

BBC
ESS
SEX
PREMIER
CUP



VS
Hutton FC

2PM SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2018
AT THE STRAY DOG

WELCOME

We are Clapton CFC.

If you've ever had dreams of owning a football club, you've come to the right place. With your first year of membership, you get a £1 share in the club and you can join our committees, keep our club going, and vote on important issues.

If you have suggestions or want to lend a hand - find out more information about each of the committees and what they do on page 14.





A WORD FROM THE GAFFER

LEFT Being comfortable in front of the camera has become second nature for Geoff in the last couple of weeks after the club's away kit went viral.

Welcome to today's cup game against Hutton FC where we're looking forward to playing in front of what will hopefully be another good crowd. It is of course our first competitive home game at the Stray Dog, and with the story of our away shirt going global, we may be welcoming some new friends and members as well as those who've been to any of our nine games so far.

The league is our priority but it would be great for the squad and fan base to experience a cup final day out.

At Ealing Town last week, by our standards it wasn't a great first half. I thought we were sloppy, they didn't let us settle on the ball and pressed us very high. Considering how poor we were in the first half, it was great character from the team to come back and win 2-1. It's a lesson learned. We need to move the ball much quicker when we play opposition who try to squeeze the game in our half.

The league is our priority but it would be great for the squad and fan base to experience a cup final day out. So we will look to progress in the BBC Essex Premier Cup as far as we can, indeed in all the cup competitions. We do have a very strong squad so it's also an opportunity to rotate slightly, depending on who is available.

We don't know too much about Hutton besides they play in the Essex Olympian League at a step higher than us, so they will be the favourites. Playing in front of a good crowd, I would imagine would spur any opposition player too. So we will have to be at the top of our game to match them in every department if we want to progress.

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

The away shirt.

It's been a huge month for us at Clapton CFC with lots of attention from around the world for our small club. In fact, we have been totally overwhelmed with the response to our new away shirt commemorating the Spanish Republic.

We originally expected to sell around 250 shirts across the season, and we had a plan in place to deal with those. But then our shirt went viral and we've had over 5,000 pre-orders, way beyond what we were set up to handle.

Thanks so much to friends and comrades old and new.

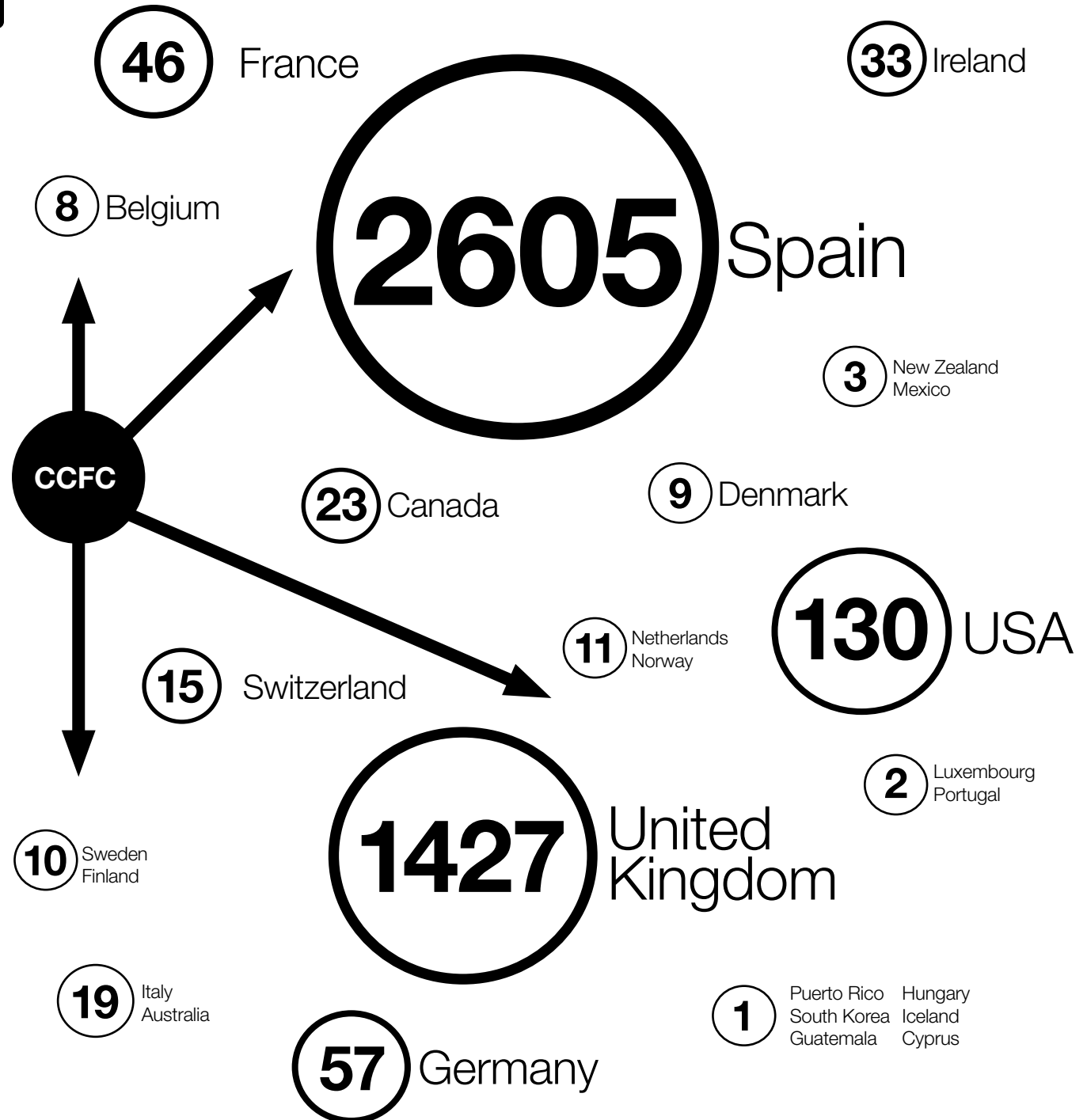
We are committed to ensuring that our shirts continue to be produced by Rage Sport in Italy, with a completely ethical supply chain, and that they can cope with the demand. Rage say they will be working full-time on making the shirts you've pre-ordered but as they're a small company it's going to take at least the next six weeks just to clear the backlog.

