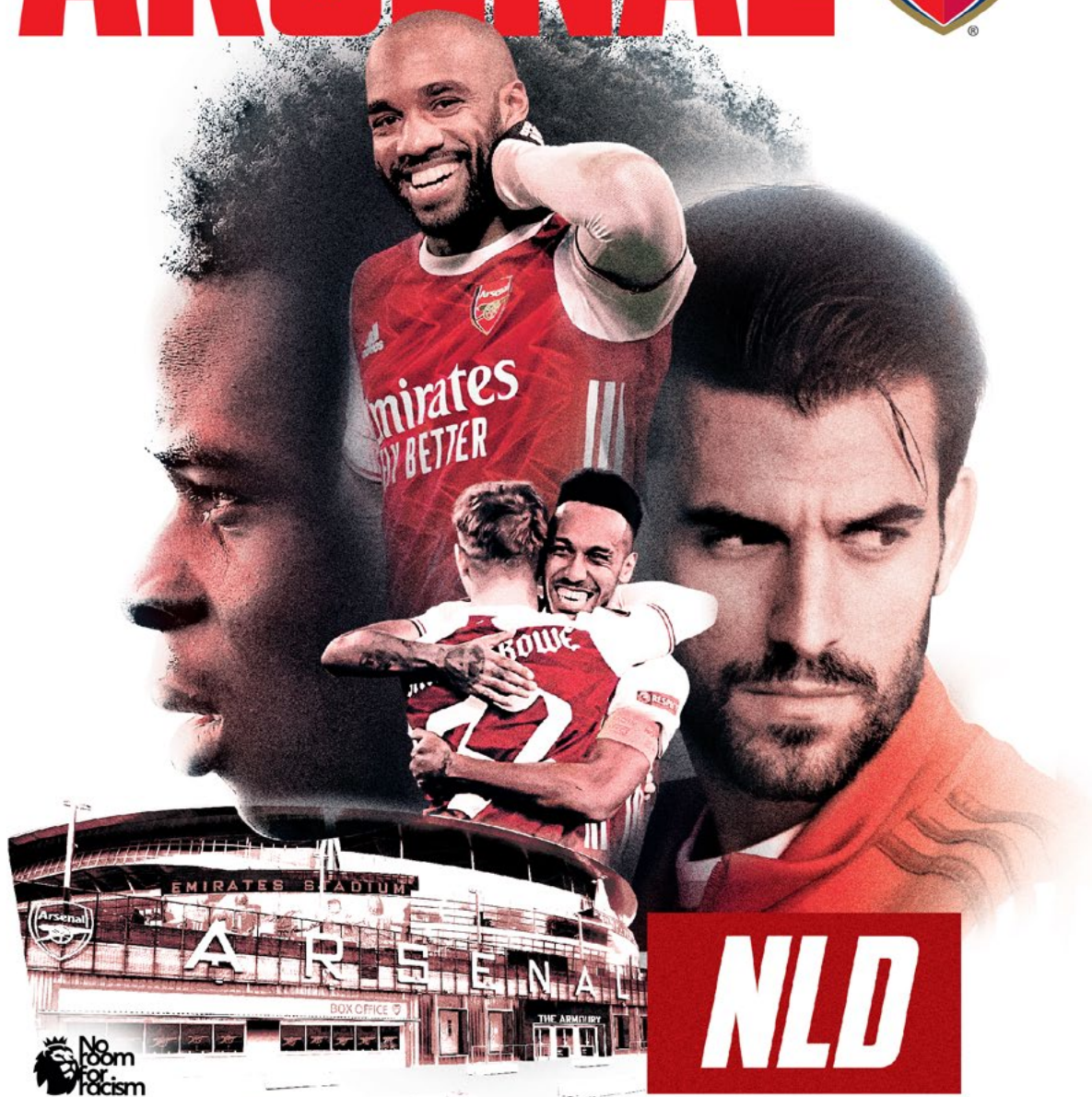


THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ARSENAL



NLD



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021 ■ 4.30PM ■ £3.50



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ARSENAL v TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 14/3/21

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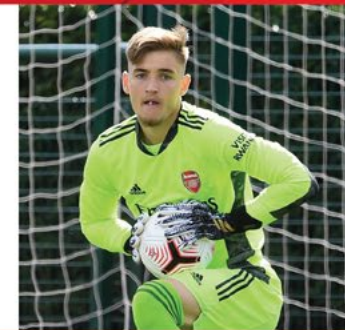


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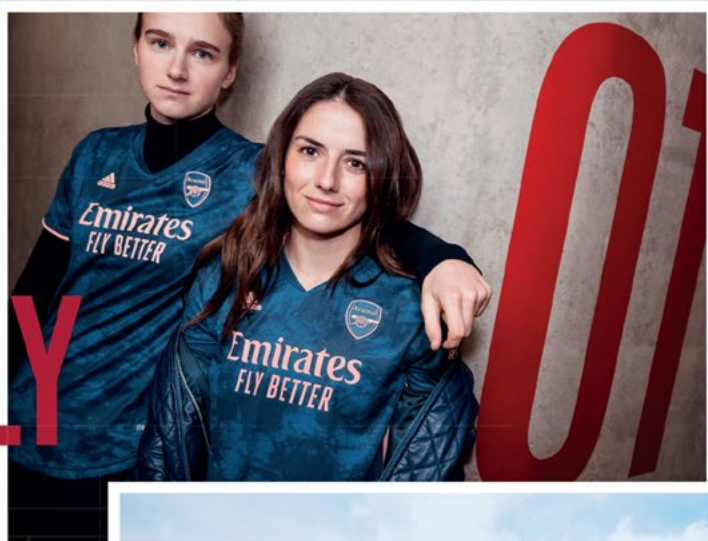
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COVER All set for the 189th meeting between Arsenal and Tottenham

THIS IS FAMILY



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MIKEL ARTETA

We are in the middle of a massive few days, and games don't come much bigger than the derby.

It's great to be able to come into this match on the back of an important win on Thursday in Greece, and it's put us all in a positive mind for today's game.

We were really pleased with the result and with our goals especially against Olympiacos. We started the game really well and could have been two or three goals ahead by half-time.

But let's be really honest with ourselves – we basically gave them three goals on the night. They only took one of them, but we have got to cut these mistakes out, we have got to be more ruthless and we cannot keep giving these gifts to opponents.

It is happening too often, and every opponent we

face is good enough without us giving them goals out of nothing.

You cannot sustain yourself at the top level with that number of errors. It's not about concentration – it's about when to play and when to take those risks. We have to identify that as a team.

It's about knowing what the risks and the rewards are. If the reward is not worth the risk, then don't take it. We must improve our decisions like that if we want to keep developing and getting stronger.

I will always encourage the team to play the way we can, to follow our principles, but we need to do that within the rules that we set ourselves.

It's the way we play – when we decide when to play, ▶





when not to play, the type of football we have to play with the right distances, the right feet.

If you don't have the right structure, you don't play. It's too risky. If it's a no-play zone, you don't have to play. That's what it comes down to and that's what we need to improve.

Lately the goals and the chances that we have conceded are coming from ourselves. That can be really positive though, because the moment we stop it, we will be even stronger. It's up to us.

I must say though, that I was very pleased with the way we reacted as the game went on. We talked about it before the game, about discipline and controlling your emotions. In this competition, things can go either way. Sometimes you are in the tie, sometimes you are out and emotionally you have to stick to the game plan and stick to the role that you have within the team and when you do that, normally the team is going to have a very clear direction and it's easier to win games.

So I was pleased that as a team we kept going, kept being positive, and we got rewarded with two more goals,

"IF THE REWARD'S NOT WORTH THE RISK, THEN DON'T TAKE IT. WE MUST IMPROVE THAT IF WE WANT TO GET STRONGER"

and I thought we should have got one more as well.

We were really dominant, we showed a lot of personality to go there – a difficult place to play – and achieve what we did.

We played some of our best attacking football of the season. We found space, we had quality, we had rhythm in our movement, we attacked spaces well and the link up play was good.

We scored a couple of wondergoals as well – scoring from outside the box can be a very valuable source of goals.

Martin is a real team player. He's really intelligent to find the spaces, he attracts a lot of opponents, but we have asked him to add goals to his game, and he scored a brilliant one on Thursday.

Mo too. He's been practising those shots from outside the box with Roundy and he got his rewards.



I'm really happy with the way all the subs did as well, the way they came on and affected the game.

So the next step in our development is to play like that for the whole game, but without giving anything at all to the opponent. We are not there yet.

In the tie we are not there yet either. It's only half-time, anything can happen. Let's approach that game starting 0-0 and try to win the game again.

But before that – it's all about the Premier League and another big big game for us at the Emirates again. It's a quick turnaround from Thursday, but we have been focussing on this one ever since the final whistle in Greece, and we are ready to go again.

We have got the confidence, we have been working hard, and we know what we need to do today.

It will be a completely different game to the one on Thursday, it's against our old rivals, and we know just what that means to everyone at the club – ourselves and the fans of course. Basically it's showtime!

We're excited for it, it's a big game, so let's keep the momentum going. We have got three very important games coming up this week and we need to win all of them. That's our reality and this is how we're going to approach it.

Thanks for your support, let's hope we have got something to celebrate at the final whistle. ■

PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

We all really look forward to these games – the players and the fans – and we are desperate to make some more memories today

I think back to the 4-2 win over them here a couple of seasons ago as my favourite derby memory. I think this was the best moment, not only in terms of my goal but also the atmosphere in the stadium was just incredible. The stadium was crazy and I enjoyed that day so much. It was my first derby at the Emirates, and it was a really amazing moment. It was clear how much this game meant, to everyone at the club, and we want more moments like that.

I know about the rivalry more since I joined, and what I really want to achieve this season is to finish above them. When you're part of the Arsenal family, one thing you really always want is to be above Tottenham and hopefully we can do that for the fans.

We were so disappointed with the result against them earlier this season, but I think we have changed as a team and how we use the ball since then.

I think now we try to play forward more often and more quickly. The team is growing all the time and we know what we have to do. As forwards we are getting more supply and more crosses as well from the full backs and the wingers.

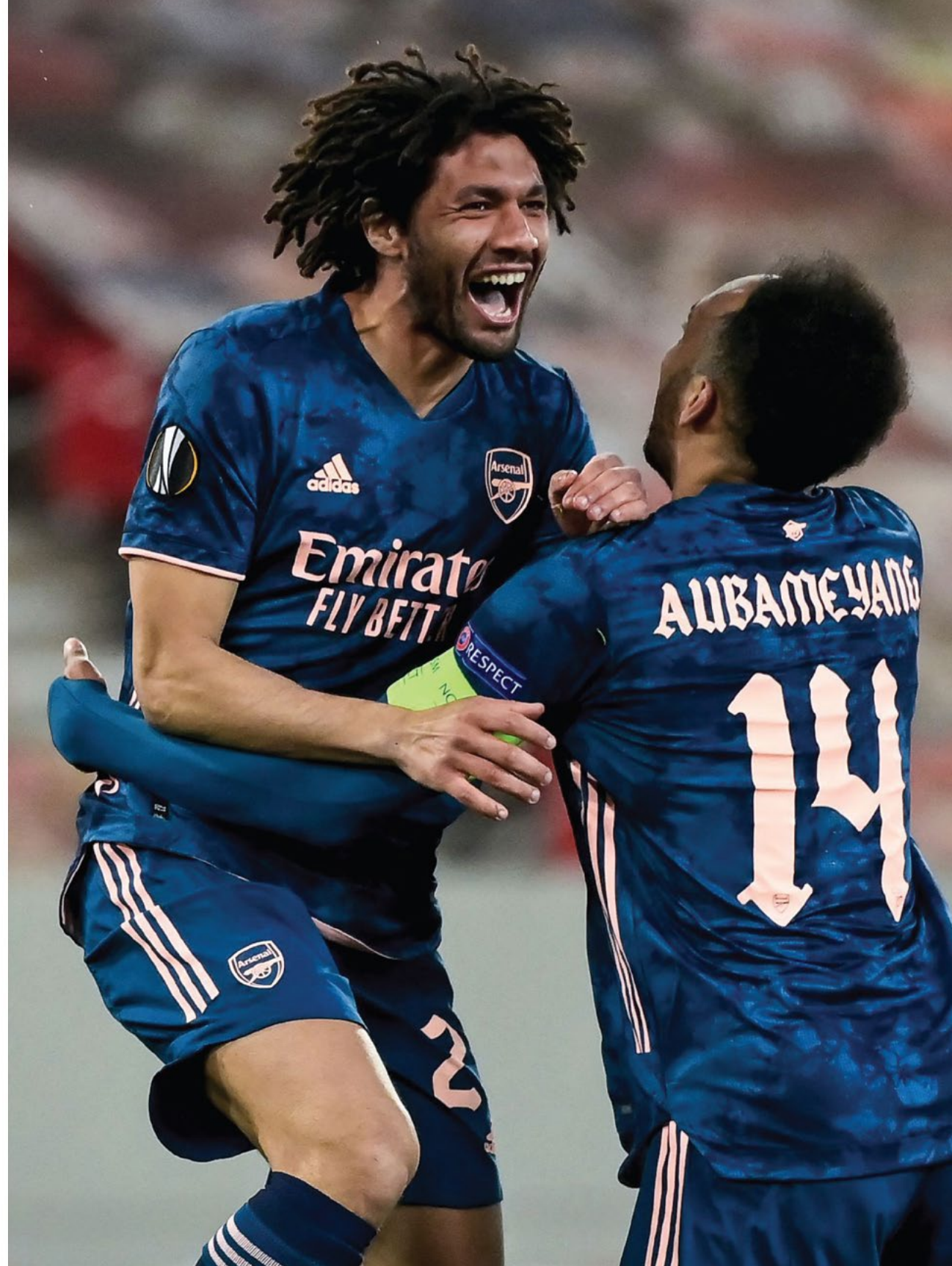
So this has changed a lot for us because the boss really wanted to show us this is the way to go, and we have to play forward. Even when we've only just regained the ball in the midfield or something like that, we now know we have to always try to play forward. For

me, this is making a difference lately and we need to keep going in this way.

We are creating more chances in games, and we have got lots of players in midfield who like to play forward and feed the forwards.

When you're a striker you like to play with these types of players – players like Emile for example. He always tries to link up with us guys in the forward positions and he's very good at it. It's also very good to have him in the form he's been in recently but as well, he's a really humble guy so we are delighted for him to be having these experiences.

Generally it's really good for the way I like to play ▶





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"HE'S [MARTIN ODEGAARD] SOMEONE THAT REALLY TALKS A LOT ON THE PITCH. I LIKE THAT A LOT"

when somebody plays straight forward or tries to have a quick picture of the game, and we have got lots of players now, like Emile, that see things really quickly and are able to think quickly as well. It's really good for us and for me because when we have players who can think so quickly like that, it gives us the chance to really kill the opponent on the transitions.

Also Martin Odegaard is growing more and more into the team every time he plays. I think he's a really talented player and as you can see, in his first few games, he was already playing so well. He knows what he has to do and he looks like he has been playing with us for such a long time. This is what we really like, when we see a player arrive and he's already in his first games looking really 'in the game' in terms of playing exactly how you want and need him to play. So that's perfect for us.

What I like about him too is that he's someone that really talks a lot on the pitch. I like that a lot. In the game against Leeds for example, he actually really helped me a lot with some instructions, some talks and some movements that he told me about. For me, it's really good to have a team-mate like this and it's growing all the time, our relationship on the pitch.

And Martin got a fantastic goal on Thursday night against Olympiacos, in a performance that I think illustrated how we are creating more chances when we play now. We should have been more than one goal ahead when we conceded and we did have a few shaky moments after they equalised, but Gabriel's header was unbelievable and that really lifted us and provided a platform for Mo's third – which was a great strike as well. You could see how thrilled we all were to get that third and for Mo, who's such a popular member of the squad

It's a big win for us and I think we can take big confidence from the game – especially our attacking play – into the north London derby today. It's a massive game for everyone and we're going to give it everything to make sure we get the right result. ■



VOICE OF ARSENAL



BUKAYO'S HAT-TRICK

As you will read in an exclusive feature with Bukayo Saka in this programme, our 19-year-old wonderkid has completed a hat-trick of Player of the Month awards. After claiming the prize in December and January, our brilliant teenager continued his fabulous form into February.

