



MIDDLESEX COUNTIES LEAGUE DIVISION 1 CENTRAL & EAST

VS
Stonewall FC

2PM SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2019
AT THE STRAY DOG

CLAPTON COMMUNITY FC

WE ARE THE CLAPTON

N O P A S A R A N



**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

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Matchday
Magazine
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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.

Enjoy the game. C'mon you Tons!



A WORD FROM THE GAFFER

We welcome the league leaders Stonewall to the Stray Dog for the first time and it's an opportunity for us to reverse the result of the away fixture, which we somehow lost 4-0.

In what was arguably one of our best performances of the season we were unfortunate to not make the breakthrough as I think we would have gone on to win.

The NW London game last week, for those who have been following us the whole season, was Groundhog Day. We played well for long periods but did not convert the chances at critical times of the game and lost 2-1.

In the first half with the wind against us we competed well and we were still in the game at 1-0 down. Second half was all us. We made a few changes and pressed on them and there were the usual few goalmouth scrambles.

However, considering we had 13 players unavailable, credit to the players for a great effort and also thanks to the fans who travelled for the early kick off.


We have to look on the positives. We've got a big game against Stonewall and hopefully we'll have some of those missing players back.

Today is also our Football vs Homophobia game and also our debut of the Football vs Blood Cancer campaign.

So please get involved today, have a look on social media for more information and help spread awareness.

Helping and bringing the community together is what makes Clapton more than just a football club.
#coyt



A photograph of a soccer field. In the foreground, two players in red and purple jerseys are sitting on the grass. One player's jersey has the number 15. In the background, two other players in red and black jerseys are standing near a soccer ball. The stadium seating is visible in the background, with red seats and a few spectators. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The NW London game last week,
for those who have been following us
the whole season, was Groundhog Day.



FOOTBALL FINDS ITS CONSCIENCE

Forget Man City's thrashing of Chelsea, or the QPR-Birmingham epic at Loftus Road, this week's biggest football story was about a Bahraini full back being released from detention in Thailand.

Hakeem al-Araibi fled Bahrain after the 2011 crackdown on protests and was given asylum in Australia, where he plays for Pascoe Vale FC in Melbourne.

But when he went to Thailand on honeymoon in November, the Bahraini dictatorship asked the Thai authorities to arrest him and send him back to Bahrain, where he had been convicted in absentia for vandalising a police station and given 10 years in prison, even though there was evidence showing him to be playing in a televised match at the time of the attack.

Human rights groups began campaigning for his release from custody in Thailand, and for him not to be sent back to Bahrain, where torture is routine in custody. I research and document human rights abuses in Bahrain as part of my job, and I've seen how Bahraini courtrooms operate. People like Hakeem have no chance of a fair trial.

Pascoe Vale FC and others began to use social media to highlight his case, and soon other Australian footballers joined the campaign. Former Australian captain Craig Foster led efforts to bring international attention to Al-Araibi, and by the end of the year local players from all over the world were posting messages of support on twitter with the #SaveHakeem hashtag.

I can't speak for Hakeem, or thank Clapton CFC on his behalf, but Annu Mayor's organisation of the club's efforts in raising publicity around his case was part of a worldwide, successful effort to secure his release.

This is the closest thing I've ever seen to a world football community acting together - local clubs and big stars connecting and pushing to have a footballer saved from being sent to a repressive dictatorship. Senior FIFA officials supported his case. People posted tweets of themselves holding up footballs or signs with #SaveHakeem written on them. Tim Cahill tweeted support for him, as did Giorgio Chiellini of Juventus, Didier Drogba and Jamie Vardy.

Al-Araibi was released from custody on Monday and flew straight to Australia. Although he'd played for the Bahrain national team, he was relatively unknown in international football circles until his detention in Thailand. But the campaign to have him released was huge, with over a million tweets supporting him.

Whether this case was a one-off or the start of world football finding a conscience about human rights won't be known for a while, but this mattered. It was a rare victory for human rights against a repressive Gulf dictatorship, it showed the power of twitter to make something positive happen, and gave football players, fans, coaches, and journalists a sense of identity about doing the right thing.

There's no shortage of football and human rights stories - from the ownership of PSG or Man City, to the gender bias endemic throughout the game, to homophobia and racism. But, as so often happens, it takes an individual's story to highlight a wider issue. The last few months showed us that there is some sense of an international football community that isn't controlled by billionaires, that it's a massive force, and that it can be galvanised to fight and win against powerful interests.

by Brian Dooley

@dooley_dooley is on the advisory board of the Gulf Centre for Human Rights. He played football for the University of East Anglia, the George Washington University in the US, and won the AFA Senior Cup with Old Salesians. He is part-owner of Clapton Community Football Club.



OUTSIDE PROJECT

Clapton Community FC is and always will be a welcoming and inclusive place for everyone, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

So we are delighted to support the tenth annual Football v Homophobia February month of action at our game today.

Football v Homophobia is an international initiative opposing homophobia in football at all levels - from grassroots to the professional game.

Playing against Stonewall FC, the most successful LGBTIQ+ football club in the world, provides the perfect opportunity to promote the campaign and challenge discrimination at all levels in football.

The CCFC players will be wearing rainbow laces - something that Stonewall gave the world - and have signed up to stand with fans in our pledge against homophobia and transphobia.

You will find more on Stonewall FC in this matchday programme - both the pioneering club and current team, who are top of the league.

Today we also welcome volunteers from The Outside Project, the UK's first LGBTIQ+ community shelter and centre.

It is an independent grassroots organisation offering support and accommodation to LGBTIQ+ people who are in a crisis or have lost their homes.

One in four homeless people in the UK are LGBTIQ+, a higher rate, with common problems such as family rejection, work discrimination, hate crime and lack of specialist services.

The good news is, the UK's first crisis shelter and community centre for vulnerable LGBTIQ+ people has now launched in London.

Following a successful pilot last winter and funding from the Mayor of London, the Outside Project's shelter re-opened on Christmas Eve. They are now developing the project into a 24-hour, year-round shelter and community centre.

Today they will be speaking about their work at half-time and bucketshaking to continue their vital work. They will also have t-shirts and badges for sale at the merch stand. So please give generously.

Stick around after the game too when we'll be having a fans and players photo on the pitch, then moving to the bar for a supporters' social with the teams. Everyone's invited.

For more on the Football v Homophobia campaign and action you can personally take in February, visit : www.facebook.com/fvhbt/

For more on the Outside Project: lgbtiqoutside.org

POINTS ADJUSTED

There's been drama behind the scenes at the Middlesex County Football League this month.