Because of this we decided to take a temporary pause on shirt orders, as of 20th August. This allows us to work out a proper, robust plan on getting the shirts made and delivered, and to deal with any returns etc. Additionally, PayPal won't release the money you've all pre-paid until we start fulfilling the orders, and we need that money to pay Rage for material costs.

Remember, we're a members-run amateur football club in the 12th tier of English football, only set up two months ago, we're not a clothing company and we've been taken completely by surprise by our amazing time in the spotlight.

For people who already pre-ordered shirts, they will be sent out in the order received, depending on how early you ordered them. So if you only just placed your pre-order, it is likely you won't receive them for 8-10 weeks from when the order was placed.

We will reopen the pre-ordering facility as soon as we have our plans in place. Register your email address on our site to find out when that happens. We also need to work out what exactly to do with the unexpected income – but rest assured we are speaking to the International Brigades Memorial Trust about this.





The 232 gathered at the newly-named Stray Dog at Wadham Lodge were treated to an early goal from Eliot Crosbie – his seventh of an excellent pre-season.

An amazing afternoon for Clapton CFC's first 'home' game as a determined Wanderers made it a very competitive friendly in front of a big crowd.

Player-manager Geoff Ocran named a relatively settled starting XI but with two debutants on the bench – attacker Charlie Fagan and midfielder Paul Oshin.

The latter is very familiar to Tons fans, having been one of the best players in the Essex Senior League for several seasons.

He rifled home after a goalmouth scramble with his left foot via a desperate defender's thigh and it briefly looked like it might be a stroll for the Tons.

Wanderers, after all, play four steps below Clapton CFC, despite having notched up three promotions since reforming, while the Tons have enjoyed some very impressive pre-season form.

However, as the heavy rain swept in, so Wanderers fought back to bring themselves level with an excellent breakaway solo run and top corner strike, curled over the goalkeeper from 20 yards.

Back came Clapton before half-time, as Stefan Nielsen bagged his first goal for CCFC, a tidy finish from the edge of the box. The photo of him celebrating with Stefan Kilron ended up going viral (centre spread), being retweeted thousands of times as it was the first outing for the away shirt. Little did we know the kit was about to go viral over the next few days.

Wanderers weren't finished yet and levelled up again soon into the second half with a weaving run through the penalty area and a shot lifted over the keeper.

That was how it stayed until late on, when Clapton's subs Fagan and Oshin took advantage of Wanderers' tiring legs to make the scoreline comfortable. First, Fagan's looping header from a precise Crosbie cross put the Tons back ahead. Then Oshin slammed home from an uncleared corner to seal the game. Finally, Fagan beat the offside trap and dinked it over the Wanderers keeper.

The friendlies are now over – finally – and Clapton CFC signed off pre-season with a narrow win and a first clean sheet.

With Clapton CFC's temporary new home The Stray Dog having been booked by another team, the game had to be played at noon on a 3G pitch nearby with no space for spectators.

So it was a low-key friendly behind closed doors but a hugely competitive game, settled by another fine strike from Eliot Crosbie, his eighth of pre-season.

Charlie Fagan made his first start for the club after his two goals coming on as sub against Wanderers last week, while attacker Bogdan Panescu dropped into left-back for his full debut.

London Samurai Rovers – a recent merger between two Middlesex County Football League clubs, London Samurai United and JL Rovers – could have taken something out of the game but for several fine saves from goalkeepers Vlad Bendovskyy and late on, sub Dan Anfossy.

In fact, it was so competitive we also saw the first booking in a Clapton CFC game, with a London Samurai player being shown a yellow card.

“It was a nice, tight game. Clean sheet and a 1-0 victory, so a good day all round. Week by week, we’re getting stronger.” – Assistant manager Stuart Purcell

Player-manager Geoff Ocran added: “We’ve got a week off next week, I think well deserved for all the work that’s been happening behind the scenes, and then we’re back on September 15th and ready to go and the hard work begins.

“If you think of a new club being launched in June, and to have everything in place for the new season, all credit goes to the members.”

So pre-season has ended with wins against Sporting Hackney (Step 7), London Samurai Rovers and NW London (Step 8) and Wanderers (Step 12), losses against Enfield Town (Step 3), West Essex (Step 5) and Holland FC (Step 6) and one draw at Epping Town (Step 12).





And within 5 minutes the game had turned on its head. First, left-back Liam Smyth capped an impressive performance with a rifling shot through a crowded area. Then a floated free-kick from Stefan Nielsen ended up bundled in by Oshin from close range.

Clapton Community FC staged a fine second half comeback to get the league season up and running with three points – but it was mighty close.

Player-manager Geoff Ocran selected a familiar looking side that had bonded over the long pre-season. Two names missing, however, were goalkeeper Vlad Bendovskyy and forward Bogdan Panescu, whose international clearance have yet to arrive.

Clapton played in their much-discussed away shirt to with Ealing Town playing in yellow and black stripes.