Saka won a penalty in our 4-2 win against Leeds United, closing down goalkeeper Illan Meslier in the area to win the ball before being taken down, with Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang dispatching from the spot.

He then scored his sixth goal of the season in the first leg of our Europa League last-32 clash against Benfica in Rome, equalising from close range.

Saka was central to our second-leg victory against the Portuguese side in Athens, firstly claiming an assist for Aubameyang's first goal with a superb reverse pass and then setting up the all-important winner with a pinpoint cross for the striker to score.

He claimed 48 per cent of the votes cast, with Granit Xhaka in second and Aubameyang in third. ■



50 BCD GAMES

Today is our 50th match played behind closed doors since the start of the pandemic. The first was against Manchester City on June 17.

Since then we have also played six matches in front of small crowds (attendances between 60 and 3,000) meaning that just 15 of Mikel Arteta's 70 games in charge so far have been in full stadiums.

Of the 49 games played behind closed doors, 21 have been at home (though one of those was played in Athens), 24 away and three at Wembley. We have won 11 of the 20 BCD games at Emirates Stadium, drawing four and losing the other five.

The current regulations with regards to playing behind closed doors are due to be in place until the last game of the season, when it is hoped we will welcome 10,000 fans for the home match against Brighton on May 23. ■

The first of 50



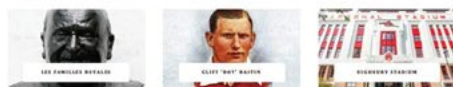
ARSENAL ON THURSDAY – AND FRIDAY

A reminder that the second leg of our Europa League tie against Olympiacos takes place this Thursday at Emirates Stadium with a 5.55pm kick off. The game is live on BT Sport.

On Friday, Arsenal take on Manchester United at Meadow Park in the Women's Super League. This recently rescheduled fixture kicks off at 6.30pm and is also live on BT Sport. ■



Watch Arsenal v Man United on Friday



MAGNIFIQUE!

Vincent Arfaux, from Arsenal France, has a huge love for the history of the Gunners and has been spending lockdown pouring through the many Arsenal history websites, blogs and books, translating them for French members.

So if you're a French speaking Arsenal supporter – or perhaps you are learning French and would like to test yourself using an Arsenal context – head to Vincent's website, arsenal-histoire.com. ■

NOTICEBOARD

Happy 21st birthday FINLAY GRIFFITH – Lots of love dad, mum, Evie & Martha xxx Three points today would be great as a present!

Happy 60th on March 14 to 'Gooner' STEPHEN COURTNEY, a lifelong fan from Islington. Love Juliet, Sally, Alan, Nikki and Dan and (in memoriam) Sheila and Pete Courtney. ■

TOTALISER: **£413**

ARSENAL REMEMBERS

LESLIE DOUGLAS LEIGHTON

Words cannot describe how much you meant to us all. In your wonderful 100 years you have left a lasting effect on the world and will be very sadly missed. We will always love and remember you

My grandad **BRIAN BUTLIN**, an avid Arsenal fan his whole life and never missed a game. He will be sadly missed, but his spirit will live on, with his beloved team Arsenal. Love you grandad. Colby xxx

JACK STEPANSKY

100 years a Gooner. Forever in our hearts

LUKE KOURDOULLOU

Aged 59, sadly passed away on February 16, 2021 after contracting COVID-19. Luke was an avid Arsenal fan, growing up a stone's throw from Highbury. He leaves behind his wife Androulla, son Nick and daughter Anna

CHRISTOPHER JOHN CHARLES CAVALIER

October 31, 1953–January 21, 2021. Lifelong Arsenal Fan, husband, father and an amazing grandad. Bad joke teller. RIP Dad. We love you always ■

Email noticeboard@arsenal.co.uk for notices and obituaries



Hector Bellerin visited the Emirates Stadium sensory room back in 2019

AN AMAZING 'WEEK OF ACTION'

Today marks the end of the most recent 'Week of Action', coordinated by Level Playing Field for disabled sports fans, which Arsenal Football Club were once again delighted to support.

Now in its 17th season, the campaign looks to shine a light on the positive work being done to improve access and inclusion at sports venues.

With the suspension of supporters in stadia earlier this season, this year's theme focused on the importance of live sport on supporters' wellbeing.

Since Emirates Stadium opened in 2006, we have provided a free audio description commentary service for blind and partially sighted supporters inside the stadium.

Quickly adapting during the early stages of lockdown, this service was swiftly moved online to ensure supporters could benefit from the specifically tailored commentary from home.

"For me, it's like the club is reaching out to me personally, tailoring a service specific to my needs. It makes me feel connected, cared for and valued by the club, and for that I am extremely grateful," said regular user Eric Heslop.

In addition to the audio description match commentary service, our very own matchday programme is also made available in audio format as a free podcast for supporters to download online.

In normal circumstances supporters can socialise in the disability lounge ahead of matches at Emirates Stadium, as Arsenal fan and comedian Alex Brooker visited last year for his BBC documentary, Disability and Me. During the past year, this facility has also been trialled online.

We have also recently shared our experience of launching a sensory room at Emirates Stadium with organisations across the sports industry looking to install similar facilities. Previously we worked with broadcasters NHK and the Good Bankers Association in Japan to support the development of a sensory facility at J1 League side, Kawasaki Frontale.

As part of our ongoing Arsenal for Everyone initiative, we are committed to ensuring Emirates Stadium remains at the forefront of access and inclusion so that all our supporters can feel an equal sense of pride and belonging to the club. ■

REF WATCH

Today's man in the middle is Michael Oliver, from Northumberland who has been a Premier League referee since 2010. Michael has already officiated at Emirates Stadium four times this season, in our 2-1 win over West Ham, the 2-1 home defeat against Wolves, the 3-1 win over Chelsea on Boxing Day and the 0-0 draw with Manchester United at the end of January. He has issued 15 yellow cards in those four games, six to Arsenal players. ■



A fifth PL game at Emirates in 20/21



Aiming for double figures today

PROGRAMME ITK

- We have lost just two of our last 35 home league games against Spurs (W19 D14), going down 3-1 in May 1993 and 3-2 in November 2010.
- But we are winless in our last five meetings with Tottenham in all competitions (D2 L3) – we have never in our history gone six without a win against our north London rivals.
- Only Everton v Liverpool (24) has finished as a draw more often than the NLD in Premier League history (23). Meanwhile, the north London derby has seen both teams find the net more often than any other fixture in the Premier League (38 games).
- Arsenal strikers Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Alexandre Lacazette have each scored nine Premier League goals this season, and could become the fifth/sixth players to reach double figures in each of their first four Premier League campaigns for the club, after Ian Wright, Dennis Bergkamp, Thierry Henry and Olivier Giroud. ■



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

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TIELEMANS 6

DAVID LUIZ 39
LACAZETTE 45 PEN
PEPE 52

1

PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 26

12pm • Sunday, February 28 • King Power Stadium

3

FIRST HALF

We could barely have got off to a worse start when, with six minutes on the clock, Youri Tielemans stole the ball away on the right touchline and raced in on goal. We stood off the Leicester midfielder, and he strode into the box and found the bottom corner. But we responded to adversity well and came straight back at the hosts. We soon had our equaliser, and it was the impressive Willian who supplied it as he curled in a free kick for David Luiz to head home. It was no more than we deserved and things soon got even better when, moments before the interval, Willian's surging run ended in a Nicolas Pepe shot that was handled by Wilfred Ndidi in the box. After a VAR review, we were awarded the penalty and Alexandre Lacazette coolly converted from the spot.

SECOND HALF

We continued to impress after the interval and extended our lead with a lightning-fast break involving Granit Xhaka, Nicolas Pepe and Martin Odegaard before Willian picked out Pepe for a tap-in. Thomas Partey continued his return to fitness by stepping off the bench just after the hour mark, and we remained in control throughout the second half. Kieran Tierney came close with a firm strike that flew wide, before Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang – on as a late substitute – curled a shot just beyond the far post. ■

MATCH STATS	
8 TOTAL SHOTS	12
3 SHOTS ON TARGET	4
2 CORNERS	7
0 OFFSIDES	1
15 FOULS	3
44 POSSESSION %	56

LEICESTER CITY

1 SCHMEICHEL
27 CASTAGNE
6 EVANS (69)
4 SOYUNCU
33 THOMAS (46)
21 PEREIRA
25 NDIDI
8 TIELEMANS
15 BARNES (51)
14 IHEANACHO
9 VARDY

SUBSTITUTES

ALBRIGHTON (46), UNDER (51), AMARTEY (69), WARD, CHOUDHURY, MENDY, FUCHS, DALEY-CAMPBELL, TAVARES

ARSENAL

1 LENO
3 TIERNEY
23 DAVID LUIZ
22 MARI
17 CEDRIC
34 XHAKA
25 ELNENY (66)
19 PEPE
12 WILLIAN
9 LACAZETTE (83)
32 SMITH ROWE (42)

SUBSTITUTES

ODEGAARD (42), PARTEY (66), AUBAMEYANG (83), BELLERIN, SAKA, CEBALLOS, HOLDING, RYAN, MARTINELLI



LEICESTER CITY REPORT

MATCH ACTION

FIRST PAGE

David Luiz is mobbed after heading the equaliser

PREVIOUS PAGE

Another goal for Alexandre Lacazette to savour

RIGHT

Laca is decisive from the spot

MIDDLE LEFT

Willian put in a fine performance

MIDDLE RIGHT

Kieran Tierney springs forward

BOTTOM LEFT

Nicolas Pepe is felled by Luke Thomas

BOTTOM RIGHT

David Luiz dedicates his goal to his baby daughter



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THE NORTH LONDON DERBY

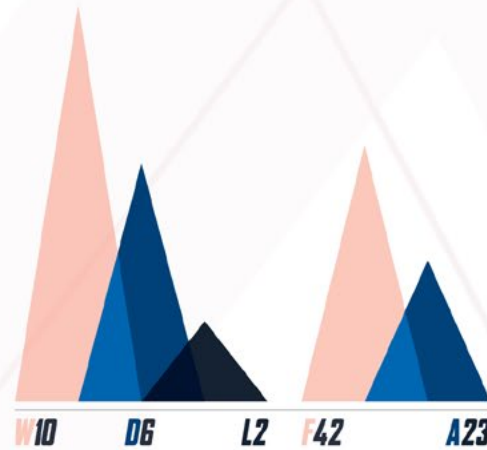


ARSENAL v TOTTENHAM - COMPLETE RECORD

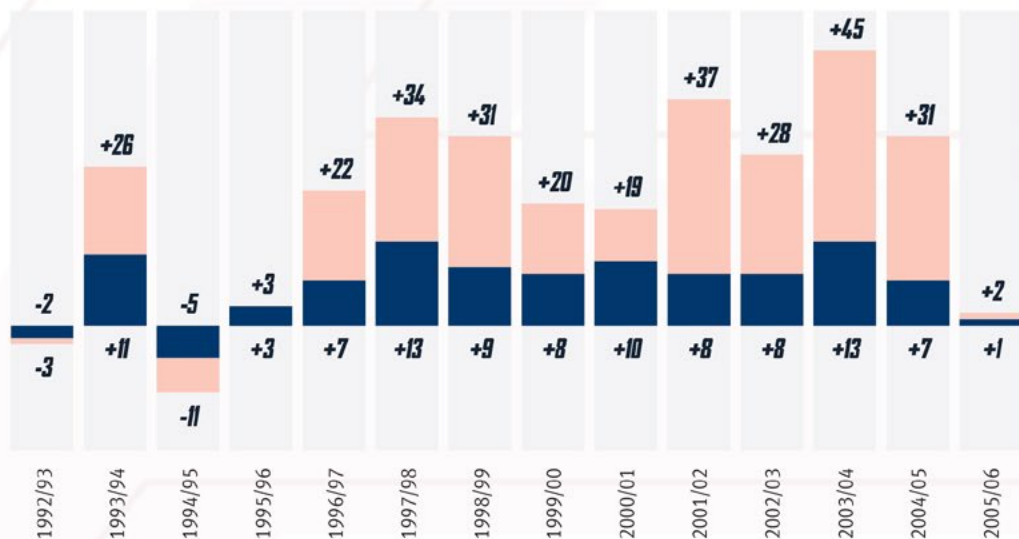
	P	W	D	L	F	A
League	167	66	47	54	258	229
FA Cup	6	4	0	2	9	5
League Cup	14	7	3	4	21	19
Charity Shield	1	0	1	0	0	0
Total	188	77	51	60	288	253

ARSENAL v TOTTENHAM AT EMIRATES STADIUM

PLAYED 18



ARSENAL AND TOTTENHAM FINISHING POSITIONS IN PREMIER LEAGUE HISTORY



ARSENAL'S BIGGEST WINS OVER TOTTENHAM

6/3/1935	TOTTENHAM 0-6 ARSENAL	LEAGUE
23/12/1978	TOTTENHAM 0-5 ARSENAL	LEAGUE
20/10/1934	ARSENAL 5-1 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
16/9/1967	ARSENAL 4-0 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
7/2/1953	ARSENAL 4-0 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
7/5/1927	TOTTENHAM 0-4 ARSENAL	LEAGUE
17/11/2012	ARSENAL 5-2 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
26/2/2012	ARSENAL 5-2 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
21/9/2010	TOTTENHAM 1-4 ARSENAL	LEAGUE CUP
31/1/1959	TOTTENHAM 1-4 ARSENAL	LEAGUE
10/10/1953	TOTTENHAM 1-4 ARSENAL	LEAGUE
31/10/2009	ARSENAL 3-0 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
2/12/2006	ARSENAL 3-0 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
16/11/2002	ARSENAL 3-0 TOTTENHAM	LEAGUE
8/1/1949	ARSENAL 3-0 TOTTENHAM	FA CUP

ARSENAL AND TOTTENHAM FINISHING POSITIONS IN PREMIER LEAGUE HISTORY (CONTINUED)



The first eight times the two teams met were prior to Arsenal's move to Islington in 1913, so technically there have been 180 north London derbies, not 188

BUKAYO

Earlier this week, the vote for Arsenal's Player of the Month for February was revealed and the results showed a clear winner

It was the same winner as January, and indeed December before that.

Step forward Bukayo Saka. In respect of awards and accolades, the 19 year old seems to be in a different conversation every week. His 50th Premier League appearance against Burnley last weekend meant he was the second youngest Arsenal player ever to reach that milestone, after Cesc Fabregas; his five Premier League goals mean he has scored more times than all the other teenagers in the league combined; his January form had him nominated for the Premier League's Player of the Month and he claimed December's goal of the month award with his audacious effort against Chelsea... the list goes on.

But you sense that the boy who swapped the green and white hoops of Greenford Celtic, for the red and white of Arsenal when he joined the academy as a nine year old, would exchange all the plaudits for a victory in the match today, a game that means so much to someone who's been a Gunner over half of his life.

Bukayo, you've been playing north London derbies for over a decade, were they always hotly anticipated when you were in the academy too?

Yes, 100 per cent. The coaches would always make it known to us a week or so before we were playing Tottenham and what that meant and how we had to be ready, because that game meant the most to the club and the fans. It was always one of the biggest games of the season. It's a game you have to win.

When we won the under-18 Premier League in 2018/19, we needed to beat Spurs in our last game of the season to win the title, remind us what happened then...

We were 2-0 down with five minutes of the game remaining and I came on as a sub. I was lucky enough to get an assist and a goal before Ben Cottrell got the winner in injury-time, it was mad. The thing that comes to mind about that game is actually the pictures of us celebrating after Ben's goal at the end. You can see us all going crazy and how much it meant for us to beat Tottenham in such an important game.

As for the first-team, you haven't had the chance to play against Tottenham at Emirates yet...