London Samurai, who were sitting third in the league, have been deducted 12 points for fielding suspended players. This has dropped them back into mid-table.

The Tons also pick up three points from their 5-1 defeat to Samurai in November, which has been overturned.

The verdict means today's opponents, Stonewall, now look near certainties to win the league and bounce back after relegation last season.

But it also throws the race for runners-up wide open with at least half the division, including Clapton CFC, in the mix. Samurai are certainly not out of contention even now.

TWO FAN TEAMS WANTED

CCFC have been invited to field both a women's and a men's team to a 5-a-side fan tournament marking International Women's Day 2019. Hosted by Girls United FA and Peckham Town FC, it will take place in the Menace Arena, Dulwich, on the 10th of March.

Any members and fans who are interested in playing, drop us an email at community@claptoncfc.co.uk.

AND... We have also been invited to 2019 Antira tournament taking place in Prague from 21st-23rd June. The event this year is being hosted by our friends at Barflies United.

If you are interested in the Czech trip, please send an expression of interest ASAP to international@claptoncfc.co.uk so we can get an idea of numbers!

MAKING KIT HISTORY

Last week's game against NW London saw history being made as it was the first competitive fixture between two teams wearing Rage Sport kit.

Italy-based Rage, as I'm sure you know, are the ethical, non-profit kit supplier who have been working flat out making thousands of CCFC away shirts after we went unexpectedly viral.



TODAY'S COVER ART

Today's cover is by expert illustrator Adam Forster - check his work out at [@adamforsterillustration](https://www.instagram.com/adamforsterillustration) on Instagram or his website: adamforsterillustration.com

If you want to design a cover for one of our programmes this season, email us at comms@claptoncfc.co.uk or via Twitter or Instagram.



PHOTO Max Reeves

February kicked off with a Saturday stroll for the Tons against Wilberforce Wanderers.

The scoreline probably didn't do justice to a tidy away side, but the majority of the chances fell to the men in red and white. And the men in red and white ruthlessly dispatched quite a lot of those chances.

There was concern through the week that the cold weather would endanger this fixture. But the Stray Dog surface was perfectly playable – if a touch heavy.

However, the game was almost called off for a more ridiculous reason: for the second time this season, the opposition forgot their kit.

Wanderers dashed to Sports Direct to pick up some generic football wear -and the match got under way fifteen minutes late.

Clapton Community started slowly, with Wilberforce wandering where they liked, passing the ball crisply.

But the first big chance fell to the Tons. A Stefan Nielsen free kick dropped perfectly in front of an unmarked Eliot Crosbie right in front of the Wilberforce keeper. But the Tons targetman, playing



ABOVE The second half Crosbie long range looper leaves the Wanderers' keeper grasping at air.

in a deeper midfield role, couldn't get his feet in order and ball bounced harmlessly wide.

The opening goal settled the nerves.

A Sherwin Stanley throw-in bounced back to him. He popped it back in. Crosbie headed it on. Wing whippet Josh Adejokun smashed home from close range.

The same man doubled Clapton's advantage just before the 20 minute mark. A clipped Nielsen ball from the left glanced off a Wilberforce head. Adejokun adjusted himself to the new trajectory and nodded down into the corner.

Due to some kind of bizarre optical illusion, no-one in the stand seemed to notice it had gone in. Adejokun gestured to the fans to celebrate. The fans realised it was a goal and celebrated.

Clapton's third goal came from a viciously whipped Nielsen corner. Stanley got his head to it. A Wilberforce defender desperately dug it out, but the ref ruled that it had crossed the line.

In the dying embers of the half, Stanley had a chance to get another.

Played through in a wide position, but tightly marshalled by two Wanderers, the Clapton hotshot managed to steal a yard and poke a low shot towards goal. The rooted away keeper was relieved to see it slip wide of his far post.

Then left back Liam Smyth dipped one in, speculatively, from the corner of the box but didn't quite dip it enough.

Twice at the start of the second half, CCFC tried to thread Adejokun through. Twice the opposition goalie charged out to nick it away in the nick of time.

But Clapton didn't take long to extend their lead. Another Nielsen corner into

the very heart of the danger zone was headed in by Crosbie.

A couple of minutes later it was 5-0.

Stanley played it out to irrepressible handful Stevens. The winger marauded down the left, made a Wilberforce defender fall on his face using trickery, then cut back to the onrushing Stanley. The striker banged it off the goalie and into the corner of the net.

Into the final quarter of the match, Wanderers had a chance to pull one back from the spot when one of their forwards was bashed to the ground in the box by Dean Bouho.

But the weak trundler from the Wilberforce number ? (the shirts they picked up at Sports Direct didn't have numbers) was easily blocked by Dan Anfossy.

It was the keeper's third penalty stop in three consecutive games.

At the other end, Crosbie quickly made Wilberforce pay. Galloping down the right touchline, he clipped a long range cross-shot towards the back stick. It floated gloriously in to make it 6-0.

Into the final ten, the visitors snatched a consolation. A Wilberforce player looped a half volley over Anfossy to deny the home keeper his clean sheet.

But overall, a highly satisfying afternoon for the Tons, who will surely fancy their chances in the semi-final of the Jim Rogers Cup against the same opposition.

CCFC: Anfossy, Headley, Smyth, Rabia, Bouho, Ocran, Stevens, Adejokun, Crosbie, Nielsen, Stanley
Subs: Panescu, Hashim, Agdelen, Rehman, Blakesley.



PHOTO Max Reeves

Storm Erik was a wildcard factor in this closely-fought encounter between North West London and Clapton CFC in Haringey.

It was the hosts who took the three points in this hastily-rearranged game courtesy of a contentious late goal against a weakened but battling CCFC side.

The management of Clapton had had a difficult week in terms of squad selection, with 13 players unavailable due to injuries and work commitments. Then during the warm-up, sub Imran Rehman pulled up injured too.

However, due to the depth of the squad, the Tons were still able to card a competitive looking side for the lunchtime trip to neutral territory.

The New River Stadium is not NW London's usual home ground, however the venue, with its 1,000 seater grandstand and plentiful terracing, provided a great backdrop.

At kick off time, Storm Erik was cracking the flags (and less well secured parts of the dugouts) with a strong wind from the west that would keep up throughout the game. NW won the toss and chose to make Clapton play into the wind for the first half.

The first chance came for North West when Ezequiel

Franchi was able to cross the ball into a dangerously placed Pedro Cotelto, however a tight Clapton defence were able to shut down the attack and stop a shot on target from being made.

This was followed shortly afterwards by a long range effort from Dante Cobiainchi. The shot from well outside the box was carried at speed by the wind, however Tons keeper Dan Anfossy had plenty of time to position himself and make the block.