The first half had barely got going before it was paused for 15 minutes due to a serious injury to The Eagles' number 11, Omar Mouajal. At first, word spread of a broken arm but when the ambulance arrived it had been fortunately been clarified as a dislocated elbow.

The visiting fans' nerves were jangling as even first half wore on, with good chances going begging at both ends. Then Ealing Town broke the deadlock with a near post in-swinging corner that went straight in.

Half-time, 1-0 to Ealing Town, and Ocran decided to shuffle his pack, including the vastly experienced Sherwin Stanley and Paul Oshin coming off the bench.

The second half played out in much the same way as the first – chances at both ends, plenty of saves and crosses plucked out of the air from Tons keeper Dan Anfossy.

One standout moment saw Ocran make a run from the half-way line into the box, with a lightning turn of speed, but couldn't get the shot away to wrap up the win.

Then finally, at 5.15pm due to injury time, the sweet relief of the full-time whistle. Cue pandemonium among the fans and the usual celebrations with the equally jubilant players.

CCFC: Anfossy, Smyth, Bouho, Lastic, Coleman, Fagan, Rene, Ocran, Adejokun, Nielsen, Crosbie
Subs: Headley, Darr, Oshin, Stanley

Att: 227 (Head count)

COMMUNITY

#WeAreAllTheClapton

Earlier this year when members met to revive Clapton Football Club as a 100% fan-led community benefit society, we reached an unanimous agreement to organise our club based on values of solidarity and cooperation and to adopt a radical democratic structure for accountable decision-making.

The idea was to create a culture within the club based on active, non-hierarchical participation and to show what is possible if football is based not on money and greed but on mutual support. What this means in practice is everyone taking part rather than leaving a few people to run around sorting everything out. If we take on and share responsibilities, each according to our time, energy and abilities, we will all enjoy our club a whole lot more.

Since June, we now have active committees responsible for communications, fundraising, the men's first team, liaising with the Middlesex League, maintenance of our home ground, arrangements on match days, training for members and community outreach. There are also two sub-committees, one covering membership and one looking at accountability within the club.

What we hope, however, is that these committees will grow, that more members will join them and help to share the load. If you are not sure how you can contribute, there are plenty of other members who can help and who can pass on skills. We also try not to assume we know everything and we want to listen to the wisdom that others bring to our organising and discussions.

When we started organising the club in this way, we said the greatest risk is that there are not enough people prepared to take part in at least one small part of the overall running of the club. So far, the involvement of members has been fantastic but it is vital that we try to avoid the situation where some members are stretched too thinly and trying to do too much. This is bad for our sustainability and, because it risks the concentration of power in the hands of a small number of people, it is bad for our democracy too.

If you simply want to know more, you can email any of the committees at the following addresses:

Communications:
comms@claptoncfc.co.uk

Fundraising:
fundraising@claptoncfc.co.uk

Men's First Team:
mensfirstteam@claptoncfc.co.uk

Ground Maintenance:
ground@claptoncfc.co.uk

Match Day:
matchday@claptoncfc.co.uk

League Liaison:
leaguelliaison@claptoncfc.co.uk

Training:
training@claptoncfc.co.uk

Community Outreach:
community@claptoncfc.co.uk

Finances:
finance@claptoncfc.co.uk

CLAPTON COMMUNITY FC

WE ARE THE CLAPTON

N O P A S A R A N



GMB

LONDON
REGION

**GMB Union are in full support of the fan-owned
Clapton Community Football Club and
wish them a successful first season 2018/19**

Warren Kenny
Regional Secretary

Penny Robinson
Regional President

#WeAreTheClapton **www.claptoncfc.co.uk**

JOIN ONLINE
www.gmb.org.uk/join

www.gmblondon.org.uk
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Stefan Kilron and Stefan Nielsen celebrating
with the 232 strong crowd after scoring in the
pre-season game against Wanderers FC –
the first CCFC game at The Stray Dog.



**TONS
IN ACTION**



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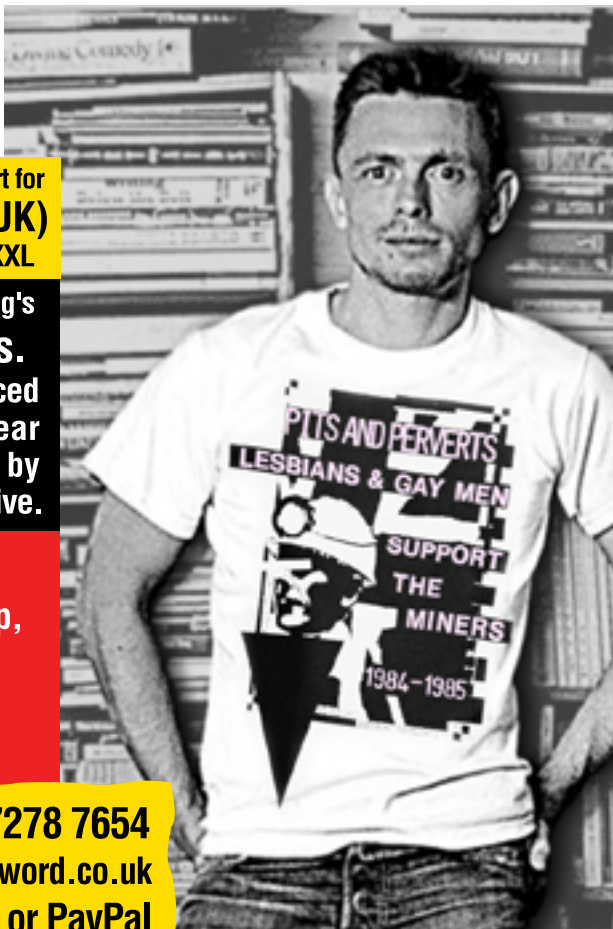
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in Britain & internationally through t-shirt sales, including:- TGI Fridays &
McDonalds Strikers, The Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign and Lesbians &
Gays Supports the Migrants.

