most talented players to come out of the academy, but they're also incredible professionals and some of the hardest-working players I've ever met. That tells me everything I need to know. ■



RATE YOURSELF

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

BEN COTTRELL LOWDOWN

Earliest memory of football Signing at U-9s

Got me into playing football My dad and my brother

First footballer looked up to Jack Wilshere

Favourite training drill Small-sided games

Best friend in football Sam Greenwood

Team supported as a child Watford

Best goal of all-time Messi vs Atletico Madrid

Best moment of my career so far Making my debut

One stadium I'd like to score in Emirates Stadium

One type of goal I'd like to score Combination play around the box and a finish

Score a one-on-one to save my life Tyreece John-Jules

If I could change position I'd be a striker

Another sport I'm good at Table tennis

Best training ground tip I've had Check your shoulders at all times

Favourite football shirt owned England shirt from the South Africa World Cup

Ambitions this season away from the pitch Improve as a person

Biggest lesson learnt off the pitch at Arsenal Respect for everyone

Favourite follow on Instagram Conor McGregor

Favourite musician A Boogie wit da Hoodie

Favourite trainers Air Force 1s

What I need on an away day Coffee and headphones

Best footballing attribute Passing

The first-team player I look up to most Emile Smith Rowe



ABOVE
Championship action for Norwich City last month

LEFT
In his youth days at Arsenal in 2017

ACADEMY ALUMNI

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

DAN BARDEN

Followers of the Arsenal Academy would have seen a familiar face appearing for the second-half of Norwich City's Championship game against QPR on December 29. Dan Barden made his first league appearance for the Canaries as a second-half substitute and is making good progress at Carrow Road. Having made

his debut for Daniel Farke's team in a 3-1 defeat against Luton in the Carabao Cup in September, he then enjoyed a happier experience of a 5-0 win in the Football League Trophy against Newport County.

Dan's career was forged at Hale End, having joined the Gunners as an under-nine. An Arsenal supporter from Finchley, Dan progressed through the ranks to become a scholar in 2017 making seven appearances for the under-18s, keeping two clean sheets. He headed east to Norwich at the start of the 2018/19 season and became a regular with their under-18 team. The 6ft 6ins keeper was then sent to Bury Town in the Isthmian North Division for 2019/20, where he played more than 30 games, and was rewarded with a new two-year contract at Norwich in the summer.

This term looks like a breakthrough campaign for the Wales U19 international, who has also played a couple of Premier League 2 games for Norwich. We hope to see Dan – who turned 20 on January 2 – in Championship action again this season. ■



ACADEMY NEWS

FA YOUTH CUP DETAILS CONFIRMED

Our under-18s are set to face Blackburn Rovers in the fourth round of the FA Youth Cup. This will be our second outing in the competition after defeating Rotherham United 2-1 in the third round, courtesy of goals from Charlie Patino and Mazed Ogunbo.

This fixture offers Ken Gillard's side a change for revenge, as they were knocked out by Blackburn Rovers in the quarter-final last season. The details of the game are as follows:

Blackburn Rovers U18s v Arsenal U18s
Wednesday, January 27, 2021
Kick-off: 7pm
To be played at the Lancashire FA



BALOGUN NOMINATED FOR PL2 POTM

Folarin Balogun has been nominated for December's Premier League 2 Player of the Month award.

PL2 club coaches nominate the best performance by an opposition player in each of their league matches in the month, and our striker's impressive performance against Leicester City has certainly been recognised.

Balogun single-handedly created our opener against the Foxes, spinning his marker and firing at goal, allowing Calum Chambers to finish the rebound, before going on to score the winner, finding the bottom corner from Ryan Alebiosu's cutback.

The other players nominated for the award are: Faustino Anjorin (Chelsea), Lewis Bate (Chelsea), Harry Chapman (Blackburn Rovers), Brad Lyons (Blackburn Rovers), Nathan Tella (Southampton) and Harvey White (Tottenham Hotspur).

CLARKE FINISHES 2020 IN STYLE

Harry Clarke goes into 2021 full of confidence after being named in the League Two Team of the Week for the second time in succession. The 19 year old defender joined Oldham Athletic on loan in October and has since made 15 appearances, scoring once. He is fast becoming a fan favourite for the League Two outfit.

Keep up the hard work, Harry!

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
Sun Jan 17	Southampton	A	2.30pm
Fri Jan 22	Brighton & HA	H	7pm
Fri Jan 29	Tottenham Hotspur	A	12pm
Fri Feb 5	Chelsea	H	7pm
Fri Feb 12	Manchester United	A	7pm
Fri Feb 19	Manchester City	H	7pm
Fri Feb 26	Liverpool	A	7pm
Fri Mar 12	Blackburn Rovers	H	7pm
Sun Mar 21	Everton	A	1pm
Mon Apr 12	Derby County	A	7pm
Mon Apr 26	Leicester City	A	7pm
Fri Apr 30	West Ham United	H	7pm
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 9	Aston Villa	A	11am
Sat Jan 16	Southampton	A	11.30am
Sat Jan 23	Tottenham Hotspur	H	11am
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	11am
Sat Feb 13	West Ham United	H	11am
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	11am
Sat Feb 27	West Bromwich Albion	H	12pm
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	11am
Sat Mar 20	Reading	H	11am
Sat Apr 10	Fulham	A	12pm
Sat Apr 24	Leicester City	A	11am
Sat May 1	Chelsea	A	11am
Sat May 8	Aston Villa	H	11am
TBA	Reading	A	TBA
TBA	Chelsea	H	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