The first real worry came from another period of pressure by North West. Several corners led to a low shot through a crowded box. The ball ricocheted off the post and was successfully cleared, leaving the woodwork and some Clapton nerves rattling.

Another series of NW corners showed that the game was likely to be decided by the low balls, as the attackers struggled to keep any looping crosses on target and resorted instead to trying to make chances through moving the ball around.

After fifteen minutes of play Clapton finally managed to push into the home half of the pitch.

A North West handball gave Stefan Nielsen the chance to take the lead with a free kick from the edge of the area. The low shot made its way through the crowd but safely past the left post.

NW continued to push up, on twenty minutes their Brazilian midfielder Rafael Ferreira found himself with plenty of space on the left wing. Anfossy rushed forward to block Ferreira's initial shot, however he was unable to keep hold of the ball which fell to an unmarked Cobianchi who had come out of nowhere to mop up the rebound.

There were some muted calls for offside, however the goal came more from a Clapton defensive lapse than any monkey business by the Gorillas. 1-0 North West.

Five minutes later Franchi came close to making it two for the hosts, ploughing through the defence to get into a shooting position. Anfossy did a good job of making himself big in the goal and in the end Franchi's effort went wide.

As the first half went on, Clapton began to find their feet and were able to put together a string of good efforts that they were unlucky to be rewarded for. The first opportunity came for Eliot Crosbie who received a long ball in the box, however was quickly surrounded by three North West defenders.

The clearance was picked up by the Tons midfield to feed Nielsen who had found space inside the box, his shot was blocked by North West keeper Cole Colbert. In the ensuing scramble, Ellick Coleman was able to crack off a shot that went agonisingly just over the top left corner of the goal.

While unlucky not to convert, the sustained attack had got Clapton's tails up. It also gave the fans on the terrace something to cheer about.

Another Nielsen free kick from a dangerous position on the right sailed across the box to Crosbie whose volley was picked up by the head of Dean Bouho, however his effort went straight to the keeper.

Just before the half North West had one last chance to increase their lead with an effort from Franchi. Anfossy's stop resulted in another rebound however this time there was no onrushing NW player to pick it up.

At the end of the half Clapton were only a goal down having played into the wind. Hopes were high on the terrace that with the wind behind them and the Gorillas' tiring legs, the visitors could overturn NW's narrow lead.

Straight off the restart Clapton began to make chances with Cemal Agdelen sending a powerful long range effort over the bar. That was followed shortly by

an opportunity for Crosbie which came via a neat little one-two between himself and Nielsen.

In between Clapton's sustained presence in the North West half of the pitch, the Gorillas were able to make the odd push forward with Cobianchi sending a weak effort wide followed up shortly afterwards by a corner.

However, their attacks into the Clapton area were becoming rarer. On the hour mark a good chance came for Clapton as Nielsen was pulled back by a defender, the resulting free kick led to a fine ball to Crosbie who was only denied by the linesman's flag.

Another chance came for Crosbie as he forced a diving save from Colbert who pushed the ball out for a corner.

In the end the Tons efforts were rewarded when Nielsen was brought down in the area and awarded a penalty. Nielsen was able to hold his nerve and finish the job he started, smashing the ball to Colbert's right to tie the game with a little under twenty minutes to play.

Clapton continued to pour forward, hoping to finish the comeback and return to the Stray Dog with three points.

With just minutes remaining in the game a long pass came in for Cobianchi, the entire terrace yelled for offside. However, the linesman remained unconvinced. The North West forward dashed through and slotted the ball in to Anfossy's right, sending the Gorillas bananas.

With only extra time remaining, the Clapton management took one last roll of the dice. Bringing off Coleman for Tom Carding, the tall Downs FC defender making his first competitive appearance as a Ton.

In the final minute the visitors were awarded a free kick from just inside the NW halfway line. Nielsen's delivery was sent out for a corner from a scramble within the box.

With seconds remaining, Clapton pushed the whole squad forward for one final chance on goal. The cross in was sent wide by an NW defender and the ref blew the whistle for full time.

CCFC: Anfossy, Bouho, Coleman, Rabia, Lastic, Kilron, Blakesley, Hashim, Agdelen Ocran, Crosbie, Nielsen
Subs: Rehman, Adejokun, Carding, Keir, Ocran.



THE GAME IS OURS TO DO WHAT WE WILL WITH IT

by Stonewall FC's
Dan Cuzner (words)
Simon Neller (photos)



I'd like to start by saying a particular hello to the queer supporters and organisers of Clapton CFC. The size of your club, and its ethos, mean there'll be far more LGBT+ people involved than there are at Stonewall FC, the 'LGBT+ club'! A sign of progress.

Indeed, hello to everyone. Great to be in same the league as you. The energy of our match last month made it the highlight of the season for me (that includes our visit to Wembley) and I can only imagine that with your home numbers, today will be even more enjoyable. Wonderful that you chose the Outside Project to support.

SORRY

One of the problems about discussions of homophobia and LGBT+ participation in football is that they tend to prioritise the experiences of cisgender gay/bi men.

Homophobia and transphobia, or just plain heterosexism, manifest differently in women's football, but also women's sport has openly gay/bi players at all levels, where the men's game lags behind.

That's part of why Hackney Women's FC predates Stonewall FC. Our club was a shock to the amateur football (and tabloid) world in the early 90s – HWFC have been getting on with it since the mid-80s.

However, under FA rules, the Middlesex County Football League is a men's league, so here's another of those short problematic pieces written by a cis queer man ...

'SEXUAL ORIENTATION IS IRRELEVANT'

In any online article about LGBT+ football, someone will say in the comments that sexual orientation doesn't matter, that it's irrelevant.

It's true, at least during the 90 minutes of a match, and it might be well-intentioned, but at best it shuts down discussion, and at worst it's the 'All Lives Matter' of the LGBT+ football experience.

Continued>>>

Is running a grassroots football team a form of activism? It seems to me that this is a question our clubs have in common.

ALLIES AND FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Over the past couple of years, the concept of the ally has taken hold. It's important – it moves away from putting the responsibility of fighting homophobia on the shoulders of those who primarily experience homophobia.

It's also something that can have an immediate impact on football, as opposed to the newspaper obsession with gay players in the professional game. We also need to be our own allies.

INTERSECTIONALITY

A player used homophobic language towards a Stonewaller. That's not terribly unusual – but on being told something along the lines of 'um, no shit' and 'that's kind of the point of our whole football club', the player was mortified and apologetic, then defensive ('I only said it because I thought you were straight'). It had to be pointed out to them that using homophobic language to anyone is unacceptable.