I haven't yet but I've been at games. The one that stands out is the match in 2018 when we won 4-2 and Auba, Laca and Lucas scored, I remember it vividly. I was an academy player and a passionate fan watching that game, coming back from 2-1 down. It was amazing, feeling the energy and the passion of the fans. To be able to play in a north London derby in front of a full Emirates Stadium would be incredible. I hope I can score a goal in this fixture one day and make the fans as happy as I was that day watching from the stands.

You will be expected to play against Tottenham because of how consistently good your form has been all season. How do you maintain that consistency?

I've been told from an early age that you have to be on it every game and every day. You can play well one week, ▶

BORN Ealing, September 5, 2001

JOINED ARSENAL As a full-time scholar in July 2018

PREVIOUS CLUBS None

DEBUT v Vorskla Poltava (a), Europa League, November 29, 2018 (won 3-0)

FIRST GOAL v Eintracht Frankfurt (a), Europa League, September 19, 2019 (won 3-0)





OUR 20/21 THIRD KIT
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but if you don't play well the next, people will forget about you. So if you want to be the one that people speak about, the best, you have to be the most consistent and play well every week. And I try to take each game as it comes. For example, Burnley away compared to Manchester City at home is totally different, each game has its own context and I try to adapt and be the best in each type of match.

"I'M COMFORTABLE PLAYING IN DIFFERENT POSITIONS. I LIKE THE RESPONSIBILITY"

When you play, the manager knows he can rely on you in a number of different roles, how come you are comfortable in so many positions?

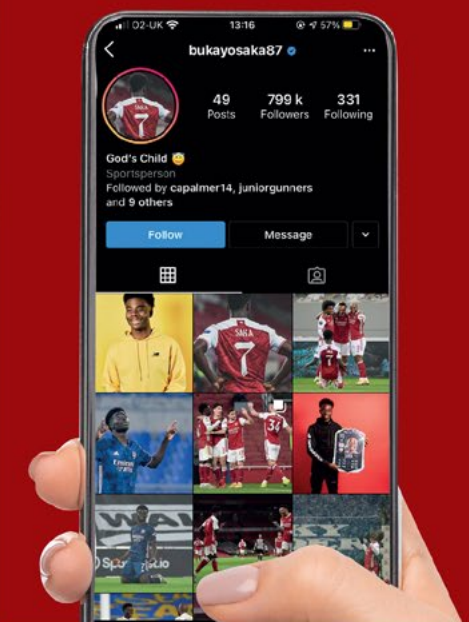
I think it's a combination of things. Some of it is the qualities I have as a player and some of it is the information that I get from the coaching staff and learn from, so I can play in each position as well as I possibly can. And I've always played in different positions coming through the academy too, left back, left wing, right wing – that's helped me be more versatile, so I'm comfortable playing in different positions. I like the responsibility.

What does Mikel say to you?

He's always telling me to be one step ahead of the ►

FOLLOW ME

Follow Bukayo on Instagram! @bukayosaka07





“AUBA’S BEEN SO SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT TO MY CAREER – AND MY PARENTS LOVE HIM TOO!”

opponent, to always be proactive not reactive. So that means instead of reacting, being ahead of the game, trying to read where the space is going to be and to get there a step earlier so that I can have a bit more time and I can make a better decision, as there will be less pressure on me. I feel like this advice has really helped me.

The captain is also someone who has helped you a great deal isn't he?

Definitely. He's been a very special person for me in my career. Every time I've played with Auba, he's always given me such confidence. When you're a young player and come into a team, a player like that might tell you that you have to pass to them and stuff like that, get

angry if you don't. But I remember before the game against Frankfurt, when I scored my first goal, he came up to me and said 'Bukayo, you're a very good player, if you're there in front of goal and you want to shoot, shoot!' He was basically telling me to express myself and play my game and when you hear that from someone like him, it gives you so much confidence. That's why I love him and he's been so special and important to my career – and my parents love him too! I scored and managed to assist him that game, I was so happy to be able to do that.

We're currently 10th in the Premier League table, that's a position that needs improving for a club like Arsenal isn't it?

As a team we can't look at the table and look back on the past, we have to look forward and know that if win three, four, five games on a row this season we can move a long way. And 100 per cent I think we can do that. It's down to us, we are improving, scoring more goals and

are more free flowing, but sometimes we make mistakes ourselves. It's not the opposition breaking us down, it's more ourselves. If we can just sort that out I'm sure we can be challenging for the top four, even the title next season. I can promise the fans that I will always give my all, and I know the other players in the team can promise that too. I just ask the fans to be patient as things will change for the better for us. Trust in the process.

Between this season and next, you could have an appointment with England and the European Championships – is that an aim for you?

Yeah, of course. It's difficult with England though, as there are so many quality players. I have to just give my all, keep my form as high as possible and if I'm selected, give my all in the next training camp and hopefully give myself the

best chance to be selected for the Euros squad.

Lastly Bukayo, the No 7 shirt is synonymous with legends like Geordie Armstrong, Liam Brady, David Rocastle and Robert Pires, who have excelled against Tottenham. But for you, there's a special link with another No7 who also got a couple of memorable goals against the old enemy...

Yeah, when I was young in the academy I received a shirt from a first-team player and it was Tomas Rosicky's No. 7 shirt. Now to come through and be able to play in the No. 7 shirt is really special for me because I still have Rosicky's shirt in my house, and now I'm wearing the shirt. I want to thank Arsenal for trusting me with this shirt, it means everything to me.■

ALL APPEARANCES

	APPS	GOALS
PREMIER LEAGUE	41+8	6
EUROPA LEAGUE	10+3	3
FA CUP	3+4	1
LEAGUE CUP	3+1	0
COMMUNITY SHIELD	1	0
U23	15+6	5
U21	3+1	1
U18	21+11	18
TOTAL	97+34	34

PL APPEARANCES

PLAYED	50
STARTS	41
SUBBED OFF	15
MINUTES PLAYED	3715
WON	19
DRAWN	14
LOST	17
GOALS	6
SHOTS ON TARGET	21
ASSISTS	7
CHANCES CREATED	48
TOUCHES	2379



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

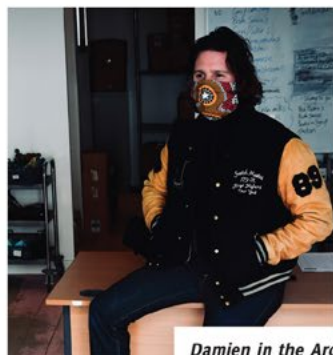
The Arsenal Foundation's emergency Covid fund has helped The Arc Centre's local food bank. The charity's creative director Damien Brown tells us how it was converted from community centre to food hub

For me, The Arc started with a conversation in a cafe. My background was commercial property – I ran an estate agency, but it wasn't very fulfilling so I moved into property guardianship, creating housing for others. Something still wasn't quite right though, so I linked up with two friends to see if we could use empty commercial spaces to benefit local communities.

We heard that the Hyde housing association was reviewing local community centres so we applied for The Arc, despite the fact it was making a loss. We won it, with a vision to use the space as a real asset that would also make money, without any external support. That was three years ago, and all was going to plan until last March.

We made a judgement call to close the centre two weeks before the first lockdown to protect vulnerable people. Then two things happened. Firstly a friend of mine who runs a busy cafe in Covent Garden asked if he could store his equipment at the centre. There was loads of it. "We could start a food bank with all this," I said, joking. But then I heard that local food banks were closing – people were hoarding food so there wasn't the usual surplus from the supermarkets. I thought that was wrong. We had 3,500 square feet with a kitchen, fridges and equipment, so I called some local banks to ask if they needed anything. They basically said, "We're overrun, why don't you do it?"

I put out a call for volunteers and 20 people responded immediately. We then raised £500 for food but had no idea



Damien in the Arc



A fresh delivery for The Arc Centre food bank

how to get people in so we contacted Bright Start children's services. We set up a referral system and through a shout out to our mailing list of 2,000 people raised £7,500. That enabled us to buy food from restaurant suppliers.

Over time we had help from Islington Council, other local organisations, food banks and of course The Arsenal Foundation, and it has snowballed from there. We went from supplying 14 households at the start to 75 now – more than 250 people – and demand shows no sign of abating. Our long-term plan is for people to become members of a food co-op, and we're setting up a huge vegetable garden as well so people can get involved.

I'm so proud of what we and so many local people have achieved – it's the best thing I've ever done. It has galvanised the community, our volunteers have forged lasting relationships and the feedback and gratitude we've received from the people we've helped has been overwhelming. People have really stepped up and put their hearts into it, working together and having fun in the process. One good thing to come from the pandemic is the number of people volunteering to help others, and long may that continue.

To ensure we can increase support to meet the demand we need small regular donations from local people. For more info, to volunteer or to make a donation visit

www.thearccentre.org

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LAVAZZA
TORINO, ITALIA, 1895



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TO DISCOVER
ALL THE BENEFITS

CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY

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

CHARLIE GEORGE MOVE BACK TO PUSH ARSENAL FORWARD

When the Holloway-born forward burst onto the scene during the 1969/70 campaign, Europe's very best predicted a golden future for George in the Arsenal frontline. After the Gunners swept Ajax aside 3-0 in the Fairs Cup semi-final, emerging Dutch star Johan Cruyff, who'd seen George rifle home a shot after 17 minutes claimed: "Charlie George can become as good as Di Stefano."

The teenage skinhead, who'd once stood and watched the Gunners on the North Bank, dovetailed perfectly with the powerful John Radford, and impressed onlookers not simply with the accuracy of his shots, but also with his mesmerising array of passes. As Arsenal secured their first piece of silverware for 17 years by winning the 1970 Fairs Cup against Anderlecht, George's future up front looked assured. But fate intervened on the opening day of the historic '70/71 campaign when, after scoring Arsenal's opening goal, George broke his ankle at Goodison Park during a 2-2 draw with Everton.

During his five-month absence from the first team, the young Ray Kennedy slotted in alongside Radford up front, as Arsenal surged to the top of Division One. George faced a long and lonely battle to regain his fitness (with the help

of physiotherapist George Wright), and recalled "the total boredom of running up and down the North Bank steps in order to regain my fitness and strength in my leg." By early January, Charlie – who'd now let his hair grow – was fit and raring to go, but Don Howe and Bertie Mee informed him that he'd be playing as an attacking midfielder in the 'hole' behind Radford and Kennedy.

"I was happy to do whatever it took to play again," George explained, "and I felt the role – which gave me a good degree of freedom – suited me well." With his roving brief, George flourished in the new year, as Arsenal closed in on their first domestic 'double', and he made his mark in the FA Cup.

In the fifth round at Maine Road against Malcolm Allison's Manchester City, he blasted home a free kick from long range, and then galloped half the length of the pitch ▶





to secure Arsenal's 2-1 win. His celebration; lying flat on his back on the sodden turf, was a portend of things to come in the summer. George demonstrated his aerial ability in the FA Cup quarter final replay against Leicester City, hanging in the air for an age after George Armstrong swung in a corner, and nodding home the winner at Highbury.

With Arsenal in the midst of a 64-match season, and

"CHARLIE GEORGE CAN BECOME AS GOOD AS DI STEFANO"

Radford and Kennedy showing signs of battle fatigue in the final stages, George demonstrated that he hadn't lost his striker's instinct during two crucial league matches in the same week in April. He netted the only goal against a dogged Burnley; three days earlier, he'd scorched home a superb winner from outside the area against Newcastle United in another tight 1-0 victory.

And so to Wembley. With both Liverpool and Arsenal – crowned league champions five days before – struggling in the baking Wembley heat, and George admitting that he "could barely put one foot in front of another," he summoned up the strength in his legs to receive a John

Radford pass, control the ball, and blast his shot past a despairing Ray Clemence to win the FA Cup and secure an historic 'double' for the Gunners.

George replicated the Jesus Christ Superstar celebration which he'd performed at Maine Road albeit this time he didn't soak himself through to the skin. Sadly, this was as good as it ever got for George. There were still stellar moments from Arsenal's impresario, and there was no more exhilarating sight in football than George, long hair swirling behind him, terrorising defences by running at them, and cracking home shots with minimal back lift. But a succession of injuries, loss of form and run ins with Bertie Mee saw George depart Highbury in 1975, aged 24.

At Derby County under manager Dave Mackay, George – who won a solitary England cap in 1976 – once more rediscovered his joie de vivre, bursting through from deep to dazzling effect, or supporting Rams striker Kevin Hector up front. His sublime televised goal for Derby against Real Madrid in the 1975/76 European Cup; a 20 yarder scorched home on the turn, after driving forward from a deeper lying position, showed that Charlie George remained a stellar talent wherever he played on a football pitch. ■

FIRST PAGE

Eighteen-year-old Charlie pictured in 1969

OPPOSITE PAGE

The famous celebration in the 1971 FA Cup final

ABOVE

Charlie fires home with a typical thunderbolt at Highbury in 1972

MAIN

Heroic keeper Frank Moss

FRANK MOSS – GOALKEEPER TO GOALGETTER

After departing the 1935 Everton v Arsenal match with a dislocated left shoulder, and being replaced by defender Eddie Hapgood (before the days of substitutes), the strapped up Arsenal goalkeeper Frank Moss re-entered the fray. With all sides of the ground applauding Moss's heroism, Arsenal reshuffled their formation, and Moss got stuck in at outside-left. He soon suffered a heavy knock to his arm, but battled on, and for good measure, scored a vital goal as Arsenal secured a 2-0 victory (Ted Drake also scored) on their way to winning the league title. It may have been a 'Boys Own' tale of bravery, but the legendary Gunners 'keeper was never quite the same after the injury, and despite two operations on his shoulder, faded away from the first team picture. ■



ON PARADE



Gustav has his name at celebration corner at Emirates Stadium



Reid loves his Arsenal kit



'Back to winning ways makes us proud to be Gooners'



**William's grandad
thinks he's going to be the
next Bob Wilson!**

If you'd like to feature in JGs on Parade this season send your photos to JuniorGunners@Arsenal.co.uk or [@JuniorGunners](https://twitter.com/JuniorGunners)



**ALWAYS
AHEAD
OF THE
GAME**



WELCOME, FREDDIE!

Everyone say hello to little Freddie,
born on August 8.



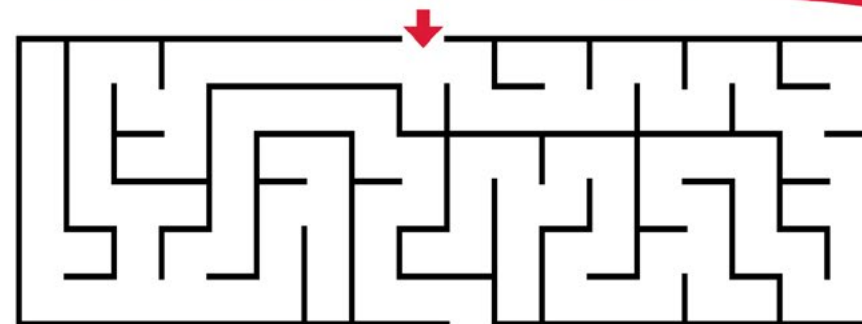
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BEAT THE MAZE



TODAY'S VIRTUAL MASCOT



Name: Jack

Age: 6

"Hi, my name's Jack and I'm the mascot for the game. I've been to the Emirates four times and haven't see us lose! I'm excited for today's game, I hope we win! My favourite player is Aubameyang."

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

FOURTEEN TIMES

CRUYFF v HENRY

Last August we lifted the FA Cup for a record-extending 14th time. But it's not just our rich, illustrious history in football's oldest knock-out competition that is synonymous with the number 14.

BOTTOM LEFT

Thierry Henry applauds his opposite number Johan Cruyff onto the Emirates pitch

BOTTOM RIGHT

Henry with Dennis Bergkamp on his testimonial

OPPOSITE PAGE BOTTOM

Cruyff played the final 10 minutes of Bergkamp's match

OPPOSITE PAGE TOP

Hat-trick hero Cliff Bastin

FEB 1931

14

IT HAPPENED ON THE 14TH...