Solidarity Forever!



FINANCIALS

August 2018

Latest Financials

We are completely committed to being wholly transparent with members and supporters about our club's finances. As such we can give an illustration of our expenses for August 2018. You will no doubt be aware of the huge international interest in our away shirt and the subsequent large volume of unexpected sales. The finance team are still busy working on reconciling these figures (remember, we've got full time jobs as well!) and so figures related to shirt sales will be excluded for now and we will present these in a future update. For now, though, here are our committees' expenditures for August 2018:

Committee

Club Board	£ 560.00
Finance	£ -
Match Day	£ 785.83
Men's First Team	£ 70.00
Women's First Team	£ -
League Liaison	£ 381.00
Communication	£ 1, 043.21
Fundraising	£ -
Community Outreach	£ -
Training	£ -
Ground Maintenance	£ -

Total Expenditure

(1st to 31st Aug 2018)

£ 2,459.04

Breakdown

Matchday officials costs	£339.50
Printing of match programmes	£301.00
Purchase of video equipment	£237.42
Membership badges	£216.00
Postage	£200.00
Online website store subscription	£180.00
Membership certificates	£170.00
Membership cards	£114.00
Pitch hire for friendly game	£110.00
Purchase of gazebos	£ 86.93
Purchase of first aid kit	£ 70.00
Purchase of SSL certificate for website	£ 65.99
Membership online admin subscription	£ 60.00
Purchase of match balls	£ 49.95
Purchase of water bottles	£ 49.66

Player Sponsorship

As you can see from our finance page, running a football club is expensive! We're always looking for responsible ways to get a bit of money coming in, so if you want to sponsor a player and get your name in the programme (p30 in this edition) for the season this is the page it'll go on. Email us at fundraising@claptoncfc.co.uk for more info.

Of course most teams who run player sponsorship have a more stable roster than we can hope for at our level, so if your player happens to leave you'll be able to switch your sponsorship to someone who's still around!

Programme Sponsorship

We're also looking for programme sponsors so if you want to get a small advert in here then get in touch with us so we can talk rates at fundraising@claptoncfc.co.uk. Remember that as well as being printed and sold at matches, our programmes will be sent out to all of our members via email and will be put into our archive at Bishopsgate for future generations of Tons to look back on too.



Keeping the
inspirational story of
the International
Brigades alive

¡NO PASARÁN!
¡NO PASARÁN!

Jim Jump
— Secretary of the
International Brigade
Memorial Trust

PREVIOUS

British volunteers before the Battle of the Ebro in the summer of 1938. Standing, second from left, is Jack Jones.

Thanks and congratulations to Clapton CFC and all the club's supporters for making such a splash with your new away strip. You've not only raised the profile of Clapton CFC and community football – but also reminded many thousands of people around the world about the extraordinary story of the International Brigades.

Why, 80 years after the Spanish Civil War, do we remember the International Brigades today?

Because the values of anti-fascism and international solidarity that took so many volunteers from Britain to Spain

in 1936-39 are just as relevant and important today as they were then.

And because they were the first Britons to take up arms against modern fascism – an evil creed based on racism and violence that is still with us under different names and guises.

This was no gap year. Their sacrifice was terrible. Of the more than 2,500 volunteers from the British Isles, 526 were killed and the remains of nearly all of them still lie scattered in unmarked graves across Spain. Hundreds more were injured. Who were these men and women willing to die for a cause in a foreign land? Ken Loach has described them as the 'cream of their generation'.

To join the International Brigade Memorial Trust or find out more about its work go to:
www.international-brigades.org.uk



LEFT
Thora
Silverthorne
(centre) in Spain.

They came from all parts of Britain and British society – plumbers and poets, students and shipyard workers, doctors and dockers. Most were young trade unionists and political activists, scarred by the poverty and social injustice of the 1930s. Many had helped organise hunger marches. Others had protested against Britain's own fascists, the Blackshirts, on the streets of our major cities. And all of them had watched in horror as the fascist dictators snuffed out democracy, persecuted Jews and other minorities, jailed trade unionists and axed workers' rights.

They travelled clandestinely to Spain, as the British government was secretly sympathetic to General Franco's army revolt against Spain's elected left-wing government and threatened the volunteers with prosecution under the Foreign Enlistment Act.

The Spanish Republic, whose colours of red, yellow and purple are those

of the Clapton CFC away strip, had a programme of women's rights, expanding education and taking it away from the control of the Catholic Church, land reform, employment rights and devolution for the Basque Country and Catalonia. All this was anathema for reactionaries in Spain, including the Falange fascist party. So, when a military revolt backed by troops and arms sent by Hitler and Mussolini was launched in July 1936, anti-fascists from around the world began travelling to Spain.

Here they saw their chance to fight back. 'At last a star for desperate men', wrote David Marshall, who had worked in the Middlesbrough dole office and seen the misery of the 1930s at close hand before going to Spain.

He joined the International Brigades, a remarkable multi-national army, 35,000-strong in total. Their internationalism is symbolised in

the three-pointed star featured on the Clapton CFC shirt. This was the International Brigade emblem and is supposed to represent the three 'races' of humanity: African, Asian and European – a bit crude for today's sensibilities, but the message of international solidarity is clear.

The Abraham Lincoln Battalion, for example, was the first fully integrated company of US soldiers. Their African-American commander, Oliver Law, was killed in the Battle of Brunete in the summer of 1937.