A manager told his striker "Get up, you lazy poof." Challenged, he said he'd 'never take the piss out of

"[our] lot"'. That he's 'just old school'. The manager's white, the striker's black – one knows what an old school manager wishes he could still say. Fuck the old school.

A player told his opponent, who'd complained to the ref about a tackle, 'Don't be such a bitch'. Is it progress that a player will use sexist rather than homophobic language towards a player he assumes is gay?

In each of these cases, it was the opposition talking. I don't want to present Stonewall FC in a highly evolved false light. We've had our idiotic moments too. 'Banter' can easily cross the line. Sexism, racism and homophobia are everyone's problems with which to engage.

STEREOTYPING

Something that one hears, from within and outside the LGBT+ football world, is teams like Stonewall FC are confronting negative stereotypes of gay men – that's important, but so is moving away from a subtext of 'we're not like "those" queens' in which the stereotypes are essentially endorsed rather than disrupted.



LEFT The Wembley arch lit up in the rainbow bands for the Stonewall FC game v Wilberforce Wanderers.

Fem-shaming is depressingly common in contemporary gay culture, while a desire to assimilate and a herd mentality can lead to endorsing negative stereotypes of men in general (if indeed those *_are_* truly regarded negatively).

That's not progress. A more nuanced approach to what constitutes 'masculinity' would be nice, as would a move away from endorsement of binaries be they regarding gender or sexuality.

'HE'S A REALLY GOOD PASSER'

Whether it's because someone is a particularly good player, or a physical one, often it's 'I wouldn't have been able to tell'.

Unfortunately this is usually meant (and taken) as a compliment. It shouldn't be.

BUILT-IN OBSOLESCENCE?

When Stonewall FC began, players either felt they couldn't play in a mainstream team, or couldn't be out while doing so. It was a mutual support network as much as a football club. Things have changed a lot.

There are LGBT+ people who prefer to play in a mainstream football team. There are allies who want the culture of an LGBT+ club. There are at least ten such clubs in London alone. Friendship within sport is a universal thing.

So, is part of what our club is working towards a world where a club like ours isn't needed? Coming out is a constant process, and can get tedious. Sometimes it's good when things can be taken for granted. In a way it's similar to the existence of the heritage teams.

Continued>>>



ABOVE The Stonewall Rainbow Laces being prepared for a game.



Primarily the thing we have in common is the football, but there are also those who aren't particularly politically engaged but who enjoy getting sweaty on the pitch with people with whom they might end up getting sweaty in bed. The possibility of relationships and sex within the world of one's hobby? Terrible!

TO WHAT END?

Is running a grassroots football team a form of activism? It seems to me that this is a question our clubs have in common. The answer is probably no. Or maybe yes. Depends who you ask.

However, it's a good start. Like-minded people might come together for one reason, and powerful, good things that transcend football can come of that. A lot of Stonewall FC players gave up football after school or university, and came back to it as adults. It can be difficult to reconcile one's identity or personal politics with mainstream football.

The activism of Clapton CFC suggests that this is a point on which those involved with each of our clubs will concur. The game's ours to do what we will with it.

No pasarán!

LEFT Stonewall and the Premier League work together on the "This is everyone's game" campaign.

AWAY! AWAY! AWAY!

Last issue we started a feature reviewing some of the away trips made by the Tons this season and how they were experienced by the travelling fans. This week we take you through three more of our away days looking at nearby pubs, reception from home fans and opportunities to grab a half time Tyskie.

At the end of the season, fans will have the opportunity to vote for the club and venue they think should be awarded the title of away day of the year!

18th August Epping Town

St Johns School

An easy tube ride to the end of the Central Line took us to see the Tons take on Epping Town. The song that usually starts with "You can't beat Clapton boys" adapts very nicely to "You're just past Theydon Bois." The Essex Olympian side have recently

returned to their Stonards Hill Ground, but this game was played on a caged off artificial surface at St Johns School. When will the Education Secretary wake up and start selling booze in schools?

15th September Ealing Town

Café Des Sports

Tons were back on the astroturf under the glare of the world's media in the immediate aftermath of the shirt story. The ground was a short walk from several tube and overground stations, so long as you got the correct entrance (as I didn't when trying to shepherd several international news teams). A lack of covered stand would have made the afternoon uncomfortable had the weather been poor, but the ground was pleasant in the late summer sunshine. Café on site and a half decent pub called The Wishing Well nearby for post game drinks.

29th September South Kilburn Reserves:

Northwick Park

You might pick this as your favourite away day if Sunday morning football club as a child was the highlight of your life so far and this place took you back. Players getting changed and taking their half time break on the barely visible touchline, fans nudging onto the pitch to see over each other's heads, play stopping on several occasions in order to retrieve the match ball from a nearby bush. Despite the Sunday League kickabout surroundings, the fans enjoyed a sun soaked cup win. The nearby Windermere pub was also popular with the travelling support, classic old fashioned boozer with a pool table and in spitting distance of South Kenton Station.

AWAY! AWAY! AWAY!

BLOOD STEM CELL DONOR REGISTER

If you head over to the Matchday Centre before or after today's game you'll see our first ever Football Vs Blood Cancer event.

At a general meeting, CCFC members voted to team up with the DKMS charity to encouraging as many people as possible to join the blood stem cell donor register.

Everton, West Bromwich Albion, Coventry City and Reading have already held registration events and now it's our turn to help the fight against leukaemia, lymphoma and sickle cell disease. 53% of the UK population would like to join the register but less than 3% have actually joined so far even though it only takes a few minutes.

So you'll never have an easier chance than to sign up than today when nipping to the bar or the toilets.

We've put together some FAQs...

Why should I register?

There's a potential match for everyone in the world but over half the people in need never actually find their matching donor. The work of fantastic charities like DKMS and Anthony Nolan has led to 1.8m people registering in the UK but that's not enough.

It's fairly simple maths. The more people who join the register, the

greater the chance there is of finding a match. And that benefits all of us - someone in the crowd today, or their loved ones, may be in need one day.

Who can register?

There are surprisingly few restrictions. You just need to be aged between 17 and 55, in general good health, not severely under- or overweight and free from chronic immune system-related conditions.

How long does it take?

Fill in a short form, give a quick swab inside of your mouth, and the medics do the rest. It'll take you less than 5 minutes. Quicker than the queue at the bar at half-time, or reading this article in the programme.

What happens next?

Scientists will determine your tissue type and place your anonymous details on the register of potential donors using a unique donor number. Your details can be searched worldwide.

What are my chances of being a match?

For the vast majority of people on the register, they'll never hear from DKMS again. There's just a 4% chance that you're a match during the next 10 years.