FEBRUARY 14, 1931

ARSENAL 6-3 DERBY COUNTY

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang became the second ever Arsenal player to score a Valentine's Day hat-trick when he netted three against Leeds last month, the first was Cliff Bastin, who achieved the feat some 90 years earlier. Derby County were the opponents in Division One that day, as Herbert Chapman's free-scoring side romped to their first-ever league title. Bastin ended the league season with 28 league goals and would soon go on to become the club's record scorer. This was one of four hat-tricks he scored for the Gunners. Other goalscorers that day were David Jack, Alex James and Joe Hulme.



Tor the last 10 minutes or so of the Dennis Bergkamp Testimonial match in 2006 – the opposing number 14s were Thierry Henry and Johan Cruyff.

The legendary Dutchman was 59 years old at the time, but came on for a special, surprise appearance, alongside Marco van Basten, for the Ajax Legends side in the second half of the first-ever game at Emirates Stadium, on July 22, 2006.

Cruyff was managing the Ajax Legends team that day – that also included the likes of Frank De Boer, Frank Rijkaard, Danny Blind and Edgar Davids – but he couldn't resist bringing himself on for the closing stages.

Klaas Jan Huntelaar had given the first-half Ajax side – made up of the current players of the day – the lead after 37 minutes, but then the Arsenal legends took over after the interval. Henry – having just left Highbury as the venue's all-time leading scorer, scored his first at his new home, before Kanu scored a last-minute winner in the 80-minute match.

But for once, the scoreline wasn't the headline. The day belonged to Dennis Bergkamp of course, who brought the curtain down on a glorious 11-year Arsenal career, but it was also the time when those lucky enough to be in the crowd that day could say they saw two of the all-time greatest number 14s go head to head. ■



COMMUNITY



PREMIER LEAGUE PRIMARY STARS – VIRTUAL ASSEMBLIES

Our Primary School team have been delivering weekly virtual assemblies to primary schools in Islington, Camden and Hackney. Every Friday, pupils from our local schools have joined us for physical activities, interactive quizzes, challenges and celebrating children's work.

Thank you to all the schools, teachers and pupils who have joined and engaged with our assemblies. We have had a different theme each week, such as 'Be Mindful', 'Be Sustainable', 'Be Connected' and 'Be a Reader'. Each week we set a challenge and encourage children to send in their work. We received brilliant posters, videos, photos and diaries. Well done to everyone who completed the challenges and sent in work for us to share.

We have also had video messages and quizzes from

players such as Bukayo Saka, Emile Smith Rowe, Leah Williamson, Calum Chambers, Lydia Williams, Alex Runarsson and club legend Rachel Yankey. The children have been able to share questions and answers through the chat box.

Octopus Energy supported us with our 'Be Sustainable' week and set a challenge for the children to reduce their household energy usage. Children were encouraged to turn off lights, unplug unused appliances and not leave TVs on standby. Hopefully their actions will have saved some energy and saved their parents some money!

Who better than legendary children's author, and big Arsenal fan, Michael Rosen to set our reading challenge!

"WHO BETTER THAN LEGENDARY CHILDREN'S AUTHOR, AND BIG ARSENAL FAN, MICHAEL ROSEN TO SET OUR READING CHALLENGE!"

We have also been working on a writing workshop with Michael, which we will be delivering later in the year, so watch this space!

The Virtual Assemblies have been a great way to engage with our local primary schools but we are looking forward to safely getting back to delivering in person again. If any local schools or teachers want to find out how we can support their school, please email community@arsenal.co.uk

Thank you to all the schools who have been involved: Blessed Sacrament RC Primary, Lauriston Primary, London Fields Primary, Netley Primary, Shacklewell Primary, St John Evangelist RC Primary, St Mary's C of E Primary, St Patrick's Catholic Primary, Thornhill Primary, Vittoria Primary, William Tyndale Primary, Woodberry Down Primary. ■



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

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

BLUE STORY DIRECTOR @REALRAPMAN HAS SEEN HOW @ARSENAL'S #PLKICKS PROGRAMME IS INSPIRING LONDON'S TEENAGERS
#NOROOMFORRACISM (FILMED BEFORE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN)



PICTURES

OPPOSITE PAGE
Some of the great artwork produced by local school kids during lockdown

THIS PAGE
Leah Williamson, Michael Rosen and Bukayo Saka have all got involved with virtual assemblies



3

AUBAMEYANG 21, 87
TIERNEY 67



2

CUPIDO GONCALVES 43
FERREIRA SILVA 61

ARSENAL WIN 4-3 ON AGGREGATE

EUROPA LEAGUE ROUND OF 32, SECOND LEG

5.55pm • Thursday, February 25 • Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium

FIRST HALF

Playing our 'home' leg in Athens due to Covid travel restrictions, we had the slight upper hand after a 1-1 draw in the first leg a week earlier, and we made our position even stronger when Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang opened the scoring in Greece. He finished in fine style after being set up in the box brilliantly by Bukayo Saka. With the away goals rule still in play despite both games being played on neutral territory, the tie was still in the balance, and Benfica levelled up late in the half. Goncalves scored the equaliser with a superbly-taken free-kick direct into the top corner.

SECOND HALF

Just after the hour mark a mistake by Dani Ceballos allowed Rafa Silva to race in on goal, round Bernd Leno and put Benfica in front. We now needed to score two more to remain in the competition. The response was swift as Willian – on as a substitute minutes earlier – found Kieran Tierney in the box, and he rifled into the far corner. It was tight and tense, and as the clock ticked down it was increasingly fraught, but with three minutes remaining the turnaround was complete as Bukayo Saka sent a fine ball across goal for Aubameyang to head in from close range. The job was done, the turnaround complete, and we marched into the last 16 of the Europa League. ■

MATCH STATS

10	TOTAL SHOTS	6
5	SHOTS ON TARGET	2
1	CORNERS	1
4	OFFSIDES	2
10	FOULS	3
53	POSSESSION %	47

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 2 BELLERIN (78)
- 23 DAVID LUIZ
- 6 GABRIEL
- 3 TIERNEY
- 34 XHAKA
- 8 CEBALLOS (63)
- 7 SAKA (90)
- 11 DECEGAARD (90)
- 14 AUBAMEYANG
- 32 SMITH ROWE (63)

SUBSTITUTES

WILLIAN (63), PARTEY (63), LACAZETTE (78), ELNENY (90), CHAMBERS (90), CEDRIC, PEPE, NKETIAH, MARL RYAN, MARTINELLI, HEIN

BENFICA

- 77 ALEIZO LEITE
- 4 VERISSIMO DA SILVA
- 30 OTAMENDI
- 5 VERTONGHEN
- 17 GONCALVES
- 21 FERNANDES (58)
- 28 WEIGL (90)
- 49 TAARABT (58)
- 3 GRIMALDO (85)
- 27 FERREIRA SILVA
- 14 SEFEROVIC (57)

SUBSTITUTES

SOARES (58), NUNEZ (57), PIRES (58), TAVARES (85), WALDSCHMIDT (90), SVILAR, JUNIOR, CERV, MACHADO, DELMINDO DA SILVA, RAMOS, VLACHODIMOS



MATCH ACTION

FIRST PAGE

*Olympiacos's Karaïskakis
Stadium was our home
for the night*

PREVIOUS PAGE

Scorer and creator celebrate again

TOP

*Kieran Tierney fires us back into
the game*

MIDDLE LEFT

The influential Bukayo Saka

MIDDLE RIGHT

Hector Bellerin puts the boot in

BOTTOM LEFT

*Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang with
the cheeky finish*

BOTTOM RIGHT

All smiles as we head on through!



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FORWARD



DANI CEBALLOS

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.



In terms of training, how do you plan your week?

We have a plan for the week, so we know what days we're going to have training and when we're resting, but it all depends on the matches we have too. A lot of the work we do depends on whether we have one or two matches that week. The training sessions are very good here – I like them.

What does training look like this week?

This week is a bit special because it's the first time in a long time that we only have one game in a week. The most important thing is to analyse the opposition from a tactical standpoint and be able to work on that during the week. It's been a bit of a special week because we've had two days off – we had an extra day off on Thursday to make sure we're fresh for two good sessions ahead of the game.

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

I think all players much prefer it when we're using the ball, working on possession, playing small games when we can link up well. I think the most boring part is when you're working on set plays, but we know that's essential.

We have a short session of about 10 or 15 minutes and really work on those set plays, but it is a bit more boring than the rest of training.

Do you plan the food you eat during the week?

Yes, I have a nutritionist and a weekly plan. Depending on the work we've been doing, I vary the amount of carbohydrate I eat. It's basically a high protein, low carbohydrate plan, with the quantity increasing as the game approaches. I keep a close eye on it!

Do you have a cheat day during the week?

Yes, as footballers part of job is to be really closely focusing on our bodies, which means eating and resting well, but we're people too. I take the day after the game as a 'free' day, when I'll eat something quicker, something I'd avoid during the week, but the body processes that quickly and then as soon as we start working again it's gone.

What do you go for on a cheat day or in the holidays?

I usually go for pizza or a burger – it depends on what I fancy at the time. Something a bit heavier to offset the rest of the week. ▶

ARSENAL

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

MEAL

Pizza



NEW CAR

An electric car

TROPHY YOU WIN

The European Championship



THING YOU BUY

A PlayStation 5

HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Somewhere I can switch off completely

NEW TEAM-MATE

Leo Messi



How far ahead do you look at the fixture list?

I think it would be a mistake if we started thinking about who we're playing in a month or two months, or at the end of the season. That's a big mistake. We have to go game by game – that's the only way to improve, pick up points and maintain a good dynamic.

What do you do on the night before a big game? Are you nervous? Do you do any extra prep for the match?

No, well right now every game is a big game. Sometimes when it's a really big one you might spend some more time analysing the opposition, but the most important thing is focusing on yourself and keeping the same routine.

What do you still want to achieve in your career?

I think all players dream of winning something with their national team. I'd love to do that in my career.



On the subject of Spain, who would you say the next big thing is in Spanish football? The youngster with the biggest future ahead of them?

There are some great players. I think there are five or six players that are pretty young, like Bryan Gil, who plays for Eibar. Pedri is doing really well at Barcelona, Ansu Fati at Barcelona too. They're playing at a high standard and bringing a lot to the table. Eric [Garcia] is another example here in the Premier League. They're very young players that will serve Spain well in the future.

Who do you think will win the next World Cup?

I don't know – Spain, hopefully! The World Cup is a very tough competition. I think you have to push virtually to the limit in every game. We know how hard it is to win one game – now imagine winning seven in a row. It's even harder. It's not down to individuals, it's down to the shape teams are in at that specific moment.

What club would you never sign for?

This is obvious. I was a Betis player, so I couldn't play for the city's other team!

"LUIS ENRIQUE IS ONE THAT ALWAYS TELLS YOU TO ASK HIM ANYTHING YOU WANT TO"

What about after football? Are you already starting to think about what you'd like to do when you hang up your boots?

To be honest with you I'm not, but I would like to stay in football. I'm the type of player that really likes football – I like analysing the opposition. So I'd like to stay in football, yes.

Are you more drawn to coaching or moving into the world of media?

It depends on your career as a player. It's hard to get into a club as a coach. I think it's harder to become a coach because there's so much required – the mental and physical demands are there virtually every day, so after a long career I'd have to think carefully before deciding whether or not my long-term future lies in coaching.

Have you started doing any coaching qualifications yet?

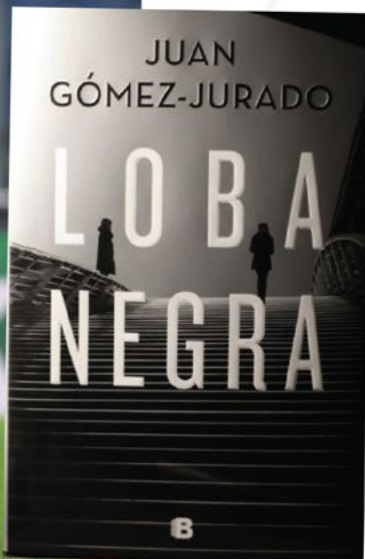
I started three years ago, but it wasn't compatible with my training schedule at Betis, because the classes were in the mornings. But I am planning on doing them in the future.

Who would you say your coaching influences would be? Which current coach best reflects your football philosophy?

One thing I always focus on is possession. I've had a lot of coaches over the course of my career, but Luis Enrique is one that always tells you to ask him anything you want to. I've asked him questions and things and he tells me to learn from every coach I have, because ultimately that will give me a wider bank of resources to draw on if I want to become a coach in the future. So I would take something from all of the coaches I've had.

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

Given the level of media interest at the moment it's not easy to walk down the street without people stopping you to ask for photos. Obviously I don't mind that or anything, but I'd like to have more of a social life with my friends and families. Going to a bar, sitting down for a quiet beer and just being out of the spotlight a bit. ▶



to have a family, be happy and enjoy being with my children. I think being able to enjoy spending time with the family is one of the best things to look forward to for when I'm no longer playing football.

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

No, but I did quite a bit of reading during lockdown. I've been reading a couple of books lately, but I haven't got any other projects outside of football because I don't want to take my focus away from what really matters. No projects!

Who are your favourite authors?

I've been reading *La Loba Negra* [The Black Wolf] by Juan Gómez-Jurado – he's written a really interesting trilogy which I've been enjoying. Javier Castillo's *La Chica de Nieve* [Snow Girl] too.

Do you ever read any books in English?

Not right now! I've really progressed in terms of my speaking – I can communicate with my team-mates well now, but reading in English is a bit trickier!



Finally, you are told there's a spare seat on the next trip to the Moon – do you go?

No! I don't want to go to the Moon! I want to be on solid ground with my family. It's much nicer here! ■

What country or city will you live in when you retire?
Seville.

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

I'm lucky to have been able to visit many of the countries that appeal to me. Obviously I'd like to do more travelling, but I've been to lots of countries and continents. There are plenty more places I'd like to go to.

"I THINK IT'S HARDER TO BECOME A COACH BECAUSE THERE'S SO MUCH REQUIRED – THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS"

If you go on to have children in the future, would you like them to go into professional football?

That's a tough one! Obviously it would be a dream for me if my children became footballers, but knowing how hard it is to make it and knowing how much of your childhood you lose because you're dedicating so much time to football. Obviously if they had the quality and the talent, I'd support them. But I'd support them in whatever they wanted to do.

Away from football, do you have a specific goal or aspiration you'd like to achieve?

I'm focused on the present but in the future I would like



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DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG

GUNNERS

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YOUNG GUN

HUBERT GRACZYK

TALKING TO Aidan Small

BORN

Zkierzyna, Poland,
February 28, 2003

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

6ft 1in and 79kg

BOOTS

Adidas Predator

POSITION

Goalkeeper

SIGNED FOR ARSENAL

August 2017



Signing my first professional contract earlier this week was one of the proudest moments of my career so far. But this isn't something I achieved by myself. It simply wouldn't have been possible without the support of my family, friends and coaches over the years, and that got me thinking about how it all started.

My earliest memory of football as a kid is a simple one. My mum always used to take me down to my local park and I'd spend hours there kicking the ball about and saving shots from my mum. I'm an only child so I never had any older brother or anything to mess around with. That's where it all began. Compared to a lot of the lads in the academy, I actually started showing an interest in football at quite a late age, around seven. I know that's still quite early in the grand scheme of things, but most here at Arsenal have been playing since they were five!

My family are originally from Poland, but my dad has always supported Arsenal. That link has only become stronger over the years in our family since I joined the club. I've been a Gooner my whole life! I've also been a goalkeeper right from the start too. I've got no idea why, but I just loved it. I guess Arsenal have been quite well known for having Polish

keepers over the years and that probably played a large part.

As a kid, Wojciech Szczesny was the first goalkeeper that I really looked up to. My dad is Polish and takes a lot of pride in it, so he really embraces it and I think that's why I looked up to Szczesny so much. Anyway, after a year or so of playing in my local park, I was spotted by a team in north London called Rap-aid Youth FC. I joined them as an under-8 and had no interest in playing outfield. I just wanted to be the keeper.

"FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, I'VE JUST LOVED THROWING MYSELF ABOUT ON THE PITCH"

For as long as I can remember, I've loved throwing myself about on the pitch and putting my face right among it! That was always me! I've always been like that. Back then I was just playing football for fun and didn't really look into development or anything like that, but when West Ham offered me a trial, I realised I could take this seriously. I joined them permanently after six weeks and spent the next two years in their academy, but I was released at the end of my two-year contract and that was quite an experience for me.

I took a complete break from football for six months because I had no idea what to do with myself. It was a really difficult moment, and I think it changed me as a person, as well as changing my outlook on football.

We used to train on Tuesday and Thursday then play on the Saturday, and all of a sudden, I didn't have that routine and structure in my life. I missed that environment so much.

But I think in many ways it helped me develop as both a player and as a person too. When you join an academy at nine, you're so young that it's hard to comprehend and understand what's really going on around you. And when you join at such a young age, it's easy to think that environment is normal because it's all you've ever known, so when I left the academy and spent six months away from football, it changed my perspective on the whole academy experience and how hard I'd want to work if I got that chance again. At the time, it really felt like my world was ending right in front of me, but looking back, I'm glad it happened. It's shaped me into who I am today.

After being released, I started playing outfield for the first time, and that sparked my love for football all over again. I was a defensive midfielder for my school and I loved going in

for crunching tackles. I ended up spending almost two years away from academy football, but then my school sent me to a development centre, who eventually sent me on a trial for Crystal Palace's academy. My teachers liked me and always tried to support me, and I'll never forget that.

Palace offered me a contract, but then Arsenal invited me on a six-week trial and that changed everything. The first thing that hit me was when my dad told me the news and I was just so excited to get there and see everything. I used to live near Hale End and on my way back from trials at Palace, I used to look out the window and just dream that one day I'll be there.

So when I turned up at the gates for the very first time and saw the Arsenal crest, it was just incredible. The only thing better than that was finding out that Arsenal wanted to keep me, and I've been here ever since. I've got so many amazing memories from my time at Hale End. I got my first England call-up at the end of my first season and then I won goalkeeper of the tournament in the Liam Brady Cup, which was an honour. I've developed so much as a player and become so much tidier in all aspects of my game. I'm proud to represent this club and now I'm focused on achieving bigger and better things. ■



HUBERT GRACZYK LOWDOWN

Earliest memory of football Kicking a football with my mum at the park

Got me into football My dad

First footballer looked up to Wojciech Szczesny

Favourite football shirt owned Arsenal 2013/14 away kit

Best friend in football Daniel Oyegoke

Team supported as a child Arsenal

Best goal of all-time Wayne Rooney's overhead kick v Man City

Best player faced Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang in training

Best training ground tip I've been given Make the most of your time because you can't earn it back

Best moment of my career Signing my first pro contract

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

If I could change position I'd play DM or CB

Another sport I'm good at Volleyball

Favourite boots Purple adidas F50s

Favourite training drill Shots from angles

Ambitions this season off the pitch Stay healthy

Important non-playing attributes for young footballers Time management

ME

Favourite footballer of all-time Manuel Neuer

Favourite follow on Instagram 433

Most played Spotify artist Polo G

Favourite musician Drake

Favourite pre-match song Back to Basics – Fredo

One thing I need on an away day Headphones

One thing I want to do in my career Make the most of my potential

First-team player I look up to most Bernd Leno

Player who shaped my game most Manuel Neuer

Best thing about being at Arsenal The environment

TEAM-MATES

Who will definitely make it? Catalin Cirjan

Most skills in their locker? Kido Taylor Hart

Who's got the best passing range? Miguel Azeez

Who'd be the best manager? Alex Kirk

Most committed? Miguel

Who's the strongest? Mazeed Agungbo



Wojciech Szczesny



U18 Premier League South
Saturday, February 20
AMEX Elite Football
Performance Centre

ARSENAL U18 Graczyk, Norton-Cuffy, Foran (Awe 79), Monlouis, Ogungbo, Henry-Francis (Sweet 57), Bandeira, Hutchinson, Cirjan, Ideho (Edwards 67), Butler-Oyedeji **SUBS NOT USED:** Mitchell, Jeffcott

Despite a spirited display from start to finish, our under-18s were beaten 3-2 by Brighton & Hove Albion last month. Omari Hutchinson scored twice and delivered an outstanding performance, but it wasn't enough to secure a share of the spoils.

Ken Gillard made one change from our 1-0 victory over West Ham last Tuesday with Mauro Bandeira replacing James Sweet.

Brighton ran out 5-0 winners the last time we met in this competition – and they made a fast start once again, as Ed Turns opened the scoring with a powerful header from a corner.

The hosts then went on to double their advantage shortly after the half-hour mark through Zak Emmerson, who raced away on the counter and coolly finished past Hubert Graczyk.

But we bounced back before the half-time interval, as Graczyk set Hutchinson free down the left to run the length of the pitch, before wriggling past two defenders and firing home.

Brighton responded well after the restart, however, as Emmerson doubled his tally just 15 seconds after the referee's whistle.

Hutchinson reduced the deficit once more late on, showing great composure to finish from the spot, but it was ultimately too little too late. ■



Omari Hutchinson scored a brace

Under-18s coach Ken Gillard





0

Premier League 2
Friday, February 19
Meadow Park



2

DELAP 15, 48

ARSENAL U23 Okonkwo, Alebiosu, Oyegoke (Dinzeyi 90), Kirk, Lopez, Akinola, Patino (Coyle 46), Cottrell, Taylor-Hart (Lewis 85), Moller, Nelson **SUBS NOT USED:** Smith, Bola,

Reiss Nelson featured as our under-23s were beaten 2-0 by Manchester City in the Premier League 2. Liam Delap scored twice for the league leaders, but it could have been more if not for Arthur Okonkwo, who made a number of outstanding saves.

City started strongly at Meadow Park as Felix Nmecha's low effort was saved, before Tommy Doyle fired over from the edge of the area.

But the visitors pushed on and after just 15 minutes found themselves ahead. Ryan Alebiosu, who was otherwise impressive on the night, lost possession with a sloppy throw-in and Delap duly converted after cutting inside from the left wing.

Steve Bould's side were boosted by the availability of Nelson and he came close to providing an instant response – but his low drive was tipped behind by Louie Moulden after dribbling past two midfielders.

Our biggest chance of the evening arrived just moments later, though, as Nelson picked out Kido Taylor-Hart at the far post and our No 7 fired a half-volley towards goal. Somehow, the angle was closed down and Moulden produced a fine save.

This proved to be a game-changing moment, with City doubling their advantage just three minutes after the restart. Romeo Lavia led the charge on the counter and Delap was on hand to finish past Okonkwo.

We pushed on in the hope of sparking a late comeback, but the visitors maintained their composure and limited us to half-chances only in the closing stages. ■



Reiss Nelson back in action for the under-23s against Man City



Trae Coyle is back from his loan spell at Gillingham



4

STEWART 13, CAIN 45, 47, WOODBURN 68



0

Premier League 2
Saturday, February 27
The Academy

ARSENAL U23 Smith (Okonkwo 66), Alebiosu, Kirk (Dinzeyi 62), Monlouis, Bola, Akinola (Coyle 46), Cirjan, Cottrell, Taylor-Hart, Moller, Nelson **SUBS NOT USED:** Lopez, Lewis,

Our under-23s slipped to another frustrating defeat as they were beaten 4-0 by Liverpool.

Coming into this game, only a point separated the two sides – but the hosts were full of confidence after a dramatic 3-2 victory over Chelsea just a week earlier.

We started on the front foot, though, and looked dangerous in transition with Reiss Nelson breaking forward at pace and squaring for Nikolaj Moller, who was unable to make contact at the final moment.

Liverpool had barely had a sight of our goal but were gifted possession inside the area and Layton Stewart duly found the bottom corner.

Catalin Cirjan immediately came close to an equaliser, rattling the post from Tolaji Bola's cutback, but we were made to pay for our missed chances on the stroke of half-time, as Jake Cain doubled Liverpool's advantage with a powerful strike into the top corner.

Cain then went on to score his second of the afternoon just two minutes after the restart, firing home from the edge of the area, before Ben Woodburn made it four, finishing from close range. ■



0



3

FAAL 18, RICHARDS 45, SHEPHERD 84

U18 Premier League South
Saturday, February 27
London Colney

ARSENAL U18 Graczyk, Norton-Cuffy, Awe (Foran 61), Oyegoke, Jeffcott (Vigar 67), Hutchinson, Bandeira, Henry-Francis, Ogungbo, Butler-Oyedeji, Edwards **SUBS NOT USED:** Mitchell, Sagoe Junior, Ideho

Our under-18s suffered a disappointing 3-0 defeat to West Brom in the U18 Premier League South. Khayon Edwards returned in attack for Ken Gillard's side – but we were unable to break down a resilient Baggies outfit.

The visitors came into this fixture boasting the second-best away record in the division, and they made it count early on as Mo Faal converted Tom Fellows' delivery with a thumping header.

Omari Hutchinson then fired over the bar from the edge of the area, before Henry Jeffcott combined with Nathan Butley-Oyedeji and found himself through on goal, only to lose composure and fire over.

We should have been level after that promising spell of possession, but on the stroke of half-time West Brom doubled their advantage as Rico Richards controlled Fellows' delivery and guided a header into the far corner.

Following the restart, Butler-Oyedeji came close to reducing the deficit when he stung the gloves of Jamie Emery, before Hutchinson's curling effort was cleared away.

We continued to push forward, hoping to spark a late comeback, but this left us exposed on the counter and with just over five minutes remaining, Jacob Shephard made it three for the Baggies, converting a cutback from close range. ■

BOTTOM LEFT
Nikolaj Moller challenges Finley Burns

BOTTOM RIGHT
Daniel Oyegoke keeps tabs on Felix Nmecha

ACADEMY NEWS

FA YOUTH CUP UPDATE

We can now confirm that our FA Youth Cup fourth-round fixture against Blackburn Rovers has been rescheduled. The game was originally due to take place on January 27, but has now been moved to Saturday, March 20. The game will kick-off at 12pm and will take place at the Blackburn Rovers FC Academy. ■

HALE END HEAD-TO-HEAD

Loanees Joe Willock and Ainsley Maitland-Niles went head-to-head last week as West Bromwich Albion drew 0-0 with Newcastle United. Our duo both started at The Hawthorns and played the full 90 minutes, but neither side could find a way through. On a cold night in the Midlands, Willock made two tackles and two interceptions, in addition to making nine ball recoveries. He also competed for more duels (22) and won more fouls (2) than any other Newcastle United player. Maitland-Niles started in a midfield three and finished with a pass completion rate of 75.7 per cent. He also registered 55 touches and competed for 16 duels. ■

JORDAN EXTENDS NORTH LONDON STAY

Congratulations to Jordan McEneff, who has signed a new contract extension with the club. The 20-year-old midfielder has been at the club since 2017, but is currently on the sidelines after picking up an injury back in October. McEneff is currently working hard on his recovery and will be keen to impress when he returns to full fitness. The Republic of Ireland youth international has featured 21 times for our under-23s to date, scoring once. Keep up the hard work, Jordan! ■

OSEI-TUTU BACK WITH CARDIFF

Jordi Osei-Tutu has returned to Cardiff as he prepares to make his return from injury. The versatile right back picked up a hamstring injury back in October and returned to north London for treatment, but now he's edging closer to a comeback for his loan side. Osei-Tutu was in exceptional form prior to his injury, making six appearances in the Championship and helping his teammates to three clean sheets. Best of luck for the rest of the season, Jordi! ■

CONGRATULATIONS, HUBERT

Hubert Graczyk has signed his first professional contract. The 18-year-old goalkeeper has made 10 appearances for our under-18s this season, keeping two clean sheets, and he recently made his debut for our under-23s against Liverpool. The youngster has represented England at under-18 level and is known for his agility and distribution from the back. We congratulate Hubert on his first professional contract and look forward to supporting him with his continued development. ■



LEFT
Charlie Gilmour at Emirates Stadium on April 26, 2019

BELOW
Charlie is now at St Johnstone in Scotland

ACADEMY ALUMNI

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

CHARLIE GILMOUR

Charlie Gilmour is back in football with St Johnstone in the Scottish Premier League, after being released by Norwich City at the start of the season. Charlie joined Arsenal's academy as a six year old and progressed all the way through the ranks until playing as a substitute for the first team in two Europa League group stage ties, against Qarabag and Vorskla Poltava in season 2018/19. At the end of that season, the central midfielder was released by the Gunners and immediately



snapped up by Norwich City, newly promoted to the Premier League. He was sent out on loan for a season to Telstar in the Dutch second division, managed by former Arsenal Academy supremo Andries Jonker and he made 25 appearances in Holland, making three assists. Returning to England, the Scotland Under-19 international was released by Norwich last summer but after a few months without a club, Charlie – now 22 – joined St Johnstone on February 1 this year and made his debut in a 3-0 win against Motherwell on February 20. It's been a great season for St Johnstone, who currently sit seventh in the SPL and won the Scottish League Cup on February 28 when they beat Livingston 1-0, their first ever triumph in the competition – a game in which Charlie was an unused substitute. Good luck in Scotland, Charlie! ■

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	5-0
Fri Jan 29	Tottenham Hotspur	A	1-1
Fri Feb 5	Chelsea	H	2-2
Fri Feb 12	Manchester United	A	0-3
Fri Feb 19	Manchester City	H	0-2
Sat Feb 27	Liverpool	A	0-4
Fri Mar 5	Southampton	A	2-2
Fri Mar 12	Blackburn Rovers	H	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
Manchester City	17	11	4	2	53	23	30	37
Blackburn Rovers	17	9	5	3	39	29	10	32
Tottenham Hotspur	17	8	5	4	32	27	5	29
Manchester United	17	8	3	6	45	43	2	27
Derby County	18	8	3	7	32	36	-4	27
Everton	17	7	4	6	29	21	8	25
Chelsea	16	7	4	5	31	24	7	25
Liverpool	16	7	2	7	33	35	-2	23
Brighton & Hove Albion	18	5	6	7	26	36	-10	21
Arsenal	18	5	5	8	29	32	-3	20
Leicester City	18	5	2	11	29	43	-14	17
Southampton	17	4	4	9	25	34	-9	16
West Ham United	16	2	3	11	18	38	-20	9

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 23	Tottenham Hotspur	H	4-1
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	2-3
Tue Feb 16	West Ham United	H	1-0
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	2-3
Sat Feb 27	West Bromwich Albion	H	0-3
Tue Mar 9	Aston Villa	A	0-0
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	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	Southampton	A	TBA

EFL TROPHY FIXTURES

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
Crystal Palace	16	11	1	4	36	25	11	34
Fulham	16	10	2	4	41	23	18	32
Brighton & Hove Albion	17	9	3	5	45	28	17	30
Tottenham Hotspur	17	8	6	3	41	24	17	30
Aston Villa	14	8	4	2	26	18	8	28
Chelsea	15	7	2	6	39	30	9	23
Arsenal	15	7	2	6	28	27	1	23
West Bromwich Albion	17	6	3	8	35	42	-7	21
Norwich City	15	6	1	8	37	34	3	19
Reading	14	3	3	8	27	42	-15	12
West Ham United	15	3	3	9	18	37	-19	12
Leicester City	14	2	3	9	21	46	-25	9
Southampton	13	1	3	9	19	37	-18	6