The British Battalion was also remarkably diverse. A large proportion of them were, not surprisingly, Jewish. There were also many Cypriots, along with several volunteers from South Asia and the Middle East.

Charlie Hutchinson, a mixed-race Londoner and chair of Fulham's Young Communist League, saw action in Córdoba, Madrid, Teruel, Aragón and the Ebro. Interviewed in 1984 he explained: 'I am half black. I grew up in the National Children's Home and Orphanage. Fascism meant hunger and war.'

The first Briton to die in Spain was Felicia Browne, a sculptor from Thames Ditton, Surrey. 'I can fight as well as any man,' she said before being killed in August 1936 in Aragón during a daring behind-enemy-lines mission to blow up a fascist munitions train.

Several of those who survived the war in Spain went on to play distinguished roles in the British labour movement.

Jack Jones, a Liverpool docker, became the leader of the Transport & General Workers' Union and then the National Pensioners' Convention. He is remembered today as the instigator of the Health and Safety at Work Act.



ABOVE Oliver Law

Nurse Thora Silverthorne, daughter of a South Wales miner, returned home to create the first trade union for nurses, now part of Unison, and, as a leading figure in the Socialist Medical Association, was one of the architects of the NHS when it was founded in 1948.

These men and women wrote a remarkable chapter in Britain's radical history – the sort of history that is rarely or only glancingly taught in schools.

That's why the International Brigade Memorial Trust exists. We look after memorials to the International Brigades, organise commemorative events and work with schools, students and researchers.

We keep the inspirational story of the volunteers alive so that it can be passed on to new generations. They too will have to confront fascism and fight for social justice. In doing so they can remember the famous battle-cry of the International Brigades, the one reproduced on the Clapton CFC shirt: ¡No pasarán! – They shall not pass!

MEMORIES

Clapton & The Old Spotted Dog 1977-2018

by Mike Fogg (Life Member)

To recall 41 years in the space of a page is challenging, when I could write a book about the recent history of Clapton and the Old Spotted Dog. I was invited to join the Clapton Centenary Committee, in 1977, formed to commemorate the club's forthcoming 100 year anniversary, in 1978.

By then, the glory days of becoming the first English club to play in Europe, winning the FA Amateur Cup five times, founder members of the Isthmian League and full international players, had long since gone and

that football clubs are not charitable. Consequently we formed the Newham Community Leisure Trust, to hold the lease, to provide amenities for the wider community.

I was elected chair of the Trust and on the advice of our solicitors, resigned as chair of the football club to avoid possible conflict of interest as both landlord and tenant. (Unfortunately, this has not applied to the incumbent). The Trust then received a substantial charitable grant to purchase the adjoining warehouse site, to redevelop for community use.

Eventually, with a demanding job, involving extensive travel, both home and abroad, I decided to step down, mistakenly believing the Club and Trust were in safe hands, which sadly, failed to be the case. In recognition, I was elected a Life Member of the Club and remain a subscriber member of the Trust.

I am delighted that others have taken the initiative to restore Clapton as a community members club and impressed by what has been achieved in such a short space of time. There are many who have contributed along the way, especially Andy Barr, who has been and still is a driving force. Hopefully, we will return the Club to the Old Spotted Dog and pursue the community objectives of the Trust.

"Come on you Tons!"

Later, I joined the main club committee and at the AGM the Chairman announced that the first item on the agenda was whether to commemorate the centenary and then fold. The lease on the semi derelict ground had expired and the owners were refusing to grant an extension, in view of the development potential, whilst grading requirements of the League were an increasing financial burden.

Fortunately, some, including my fellow life member and then club secretary, Martin McShea, agreed to carry on and I became Chairman. Eventually, we secured a 99 year lease and sought charitable status, but found

the Club was fighting for survival, in the most deprived inner city area in England.

ROTER STERN LEIPZIG



We had known well that girls and boys from Roter Stern Leipzig are a great bunch even before they paid us a visit last season to attend the game of Tower Hamlets against Clapton FC at the Mile End Stadium. We had known that simply because there are three Leipzigers among us Claptonites – shout out to the lovely family! It wasn't the case then of whether we were ever going to visit Leipzig, to experience the phenomenon of the fan owned club from Leipzig's borough Connewitz, but when it was going to happen.

The plan was to travel in numbers, but in the end, three members of Clapton's potato faction boarded the plane bound for Leipzig on Saturday, April the 14th. At the destination point we were set to meet up with two guys from AKS Zly, a fan owned club from Warsaw, who are Clapton aficionados themselves, having visited the Old Spotted Dog a few times before. The visiting committee consisted therefore of five members of unified forces of Clapton Ultras (still active at that point) and AKS Zly.

Our plane arrived in the evening and we were greeted at the airport by a couple holding a cardboard sign with CLAPTON ULTRAS written on it. Everything is going according to the plan, we thought, and as soon as we sat down in the car we were handed an opened bottle of beer each. It meant a promising start to our visit and hardly we managed to down our beers as we arrived in front of a crowded bar with a RSL logo on it. We were in Connewitz and the bar in question was Fischladen, a place run by Rotter Stern fans. That night a party was taking place there with the entire bar takings going towards the club's funds. We met our hosts and our friends from Poland and immersed ourselves in the party atmosphere. Some of us went to bed just after a few beers but some stayed up partying until dawn, as representing Clapton does not come without sacrifice.

The next day was a match day but we managed get up early enough to explore the surroundings a little bit. We soon found out that Connewitz is very vegan friendly, which was great news as all five of us are on a plant based diet. Nearly every bar or restaurant had vegan options on offer. We even found a Thai place called Vegan Express which wasn't strictly vegan as they had meat on the menu apart from vegan and vegetarian meals. Maybe in Connewitz one had to

LEFT
RSL/CU.
Love is in the air.