Siblings are the best source for a stem cell donation, but here's the amazing thing: you could be a match even though you are not related, have never met and live the other side of the world.

What happens if I'm a match?

DKMS will get in touch. Then it's up to you to decide whether to go ahead and donate your peripheral blood stem cells.

The collection will occur at your convenience within 1 and 3 months at a centre near to you. DKMS will reimburse your expenses and the collection cost is covered entirely by the charity.

The usual process to giving blood stem cells is similar to giving blood. A thin needle takes blood from one arm that runs through to a clever machine that separates the stem cells and the blood is returned through the other arm. It's all done in about 4 hours.

Bone marrow donations are sometimes but rarely needed - just 10% - taking bone marrow from the pelvic bone using a special thin sterile needle.

Once you've done your bit, your stem cells are on their way to save a life wherever they're required. It could be local, national or international.

How do my blood stem cells help save another person?

Your blood stem cells are used to replace the immune system of someone who's chronically sick with a blood disease that's making them vulnerable to infections.

Your stem cells are magical because they'll grow into red cells, white cells and plasma that

will fight off the disease and potentially defeat the cancer.

So, what you're doing is sharing your robust immune system which gives the recipient the gift of life.

Will I know who I've donated to?

If you're not donating to someone you already know, you nor the recipient of your stem cells will automatically be told. But, if you choose, you can communicate with each other. It's up to you.

Sometimes this is the most emotional part. It's a human process and you will be a lifesaver.

I missed the event today, how can I join the stem cell register?

Many Clapton CFC players and members have already joined the DKMS Stem Cell Registry independently.

You can sign up to the register through the DKMS website. You'll be posted a kit. Take a quick swab of the inside of your cheeks, post it back, and you're done. 3 steps. That's it.

DO IT NOW!

When Clapton CFC member Sukhdev Johal joined the blood stem cell register, he thought he might be a lifesaver. It never occurred to him that he would be the one in need. Here he explains how a blood stem cell donor changed his life...

Somebody out there gave me the purest of all altruistic gifts and wanted nothing in return. We do not know each other and we have never met – could it be you?

That person shared with me some of their peripheral blood stem cells, which gave me the only possibility of overcoming cancer. This simple action gave me the gift of life. Yes, truly the gift of life.

I underwent six rounds of chemotherapy but that just gave me additional time. Without a blood stem cell transplant I would relapse. Fortunately, the chemo went well and I was eligible for a blood stem transplant.

Then the worry started. There were so many, many questions. Was there a match out there? If there was, would they donate? Despite the uncertainty, I remained positive. My fate rested on a swab of the mouth from the right person.

After a short while, I received news that transformed my life and my future. The medics told me that they had found a full match, using the international register of donors. I guess you can imagine how I felt.

I endured seven days of chemo to destroy my bone marrow to allow my donor's cells to engraft to become my new bone marrow, start producing blood and replace my immune system.

The actual transfusion of the donor stem cells was an anti-climax. The whole process took 32 minutes, using a gravity feed leading to a PICC line in my arm.

Then the magic started. Somehow, these immature stem cells found

their way into my hip and thigh bones to create a new blood producing bone marrow.

Obviously, it did cross my mind that the stem cells would not graft. But after a week, the key indicator in my blood were steadily rising.

Then I knew, even before I was formally told, that the transplant had worked. There was a long journey to endure but my donor had given me a chance to live.

So, there was good fortune even within my misfortune. And what I learned most is that humanity is in many ways tethered and mutual aid is both powerful and life changing.

But this isn't just between me and my anonymous donor. It's also an appreciation of the many people who work tirelessly work behind the scenes to make stem cells donations possible and life changing transplants a reality.

So, thank you to all the volunteers, the fundraisers, the researchers and the medical staff.

The stem cell transplant was a life changing event. Now it is my turn to work with Clapton CFC members to help raise the profile of the Stem Cell Registries run by charities such as DKMS and Anthony Nolan.

If, through our campaign we manage to find just one matched donor that will be a success. But the law of averages indicates if we can sign up 300 and there's a 4% chance of a match.... Well that's a lot.

There's a match for everyone and therefore a potential cure for everyone. However, that goal can be achieved only if we increase the size of the register and its diversity.

That means YOU are the key to potentially conquering blood cancers and many other blood disorders.

CANDY CRUSH!



Glasgow is a city characterised by its football.

The greater municipality of just under 1.2million residents is knitted together by a patchwork of more than 30 clubs, linking districts, neighbourhoods and communities.

The idea that football should exist primarily to benefit the community arguably started in Glasgow's East End, with the city's most renowned club, Celtic.

Although not Scotland's first diaspora team, Celtic were founded with the principle aim to combat poverty in one of the poorest wards in the country.

Over the years, Celtic's priority shifted to representing its cause through on the field success. The other East End club in green & white, however, St Roch's FC, are perhaps closer to those original ideals, today.





Formed in 1920 by a contemporary and friend of Celtic's founder, Brother Walfrid, St Roch's were set up by a local priest to represent an impoverished parish, known for its large community of Irish immigrants in the north-east part of the city.

Garngad, later renamed Royston, was regarded as a slum at the time of the club's foundation. Massively overcrowded and badly polluted by nearby chemical and copper works, "Little Ireland" as it was sometimes known, became fertile ground from where Scotland found some of its biggest football heroes.

Jimmy McGrory, Celtic's record ever goalscorer, started with The Candy Rocks in 1921. That same season, the Garngad side, aided by McGrory's goals, lifted the Scottish Junior Cup (the parallel to the English FA Amateur Cup), by beating Kilwinning Rangers in front of a 32,000 strong crowd at Firhill, following a replay.

The all-time leading scorer in top-flight British football history, who went on to score a monumental 395 goals for Celtic, now lends his name to St Roch's home ground: James McGrory Park.

Continued>>>



developments have replaced the long demolished tenements of the old Garngad. St Roch's, all the while, have continued as a focal in an area still battling with many of the same problems of its past.

"Poverty should be no barrier to education"

**- Stephen Mullen,
St Roch's Director
of Operations.**

The story of St Roch's past successes is a lesson in what can be collectively won by empowering working class people. Today the club continues its founding tradition of investing heavily in the people of its local community.

Last year, St Roch's FC won the Streets Ahead "Best Community Initiative" award for a regular Homework Club aimed at nearby high school students. Based at the ground, with support via undergraduates from Glasgow University, more than 100 students have received free additional tuition in Maths, English & Physics, through the scheme.

The Homework Club has been the most public success of St Roch's recent community work, although the clubhouse at James McGrory Park appears to be in constant use - from jobseeking projects and employability training to meals provided for local pensioners and people affected by homelessness.