FA YOUTH CUP FIXTURES

Tue Dec 15	Rotherham United	A	2-1
Sat Mar 20	Blackburn Rovers	A	12pm

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	U18	FAYC	PLIC	TOTAL
Ben Cottrell	16(4)	4	-	-	-	20(4)
Tim Akinola	15+2	3+1	-	-	-	18+3
Folarin Balogun	14(6)	2(1)	-	-	-	16(7)
Ryan Alebiosu	14+1	3	-	-	-	17+1
Nicolaj Moller	13(6)	1	-	-	-	14(6)
Joel Lopez	10+1	3	-	-	-	13+1
Catalin Cirjan	9+2(1)	3+1(1)	2	-	-	14+3(2)
Jonathan Dinzei	8+4	1	-	-	-	9+4
Karl Hein	8	1	-	-	-	9
Miguel Azeez	7+4(1)	2+1(1)	-	-	-	9+5(2)
William Saliba	6	2	-	-	-	8
Kido Taylor-Hart	5+4(2)	1+1	9(6)	1	-	16+5(8)
Daniel Oyegoke	5+3	1	2	-	-	8+3
Arthur Okonkwo	5+1	1	-	-	-	6+1
Alex Kirk	5+1	+1	8(1)	1	-	14+2(1)
Reiss Nelson	5(2)	-	-	-	-	5(2)
George Lewis	4+2	1(1)	-	-	-	5+2(1)
James Olayinka	4(1)	2	-	-	-	6(1)
Charlie Patino	4(1)	-	9	1(1)	-	14(2)
Tolaji Bola	4	1	-	-	-	5
Jordan McNuff	3+3	2(1)	-	-	-	5+3(1)
Brooke Norton-Cuffy	3+1	+1	11	1	-	15+2
Emile Smith Rowe	3(3)	1	-	-	-	4(3)
Calum Chambers	3(1)	1	-	-	-	4(1)
Joseph Olowu	3	-	-	-	-	3
Zane Monlouis	2+1	1	8+1(1)	1	-	12+2(1)
Harry Clarke	2	1	-	-	-	3
Matt Macey	2	1	-	-	-	3
Daniel Ballard	2	-	-	-	-	2
Pablo Mari	2	-	-	-	-	2
Trae Coyle	1+2	-	-	-	-	1+2
Salah-Eddine Oulad M'hann	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Joel Ideho	1+1	+1	4+1	-	-	5+3
Mark McGuinness	1	1	-	-	-	2
Sokratis Papastathopoulos	1	1	-	-	-	2
Levi Laing	1	+2	6+1	-	-	7+3
Hubert Graczyk	1	-	9+1	-	-	10+1
Zach Awe	1	-	7+3	-	-	8+3
James Hillson	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cedric Soares	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tom Smith	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joe Willock	1	-	-	-	-	1
Mazeed Ogungbo	+3	-	9(1)	1(1)	-	10+3(2)
Khayon Edwards	+1	-	7+6(4)	-	-	7+7(4)
Taylor Foran	+1	-	6+2	-	-	6+3
Gabriel Martinelli	-	1	-	-	-	1
Matt Smith	-	1	-	-	-	1
Omari Hutchinson	-	-	15(4)	1	-	16(4)
Mauro Baneira	-	-	12+2	-	-	12+2
Marcelo Flores	-	-	7+2(3)	1	-	8+2(3)
Nathan Butler-Oyedemi	-	-	7+2	1	-	8+2
Luke Plange	-	-	6+3(4)	-	-	6+3(4)
Jack Henry-Francis	-	-	6+3	-	-	6+3
James Sweet	-	-	5+2(2)	1	-	6+2(2)
Ovie Ejeheri	-	-	5	1	-	6
Henry Jeffcott	-	-	3+1	-	-	3+1
Remy Mitchell	-	-	1	-	-	1
Billy Vigar	-	-	+4	-	-	+4
Charles Sagoe Jr	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
Jason Sraha	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
Own goals	(1)	-	(2)	-	-	(3)



Kido Taylor-Hart

ARSENAL WOMEN

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



0

Women's Super League
Sunday, March 7
Solihull Moors



4

FOORD 37, 39,
MIEDEMA 76, EVANS 90

ARSENAL
Williams, Maritz (Maier 81),
Williamson, Wubben-Moy,
McCabe, Walti (Gut 74), Van
de Donk (Roord 81),
Miedema, Mead, Foord
(Little 62), Nobbs (Evans 74)

We secured back-to-back victories in the Barclays FA Women's Super League on Sunday as we ran out 4-0 winners over Birmingham City.

Caitlin Ford returned to our starting XI and delivered an outstanding attacking performance, scoring twice, while Kim Little made her return from injury off the bench. There was also a familiar face lining up for the home side, as Arsenal loanee Ruby Mace was granted permission to feature for Carla Ward's side.

Lining up in a 4-3-3 formation, Foord was tasked with leading the line, while Vivianne Miedema took up a deeper role as a No 10 – and they combined to devastating effect all afternoon.

First, Miedema controlled Beth Mead's cross with her chest and fired just over the bar, before Foord blazed over from a similar position just moments later.

The latter made no mistake with her next sight of goal, though, as she reacted first inside the area to bundle home the opener. There was a moment of confusion as the linesman had their flag raised for offside, but the referee



appeared to overrule their decision.

Foord then went on to double our advantage less than two minutes later, converting from close range after a drilled delivery across the face of goal was miss-hit by Miedema. The Australia international is now the fourth top scorer in the WSL this season with nine goals to her name.

Heading into this fixture, Miedema had failed to score from any of her previous 21 shots against Birmingham City, but on this occasion her fourth attempt proved successful.

Miedema received the ball with her back to goal and twisted away from her marker, before cutting onto her right foot and rifling a powerful effort in off the post.

Substitute Lisa Evans then went on to make it four deep into stoppage time, finding the top left corner from Miedema's inviting through ball. ■



VIV BACK ON TOP

Vivianne Miedema's goal against Birmingham City moved her clear at the top of the WSL all-time leading goalscorers with 56 goals. Viv moved one clear of Manchester City's former Gunner Ellen White. Nikita Parris – now at Lyon – is third on the list with 49 goals during her time with Everton and Manchester City. ■

FAR LEFT

Danielle Van de Donk holds off Mollie Green

LEFT

Caitlin Foord opens the scoring

BELOW

The WSL's top scorer Vivianne Miedema celebrates

2020/21 FIXTURES

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

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (AT MAR 9)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
CHELSEA	16	13	2	1	49	8	41	41
MANCHESTER CITY	16	12	3	1	51	11	40	39
MANCHESTER UNITED	16	11	2	3	35	16	19	35
ARSENAL	15	9	2	4	48	14	34	29
EVERTON	15	6	4	5	26	22	-6	22
READING	16	4	7	5	21	27	-6	19
BRIGHTON	16	5	3	8	13	30	-17	18
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	14	3	3	8	15	28	-13	15
BIRMINGHAM CITY	13	3	2	8	10	24	-14	11
ASTON VILLA	14	3	1	10	11	37	-26	10
BRISTOL CITY	15	2	3	10	13	57	-44	9
WEST HAM UNITED	14	2	2	10	14	32	-18	8



WOOD 39



AUBAMEYANG 6

1

PREMIER LEAGUE MATCHDAY 27

12.30pm • Saturday, March 6 • Turf Moor

FIRST HALF

We came out of the blocks quickly and took a deserved lead early on. Thomas Partey started the move, fed Willian who surged forward and picked out Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang to beat Nick Pope at his near post. Our captain shot wide shortly afterwards while a big chance also fell to Bukayo Saka following a one-two with Aubameyang. Partey was next to go close, shooting just over after excellent approach play from Saka and Martin Odegaard. We were completely in charge but Burnley equalised in bizarre fashion when Granit Xhaka's attempted pass to David Luiz from inside our penalty area hit Chris Wood and ricocheted into the net.

SECOND HALF

The goal – completely out of the blue – galvanised Burnley and they had the better of the second half until a breathless finale. Nicolas Pepe, on as a substitute, screamed for a penalty after Erik Pieters struck the ball with his arm. But neither the referee or VAR agreed. Pepe missed a great chance to put us ahead after good work from Kieran Tierney, and Pepe was involved again when his volley from Saka's cross was diverted onto the bar by Pieters. There was still time for Burnley to go close, and Dani Ceballos curled a shot against the post in stoppage time. But we had to make do with a draw. ■

MATCH STATS		
9	TOTAL SHOTS	15
5	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
2	CORNERS	3
2	OFFSIDES	2
5	FOULS	12
41	POSSESSION %	59

BURNLEY

- 1 POPE
- 2 LOWTON
- 5 TARKOWSKI
- 6 MEE
- 3 TAYLOR (63)
- 7 GUNDMUNDSSON (68)
- 18 WESTWOOD
- 8 BROWNHILL
- 11 MCNEIL
- 27 VYDRA (86)
- 9 WOOD

SUBSTITUTES

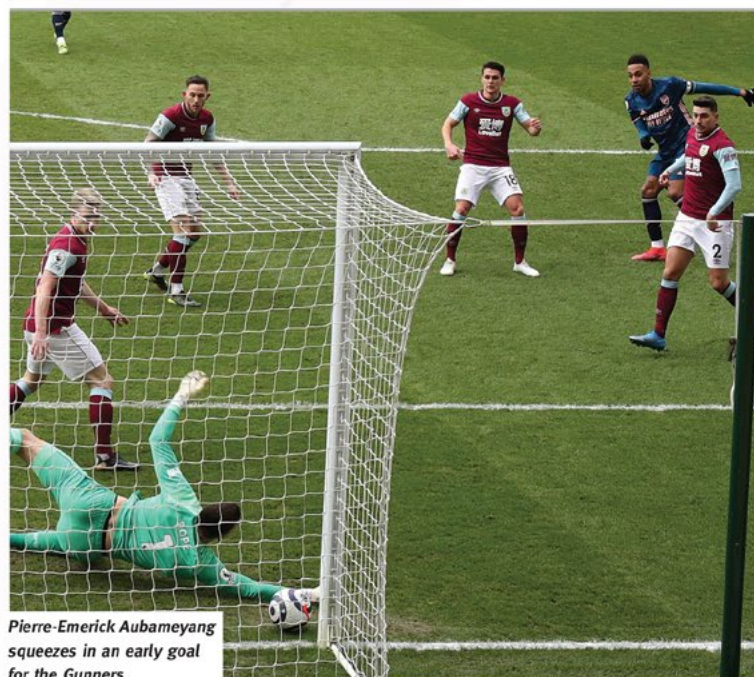
PIETERS (63), BRADY (68), RODRIGUEZ (86), PEACOCK-FARRELL, STEPHENS, BARDLEY, LONG, DUNNE, BENSON

ARSENAL

- 1 LENO
- 21 CHAMBERS
- 23 DAVID LUIZ
- 22 MARI
- 3 TIERNEY
- 34 XHAKA
- 18 PARTEY (80)
- 7 SAKA
- 11 ODEGAARD (63)
- 14 AUBAMEYANG
- 12 WILLIAN (69)

SUBSTITUTES

LACAZETTE (63), PEPE (69), CEBALLOS (80), BELLERIN, GABRIEL, HOLDING, ELMENY, MARTINELLI, RYAN



Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang squeezes in an early goal for the Gunners



Thomas Partey brings the ball through midfield



Gareth Bale has hit form



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

FORMED

1882 as Hotspur FC

NICKNAME

The Lilywhites

STADIUM

Tottenham Hotspur Stadium (62,850)

HONOURS

First Division/Premier League winners **1950/51,**

1960/61

Second Division/Championship winners **1919/20,**

1949/50

FA Cup Winners **1901, 1921, 1961, 1962, 1967,**

1981, 1982, 1991

League Cup Winners **1971, 1973, 1999, 2008**

Charity Shield **1921, 1951, 1961, 1962, 1967*, 1981*,**

1991*

*shared

Uefa Cup Winners' Cup **1963**

Uefa Cup **1972, 1984**

OWNER

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CHAIRMAN

Daniel Levy

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Facebook **21.6M**

It has been a long and winding season of peaks and troughs for Tottenham Hotspur, but Arsenal's eternal rivals cross north London for this latest derby in good spirits having won their last three Premier League matches and in so doing revitalised their quest for a place in the top four. Like Arsenal, Spurs were in UEFA Europa League action three days ago, facing Croatian champions Dinamo Zagreb at home in the first leg of their round of 16 tie.

When Tottenham defeated Arsenal 2-0 at their new stadium in early December with goals from Harry Kane and Son Heung-min, it was their seventh win in their opening 11 league matches and put them on top of the Premier League table. However, Jose Mourinho's side would go on to win just three of their next 13 league games, losing no fewer than seven, to drop way off the pace at the top and lead to questions being asked not only of the team's results but of the over-cautious style to their play.

However, the recent resurgence of form, with league wins over Burnley (4-0 home), Fulham (1-0 away) and Crystal Palace (4-1 home) accompanied by a comfortable Europa League round of 32 victory over Austrian side Wolfsberg (4-1 away, 4-0 home), has silenced the critics – at least for now – and restored impetus to a campaign in which Tottenham also suffered FA Cup disappointment last month with a remarkable 5-4 extra-time defeat to Everton in a fifth-round clash at Goodison Park. Conversely, they are through to the final of the Carabao Cup at Wembley, where, after knocking out Chelsea, Stoke and Brentford, they will face holders Manchester City on April 25.

This is Spurs' 46th game of the season, their European campaign having started in the second qualifying round of the Europa League with a trip to Bulgaria in mid-September. Thursday's game against Zagreb was their 12th continental outing in 2020/21, and should they go on to reach the final in Gdansk – which is far from improbable given that Mourinho's two previous involvements in the competition, the 2002/03 UEFA Cup with Porto and the 2016/17 Europa League with Manchester United, both ended with him lifting the trophy – they will total 18 European games in all.

One way or another Spurs are desperate to return to the Champions League, where they competed for four successive seasons under former boss Mauricio Pochettino, reaching the final in 2018/19, before last season's disappointing sixth-placed finish in the Premier League 'demoted' them to the Europa League qualifying phase. Winning the Europa League this season would of course do the trick – as it would for Arsenal – but Mourinho's men know that they still have a decent chance of finishing in the top four of the Premier League, especially if star striker Kane and revitalised Real Madrid loanee Gareth Bale can continue the kind of form that destroyed Crystal Palace at Sunday evening. As ever, it promises to be a very tasty north London derby.

VISITORS TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR



MUTUAL ADMIRATION

Teenage goalkeeper **Pat Jennings** joined Tottenham in June 1964 from Watford, where he had impressed in the Hornets first-team following a move from Newry Town in his native Northern Ireland. He spent 13 years at White Hart Lane – becoming a true legend – winning FA Cup, League Cup and Uefa Cup winners' medals as well as the Football Writers' and PFA Player of the Year Awards.

Superb positionally, a fine shotstopper and with a naturally calming presence, at 32 Tottenham believed Pat was coming towards the end of his career and allowed him to join his compatriot Terry Neill's Gunners in August 1977, where he proved that his powers were anything but on the wane, playing eight seasons, featuring in four major finals and winning the 1979 FA Cup.

In 1983 he became the first player in English football to register 1,000 appearances and by the time of his retirement, he had played 591 times for Spurs and 327 games for the Gunners. He also won a record 119 caps for Northern Ireland, including playing in the 1986 World Cup aged 41.



1 THE SKIPPER
HUGO LLORIS
GOALKEEPER

BORN Nice, France, 26/12/86

PREVIOUSLY Nice, Lyon

Hugo fulfilled the ultimate footballing dream when he lifted the World Cup as France's captain in 2018. Now capped 120 times by Les Bleus, he is in his ninth season at Tottenham, having joined in 2012 from Lyon as a French Cup winner, but is still awaiting his first major club trophy since then. Firmly established among the Premier League's goalkeeping elite, the 33 year old has played over 350 games for Spurs and is a league ever-present this term.



10 THE NEMESIS
HARRY KANE
STRIKER

BORN Chingford, 28/7/93

PREVIOUSLY Leyton Orient (loan), Millwall (loan), Norwich (loan), Leicester (loan)

Harry became the top scorer in the history of the north London derby when he netted his 11th goal against Arsenal in the 2-0 home win in December. Captain of his country too, he was the Golden Boot winner at the 2018 World Cup and has scored 32 goals in 51 games for England. His Premier League tally for Spurs rose to a remarkable 159 in 232 games with his brace against Crystal Palace last Sunday.