ABOVE
Sports hall
at Teichstrasse.

at least imitate vegan character of their business in order to prosper, which sounded like a healthy trend. Among our favourite places we visited was a kebab shop, which had been bombed by some nazis during their attack in the district, and a late night off-licence which had beer on tap and served vegan hotdogs with sauerkraut and onions! Compared to London, vegan bars in Connewitz offered tastier, cheaper and bigger portions.

Around midday we were ready to get on the coach that would take us to Colditz for an away game of Rotter Stern's first team against the league leaders, HFC. Colditz is a small town nearby, best known for its castle which served as a POW camp for officers during World War II. The coach ride was very pleasant; we killed time sharing stories, opinions and beer. On arrival we were surprised to see a significant police presence in full gear. The game was rated as a potential high risk event, although there was no trouble in the end and after drinking up our booze we could enter the stadium. It was a perfect day for the game, the sun was shining and the beer was very tasty.

Before the game we presented our friends from Leipzig with gifts: scarves, stickers and a banner emphasising solidarity and love between our clubs. It was a sort of our response to a beautiful banner we had been given by girls and boys from Connewitz

earlier during their visit to London. We brought a few other Clapton banners with us as well, 'HEAVEN IS A FEELING' among them which came to attention of match officials who spent some time before the game debating whether it could stay up. As we learned they weren't sure of the meaning and were afraid it could offend someone. The doubts were clarified though and the banner remained in its place throughout the game. The atmosphere was great, with numerous chants sang, some of them merging Clapton and Leipzig songs together. It was a great away game, except for the score, as RSL lost 1:6.

The result couldn't ruin our mood though. We got back to Connewitz in great spirits and straight away went to visit RSL's sport complex at Teichstrasse, recently acquired on lease by Rotter Stern from the city council. It is a vast area with an existing football pitch, a sports hall, a clubhouse and storage buildings. The important fact for the club is that it is situated in Connewitz itself, as up to this point the games were taking place in Dolitz, a neighbouring borough. During the time of our visit in April, the football pitch wasn't ready to use yet but the sports hall was all set to stage



basketball, handball or volleyball games. Apart from football, Rotter Stern Leipzig fields teams in other numerous sport disciplines, including chess and croquet (!). The number of football teams in various age categories amounts to around twenty, both male and female, adult and youth teams, as well as teams over 40 and 50. Teichstrasse sport complex was very much needed for an initiative like RSL, a local club for the locals. Loads of work has been done and a lot still remains to be completed but we were all amazed by that place.

On Monday we were back at Teichstrasse for a *VoKü* – *VolxKüche*, which means people's kitchen in German, food for donation served weekly at the clubhouse. It was another opportunity for us to meet RSL's girls and boys and to talk more about the club and the phenomenon of Connewitz, which is one of the largest, next to Kreuzberg and Sankt Pauli, enclaves of freedom, human solidarity and DIY spirit in Germany. We spent most of the evening drinking beer and chatting to Max, one of the driving forces of RSL, listening to the stories of the club's beginnings as well as about the plans for future. We still had time on Tuesday to visit Dolitz Park to see one of the RSL youth team playing Inter Leipzig, albeit only until half time as we had to hurry to catch our plane back. We had a great time with beers in our hands and in good company of the locals who proved to be the best hosts ever. Many thanks to all of them, friends that we made, our hostess we haven't met - our paths shall cross again.

Allez Roter Stern!

Igor and Kret



LEFT
All the banners
at Colditz.



LEFT
Fischladen bar
in Connewitz.

ANDREW J. LASTIC

Full Name Andrew-Justin Albert Lastic **Place of Birth** Newham General **Birthdate** 21.9.93 **Height** 5'11 **Weight** 13st **Home** Seven Kings **Previous clubs** Thurrock FC (Youth), Barking FC (Youth), Newham United, Clapton FC. **Day job** Bus driver. **Favourite player** Mascherano/Zanetti/Paul Ince/Joe Cole/David Villa (Too difficult to choose one). **Favourite team, apart from CCFC** West Ham and Preston North End. My mother and her siblings are from there **Most memorable match played in** Playing as one of three forwards in youth game, and all three of us getting a brace. **Favourite ground played at** Olympic Park. Lovely surface. **Biggest high in football** Running though the whole field and scoring from centre back. **Lowest point in football** Having an infected toe that took the majority of a season to heal. **Likes and hobbies** Listening and playing music. Roller skating, driving. **Dislikes** Too many to mention. I can be a very grumpy old man sometimes **Favourite charity** Battersea Dogs Home. **Favourite country visited** India. **Favourite food** Fried rice and sweet and sour/chilli chicken. **Favourite music/performers** Bouyon/Cadence-lypso/Zouk/Kuduro/Jazz/Soul/R'n'B **Favourite TV shows** Rick & Morty, Archer. **Favourite film** Oldboy (Original Korean version), Isle of Dogs. **What you love about football** Clean sheets. **What you hate about football** Soft fouls and diving. Conceding goals. And, of course, losing. **Biggest influence on you** My Uncle John. **Footballing ambition** I'd like to reach the highest league possible with this club and I'd also love to be considered for either the Dominican or St. Lucian national team. **Who would you most like to meet?** I'll get back to you on that...

PLAYER

PROFILE

SQUAD SPONSORS

If you want to sponsor a player for the season for £25 and include a message of support in the programme, get in touch with us at: fundraising@claptoncfc.co.uk tell us who you're after and what you want to say and we'll be in touch with payment details.