Even something as simple as offering the clubhouse WiFi to those without internet access can become an important local asset.

Recently St Roch's has reaffirmed links with their big cousins from Parkhead, by partnering up with the Celtic Foundation, the Scottish Champions' charitable arm, to better deliver on projects such as its free summer football academy for kids.

James McGrory Park has also become the regular venue for the Green Brigades' (Celtic Ultras) annual Anti-Discrimination Tournament.

It's perhaps no coincidence that St Roch's



redoubled investment into community work has coincided with a decisive upturn in fortunes on the pitch; The Candy have won 2 promotions in the last 4 seasons, and are now placed a solid mid-table in the SJFA West Championship.

Most impressive of all, Roch's were in the draw for this season's Scottish Junior Cup quarter-final - the furthest the club has reached in the competition for over half a century.

The current St Roch's might not have a world class striker on its books, but this current team are on their way to emulating the forebears from the 1920s.

The East End of Glasgow knows very well that a good side made of local talent, standing on the shoulders of a united community can take you anywhere.

ST ROCH'S FACTS:

Stevie Chalmers, the scorer of Celtic's winning goal in the 1967 European Cup final came from Garngad and ended his career with St Roch's

St Roch is the patron saint of dogs

The club had two open top bus parades following their Scottish Junior Cup win in 1922 - even though the original game had to be replayed, they paraded through streets anyway, as they feared upsetting the crowd that had already assembled on the streets.

TRANSPARENCY

Latest Financials

In January 2019, Clapton CFC spent £35,119.88, with the largest costs (£24,646.92) once again going towards the production and distribution of our replica shirts: another 1500 were produced this month.

The month also saw the club finish construction of our temporary new stand, which so far has cost us £5,034.18. We also settled our half yearly bill with our hosts, Match Day Centres.

Total income in January 2019 was £ 203,334.59. This is made up of advance sales of shirts, but we also raised £2230.15 on match days, from donations and programme sales.

Expenditures (January 2019)

Production of further replica shirts	£14,905.77
Postage for distributing replica shirts	£9,741.15
Materials for new ground stand	£5,034.18
Second half-year payment for ground hire	£2,005.00
Printing of programmes	£731.00
Professional fees for VAT return	£480.00
Coach Hire	£350.00
Match day security	£316.80
Upgrade of mailing list software	£284.99
Purchase of new gazebos	£269.99
Match officials	£244.00
Match balls	£193.03
Postage	£159.00
Laundry	£94.00
Food for players	£92.00
Purchase of physio supplies	£62.78
Food and transport for homeless shelter	£52.47
Physio costs	£40.00
Essex FA—payment of disciplinary fines	£30.00
Rainbow captain's armbands	£22.50

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Evanthia Georgiou

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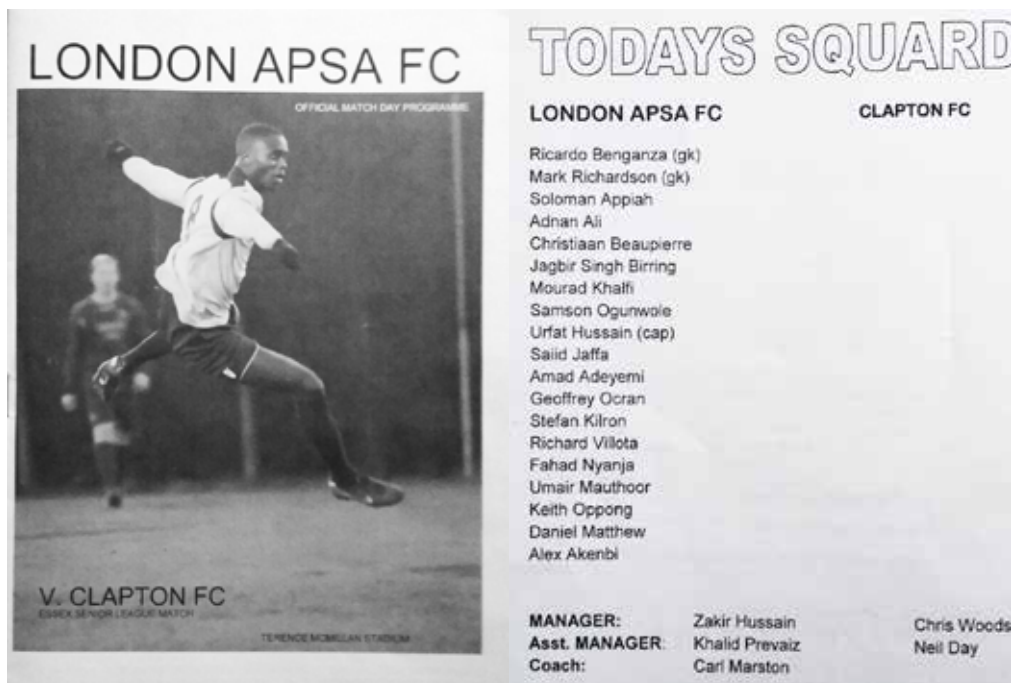
Gary David Price

Contact

finance@claptoncfc.co.uk

HISTORY

"A CHANGE IS GONNA COME"
LONDON APSA v CLAPTON
9/5/2013
by Gary Price



London APSA's origins go back to 1993 when a group of East Ham College friends merged with a youth team called Young Muslims to form Ahle Sunneh FC. The team played with some success in various Asian run competitions and were crowned the first ever Asian League champions.

A trip to Pakistan under the auspices of the Manchester based All Peoples Sports Association (APSA) convinced the club to move into more mainstream football and be the standard bearer for the Asian football community. After considering joining the Essex Intermediate League, the

club were accepted into the Essex Business Houses League in 2000 as a 1st step to playing senior football.

In 2002 APSA applied to join the Essex Senior League, but were refused entry when the Terence McMillan stadium was considered not to be of suitable standard. The following year with financial help from the Asian franchise business, Kebabish, and much hard work, APSA were accepted into the ESL. APSA, though, always found life difficult in the ESL, rarely threatening the top half of the table.

Originally the APSA v Clapton clash was due to be played on the penultimate Saturday of the season, the 27/4. Bizarrely the game was called off just before kick off when it was discovered that the pitch was not marked! The game was re-arranged for Thursday 9th May and was the final fixture played in the ESL that season. The game had greater significance for perennial strugglers Clapton than their hosts. APSA occupied 16th place in the 19 team league, while Clapton came into the game needing a win to avoid the ignominy of finishing bottom.