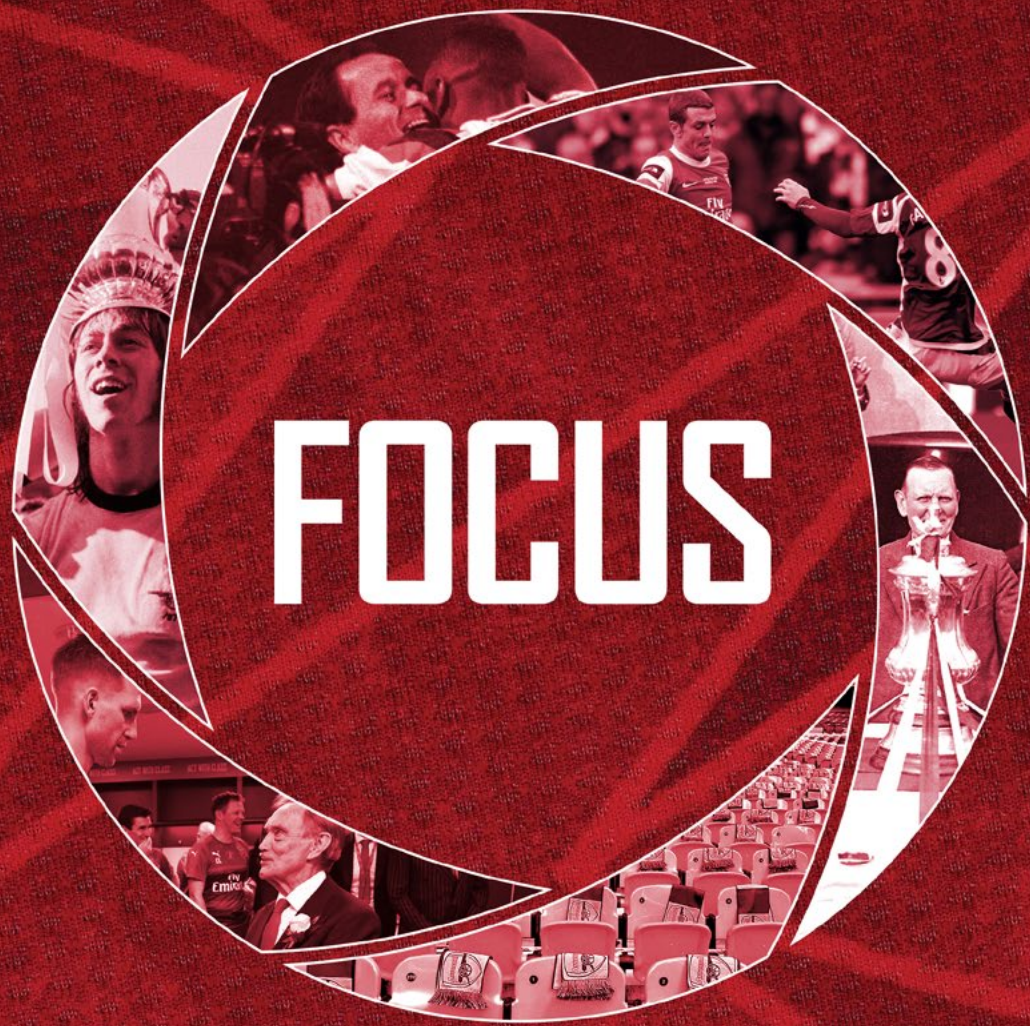
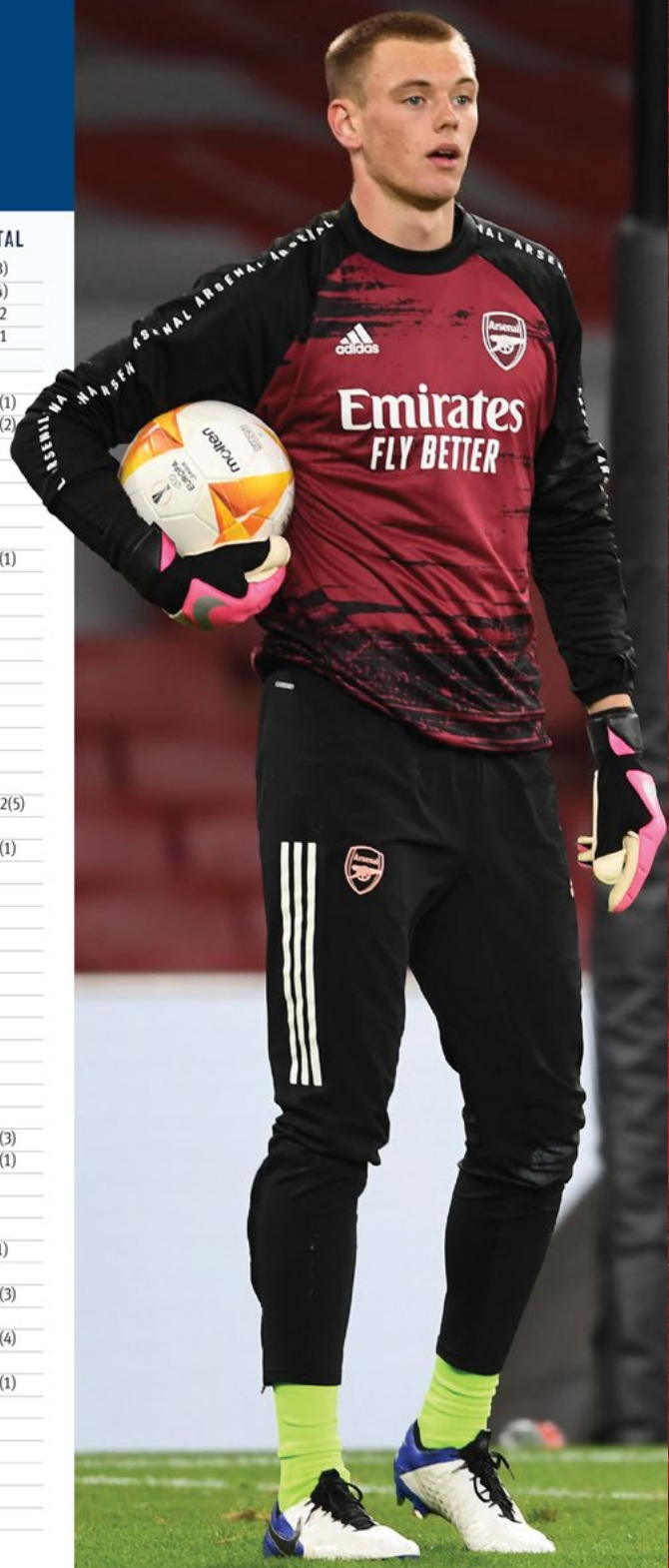
FA YOUTH CUP FIXTURES

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

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	U18	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 Oyegoke	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 Ogungbo	+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)



THE FA CUP TRIUMPHS





ARSENAL 2, HUDDERSFIELD 0

1930

The day after winning our first ever major honour, crowds wait outside Islington Town Hall for the arrival of Herbert Chapman's victorious side.



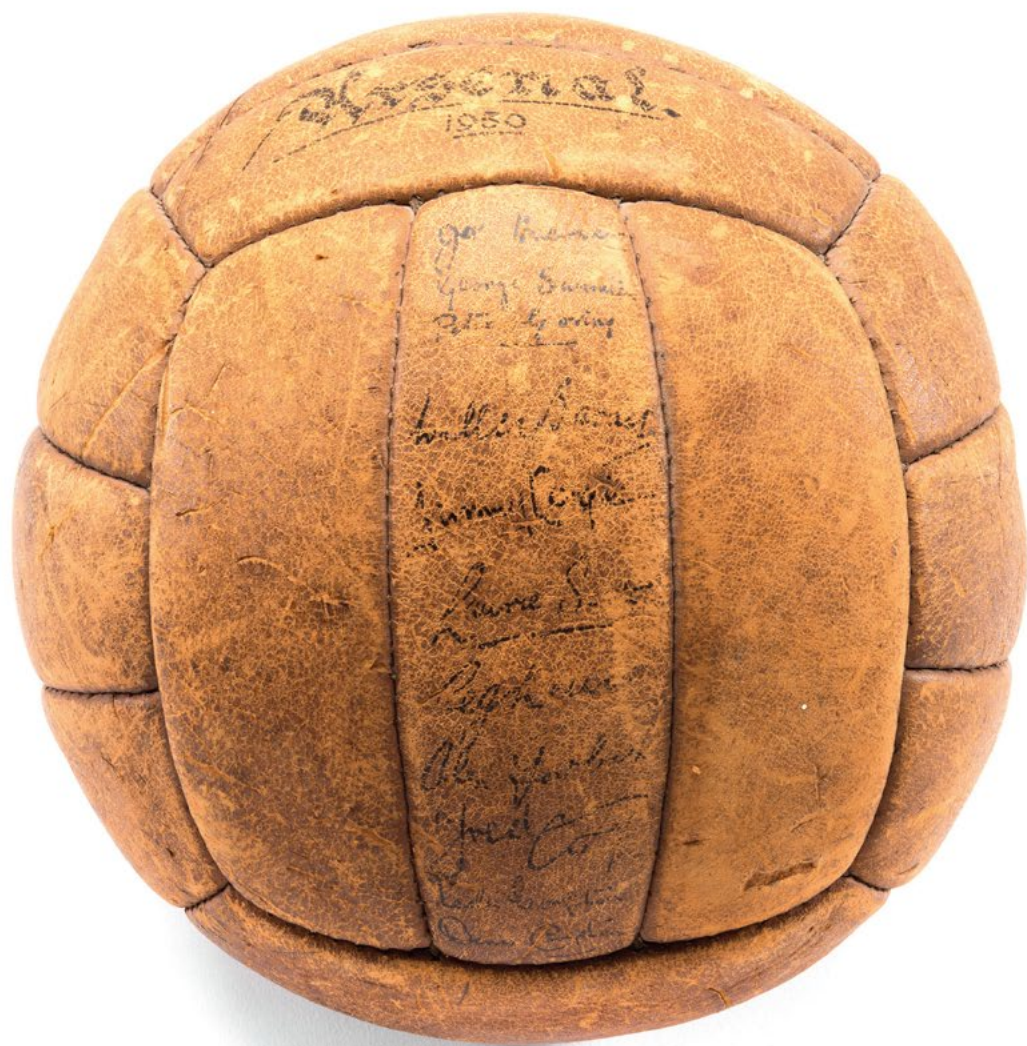
ARSENAL 1, SHEFF UTD 0

1936

The FA Cup is paraded around Highbury just two days after our victory at Wembley Stadium.

ARSENAL 2, LIVERPOOL 0
1950

The matchball from our 1950 success, signed by the team, currently resides at the Arsenal Museum



ARSENAL 2, LIVERPOOL 1
1971

Match-winner Charlie George celebrates with George Graham after our extra-time victory over Liverpool.





ARSENAL 3, MAN UNITED 2
1979

Liam Brady on the ball against Manchester United during the famous 'Five-Minute Final' in 1979.



ARSENAL 2, SHEFF WEDS 1
1993

Manager George Graham hugs Ian Wright, scorer of the first goal against Sheffield Wednesday, in our only ever FA Cup final replay.