Goalkeepers

Daniel Anfossy
Available

Vladyslav Bendovskyy
Keep 'em out
keeper.
Martin

Defenders

J Ashanik
Available

Andrew Lastic
Available

Ashley Headley
Available

Dean Bouho
Available

Ellick Coleman
Available

Ethan Dixon
Available

Liam Smyth

... and we both
looked at each
other and said
"Bobby Moore!"
Good luck.

Liam. J

Romelle Pile
Available

Tom Carding

Monday Night
Football's very
own has made
it to the big
leagues!

TB

Yacine Rabia
Available

Midfield

Callum Keir
Available

Geoff Ocran
C'mon Geoffrey
Ocran, score a
goal for George
and Charlie.

Jai Bhogal
Available

Joshua Adejokun
Paul Rutherford

Liam Headley
Available

Louis Rene
Available

Maxwell Nwafor
Available

Phil Blakesley

Best of luck for
the season.

The Homer Tons
A&E Disco Division

Prince Kwakye
Available

Sham Darr
Available

Stefan Kilron
Available

Paul Oshin
Available

Attack

Bogdan Bivolaru
Available

Bradley O'Donovan
Available

Eliot Crosbie

Wishing you a
great season
and lots of
goals - Come
on you Tons.

Stan, Austin and Cole

Gabriel Ogunwomoju
Available

Jon Akaly
Available

Tashan Benjamin
Available

Tony Cookey
Available

Stefan Nielsen

Tons' very
own Michael
Laudrup.
Gary Price

Charlie Fagan
Available

Saiid Jaffa
Available

Sherwin Stanley
Available

ON THE BALL

CCFC supports the campaign for free sanitary products at football grounds.

Periods remain a taboo, despite being a monthly certainty for billions. A recent Plan UK survey estimates that 1 in 10 young people in the UK are affected by period poverty, where they can't afford basic sanitary products, 14% have to borrow sanitary products because they can't afford it, and 12% improvise.



L-R
Orlaith, Erin
and Mikaela

Clapton Community Football Club aims to be an inclusive club. Sanitary products should be just as available as toilet roll and soap. So we're taking the step to support the On The Ball campaign, and will provide free sanitary products in our toilets for home games at The Stray Dog.

This is a small, easy change for us to implement and hopefully reinforces the message that all football fans are important. We realise that there may be people at the game who might not have access to these basic commodities. Either way, we believe that periods shouldn't be a barrier to watching football.

The On The Ball (@onthebaw) campaign was founded by Scottish students Orlaith Duffy, Erin Slaven and Mikaela McKinley earlier this year. They first successfully persuaded their own club, Celtic, to stock women's sanitary products at Parkhead. Clapton CFC are the 20th club across England and Scotland to have signed up and the numbers are growing.

1. We believe period products should be readily available and accessible at no cost, just like toilet roll and soap.

2. Periods are a taboo subject and shouldn't be. We want to put periods into public consciousness and create discussion on menstruation.

3. Increased visibility for female football fans. We want football clubs to show that they are forward thinking and inclusive. Meet the needs of their fans and send out a strong message to others.

4. Period Poverty is a major issue - we want to do our bit to highlight this.

THE ARCHIVES

From the Clapton FC Archive

by Chris Tymkow

Hey Ref!

There are times when the routine business of a committee meeting is livened up by something out of the ordinary. This happened at the meeting of the Clapton FC committee at the Spotted Dog on 6th December 1926.

The cause was the refereeing at the most recent match, away to Wycombe in the Isthmian League. Clapton won 4-1, so there could be no accusation of sour grapes, but the committee "agreed that the referee Mr Cambry... be reported as incompetent". Quite what he did (or didn't) do isn't stated, but kept loose within the pages of the minute book remained a letter on club headed paper, which from its crossings out appears to be a draft written during or shortly after the meeting itself. It requests that the referee's name "be removed from the Isthmian list". The letter adds that "The Wycombe officials are in entire agreement with these views and I understand are taking a similar action".

A match official's life could be as difficult then as it so often is today. On the same Saturday as Clapton's match at Wycombe, during Bolton Wanderers' meeting with Blackburn Rovers the ref had to call the players together and lecture them about "an array of incidents"; while at Clapton's neighbours and near namesakes Clapton Orient, two spectators had tried to invade the pitch to get at the Grimsby players. (It should be noted that Clapton CFC endorses the FA's Respect Code of Conduct, which includes: "Always Respect the match officials' decisions").

The letter (reproduced here) is addressed from the Club Secretary's home address in Sebert Road, Forest Gate. It is directed to "Mr Rous". Stanley Rous, then just starting to make his name in the lower tiers of the FA, was to become world famous when he was elected President of FIFA in 1961, a position he held until 1974.

The refereeing matter dealt with, the Clapton committee got on with business, which at the time centred around plans for a new stand at the Spotted Dog. These may form the subject of a future Archive article.

The letter reproduced here is from the main body of the Clapton FC Archive, donated in September 2016 by Life Member Mike Fogg.

Clapton FC Archive is at:
The Bishopsgate Institute
230 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 4QH
020 7392 9200

OPPONENTS

Hutton Football Club

Hutton Football Club
Polo Fields
Hall Green Lane
Hutton
Brentwood
Essex
CM13 2QT
www.huttonfc.com
@huttonfc

One of largest clubs in Essex and established in 1928, Hutton Football Club has grown from humble beginnings, most recently merging with local youth club Hutton Medway in 2005. It currently fields a massive 60 teams, with over 600 playing members from 5-50 years of age. By our calculations that means 0.8% of the Brentwood population play for this team...