Clapton had only managed two wins in their previous 35 league games, significantly as it turned out at home to Bowers and Pitsea, and the other away at Bethnal Green United. Off the pitch though things were looking up with the growing support of the "Ultras". The phenomenon had really gained momentum in the early spring to the extent that crowds were double that of the previous season.

For Clapton though the omens were not good, win less since the game at Bethnal Green in January. A 16 game run had yielded 11 defeats and five draws, one of the draws coming at Bowers on 20/4, how vital that proved to be. Clapton were the lowest scorers in the league, scoring a paltry 33 goals and failing to find the net in 16 games. There was also Clapton's poor record against APSA to be considered, winning only one of the previous 13 ESL meetings, at the Dog in 2007/8.

The game played in wet and windy conditions drew a crowd of 60, at least 50 backing the team from E7. As the game progressed so did the strength of the wind swirling around the exposed stadium. Half time witnessed the sight of a dug out flying across the pitch. More importantly Ton were two up. A goal just after the break put Ton 3 up and on their way to a precious 3 points. APSA then pulled two goals

back as nerves jangled off the pitch if not on as a fourth Ton goal late into the game settled the issue. The final whistle sparked a joyous pitch invasion, the 1st ever in the ESL?

Final Placings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Position
Clapton	36	3	12	21	37	76	21	18th
Bowers	36	4	8	24	42	110	20	19th

The stormy night in E13 heralded a change in fortunes for Clapton. Under the management team of Chris Woods and Neil Day ,Ton achieved its 1st ESL top half finish at the 8th attempt. Mike Walther took the team further up the table and to 3 cup finals culminating in taking the Gordon Brasted Trophy back to Forest Gate in 2015/16. Crowds not seen since the 1950's flocked to The Dog to enjoy and participate in the unique and positive atmosphere.

Sadly APSA continued to struggle. In 2014 the club was renamed Newham in an attempt to foster greater links with the area and garner more support. In the same year though they had to vacate the "Terry Mac" as it failed to meet the strict ESL guidelines. A nomadic existence followed, the club pitching up wherever it could arrange a home game. The Dog hosted numerous games often on a Sunday. In 2015/16 Newham resigned from the ESL, homeless and bottom, a 1-8 "home" defeat to Clapton at Tilbury summing up their final season in senior football.

Reverting to their previous name, APSA dropped into the Essex Olympian League, but continued to struggle. Last season saw them playing in the Essex Alliance Premier, a feeder league to the Olympian. They now play at Flanders Fields in East Ham not far from where a group of friends had the idea of forming a football team.

SQUAD STATS

	MCFL		Cups		Total
	App/Goal	5/3/3	App/Goal	3/3	
Adejokun					8/3/6
Agdelen	2(1)				2(1)
Akaly			1(1)		(1)
Akanbi	1		1		2
Anfossy	8		4		12
Bendovskyy	3		2		5
Benjaminin	3		2		5
Blakesley	1(5)		1		2(5)
Bouho	10/1		4(1)/1		14(1)/2
Cartier	(1)		(2)		(3)
Cartier	2(2)		1		3(2)
Coleman	2(1)		(1)		2(2)
Orosbie	9/8		5/4		14/12
Darr	1(1)				1(1)
Fagan	1(1)		(1)		1(2)
Hashim	7(2)		1(2)		8(4)
Headley	4(3)		2(2)		6(5)
Kadler	1(3)				1(3)
Kier	(2)				(2)
Kilron	4(1)		2(1)		6(2)
Kvakyeye	(3)		(1)		(4)
Lastic	5		1(1)		6(1)
Nielsen	8(1)/2		4(1)/2		12(2)/4
Ocran	8(1)		4		12(1)
Odofin	3		3		6
Oshin	2(1)/2		6		8(1)/3
Owiredu	2(2)/1		(1)		2(3)/1
Panescu	(4)		1(1)		1(5)
Pile	3		2(2)		5(2)
Rabia	3(1)		1		4(1)
Rehman					(1)
Rene	5(1)/2		4(1)		9(2)/2
Smyth	9/1		6/1		15/2
Stanley	7(1)/8		6/6		13(1)/14
Stevens	4(1)/2		1		5(1)/2

Figure in bracket indicates playing substitute.
Up to and including 9/02/19 , 11 league and 6 cup games.

RESULTS/FIXTURES

All fixtures subject to change, please check our website for the most up to date list.

DATE	VENUE	OPPONENTS	COMP	RESULT	STARTING (SCORERS IN BOLD CAPS)
15/9/18	A	Ealing Town	MCFL	W 2-1	Anfossy, Coleman, SMYTH , Bouho, Lastic, Ocran, Rene, Adejokun
22/9/18	H	Hutton	BBC(1)	L 4-5	Anfossy, Pile, Smyth, Lastic, Bouho, OSHIN , Darr, Blakesley, Nielsen
29/9/18	A	S. Kilburn Res	JRC(1)	W 4-2	Anfossy, Pile, Smyth, Headley, BOUHO , Ocran, Rene, Oshin, Nielsen
6/10/18	H	FC Roast	MCFL	D 4-4	Bendovskyy, Pile, Smyth, BOUHO , Headley, Ocran, Nielsen, Hashim
20/10/18	H	Epping Town	ART(1)	W 3-1	Bendovskyy, Bouho, SMYTH , Oshin, Odofin, Headley, ADEJOKUN
3/11/18	H	Hereford Palace	MCFL	W 11-1	Bendovskyy, Bouho, Odofin, Headley, Smyth, RENE(2) , Ocran, Hashim
10/11/18	A	Letchworth GC Eagles	ART(2)	W 2-0	Anfossy, Bouho, Odofin, Oshin, Smyth, Kilron, Nielsen, Ocran, Rehman
17/11/18	A	Dep. Galicia Res	JRC (2)	W 4-1	Bendovskyy, ADEJOKUN , Smyth, Odofin, Oshin, Lastic, Nielsen, Hashim
24/11/18	A	L. Samurai Rov's	MCFL	L 1-5	Anfossy, Pile, Lastic, Bouho, Smyth, Stevens, Ocran, Rene, Hashim
1/12/18	H	Eastfield	MCFL	D 1-1	Anfossy, Bouho, Odofin, Pile, Smyth, Kilron, Darr, Cartier, Ocran, Hashim
8/12/18	A	The Curve	MCFL	W 2-1	Anfossy, Smyth, Odofin, Lastic, Bouho, Stevens, OSHIN , Cartier, Hashim
15/12/18	H	Ealing Town	MCFL	L 1-4	Bendovskyy, Bouho, Owiredu, Kilron, Lastic, Nielsen, Hashim, Oshin, Stanley
5/01/19	H	FC Star	MCFL	L 1-3	Anfossy, Bouho, Smyth, Akanbi, Headley, Ocran, Nielsen, Hashim, Stanley
12/01/19	A	Stonewall FC	MCFL	L 0-4	Anfossy, Stevens, Smyth, Rabia, Kilron, Ocran, Adejokun, Kadler
19/01/19	H	L. Samurai Rov's	JRC(3)	D 1-1 (5-3p)	Anfossy, Kilron, Smyth, Oshin, Rabia, Akanbi, Adejokun, Ocran, Hashim
2/02/19	H	Wilberforce Wands	MCFL	W 6-1	Anfossy, Headley, Smyth, Rabia, Bouho, Ocran, Stevens, ADEJOKUN
9/02/19	A	NW London	MCFL	L 1-2	Anfossy, Bouho, Coleman, Rabia, Lastic, Kilron, Blakesley, Hashim
16/02/19	H	Stonewall FC	MCFL		
23/02/19	H	Chipp'fd Corinthians	ART(3)		
2/03/19	A	Wilberforce Wands	JRC(SF)		
9/03/19	A	Wilberforce Wands	MCFL		
16/03/19	A	FC Star	MCFL		
23/03/19	A	FC Roast	MCFL		
30/03/19	A	Eastfield	MCFL		
3/04/19	H	NW London	MCFL		
13/04/19	H	The Curve	MCFL		
27/04/19	H	L. Samurai Rov's	MCFL		