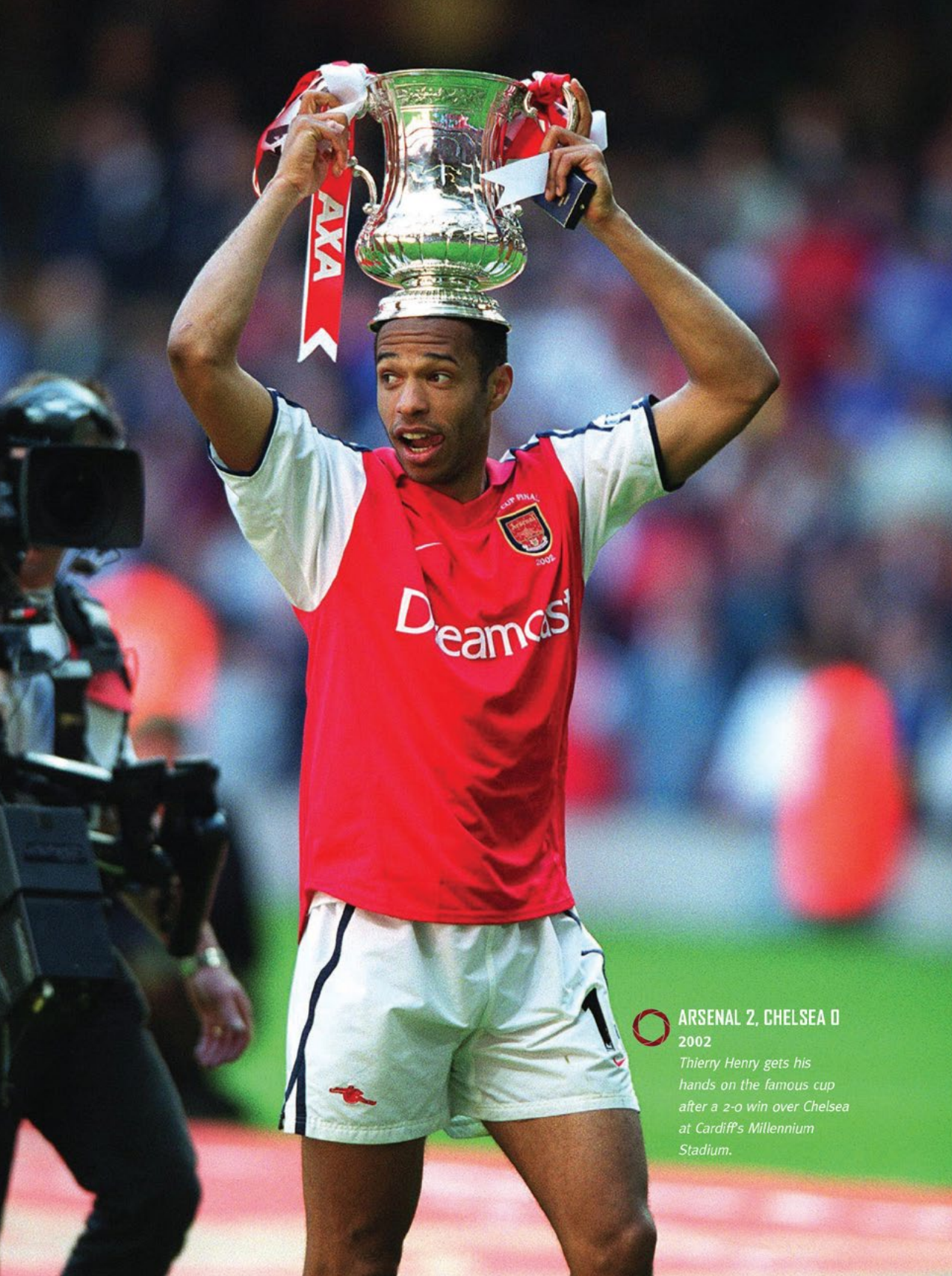


ARSENAL 2, NEWCASTLE 0

1998

Patrick Vieira and team mates
celebrating in the Wembley
baths after our win over
Newcastle United.





ARSENAL 2, CHELSEA 0
2002
Thierry Henry gets his hands on the famous cup after a 2-0 win over Chelsea at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium.

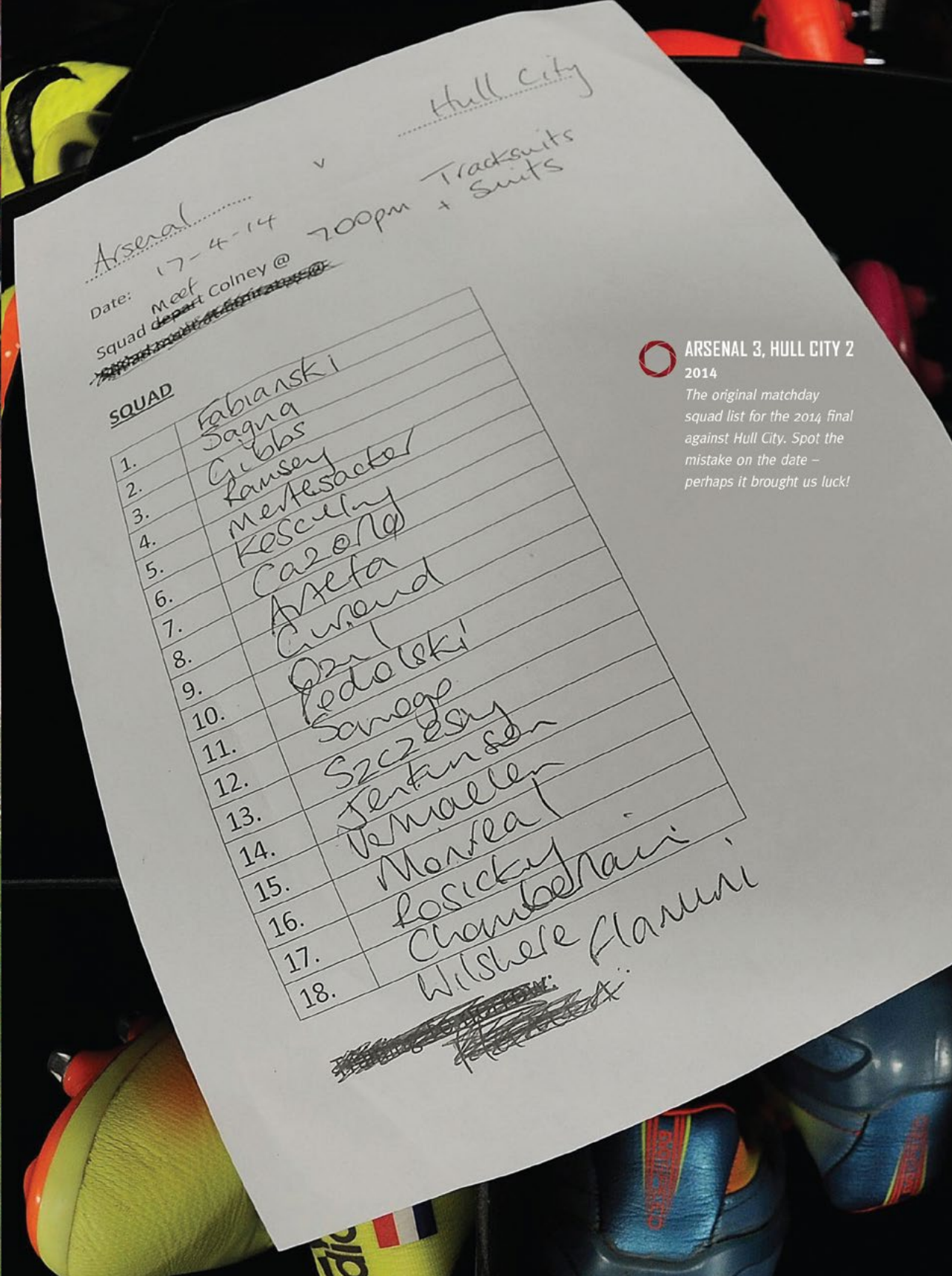
ARSENAL 1, SOUTHAMPTON 0
2003

The FA Cup has pride of place in the team coach as it heads through the fans lining the streets of Cardiff.





ARSENAL 0, MAN UNITED 0
2005
Gilberto starts the celebrations after our 5-4 penalty shoot-out win against Manchester United at the Millennium Stadium.



Arsenal
Date: 17-4-14
Squad ~~depart~~ Colney @ 200pm
~~Track suits + Suits~~

SQUAD

- | | |
|-----|--------------------|
| 1. | Fabianski |
| 2. | Sagna |
| 3. | Gibbs |
| 4. | Ramsay |
| 5. | Mertesacker |
| 6. | Koscielny |
| 7. | Cazorla |
| 8. | Axel |
| 9. | Armand |
| 10. | Oz |
| 11. | Podolski |
| 12. | Sane |
| 13. | Szczekany |
| 14. | Trentonson |
| 15. | Vermaalen |
| 16. | Morley |
| 17. | Loosick |
| 18. | Chamberlain |
| | Wilshere |
| | Flamini |
| | Flamini |

ARSENAL 3, HULL CITY 2
2014
The original matchday squad list for the 2014 final against Hull City. Spot the mistake on the date – perhaps it brought us luck!



ARSENAL 4, ASTON VILLA 0

2015

The stage is set, ready for Arsenal fans to turn Wembley yellow for the 2015 final against Aston Villa.



ARSENAL 2, CHELSEA 1

2017

Ken Friar congratulates Per Mertesacker in the victorious dressing room after the defender's towering performance against Chelsea.