Hutton are sitting mid-table in the Essex Olympian (a division above CCFC) after starting their season brightly with two wins over Bishop's Stortford Swifts and Manfred Way. They have struggled though in more recent fixtures, with two defeats including a 1-5 home thrashing from EOFL high flyers Kelvedon Hatch last Saturday. They will be looking to stop the rot with a cup win against Clapton.

Amongst the Hutton players is a familiar face for long-time Clapton fans. Midfielder Danny Aggio played for the Tons over two stints in 2012 and 2014. We caught up with him ahead of the game.

What have you been up to since leaving Clapton?

I decided a few years ago to have a break from senior football. Travel and work commitments made it difficult, but I've enjoyed the last few years playing for Grove United, with a few former Clapton players, and last season at Hutton.

What players from that time are you still in contact with?

At Grove United, I played alongside some Clapton old boys. Neil Matthews, Jamie Pooley, Sammy Naylor, Harry Chalk, Bill Rungay and Johnny Hughes were regulars. We rolled back the years and managed a couple of promotions and a couple of cup wins. I'm still in contact with a few of them and

I occasionally bump into a couple of other Clapton boys, Craig Greenwood and the new gaffer, Geoff.

What are your biggest memories of that era of Clapton?

In my first stint, I remember games where we had one man and his dog watching. It was a struggle, but I remember progressing in the FA vase and getting on the scoresheet. This was a decent result given our preparation - one of the lads broke down on the M25 with the kit and three other players. Following a whip-round from the players and coaches, a taxi delivered the kit and the rest of the squad minutes before we would've had to forfeit the game.

In my second period, one memory that stands out is getting sent off for a cynical foul against Ilford. Having got sent off and given a penalty away, I wasn't expecting the warm reception I got as I left the field. Luckily, they missed the resulting penalty and we hung on for the win.

How long have you been with Hutton?

This is my second season but Hutton is where it started for me at age five.

How has the season gone so far?

We had a decent pre-season, but it's been a mixed bag since the season started. Two decent performances where we've looked very good and two where we've not been at our best and been well beaten.

What are your expectations/objectives this season?

Getting promoted last year, I think our priority is to stay in the league. Once we get the points on the board we can look to push up the league. With the squad we have we, we should achieve that and hopefully a decent cup run.

SCORES & COMING UP

RESULTS

Pre-Season Friendlies

• **Jul 21** Holland FC 5 **CCFC 0** Att: 155 • **Jul 29** West Essex FC 3 **CCFC 0** Att: 115 • **Aug 4** Sporting Hackney FC 2 **CCFC 4 (Crosbie 2, Adejokun, Pile)** Att: 125 • **Aug 7** Enfield Town 4 **CCFC 0** Att: 250 • **Aug 11** NW London FC 1 **CCFC 3 (Crosbie 2, Akaly)** Att: 75 • **Aug 8** Epping Town FC 4 **CCFC 4 (Crosbie 2, Adejokun, Rene)** Att: 70 • **Aug 25 CCFC 5** Wanderers FC 2 (**Crosbie, Nielsen, Fagan 2, Oshin**) Att: 232 • **Sep 1 CCFC 1 (Crosbie)** London Samurai Rovers FC 0 Att: Closed Doors

2018/19 Season (League* unless stated)

*Cherry Red Records Middlesex
County Football League Division 1
Sep 15 Ealing Town FC 1 **CCFC 2 (Smyth, Oshin)**

FIXTURES

BBC Essex Premier Cup Round 1
Sep 22 CCFC v Hutton FC 2pm

Anagram Records Trophy Round 1
Oct 13 Epping Town FC v **CCFC 3pm**

Jim Rogers President's Division One Cup
Sept 29 South Kilburn Reserves v **CCFC 3pm**

Oct 6 CCFC v FC Roast 2:30pm

Anagram Records Trophy
Oct 13 CCFC vs Epping Town FC 3pm

Oct 20 CCFC v Sporting Club De Londres 2:30pm

Oct 27 NW London v CCFC 2:30pm

Nov 3 CCFC v Hereford Palace 2pm

DESIGN!

Get involved,
design the cover
of the next mag

As with everything CCFC related, this "Matchday Magazine" (who are we kidding, it's a programme - we of all clubs should know better than to use such bullshit corporate terminology) is done out of pure love for the club and all we believe in.

We want our programme to reflect our club in paper format. So it's a mix of past and present, always inclusive and like no other programme in the land.

Designed by the team at AcidFC (@weareacidfc) this edition has been put together over a few sleepless nights while listening to the brilliant new Idles album "Joy as an Act of Resistance". Seems rather apt for CCFC.

One of the plans for the season is to give artists/designers/illustrators the opportunity to design one of the programme covers. We'll give you access to a load of assets and you can go wild. Email AcidFC at score@acidfc.com and we can get you involved and show off your skills.

If you would like to get involved with articles, views, photography, illustration, recipes, tips or interpretive modern dance, email us at comms@claptonfc.co.uk and we'll put you in touch with the "Matchday Magazine" team.

CLAPTON CFC

GOALKEEPER
Daniel Anfossy

DEFENCE
Andrew Lastic
Ashley Headley
Dean Bouho
Ellick Coleman
Liam Smyth
Romelle Pile
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MIDFIELD
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Louis Rene
Shamraz Darr
Paul Oshin

ATTACK
Eliot Crosbie
Sherwin Stanley
Stefan Nielsen
Charlie Fagan

HUTTON FC

Daniel Aggio
Joshua Bardouveau
Dan Carpenter
Nick Carpenter
Elliot Fraser

Paul Lefondre
Kyle Linzell
George Nash
Keelan O'Donovan
Thomas Price

Lewis Scott
Chris Skingley
Brandon Stack
Tony Wichelo

Information

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