4 THE LYNCHPIN
TOBY ALDERWEIRELD
DEFENDER

BORN Antwerp, Belgium, 2/3/89

PREVIOUSLY Ajax, Atletico Madrid, Southampton (loan)

Signed in 2015 from Atletico Madrid after a season on loan at Southampton, the 32 year old has been a pillar in central defence for Tottenham over the past six seasons, making more starts (12) than any other Spurs player in the club's memorable 2018/19 Champions League campaign after missing most of the previous season through injury. Rugged, resilient and versatile, Toby has won 104 caps for Belgium, appearing for the Red Devils in the last three major tournaments.



27 THE BOY FROM BRAZIL
LUCAS MOURA
MIDFIELDER

BORN Sao Paulo, Brazil, 13/8/92

PREVIOUSLY Sao Paulo, Paris Saint-Germain

Signed in January 2018 for £25m from Paris Saint-Germain, Lucas became an eternal cult hero to Tottenham fans with his dramatic, tie-winning Champions League semi-final hat-trick against Ajax in Amsterdam two seasons ago. It is fair to say that the pacy, gifted 28 year old Brazil international has not capitalised on that momentous performance, though he has found favour in Jose Mourinho's Premier League XI in recent weeks, scoring in successive games against West Ham and Burnley.



7 THE ASIAN ACE
SON HEUNG-MIN
ATTACKER

BORN Chuncheon, South Korea, 8/7/92

PREVIOUSLY Hamburg, Bayer Leverkusen

Widely recognised as one of Asia's greatest ever footballers, with a host of continental player of the year prizes to prove it, the pacy, two-footed South Korea international joined Spurs from Bayer Leverkusen in 2015 and has become a major hit with his eye for goal and indefatigable will to win. The 28 year old scored his 100th goal for Tottenham in a 3-0 win against Leeds on January 2 and has 13 in this Premier League campaign – one short of his personal best.



9 THE WELSH WIZARD
GARETH BALE
ATTACKER

BORN Cardiff, 16/7/89

PREVIOUSLY Southampton, Tottenham, Real Madrid

Gareth returned to Tottenham on loan from Real Madrid at the start of this season but has only recently begun to show the sort of eye-catching brilliance that was the norm in both his first spell at Spurs, from 2007-13, and in most of his time in the Spanish capital – following his world-record transfer to the Bernabeu – and has never ceased to be demonstrated in the red shirt of Wales, for whom he is the all-time record scorer, with 33 goals in 87 appearances.



5 DANISH DESTROYER
PIERRE-EMILE HOJBJERG
MIDFIELDER

BORN Copenhagen, Denmark, 5/8/95

PREVIOUSLY Bayern Munich, Augsburg (loan), Schalke (loan), Southampton

After four years as a Premier League servant to Southampton, the last six months as club captain, former Bayern Munich prodigy Pierre-Emile left to join Tottenham last August and has not missed a minute of Premier League action so far. Feisty and strong in the tackle, he is a dependable defensive midfielder who has accumulated 38 caps for his native Denmark.



28 THE POWERHOUSE
TANGUY NDOMBELE
MIDFIELDER

BORN Longjumeau, France, 28/12/96

PREVIOUSLY Amiens, Lyon

The physically imposing French midfielder became Tottenham's record signing when he joined for £55.4m in July 2019. He had spent the previous two seasons at Lyon, the first on loan from Amiens, winning a place in the 2018/19 Ligue 1 team of the year. Tanguy has since earned six senior caps for France despite the intense competition for midfield places in Didier Deschamps' side and has started 22 league games this term, scoring three goals.



THE BOSS
JOSE MOURINHO
HEAD COACH

BORN January 26, 1963 in Setubal, Portugal

PREVIOUSLY Benfica (2000), Uniao Leiria (2001-02), Porto (2002-04), Chelsea (2004-07), Internazionale (2008-10), Real Madrid (2010-13), Chelsea (2013-15), Manchester United (2016-18)

One of the most successful football coaches in the game, Jose has amassed 19 major trophies with his various clubs, including Champions League wins with Porto and Inter and eight domestic league titles, three of them with Chelsea. The outspoken 58 year old from Portugal made Tottenham the ninth club on his managerial CV when he replaced Mauricio Pochettino in November 2019 – almost a year after being relieved of his duties at Manchester United.

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2002-2006 – THOMSON

2006-10 – MANSION

2010-11 – AUTONOMY

2011-13 – AVRASMA

2013-14 – HEWLETT PACKARD

2014-21 – AIA

*Tim Sherwood
and Steffen
Iversen in 1999*



REALLY?!

When Arsenal lifted the FA Cup in 1979, Pat Rice took the trophy from the Prince of Wales and the then Secretary of the Football Association, Ted Croker – current Tottenham star Eric Dier's maternal grandfather. Ted sadly died just over a year before Eric was born.

Dier progressed through the Sporting Lisbon youth ranks to play three seasons in the Portuguese giants' first team in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15, when he regularly played alongside the Gunners' Cedric Soares.

Gareth Bale made his debut for Southampton against Millwall in the Championship on April 17, 2006 aged 16 years and 275 days – the second youngest player to represent them after Theo Walcott. Another teenager starting for Southampton that day was 18 year old David McGoldrick, who the Gunners are likely to come up against when we play Sheffield United next month.



*Eric Dier at
Sporting*

FIRST IMPRESSION

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

Our earliest north London derby image is so old, it's not even a north London derby – because the Gunners are of course Woolwich Arsenal from south London. The game, played on April 28, 1906, is also from a time when the two clubs hadn't yet met in a competitive fixture – this game was played in the Southern Charity Cup semi-final at our Manor Ground stadium in Plumstead. Two goals from Tim Coleman and one each from Percy Sands, Andy Ducat and Charlie Satterthwaite gave Arsenal a thumping 5-0 win in what was a replay following a 0-0 draw at White Hart Lane. A good crowd of 12,000 watched the match and the Gunners beat Reading 1-0 in the final, representing perhaps the most auspicious trophy won by the Gunners at that time. Arsenal are in the dark (red) shirts and white shorts. The advertised Woolwich Grand Theatre was demolished in 1939 but rebuilt as a cinema – which was demolished in 2015. ■



PREMIER LEAGUE RECORD

AFC WINS

20

DRAWS

23

THFC WINS

14

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 35

ALL-TIME RECORD

AFC WINS

77

DRAWS

51

THFC WINS

60

ARSENAL WIN PERCENTAGE 41

13

There have been 13 red cards in this fixture in the Premier League – seven for Arsenal, six for Spurs

14

The last time one side won both north London derbies in the same Premier League season was 2013/14, when the Gunners won both games 1-0

53

Only one of the past 53 north London derbies have finished goalless (February 2009)

BELOW

Gareth Bale celebrates after scoring against Crystal Palace last Sunday

BOTTOM

Harry Kane netted twice in last weekend's London derby with the Eagles, including this header



SCOUTING REPORT

BY Michael Cox

Excluding special one-off commemorative shirts, no side since Charlton Athletic in 1998/99 has fielded a team wearing traditional 1-11 shirt numbers in a Premier League match, although Jose Mourinho came extremely close with his team selection for last weekend's 4-1 victory over Crystal Palace. Only No.27, Lucas Moura, spoiled the pattern – with No.11, Erik Lamela, on the bench.

This might be statistical trivia, but it also underlines the sense that Mourinho has started to field something close to what might have been expected at the start of the season. There are some exceptions – most notably No.28 Tanguy Ndombele, who is a key part of Spurs' approach whether fielded deep or in a No.10 position in Mourinho's 4-2-3-1.

But going forward, Mourinho has finally got No.7 Heung-min Son, No.10 Harry Kane and No.9 Gareth Bale into the side together and seemingly back towards their best. Son and Kane started the campaign in superb form, and after Kane's double last weekend against Palace, have now combined for 14 goals, more than any partnership in a single Premier League campaign.

Kane, while a prolific goalscorer with a fine record against Arsenal – 11 in 12 Premier League appearances – has generally been the assister in that relationship, dropping deep into pockets of space between the lines before hitting fine diagonals out wide.

He now has an extra target in the speedy Bale, finally showing his best form after a difficult first half-season having returned on loan from Real Madrid. Bale still thrives when cutting inside from the right onto his favoured left foot, although has demonstrated other sides to his game, including an excellent long-range diagonal pass for Kane's recent goal against Burnley. Steven Bergwijn and Giovanni Lo Celso are alternative options.

Lucas, the aforementioned odd man out, has been in decent form recently, although may come under pressure from Ndombele for his spot here; the Frenchman is superb at receiving the ball on the turn and evading opposition pressure. That said, Mourinho has often fielded him in deeper positions recently, which would mean the calm distributor No.8 Harry Winks dropping out. No.5 Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg has enjoyed a fine first campaign in a tough-tackling holding midfield role. Dele Alli has re-emerged as an attacking midfield option, and has performed well in Europe.

Defensively, Mourinho will hope to be able to count upon right back Serge Aurier, who is sometimes guilty of needless defensive errors but is a surer bet than No.2 Matt Doherty, who has struggled since his move from Wolves last summer, perhaps partly as he's being fielded as a conventional full back rather than a rampaging wing back. On the opposite side, No.3 Sergio Reguilon is a good attacking option down the left, with Ben Davies a steadier alternative if Mourinho wants to be more defensive.

In the centre, No.6 Davinson Sanchez and No.4 Toby Alderweireld now seems to be the first-choice partnership with Eric Dier dropping out of the side. ■

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THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD

WELCOME BACK, CALUM!

After 14 long months of hard work at London Colney, Calum Chambers made his return to Premier League action last week, starting in our 1-1 draw with Burnley on the road.

The 26-year-old defender's last league appearance was in Mikel Arteta's first-ever home fixture as Arsenal manager, against Chelsea in December 2019 – but there were few signs of rustiness at Turf Moor, as Calum delivered a composed and complete performance at right back.

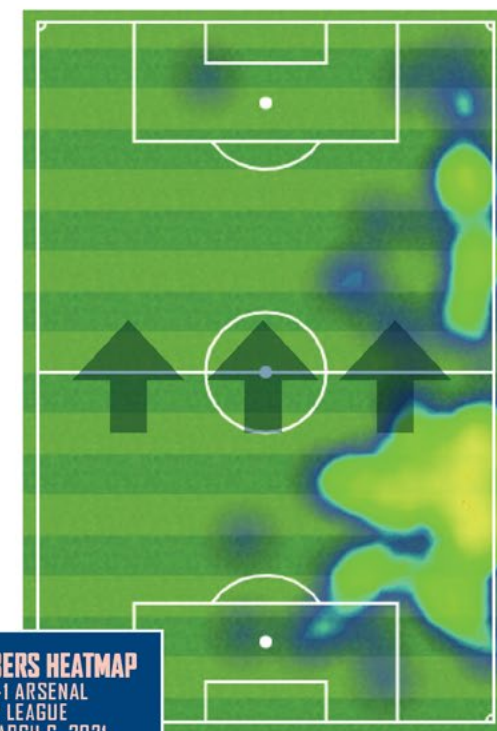
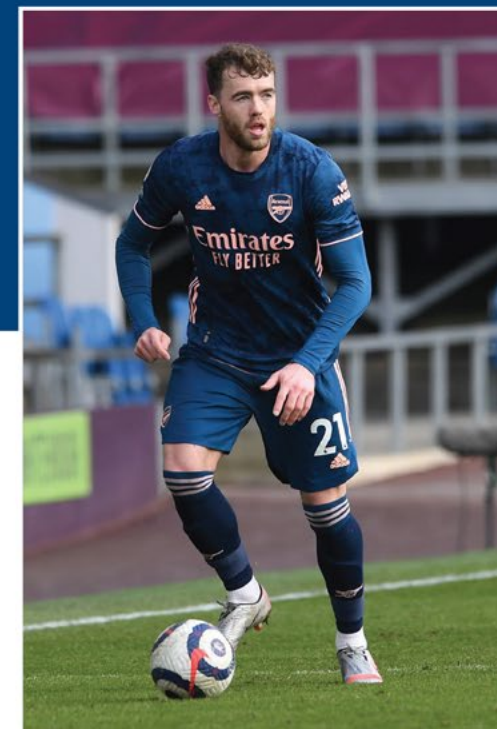
Starting alongside David Luiz and behind Bukayo Saka, Chambers looked comfortable both in and out of possession, never shying away from an aerial duel or a chance to break forward.

His stats are impressive too. On that cold afternoon at Turf Moor, Chambers registered six clearances and nine ball recoveries – more than any other Arsenal player.

He also won five of his seven aerial duels, bettered only by our centre backs, and delivered two crosses. One of which was an inch-perfect pass, fizzed into the feet of Bukayo Saka inside the penalty area.

Just take a look at Calum's heatmap to see how he supported the team in all phases of play.

Perhaps the only negative is that Chambers lost possession 25 times – more than any other Arsenal player on the day – but all in all, it was an encouraging return to action that will provide Mikel with plenty of food for thought. ■