A full-page photograph of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang standing on the grass at Wembley Stadium. He is wearing his Arsenal home kit (red jersey with white sleeves, white shorts, and red socks) and is holding the Premier League trophy with both hands. The stadium is mostly empty, with red seats visible in the background. Large banners are visible: "CONGRATULATIONS" at the top left, "A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION" at the top right, and "WEMBLEY CONNECTED BY EE" repeated across the middle. A large "2019/20" banner is on the pitch. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular graphic and text: "ARSENAL 2, CHELSEA 1", "2020", and a paragraph about Aubameyang's performance.

ARSENAL 2, CHELSEA 1
2020
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang leaves an empty Wembley Stadium after his two-goal, match-winning performance against Chelsea



**ALWAYS
AHEAD
OF THE
GAME**

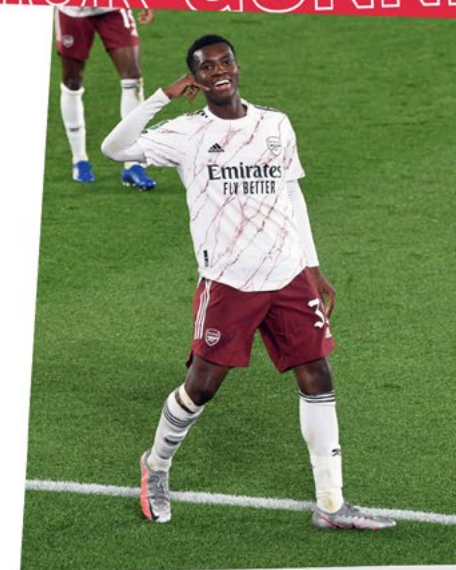


IERS JUNIOR GUNNERS JUNI



**ALWAYS
AHEAD
OF THE
GAME**

AND MORE!!!

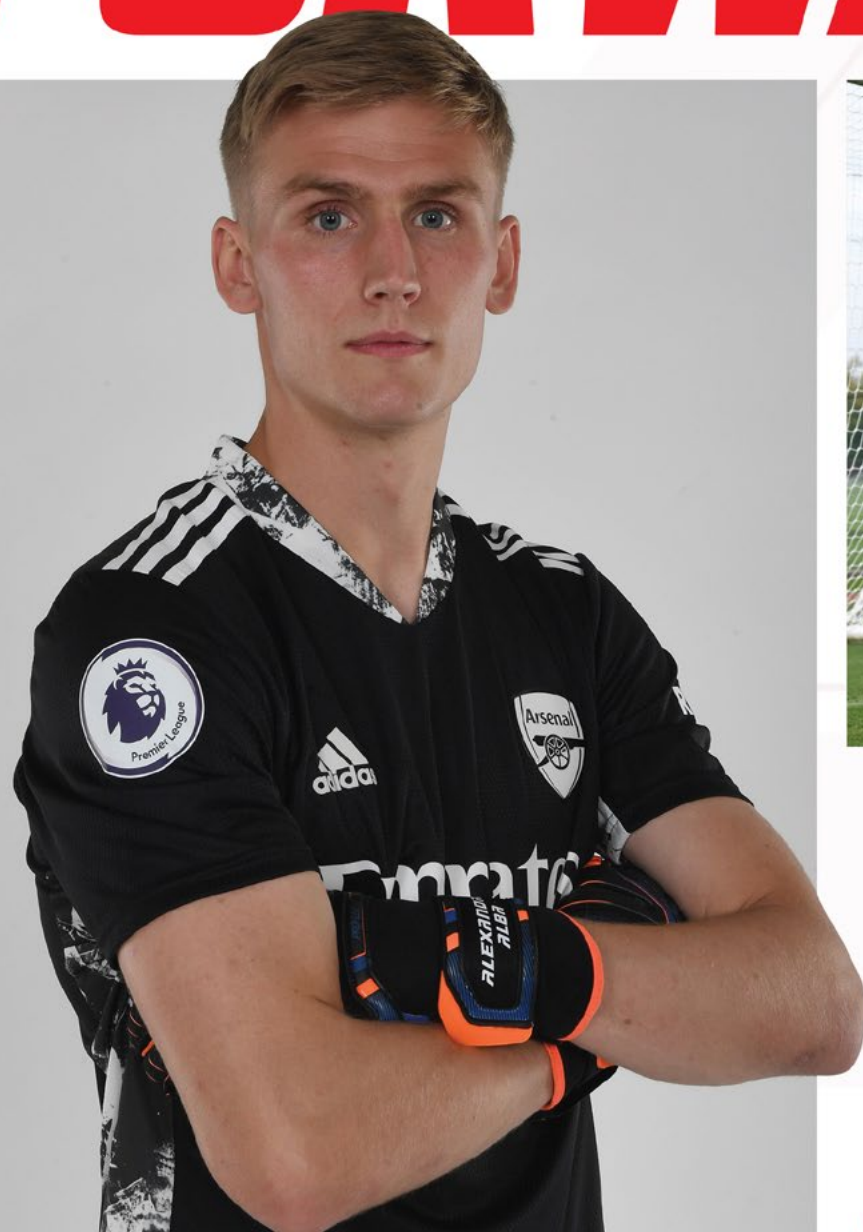


FORWARD



ALEX RUNARSSON

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



How far forward do you plan your week?

I always plan ahead with things like training and anything to do with football, but to be honest, I'm the type of guy who just takes things as they come, one day at a time. I try not to focus too much on the future.

What does training look like this week?

We always have very specific work with our goalkeeper coach that's been personalised to the team that we're playing at the weekend. If we know that they have strong shots from outside the box, then we'll work on that. If they're dangerous from set-pieces, we'll analyse why and how we can stop them. Then we'll go into tactical stuff with some small-sided games to keep our fitness up and work on that winning mentality.

What type of training do you most look forward to?

I always look forward to goalkeeper specific training sessions. That's where I'm going to improve the most because it's designed for our position and it gets you ready for those big moments in games.

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

For me, the best preparation is when I have a good meal and a good sleep. That sets me up for the game. I always make sure the food is something I love too, because I need to eat a lot of it to store energy for the game! Before most games, I like to sleep until about 10am or 11am. Ten hours sleep is best for me. As for game prep, we will sit down with our goalkeeper coach and go through some clips of how we're going to play and how the opposition are likely to play. Basically, any information that will help me work out their approach to the game and the type of shots I can expect. But generally speaking, the day before, I try not to think about football too much. It's important to relax because that keeps you fresh on a matchday.

What are your plans for tonight?

I'm having a chilled night in. Shrimp pasta with olive oil and lemon, then I'll watch a movie.

What are your plans for the end of the season?

Nothing yet. With coronavirus, it's so hard because everyone is thinking so short term at the moment. Most of us have no idea what next week will look like, let ▶

ARSENAL

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

MEAL

Breaded cod from my grandma

NEW CAR

The new Tesla Cybertruck



THING YOU BUY

A house in Iceland

HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Maldives



NEW TEAM-MATE

My closest friend in football... Albert Gudmundsson



FORWARD ARSENAL ALEX RUNARSSON

alone the end of the season! It's important to just take each day as it comes at the moment. It's impossible to make those plans!

If you had to work in one of the following, which would you choose? Coaching/management, media or non-football?

If I had to answer this today, I think I'd like to try something outside of football. I wouldn't say there's a particular job that interests me, but I've been playing football since I was five years old and I want to play until I'm 40, so I think it's healthy to experience other environments too. Being a professional athlete, you get some experience and life lessons that maybe other people don't get, so I think it's something that I'd try to take into another job. I'd like to bring that sports mentality into another industry, but who knows... my father stopped playing and six months later he became a sporting director for his youth club, so I could easily do the same! I bet it's hard to say goodbye when the time comes.

"WHEN I STOP PLAYING, THE FIRST THING I'LL DO IS GO AWAY WITH MY FAMILY TO SOMEWHERE BEAUTIFUL AND GO SKIING"

What do you still want to achieve in your playing career?

Whenever I speak to sports psychiatrists, they ask me what my dream would be, and I've always said that it's to win the Premier League. As an Icelandic kid, you grow up watching the Premier League, and now I'm here at Arsenal, my answer is the same... I want to win the Premier League with Arsenal.

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

Go skiing! When I stop playing, the first thing I'll do is go away with my family to somewhere beautiful and go skiing. I'm not good, but I'm okay!

What country will you live in when you stop playing?

Me and my family spent a lot of time in South Africa and that's definitely a place where I could see myself living in the future. I went to Russia with the Icelandic national team too and it really intrigued me. I'd like to go there and see more of Moscow. It's such a big country and I was there for three weeks, but I didn't get to see anything! ▶



Who is the next big thing in Iceland?

At the moment we've got a young boy playing in Sweden called Isak Bergmann Johannesson. His father played for Stoke and Burnley, I think! The kid is 17 and he's just finished his first full season in Sweden's top division, playing almost every game. He's a very promising player.

Do you plan your meals over the week? Do you ever have a 'treat night'?

I try to plan three days ahead with my food and I try to stick to that, but obviously things change sometimes. Depending on the game schedule, I'll treat myself maybe once a week. My go-to meal on a cheat day is a pizza.

Do you have a project you are working on at the moment away from football?

I was studying business law before I joined Arsenal, but I've obviously had to put that on hold. With moving countries, settling into England and being in a new environment, I thought it would be smart to take a step back, but I'll definitely pick it back up when I'm a little more settled. I'd like to spend my spare time doing something useful.

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?

Yeah, I'd love to go, and I'd bring my cousin with me. He's one of my closest mates. We were born a few weeks apart and he's really into all those space movies. The one person I wouldn't bring? My girlfriend, so she can take good care of our daughter! ■



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1

LACAZETTE 66

PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 16

6pm • Tuesday, December 29 • Amex Stadium

FIRST HALF

We had lots of possession in a promising opening spell, during which Emile Smith Rowe caught the eye again. But, aside from a couple of dangerous crosses from Kieran Tierney and Hector Bellerin, we had very little penetration in the final third. Brighton certainly had the better first-half chances. Alireza Jahanbakhsh fired over the bar and was later denied another strike on goal when Smith Rowe slid in to dispossess him. Then Leno got down well to save a third opportunity for Jahanbakhsh.

SECOND HALF

After just one shot in the first 45 minutes, we rained in five shots in the first nine minutes of the second half. Bukayo Saka crossed low for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, whose shot hit goalkeeper Robert Sanchez and flew over the bar. Seconds later Smith Rowe's quick feet set up a chance for Gabriel Martinelli, but he curled just over. Then Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang shot wide at the end of a speedy counter-attack. Our more purposeful performance culminated in Alexandre Lacazette scoring just 21 seconds after coming on as a substitute. He immediately latched onto a pass from Bukayo Saka following a driving run from the England international. Lacazette took a touch to steady himself and buried a shot into the bottom corner. Saka was forced off with an injury not long after setting up the goal, but we were professional and pragmatic and saw the game out.

MATCH STATS

13	TOTAL SHOTS	11
2	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
5	CORNERS	4
0	OFFSIDES	0
11	FOULS	4
50	POSSESSION %	50

BRIGHTON & HA

- 26 SANCHEZ
- 4 WEBSTER
- 5 DUNK
- 8 BISSOUMA
- 10 MAC ALLISTER (67)
- 13 GROSS
- 16 JAHANBAKHSH (75)
- 24 PROPPER (68)
- 30 BERNARDO
- 33 BURN
- 34 VELTMAN

SUBSTITUTES

MAUPAY (67), TROSSARD (75), MARCH (68), STEELE, WHITE, CONNOLLY, WELBECK, ZEQIRI, MOLUMBY

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 2 BELLERIN
- 16 HOLDING
- 22 PABLO MARI
- 3 TIERNEY
- 25 ELNENY
- 34 XHAKA
- 7 SAKA (81)
- 32 SMITH ROWE (89)
- 35 MARTINELLI (65)
- 14 AUBAMEYANG

SUBSTITUTES

CEBALLOS (81), RUNARSSON, LACAZETTE (65), MAITLAND-NILES (89), CEDRIC, PEPE, MUSTAFI, WILLOCK, NKETIAH



LEFT

Hector Bellerin flies forward

THIS PAGE

Alexandre Lacazette hugs the creator of the Frenchman's decisive goal at the Amex





MATCH ACTION

TOP

Head over the ball, Laca expertly fires home



MIDDLE LEFT

Emile Smith Rowe impressed again



MIDDLE RIGHT

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang battles with Adam Webster

BOTTOM LEFT

'Thanks, man'

BOTTOM RIGHT

Granit Xhaka and Yves Bissouma at full stretch



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ARSENAL WOMEN

PRICEY'S TOP FIVE

Arsenal club photographer David Price selected his 10 favourite Arsenal Women pics of 2020 for Arsenal.com recently – here's the top five...

He even wrote the captions!



1



2



3



4



5

1 February 19 – What can I say. Always be on your toes when DvD is around.

2 May 14 – At the start of lockdown, the players chose to pair up and stay with each other so they didn't have to train and live alone. Caitlin Foord, who had only been in the UK a short while, partnered up with Lia Walti. I popped over to photograph one of their training sessions (socially distanced, of course).

3 August 21 – A top shooter and a top snapper. Vivianne Miedema takes a selfie of Lisa Evans, Katie McCabe, Leah Williamson and Jill Roord during their visit to Estadio Anoeta in the Champions League. Very 2020 with the face masks.

4 August 22 – Beth Mead levels the score against PSG in the Champions League. Tough on the team to go into a match this big right off the back of lockdown, with just a few friendly matches as preparation.

5 September 3 – KT had his Tesco bag, but Leah clearly prefers to shop at another supermarket.

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 9	ASTON VILLA	A
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 18	MANCHESTER UNITED	H
MAR 28	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A
APR 4	BRISTOL CITY	A
APR 25	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H
MAY 2	EVERTON	A
MAY 9	ASTON VILLA	H

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (AT JAN 6)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	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	16	-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	-39	2

*Arsenal won on penalties

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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 The Soup Kitchen at the American International Church, a London-based charity that provides food and more to the homeless and vulnerable. Charity director Alex Brown, 45, tell us how the money helped during unprecedented times

Like many people in life, and indeed many rough sleepers, I never expected to end up where I ended up. I gave up a fairly successful business and moved to London seven years ago from America to be closer to my beautiful daughter. I lived here as a child – my mother is from Newbury – and hold dual citizenship. I suddenly had a ton of extra time and found the Soup Kitchen online as I wanted to donate and make a difference. They needed some help so I joined the team. It was a life-changing decision and a fantastic one. I quite literally love some of our homeless guests!

Covid-19 has changed everything. I'm the director, so my day-to-day duties tend to revolve around fundraising and administrative duties. When Covid caused the initial lockdown, it was all hands on deck. In addition to normal administrative duties I do whatever my staff need me to do. That includes working in the kitchen, serving food or collecting donations.

We serve 140 people each morning on average. In 2017, we served 65 people each day. Our numbers continue to increase and they won't subside anytime soon, unfortunately. For many months over lockdown, if you were homeless and wanted a meal in central London you had to go to one of only two places during the day. We were one of those places and our numbers skyrocketed.



ABOVE
Alex (right) made a 'life-changing decision'



LEFT
The Foundation helped supply the huge demand for food at The Soup Kitchen

Unfortunately, demand will stay high and I don't see any scenario in which it decreases anytime soon. The winter months will be especially rough because many charities that normally operate overnight shelters have closed because of Covid.

The Arsenal Foundation supported us early on when there was so much anxiety about whether we could remain open. As panic-buying started we struggled to find enough food, and the support we received from the Foundation quite literally fed hundreds of vulnerable people.

I continue to be inspired by the people who come to us for help. In July 2019 we launched Europe's first-ever mental health drop-in clinic within a soup kitchen to try to address the large percentage of rough sleepers who struggle with mental illness. It was covered by all of the major news outlets and we're incredibly proud of it. I'm seeking funding now to expand our services and operate our clinic every day.

I think all of us have a responsibility to take care of the communities in which we work and live, but footballers have such a unique opportunity because the platforms they have can help charities like us spread awareness about who we are and the people that need help.

For more info visit soupkitchenlondon.org or @soupkitchenlondon on Instagram. ■





Miguel Almiron



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**


 Six-time winners of the FA Cup, Newcastle United enjoyed their best run in the competition for 14 years last season, Steve Bruce's side knocking out Rochdale (1-1 away, 4-1 home replay), Oxford United (0-0 h, 3-2 aet away replay) and West Bromwich Albion (3-2 away) before going down 2-0 at home to Manchester City in the delayed quarter-final. They visit Arsenal this evening on a run of four away games undefeated in the competition, though none of those have been against fellow Premier League opponents.

 While the Magpies have a proud history in the competition, it is 66 years since they last held aloft the famous trophy – after a 3-1 victory in the 1955 final against Manchester City in which legendary striker Jackie Milburn opened the scoring in the first minute. Their previous wins had come in 1910, '24, '32, '51 and '52, with the victories in 1932 and 1952 both coming against Arsenal, 2-1 and 1-0 respectively.

 In addition to those six FA Cup triumphs, Newcastle have, like Arsenal, been runners-up on seven occasions, including on each of their last three final appearances – in 1974 (losing 3-0 to Liverpool) then back-to-back in 1998 and 1999, when they were defeated 2-0 by Double winners Arsenal and Manchester United respectively. Marc Overmars and Nicolas Anelka scored the Gunners' goals in the 1998 final victory at Wembley against a Newcastle team featuring such famous names as Alan Shearer, Stuart Pearce, Shay Given and Gary Speed.