CALUM CHAMBERS HEATMAP
BURNLEY 1-1 ARSENAL
PREMIER LEAGUE
SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2021

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

	DATE	OPPOSITION	F-A	POS /RND	ATT/KO	STARTING XI	SUBSTITUTES	REFEREE
SEPTEMBER	Sat 29	Liverpool	1-1	CS	BCD #	Martinez Bellerin Holding David Luiz Tierney M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	Saka Nketiah AUBAMEYANG	Cedric(59) Nelson(82) Willock(82) Kolasinac(83) Saliba
	Sat 12	Fulham	3-0	1	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(75) Ceballos(78) Nketiah(87) Saka Willock Kolasinac Macey
	Sat 19	West Ham United	2-1	2	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Ceballos Xhaka	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(64) Nketiah(77) David Luiz(89) M-Niles Elneny Willock Macey
	Wed 23	Leicester City	2-0	CC3	BCD	Leno M-Niles Holding DAVID LUIZ Kolasinac Saka Elneny Willock	Pepe Nelson Nketiah	Willian(72) Ceballos(78) Bellerin(87) Saliba Lacazette Xhaka Runarsson
OCTOBER	Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3	5	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding David Luiz Tierney M-Niles Elneny Xhaka	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60) Pepe(68) Nketiah(74) Gabriel Saka Kolasinac Runarsson
	Thur 1	Liverpool	0-0	CC4	BCD	Leno Cedric Holding Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Willock XHAKA	Ceballos Pepe Nketiah	Elneny(68) Lacazette(82) M-Niles(86) Tierney David Luiz Nelson Runarsson
	Sun 4	Sheffield United	2-1	4	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tierney Saka Elneny Ceballos	Willian Nketiah AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(58) Xhaka(81) M-Niles(87) Willock Holding Lacazette Runarsson
	Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1	5	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tierney Saka Ceballos Xhaka	Pepe Willian AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(69) Nketiah(83) Partey(83) Elneny M-Niles Runarsson
NOVEMBER	Thur 22	Rapid Vienna	2-1	MD1	3,000	Leno Cedric David Luiz Gabriel Kolasinac Saka Elneny Partey	Pepe Lacazette Nketiah	Aubameyang(61) Bellerin(61) Tierney(84) Willock(84) Nelson(90) Mustafi M-Niles Xhaka Runarsson Macey
	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
	Thur 29	Dundalk	3-0	MD2	BCD	Runarsson Cedric XHAKA Mustafi Kolasinac M-Niles Elneny Willock	Nelson Pepe Nketiah	Ceballos(61) Willian(62) Tierney(74) Balogun(74) Gabriel Saka Partey Aubameyang Bellerin Lacazette Leno Hein
	Sun 1	Manchester United	1-0	8	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney Saka Elneny Partey	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Nketiah(76) M-Niles(86) Mustafi(87) Xhaka Pepe Ceballos Runarsson
DECEMBER	Thur 5	Molde	4-1	MD3	BCD	Leno M-Niles David Luiz Mustafi Kolasinac Willock Ceballos XHAKA	Willian Pepe Nketiah	Cedric(64) Saka(64) Elneny(80) Tierney(80) Lacazette Gabriel Bellerin Aubameyang Partey Holding Runarsson Macey
	Sun 8	Aston Villa	0-3	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney Saka Elneny Partey	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(46) Pepe(65) Nketiah(65) M-Niles David Luiz Xhaka Runarsson
	Sun 22	Leeds United	0-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Ceballos Willock	Pepe Willian AUBAMEYANG	Nelson(46) Saka(57) M-Niles(90) Lacazette Mustafi Nketiah Runarsson
	Thur 26	Molde	3-0	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 Azeer Bellerin Macey Hein
JANUARY	Sun 29	Wolves	1-2	14	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Ceballos Willock	Willian Saka AUBAMEYANG	Holding(46) Nelson(65) Lacazette(80) Cedric Nketiah Elneny Runarsson
	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) Willian(63) Chambers(70) Balogun(81) Tierney Saka Holding Willock Azeer Macey Leno
	Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur	0-2	15	2,000	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Partey Saka	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(45) Nketiah(75) Mustafi Elneny Willock M-Niles Runarsson
	Thur 10	Dundalk	4-2	MD6	BCD	Runarsson Cedric Mari Chambers Mustafi M-Niles Elneny Willock	Smith Rowe Pepe Nketiah	Ceballos(62) Balogun(62) Cottrell(77) Azeer(83) Holding Saka Hein Macey
FEBRUARY	Sun 13	Burnley	0-1	15	2,000	Leno Bellerin Holding Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Elneny Saka	Willian Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60) M-Niles(74) Nketiah(77) Willock Smith Rowe Mustafi Runarsson
	Wed 16	Southampton	1-1	15	BCD	Leno M-Niles Holding Gabriel Tierney Ceballos Elneny Saka	Pepe Nketiah AUBAMEYANG	David Luiz(65) Willock(67) Cedric(85) Willian Lacazette Mustafi Runarsson
	Sat 19	Everton	1-2	15	2,000	Leno M-Niles HOLDING David Luiz Tierney Ceballos Elneny Saka	Pepe Willian Nketiah	Willock(64) Martinelli(71) Lacazette(76) Cedric Bellerin Smith Rowe Kolasinac Mustafi Runarsson
	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
MARCH	Sat 26	Chelsea	3-1	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
	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) Willock Cedric Mustafi Pepe Nketiah Runarsson
	Sat 2	West Brom	4-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tierney Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	M-Niles(54) Willian(71) Willock(77) Pepe David Luiz Elneny Martinelli Nketiah Runarsson
	Sat 9	Newcastle United	2-0	R3	BCD	Leno Cedric David Luiz Mari Tierney Willock Elneny Nelson	Willian Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Smith Rowe(56) Xhaka(66) Saka(66) Lacazette(105) Balogun(120) Chambers Nketiah Runarsson
APRIL	Thur 14	Crystal Palace	0-0	11	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding David Luiz M-Niles Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(65) Partey(69) Nketiah(81) Willock Cedric Gabriel Willian Chambers Runarsson
	Mon 18	Newcastle United	3-0	10	BCD	Leno Cedric Holding David Luiz Tierney Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Lacazette AUBAMEYANG	Elneny(67) Willian(79) Martinelli(81) Willock Bellerin Gabriel Nketiah Pepe Runarsson
	Sat 23	Southampton	0-1	R4	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Elneny Willian	Pepe Martinelli Nketiah	Partey(57) Saka(58) Lacazette(72) Willock M-Niles Chambers David Luiz Ryan Runarsson
	Tue 26	Southampton	3-1	8	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Willian(72) Elneny(78) Willock(90) Gabriel M-Niles Chambers Nketiah Martinelli Ryan
MAY	Sat 30	Manchester United	0-0	9	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Martinelli	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Willian(46) Odgaard(83) Nketiah(90) Gabriel M-Niles Chambers Elneny Willock Runarsson
	Tue 2	Wolves	1-2	10	BCD	Leno BELLERIN Holding David Luiz Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Gabriel(46) Aubameyang(61) Runarsson(74) Ceballos Odgaard Chambers Elneny Martinelli Willian
	Sat 6	Aston Villa	0-1	10	BCD	Ryan BELLERIN Holding Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Partey Saka	Smith Rowe Pepe Lacazette	Aubameyang(59) Odgaard(65) Willian(74) Ceballos Chambers Martinelli Elneny Mari Runarsson
	Sun 14	Leeds United	4-2	9	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odgaard AUBAMEYANG	Willian(62) Elneny(78) Holding(89) Pepe Chambers Lacazette Mari Martinelli Ryan
JUNE	Thur 18	Benfica	1-1	R32	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Cedric Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odgaard AUBAMEYANG	Tierney(64) Pepe(77) Martinelli(77) Willian(89) Elneny(89) Chambers Lacazette Mari Nketiah Ryan Runarsson
	Sun 21	Manchester City	0-1	10	BCD	Leno Bellerin Holding Mari Tierney Xhaka Elneny Saka	Odgaard Pepe AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(73) Smith Rowe(73) David Luiz(82) Ceballos(86) Gabriel Willian Martinelli Cedric Ryan
	Thur 25	Benfica	3-2	R32	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Ceballos Saka	Smith Rowe Odgaard AUBAMEYANG	Willian(63) Partey(63) Lacazette(78) Chambers(86) Elneny(89) Cedric Pepe Mari Nketiah Martinelli Ryan Hein
	Sun 28	Leicester City	3-1	10	BCD	Leno Cedric David Luiz Mari Tierney Xhaka Elneny Pepe	Smith Rowe Willian Lacazette	Odgaard(42) Partey(66) Aubameyang(83) Bellerin Saka Ceballos Holding Martinelli Ryan
JULY	Sat 6	Burnley	1-1	10	BCD	Leno Chambers David Luiz Mari Tierney Xhaka Partey Saka	Odgaard Willian AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(63) Pepe(69) Ceballos(80) Bellerin Gabriel Holding Elneny Martinelli Ryan
	Thur 10	Olympiacos	3-1	R16	BCD	Leno Bellerin David Luiz Gabriel Tierney Xhaka Partey Saka	Odgaard Willian AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(55) Smith Rowe(82) Pepe(82) Elneny(82) Lacazette(88) Holding Cedric Martinelli Mari Chambers Hein Ryan
	Sun 14	Tottenham Hotspur			4.30pm			
	Thur 17	Olympiacos			R16 8pm			
AUGUST	Sun 21	West Ham United			3pm			
	Sat 3	Liverpool						
	Thur 8	UEL QF L1			QF			
	S/S 10/11	Sheffield United						
SEPTEMBER	Thur 15	UEL QF L2			QF			
	S/S 17/18	Fulham						
	Sat 24	Everton						
	Thur 29	UEL SF L1			SF			
OCTOBER	S/S 1/2	Newcastle United						
	Thur 6	UEL SF L2			SF			
	S/S 8/9	West Bromwich Albion						
	T/W 11/12	Chelsea						
NOVEMBER	Sat 15	Crystal Palace						
	Sun 23	Brighton & HA						
	Wed 26	UEFA Europa League Final						

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

FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

PLAYER	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	20/21
Bernd Leno	26	5	2	2	-	35
Bukayo Saka	22+1(5)	4+1(1)	+2	2	1	29+4(6)
Granit Xhaka	22+1(1)	6	1+1	1	1	31+2(1)
Hector Bellerin	22(1)	3+1	1	+1	1	27+2(1)
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	20+3(9)	3+1(3)	1(1)	-	1(1)	25+4(14)
Rob Holding	20+2	+1	1	2	1	24+3
Kieran Tierney	20(1)	2+5	1	-	1	24+5(1)
Alexandre Lacazette	17+6(9)	3+2(1)	+2	1+1(1)	-	21+11(11)
Willian	14+6	2+4	2	+1	-	18+11
David Luiz	14+3(1)	6(1)	1	1	1	23+3(2)
Gabriel	14+1(2)	4(1)	1	2	-	21+1(3)
Mohamed Elneny	13+3	4+4(2)	2	2+1	1	22+8(2)
Dani Ceballos	11+8	3+5	-	2+1	-	16+14
Emile Smith Rowe	11+1	2+4(1)	+1(1)	+1	-	13+7(2)
Nicolas Pepe	10+9(5)	6+2(3)	2	2+1	-	20+12(8)
Thomas Partey	10+3	2+1	+1	-	-	12+5
Cedric Soares	7+1	6+1	2	2	+1	17+3
Pablo Mari	6	2(1)	1	-	-	9(1)
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	5+6	5	+1	2+1	1	13+8
Eddie Nketiah	3+11(1)	6(3)	1	2(1)	1	13+11(5)
Martin Odegaard	3+3	3(1)	-	-	-	6+3(1)
Gabriel Martinelli	3+2	+1	1	1	-	5+3
Joe Willock	2+5	4+1(3)	1	3	+1	10+7(3)
Sead Kolasinac	1	4	-	3	+1	8+1
Calum Chambers	1	1+2	-	-	-	2+2
Mat Ryan	1	-	-	-	-	1
Shkodran Mustafi	+3	5	-	1	-	6+3
Reiss Nelson	+2	3+1(1)	1	1	+1	5+4(1)
Alex Runarsson	+1	4	-	1	-	5+1
Folarin Balogun	-	+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 City	29	21	5	3	40	68
2. Manchester United	28	15	9	4	23	54
3. Leicester City	28	16	5	7	16	53
4. Chelsea	28	14	8	6	19	50
5. West Ham United	27	14	6	7	11	48
6. Everton	27	14	4	9	4	46
7. Tottenham	27	13	6	8	18	45
8. Liverpool	28	12	7	9	11	43
9. Aston Villa	26	12	4	10	11	40
10. Arsenal	27	11	5	11	7	38
11. Leeds United	27	11	2	14	-3	35
12. Wolves	28	9	8	11	-9	35
13. Crystal Palace	28	9	7	12	-17	34
14. Southampton	28	9	6	13	-14	33
15. Burnley	28	7	9	12	-16	30
16. Newcastle United	27	7	6	14	-17	27
17. Brighton & HA	27	5	11	11	-8	26
18. Fulham	28	5	11	12	-11	26
19. West Brom	28	3	9	16	-36	18
20. Sheffield United	28	4	2	22	-29	14

As at Thursday, March 11

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146 LIVE GAMES THIS SEASON



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MY ARSENAL

Name Richard Stubbs
Age 69
Live in Greenwich
Occupation Teacher (retired)
Type of Membership Gold

Why are you a fan? My stepfather was Reg Lewis – an 'Arsenal Legend'. He came into my life when I was five years old, therefore I was brought up 'The Arsenal Way'. Have missed more games through lockdown than in the previous 55+ years.

First game Reg took me on February 15, 1964 v Liverpool in the FA Cup and we sat in the East Stand. We lost 1-0. Joe Baker and Ron Yeats were sent off. Bad foul by Yeats, Baker knocked him out. Joe walked off and Yeats carried off!

Favourite game Beating Anderlecht 3-0 in the second leg of the 1969/70 European Cup Winners' Cup final, I had my first ever trip abroad going to the 3-1 first leg defeat in Brussels. The noise, the emotions, and finally I had seen a Gooner cup win.

Matchday routine Drive to Islington through the Blackwall Tunnel. A lengthy walk then to the Armoury – I used to see 'The fluffyman', he collected for a children's hospice and dressed like a clown. I then visit Efes, the Salvation Army collector on The Ken Friar bridge for a chat, then go to my entrance just below where Reg is portrayed; Vieira has his arm around Reg – a wonderful image. I say hello to Reg on the way in and when leaving for home, my look to him (and his to me!) depends on the result.

Best place in the stadium My seat; block 17, lower tier row 25. I sit with roughly the same group of people that I have stood and sat with since I made the big step of moving from the schoolboy's enclosure in 1967.

Favourite away ground Anywhere we win...obviously the important victories at Tottenham were rather special. In '71



Richard and his stepfather Reg Lewis



I waited outside with what must have been 250,000 fans and when they opened the doors, I raced through the police and their barriers in time to see the Ray Kennedy goal. We all went mad and took over the ground. Great!

Favourite memorabilia Because of my family history I have league championship winners and FA Cup winners' medals, England 'B' crests, signed cup final banquet menus and many press pictures. A special one is the photo taken with cup and league in 1998 and also wife Sara and son Lewis, three when the photo was taken (25 now and a total Gooner) with Reg's medals and a photograph of him in the background – he died in 1997.

Best goal seen live Alan Sunderland in '79, Michael Thomas at Anfield in '89. But I don't really do best – I cannot let go of so many.

Ever met any players? I met Ian Wright in Covent Garden. I spoke to him about Reg, he seemed to know his history well, and he said, 'if I can be half the player that Reg was, then I'll be very happy'. You can only love Ian Wright!

Which current player would you most like to go for dinner with? Kieran Tierney – we could go to Tesco's. What a player!

You can be present at any match in history? The 1950 FA Cup final – Arsenal 2, Liverpool 0, Reg Lewis scored both goals. ■



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

P	S	SO	
00		1	BERND LENO (GK) (26)
00		2	HECTOR BELLERIN (22/1)
00		3	KIERAN TIERNEY (20/1)
00		6	GABRIEL (14+1/2)
00		7	BUKAYO SAKA (22+1/5)
00		8	DANI CEBALLOS (11+8)
00		9	ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE (17+6/9)
00		11	MARTIN ODEGAARD (3+3)
00		12	WILLIAN (14+8)
00		13	ALEX RUNARSSON (GK) (0+1)
00		14	PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG (20+3/9)
00		16	ROB HOLDING (20+2)
00		17	CEDRIC SOARES (7+1)
00		18	THOMAS PARTEY (10+3)
00		19	NICOLAS PEPE (10+9/5)
00		21	CALUM CHAMBERS (1)
00		22	PABLO MARI (6)
00		23	DAVID LUIZ (14+3/1)
00		24	REISS NELSON (0+2)
00		25	MOHAMED ELNENY (12+3)
00		30	EDDIE NKETIAH (3+11/1)
00		32	EMILE SMITH ROWE (11+1)
00		33	MAT RYAN (GK) (1)
00		34	GRANIT XHAKA (22+1/1)
00		35	GABRIEL MARTINELLI (3+2)
00		38	FOLARIN BALOGUN
00		41	BEN COTTRELL
00		66	MIGUEL AZEEZ



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
MANAGER JOSE MOURINHO
WHITE SHIRTS, NAVY BLUE SHORTS
AND SOCKS

P	S	SO	
00		1	HUGO LLORIS (GK) (27)
00		2	MATT DOHERTY (11+3)
00		3	SERGIO REGUILON (15+1)
00		4	TOBY ALDERWEIRELD (17/1)
00		5	PIERRE-EMILE HOJBJERG (27/1)
00		6	DAVINSON SANCHEZ (13+1)
00		7	HEUNG-MIN SON (27/13)
00		8	HARRY WINKS (7+3)
00		9	GARETH BALE (5+6/5)
00		10	HARRY KANE (25/16)
00		11	ERIK LAMELA (5+11)
00		12	JOE HART (GK)
00		14	JOE RODON (4+3)
00		15	ERIC DIER (21)
00		17	MOUSSA SISSOKO (14+6)
00		18	GIOVANI LO CELSO (4+7/1)
00		20	DELE ALLI (2+6)
00		23	STEVEN BERGWIJN (11+5)
00		24	SERGE AURIER (14/2)
00		25	JAPHET TANGANGA (2)
00		27	LUCAS MOURA (9+13/3)
00		28	TANGUY NDOMBELE (22+2/3)
00		33	BEN DAVIES (14+5)
00		41	ALFIE WHITEMAN (GK)
00		45	CARLOS VINICIUS (1+6)

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE

Michael Oliver

ASSISTANT REFEREES

Stuart Burt

Simon Bennett

FOURTH OFFICIAL

Kevin Friend

VAR

Paul Tierney

ASSISTANT VAR

Lee Betts

TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES

Southampton v Brighton & Hove Albion (12pm)

Leicester City v Sheffield United (2pm)

Manchester United v West Ham, United (7.15pm)