 The FA Cup in the 21st century has not been kind to Newcastle. Although they reached the semi-finals in 2000 and 2005, last season was, remarkably, the first time since 2006 that they were still involved in the competition after January. For 13 successive campaigns they were eliminated in either the third or fourth round, with Arsenal knocking out a Magpies side led by returning boss Kevin Keegan in round four in 2008 with a 3-0 win at Emirates Stadium. That was the last time the clubs met in an FA Cup tie.

 The teams have also crossed swords since then in the League Cup, Arsenal triumphing 4-0 at St James' Park in October 2010 to eliminate Chris Hughton's newly-promoted Magpies. This term, they had their dreams of glory in that competition crushed in the quarter-final when they lost 1-0 at Brentford.

 That was the club's first defeat in London this season, their three previous visits to the capital having all earned Bruce's men valuable Premier League points – a 2-0 win at West Ham on the opening day of the season, a 1-1 draw at Tottenham two weeks later and in late November another 2-0 success at Crystal Palace. Newcastle currently sit 15th in the Premier League table with 19 points from their 16 matches, having picked up just two from their last five. They return to Emirates Stadium in the league a week on Monday.

VISITORS NEWCASTLE UNITED



MUTUAL ADMIRATION

Buccaneering centre forward Malcolm Macdonald was adored on the Gallowgate, who christened him 'SuperMac' during five years at Newcastle. His pace – he clocked 10.9 seconds for 100m on Superstars – power and superb shooting netted him 138 goals in 257 games, keeping up the form which had persuaded Joe Harvey to buy him from Luton Town where he'd plundered 58 goals in 101 games. New Arsenal manager Terry Neill needed a big name signing to excite the Gunners faithful and he cajoled England international Macdonald into heading back to his native London in the summer of 1976. He was top scorer at Highbury in successive seasons, winning the Golden Boot in 1977 and he grabbed 57 goals in 108 games for the Gunners. Ultimately, a serious knee injury suffered in a League Cup tie against Rotherham early in 1978/79 ended his career aged just 28.



7 THE LOCAL HERO ANDY CARROLL FORWARD

BORN Gateshead, 6/1/89

PREVIOUSLY Newcastle, Preston (loan), Liverpool, West Ham
A towering target man whose career has largely been decimated by injury, Geordie boy Andy began his career with Newcastle before moving to Liverpool in January 2011. The nine-cap England international later joined West Ham, where he remained for seven seasons, the highlight perhaps a famous hat-trick against Arsenal in April 2016. Having re-signed for Newcastle in August 2019, he finally scored his first goal for the Magpies since his return in last weekend's 1-2 home defeat by Leicester.



8 THE SCHEMER JONJO SHELVEY MIDFIELDER

BORN Romford, 27/2/92

PREVIOUSLY Charlton, Liverpool, Blackpool (loan), Swansea
Jonjo will celebrate his fifth year as a Newcastle player next week, having joined the Magpies from Swansea on January 12, 2016. His first full season with the club was spent in the Championship, where he was a prominent figure in helping secure immediate promotion, and he was the club's top scorer in the Premier League last term with six goals. An FA Cup runner-up early in his career with Liverpool, the tall, shaven-headed schemer has been capped six times by England.



1 BETWEEN THE POSTS MARTIN DUBRAVKA GOALKEEPER

BORN Zilina, Slovakia, 15/1/89

PREVIOUSLY Zilina, Esbjerg, Slovan Liberec, Sparta Prague
Out of action with an ankle injury picked up in pre-season training, 2019/20 Premier League ever-present Martin will hope to make his first Newcastle appearance of 2020/21 this evening, having returned to fitness but remained on the bench – as understudy to Karl Darlow – in the two recent Premier League encounters against Liverpool and Leicester. The Slovakia international joined on loan from Sparta Prague in January 2018 having twice won the Slovakian title with hometown club Zilina.



23 THE RETURNEE JACOB MURPHY MIDFIELDER

BORN Wembley, 24/2/95

PREVIOUSLY Norwich, Swindon (loan), Southend (loan), Blackpool (loan), Scunthorpe (loan), Colchester (loan), Coventry (loan), West Brom (loan), Sheffield Wednesday (loan)
A former England Under-21 international, Jacob began his career at Norwich City before joining Newcastle in July 2017 but has spent most of his career out on loan with EFL clubs, including an impressive Championship campaign last term with Sheffield Wednesday during which he scored nine goals in 39 games. He has been in an out of Steve Bruce's side this season, scoring his only league goal in a 1-1 draw at Wolves.



24 THE ENIGMA MIGUEL ALMIRON ATTACKER

BORN Asuncion, Paraguay, 13/11/93

PREVIOUSLY Cerro Porteno, Lanus, Atlanta United
Acquired for £21m in January 2019 from MLS champions Atlanta United, Miguel arrived with a glowing reputation as an eye-catching dribbler and goalscorer. A Paraguay international, he was voted into the MLS All-star team in both of his two seasons in America before becoming, at the time, the Magpies' most expensive purchase. It is fair to say that the Premier League jury is still out on the mercurial left-footer, though he enjoyed a fine 2019/20 season in the FA Cup, scoring four goals.



14 THE EX-GUNNER ISAAC HAYDEN MIDFIELDER

BORN Chelmsford, 22/3/95

PREVIOUSLY Arsenal, Hull (loan)
An Arsenal academy graduate and England youth international during his time as a Gunner, Isaac had a loan spell under Steve Bruce at Hull before leaving north London for Tyneside in 2016 and starring in his new club's Championship-winning campaign. A defensive midfielder with a strong physique, the 25 year old played only two first-team games for Arsenal – both in the League Cup – but has been a regular performer for Newcastle, though missed last weekend's game against Leicester through suspension.



18 THE LYNCHPIN FEDERICO FERNANDEZ DEFENDER

BORN Tres Algarrobos, Argentina, 21/2/89

PREVIOUSLY Estudiantes, Napoli, Getafe (loan), Swansea
A member of the Argentina squad that finished runners-up in the 2014 World Cup, starting the first four matches, Federico was a Napoli player at the time but left after that tournament for the Premier League, spending the next four seasons with Swansea. He joined Newcastle after the Swans' relegation in 2018 and has established himself as a mainstay in the backline, skipping the team in recent matches in place of the Covid 19-affected Jamaal Lascelles.



11 THE SWEET LEFT FOOT MATT RITCHIE MIDFIELDER

BORN Gosport, 10/9/89

PREVIOUSLY Portsmouth, Dagenham & Redbridge (loan), Notts County (loan), Swindon, Bournemouth
A former Scotland international midfielder who has been performing in recent weeks as a left wing back, 31-year-old Matt is now in his fifth season with the Magpies, having joined at the start of their 2016/17 Championship-winning campaign following an impressive debut Premier League season at Bournemouth. A useful crosser and free-kick taker, he missed the early months of the campaign with a shoulder injury.



THE BOSS STEVE BRUCE MANAGER

BORN December 31, 1960 in 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.

REALLY?!

Newcastle United's coaching staff certainly has a theme. Head Coach **Steve Bruce** has three assistants: **Steve Agnew**, **Steve Harper** and **Stephen Clemence**.

When **Alexis Sanchez** scored for Arsenal in the 2015 FA Cup final against Aston Villa, he became the first Chilean to score in a cup final since **George Robledo** scored the only goal for Newcastle against Arsenal in the 1952 FA Cup final.

Current Newcastle striker **Andy Carroll** was an unused sub (alongside coach Steve Harper) the last time Toon visited Emirates for an FA Cup tie, on January 26, 2008. The 19 year old witnessed Arsenal centre forward **Emmanuel Adebayor** score twice and Nicky Butt score an own goal as Arsène Wenger's team registered a comfortable 3-0 win.



Only four teams in England have played in more **FA Cup finals** than Newcastle (13). They are Arsenal (21), Man United (20), Liverpool and Chelsea (both 14). However, all four of those teams have won a final this **millennium** whereas the last of Newcastle's six wins came in 1955.

Newcastle's first victory in the FA Cup came in **1910** when, after a 1-1 draw, the Geordies beat Bamsley in a replay held at Goodison Park in front of 60,000 fans. Playing outside forward in both games – and the following season's final when United lost to Bradford in a replay – was **Jock Rutherford**. Rutherford later played for Arsenal and by the time of his departure in 1926, he was the **Gunners oldest ever player** at 41 years, 159 days – which remains a club record.



FIRST IMPRESSION

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

Believe it or not, the very first picture we have in our archives of today's two teams playing in the FA Cup comes from April 1, 1932 – the FA Cup final at Wembley.

Despite Bob John opening the scoring for Herbert Chapman's Arsenal after 15 minutes, the game ended in heartache for the Gunners with Jack Allen getting two goals for Andy Cunningham's 'Toon', winning their third FA Cup in the process – Arsenal had only won one previously, in 1930.

A little like Arsenal's 2-1 defeat to Liverpool in 2001, the game also featured significant controversy as Allen's equaliser on 38 minutes came from a cross from Jimmy Richardson which photographs later showed had been played from behind the goal line.

In this picture, legendary Arsenal forward David Jack is challenging Newcastle 'keeper Albert McInroy. At the time of the game, Jack was the only footballer to have won the FA Cup with two different teams, Arsenal (1930) and Bolton Wanderers in 1923.

FA CUP RECORD

AFC WINS

4

DRAWS

2

NUFC WINS

4

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 40

ALL-TIME RECORD

AFC WINS

79

DRAWS

38

NUFC WINS

67

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 43

5

Having lost our first three FA Cup ties with Newcastle, Arsenal have progressed/won four of our last five against the Magpies in the competition, most recently a 3-0 win at the Emirates in the fourth round in 2007/08.

3

Newcastle's last three away games against Arsenal in the FA Cup have all ended in 0-3 defeats – in a fifth round replay in 1936, quarter-final replay in 2002 and a fourth round tie in 2008

TOP

Allan Saint-Maximin against Man City in the quarter-final last season

BOTTOM

Joelinton celebrates scoring against Rochdale in last season's FA Cup third round replay win



SCOUTING REPORT

BY Michael Cox

Newcastle supporters have been unhappy with Steve Bruce for many reasons since his appointment at the start of last season, but at least he seems to take the FA Cup seriously.

Newcastle's run to the quarter-final last year was the first time they'd reached that stage since 2006, while Bruce has history in the competition too, having taken Hull City to the 2014 final against Arsenal, when his side went 2-0 up before eventually losing 3-2.

It remains to be seen how many changes Bruce makes for today's fixture, but he isn't one of those managers who doesn't seem interested in competing in the cup. He's also a former FA Cup-winning captain – like the man in the opposite dugout today.

That said, Bruce is likely to follow the modern trend of switching his goalkeeper for the cup – albeit for a very good reason. Martin Dubravka, who didn't miss a minute in the last two Premier League campaigns, is back in contention having missed the entire campaign so far through injury. Karl Darlow has performed well in his absence, and Dubravka will be determined to remind Bruce of his ability.

Further forward, Bruce has switched between a four and a five-man defence this season, although has tended to prefer the latter in recent weeks. His three centre backs have generally been captain Federico Fernandez, left-sided Ciaran Clark, and Fabian Schar playing between them.

Out wide, both DeAndre Yedlin – a pure speedster down the right – and the converted winger Matt Ritchie are both more comfortable in a back five rather than a back four. In a defensive quartet, Emil Krafth and Jamal Lewis may get the nod instead, while Jacob Murphy can be fielded on the right of the defence or midfield.

Bruce has various options in central midfield. There's the two Longstaff brothers, Sean and Matty, who started together in last weekend's 2-1 defeat at Leicester. There's also tough-tackling defensive midfielder Isaac Hayden, who spent eight years at Arsenal, the deep-lying distributor Jonjo Shelvey, or the more attack-minded Jeff Hendrick. In that defeat at Leicester, Newcastle were caught out with two cut-backs played to the edge of the box, and the midfield needs to be more alert to prevent those type of concessions.

Going forward, Newcastle are largely about speed. Allan Saint-Maximin is one of the Premier League's most direct dribblers, Miguel Almiron can be a superb counter-attacking force on his day, and Joelinton is always a willing runner – if not the most prolific. Bruce has added goals this season in the shape of Callum Wilson, who has brought his fine partnership with winger Ryan Fraser up from Bournemouth, while Andy Carroll remains a very useful Plan B, and netted last weekend at Leicester.

Newcastle's underlying statistics aren't impressive – they're close to the bottom of the Premier League in terms of figures like average possession, shots on target and passes in the final third. But Bruce isn't too concerned about that, and will ask his side to play a patient, counter-attacking game here. ■



THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD



XHAKA-BOOM

Our youngsters stole the headlines on Boxing Day after delivering a fluid attacking performance against our London rivals in our last home game, but it was Granit Xhaka who provided the foundations for success in midfield.

The 28 year old returned to our starting XI after serving a three-match suspension, and he looked sharper than ever, playing a key role in all three of our goals.

Ahead of our opener, Xhaka spotted Tierney's purposeful run down the left flank and played a raking pass, allowing our full back to attack the box and win a penalty. Our second of the evening was all Granit, as he fired a stunning free-kick into the top corner from almost 30 yards. Of his 13 Arsenal goals to date, it was his ninth from outside the area, and his third direct free-kick.

And even for our third – a moment of brilliance from Saka – Xhaka kickstarted the counter with a one-two and an inviting pass into Bellerin's path, allowing the attack to maintain momentum.

The numbers back up his outstanding performance too. No other Arsenal player completed more passes than Xhaka (34) that evening, with 26 taking place in Chelsea's half.

He also contested more duels than any other Arsenal player (13) and registered two tackles, showing he was up for the defensive battle.

It's safe to say that Granit was everywhere in midfield. Just take a look at his touch map and heat map!

XHAKA TOUCH MAP
ARSENAL 3, CHELSEA 1
DECEMBER 26, 2020
PREMIER LEAGUE



XHAKA HEAT MAP
ARSENAL 3, CHELSEA 1
DECEMBER 26, 2020
PREMIER LEAGUE



- * = Own Goal
- CAPS = Captain
- = Yellow card
- = Red card
- # = Played at Wembley Stadium

	DATE	OPPOSITION	POS		ATT/KD	STARTING XI										SUBSTITUTES										REFEREE					
			F-A	/RND												CED	RND	CED(59)	Nelson(82)	Willlock(82)	Kolasinac(83)	Saliba	Smith Rowe	John-Jules	Olayinka		Leno				
SEPTEMBER	A	Sat 29	Liverpool	1-1+	CS	BCD #	Martinez	Bellerin	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Saka	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(59)	Nelson(82)	Willlock(82)	Kolasinac(83)	Saliba	Smith Rowe	John-Jules	Olayinka	Leno	A. Marriner				
		Sat 12	Fulham	3-0	●	1	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(75)	Ceballos(78)	Nketiah(87)	Saka	Willlock	Kolasinac	Macey	C. Kavanagh					
		Sat 19	West Ham United	2-1	●	2	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(64)	Nketiah(77)	David Luiz(89)	M-Niles	Elneny	Willock	Macey	M. Oliver					
		Wed 23	Leicester City	2-0*	●	CC3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	DAVID LUIZ	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Willlock	Pepe	Nelson	Nketiah	William(72)	Ceballos(78)	Bellerin(87)	Saliba	Lacazette	Xhaka	Runarsson	P. Bankes					
		Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3	●	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+	●	CC4	BCD	Leno	Cedric	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Willlock	XHAKA	Ceballos	Pepe	Nketiah	Elneny(68)	Lacazette(82)	M-Niles(86)	Tierney	David Luiz	Nelson	Runarsson	K. Friend					
		Sun 4	Sheffield United	2-1	●	4	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Elneny	Ceballos	William	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(58)	Xhaka(81)	M-Niles(87)	Willlock	Holding	Lacazette	Runarsson	L. Mason					
		Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1	●	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	●	MD1	3,000	Leno	Cedric	David Luiz	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny	Partey	Pepe	LACAZETTE	Nketiah	Aubameyang(61)	Bellerin(61)	Tierney(84)	Willlock(84)	Nelson(90)	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Runarsson	Macey	P. Kralovec		
		Sun 25	Leicester City	0-1	●	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	●	MD2	BCD	Runarsson	Cedric	XHAKA	Mustafi	Kolasinac	M-Niles	Elneny	Willlock	Nelson	Pepe	Nketiah	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	●	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**	●	MD3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	David Luiz	Mustafi	Kolasinac	Willlock	Ceballos	XHAKA	William	Pepe	Nketiah	Cedric(64)	Saka(64)	Elneny(80)	Tierney(80)	Lacazette	Gabriel	Bellerin	Aubameyang	Partey	Holding	Runarsson	Macey	H. Meler
		Sun 8	Aston Villa	0-3	●	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	●	11	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Willlock	Pepe	William	AUBAMEYANG	Nelson(46)	Saka(57)	M-Niles(90)	Lacazette	Mustafi	Nketiah	Runarsson		A. Taylor				
		Thur 26	Molde	3-0	●	MD4	600	Runarsson	Cedric	David Luiz	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Willlock	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	●	14	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Willlock	William	Saka	AUBAMEYANG	Holding(46)	Nelson(65)	Lacazette(80)	Cedric	Nketiah	Elneny	Runarsson		M. Oliver					
DECEMBER		Thur 3	Rapid Vienna	4-1	●	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	Willlock	Azeez	Macey	Leno	R. Petrescu
		Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur	0-2	●	15	2,000	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Partey	Saka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(45)	Nketiah(75)	Mustafi	Elneny	Willlock	M-Niles	Runarsson		M. Atkinson				
		Thur 10	Dundalk	4-2	●	MD6	BCD	Runarsson	Cedric	Mari	Chambers	Mustafi	M-Niles	Elneny	Willlock	Smith Rowe	Pepe	Nketiah	Ceballos(62)	Balogun(62)	Cottrell(77)	Azeez(83)	Holding	Saka	Hein	Macey	I. Bebek				
		Sun 13	Burnley	0-1	●	15	2,000	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Xhaka	Elneny	Saka	William	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60)	M-Niles(74)	Nketiah(77)	Willlock	Smith Rowe	Mustafi	Runarsson		G. Scott				
		Wed 16	Southampton	1-1	●	15	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	Gabriel	Tierney	Ceballos	Elneny	Saka	Pepe	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	David Luiz(65)	Willlock(67)	Cedric(85)	William	Lacazette	Mustafi	Runarsson		P. Tierney				
JANUARY		Sat 19	Everton	1-2	●	15	2,000	Leno	M-Niles	HOLDING	David Luiz	Tierney	Ceballos	Elneny	Saka	Pepe	William	Nketiah	Willlock	(64)	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	Willlock	Martinelli	LACAZETTE	Pepe(49)	Smith Rowe(66)	Balogun(77)	Mari	Tierney	Nketiah	Leno		S. Attwell				
		Sat 26	Chelsea	3-1	●	14	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	Xhaka	Elneny	Saka	Smith Rowe	Martinelli	LACAZETTE	Willlock(65)	Pepe(71)	Mustafi(90)	Ceballos	Aubameyang	Cedric	Nketiah	M-Niles	Runarsson		M. Oliver		
		Tue 29	Brighton & HA	1-0	●	13	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	Xhaka	Elneny	Saka	Smith Rowe	Martinelli	AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(63)	Ceballos(81)	M-Niles(89)	Willlock	Cedric	Mustafi	Pepe	Nketiah	Runarsson		M. Atkinson		
		Sat 2	West Brom	4-0	●	11	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Mari	Tierney	Xhaka	Ceballos	Saka	Smith Rowe	Lacazette	AUBAMEYANG	M-Niles(54)	William(71)	Willlock(77)	Pepe	David Luiz	Elneny	Martinelli	Nketiah	Runarsson		M. Atkinson		
FEBRUARY		Thur 14	Crystal Palace			8pm																									
		Mon 18	Newcastle United			8pm																									
		Sat 23	FA Cup R4			4																									
		Tue 26	Southampton			8.15pm																									
		Sat 30	Manchester United			5.30pm																									
MARCH		Tue 2	Wolverhampton Wanderers																												
		Sat 6	Aston Villa																												
		Tue 9/10	FA Cup R5			5																									
		Sat 13	Leeds United																												
		Thur 18	Benfica			R32	8pm																								
APRIL		Sun 21	Manchester City																												
		Thur 25	Benfica			R32	5.55pm																								
		Sun 28	Leicester City																												
		Sat 6	Burnley																												
		Thur 10	UEL R16 L1			R16																									
MAY		S/S13/14	Tottenham Hotspur																												
		Thur 17	UEL R16 L2			R16																									
		S/S20/21	West Ham United			FAC 6																									
		Sat 3	Liverpool																												
		Thur 8	UEL QF L1			QF																									
		S/S10/11	Sheffield United																												
		Thur 15	UEL QF L2			QF																									
		S/S17/18	Fulham			FACSF																									
		Sat 24	Everton																												
		Thur 29	UEL SF L1			SF																									
		S/S 1/2	Newcastle United																												
		Thur 6	UEL SFL2			SF																									
		S/S 8/9	West Bromwich Albion																												
		Tue 11/12	Chelsea																												
		Sat 15	Crystal Palace/FA Cup Final																												
		Sun 23	Brighton & HA																												
		Wed 26	UEFA Europa League Final																												

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1. Liverpool	17	9	6	2	16	33
2. Manchester Utd	16	10	3	3	9	33
3. Leicester City	17	10	2	5	10	32
4. Tottenham	16	8	5	3	14	29
5. Manchester City	15	8	5	2	11	29
6. Southampton	17	8	5	4	7	29
7. Everton	16	9	2	5	6	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	17	7	2	8	1	23
12. Leeds United	17	7	2	8	-3	23
13. Wolves	17	6	4	7	-6	22
14. Crystal Palace	17	6	4	7	-7	22
15. Newcastle United	16	5	4	7	-8	19
16. Burnley	15	4	4	7	-11	16
17. Brighton & HA	17	2	8	7	-7	14
18. Fulham	15	2	5	8	-10	11
19. West Brom	17	1	5	11	-28	8
20. Sheffield Utd	17	0	2	15	-21	2

FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

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

As at Thursday, January 7



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MY ARSENAL

Name Jamie Bramwell

Age 35

Live in Raynes Park

Occupation Teacher

Type of Membership Gold

Why are you an Arsenal fan? My best friends at school were all Arsenal supporters so I just followed suit – they certainly helped me make the right decision!

First Arsenal game? Arsenal vs Leeds United, April 6, 1996 at Highbury. Arsenal won 2-1 and Ian Wright scored a last minute winner at the Clock End right in front of me. That special feeling has never left me!

Favourite Arsenal game? Arsenal vs Man Utd in November 1997 – I was lucky enough to be sat in the North Bank that day. We won 3-2, scoring three brilliant goals and we suddenly felt like serious contenders for the league.

Favourite away ground and why? Fratton Park. The stadium is very dated but the atmosphere and the 'old school' character made it a brilliant experience.

Favourite piece of Arsenal memorabilia? I have a match worn shirt from 1986 which was signed by the whole squad, legends like Charlie Nicholas, John Lukic, Niall Quinn and Rocky. Very special!

Do you collect any Arsenal-related memorabilia? Yes! I have around 200 Arsenal shirts, including match-worn ones from players such as Lee Dixon, Per Mertesacker, Dennis Bergkamp, Robert Pires and Cesc Fabregas.

Most obscure piece of Arsenal memorabilia you own? On a tour of Highbury in 1997, the guide gave me a piece of mud from the bottom of Dennis Bergkamp's boot – it's still in my mum's attic!



Jamie and the next generation of Arsenal fan

All-time favourite player and why? Dennis Bergkamp. His arrival kicked off the evolution of Arsenal being a 'boring' team in the mid nineties to one of the most exciting footballing teams in the world over the next 10 years.

Do you have an Arsenal cult hero? Ray Parlour. Everything about him was summed up in Tim Lovejoy's "it's only Ray Parlour..." line in the 2002 FA Cup final.

Best Arsenal goal you've seen live? Jack Wilshere's goal against Norwich in 2013 from a technical standpoint, Thierry Henry's against Leeds in the 2012 FA Cup for the pure joy it brought!

Have you ever met any Arsenal players? Alan Smith and Ray Parlour at their book signings. Both lovely guys. I met Alan shortly after the birth of my son and he spent a few moments congratulating me and giving me tips on being a father, even though there were still hundreds in the queue behind me!

Current player you'd like to go for dinner with? Hector Bellerin. He'd be great company and I'm sure he'd know some cool restaurants in London. I'd need to think about what I'd wear though, as I wouldn't want to embarrass him!

You can be present at any Arsenal match in history... Anfield '89, without doubt. Never again will there be a more dramatic finish to a league season. And witnessing it live – how could you ever beat that experience?! ■



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

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



NEWCASTLE UNITED
MANAGER STEVE BRUCE
BLACK & WHITE SHIRTS, BLACK SHORTS AND SOCKS

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

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE

Chris Kavanagh

ASSISTANT REFEREES

Ian Hussin
Sian Massey-Ellis

FOURTH OFFICIAL

Gavin Ward

VAR OFFICIAL

Andre Marriner

ADDITIONAL VAR OFFICIAL

Neil Davies

TODAY'S MATCHES

(3pm unless stated)

Nottingham Forest v
Cardiff City (12pm)

Norwich City v Coventry
City (12pm)

Luton Town v
Reading (12pm)

Boreham Wood v
Millwall (12pm)

Everton v
Rotherham Utd (12pm)

Chorley v
Derby Co (12.15pm)

QPR v Fulham

Blackburn Rovers v
Doncaster Rovers

Blackpool v
West Brom

Wycombe v Preston

Bristol Rovers v
Sheffield United

Oldham v Bournemouth

Stoke v Leicester City

Burnley v MK Dons

Exeter v Sheff Wed

Stevenage v Swansea

Huddersfield Tn v
Plymouth Argyle (6pm)

Brentford v
Middlesbrough (6pm)

Southampton v
Shrewsbury (8pm)

Manchester United v
Watford (8pm)



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