TBA Hereford Palace Away

kun, Nielsen, Fagan, Crosbie
lsen, **CROSBIE, STANLEY(2)**
EISEN(2), Stanley, **CROSBIE**
shim, **STANLEY(3)**, Crosbie, Rene
KUN(2), Ocran, Stanley, Rene, Hashim
Hashim, Adejokun, **STANLEY(2)**, **CROSBIE(5)**
ene, **STANLEY(2)** Crosbie
n, Cartier, **STANLEY, CROSBIE(2)**, Panescu
nim, **NIELSEN**, Owiredu
Stanley, Nielsen
r, Hashim, **CROSBIE**, Owiredu
Rene, **STANLEY**, Crosbie
m, Stanley, Crosbie, **ADEJOKUN**
Stanley, Crosbie, Agdelen
STANLEY, Crosbie, Stevens
OKUN(2), **CROSBIE(2)**, Nielsen, **STANLEY(2)**
im, Agdelen Ocran, Crosbie, **NIELSEN**

SUBS	ATT.
Headley, Carding, Darr, OSHIN , Stanley	227
Headley, Carding, Ocran, Akaly, Rene	415
Carding, Coleman, Kilron, Keir, Akaly	63
Adejokun, Fagan, Kadler, Benjamin, Blakesley	256
Pile, Carding, Kwakye, Kilron, Fagan	356
Kilron, Cartier, Lastic, Nielsen, STEVENS(2)	382
Hashim, Headley, Lastic, Pile, Panescu	100
Headley, Ocran, Hashim, Bouho, Rene	75
Kadler, Headley, Cartier, Kwakye, Blakesley	45
Headley, Lastic, Coleman, OWIREDU , Panescu	283
Headley, Rene, Adejokun, Darr, Ocran Oshin	82
Headley, Kwakye, Kadler, Cartier, Panescu	259
Agdelen, Blakesley, Kwakye, Panescu, Rabia	362
Blakesley, Hashim, Panescu, Bouho, Darr	147
Hashim, Nielsen, Panescu, Darr, Bouho	286
Panescu, Hashim, Agdelen, Rehman, Blakesley	303
Rehman, Adejokun, Carding, Keir, Ocran. Nielsen	153

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Stonewall	13	10	1	2	43	15	28	34
2 NW London	14	9	1	4	54	35	19	28
3 The Curve	14	7	1	6	50	25	25	22
4 FC Star	11	6	1	4	29	18	11	19
5 Wilb. Wands	14	6	1	7	43	43	0	19
6 Samurai Rovs	11	10	0	1	49	5	44	18
7 CCFC	11	4	2	5	30	27	3	17
8 Eastfield	12	4	3	5	33	30	3	15
9 Ealing Town	14	3	3	8	24	34	-10	12
10 FC Roast	9	2	1	6	20	35	-15	10
11 Hereford Pal	13	0	0	13	8	116	-108	3

Adjustment: London Samurai deducted 12 points for fielding a suspended player.
Opposition teams given the 3 points.

MATCH CENTRE



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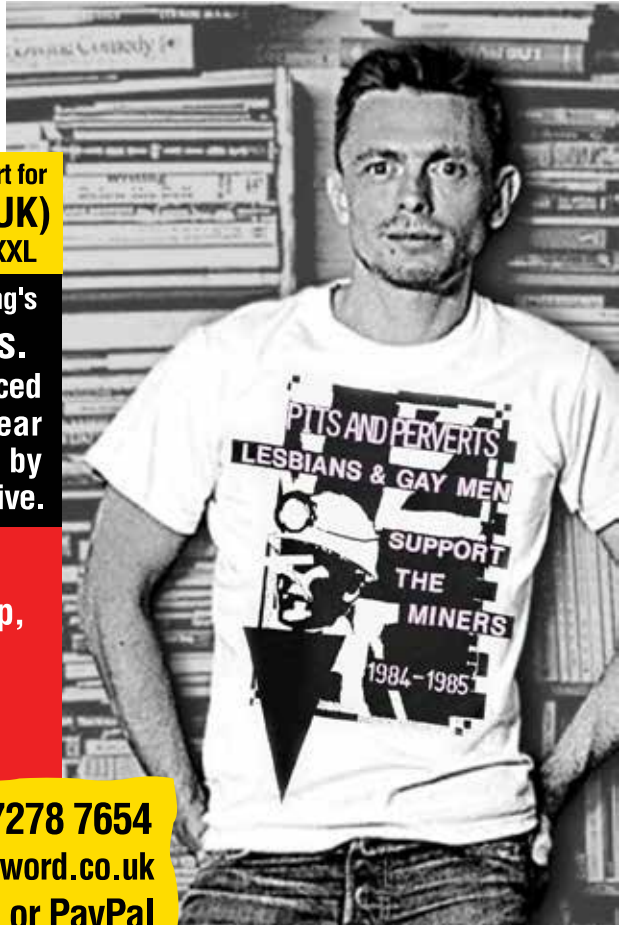
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Lesbians and Gays Supports the Miners continues to support workers in struggle
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Gays Supports the Migrants.

Solidarity Forever!

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
Gravy Ultras aka CCFC
Northern Supporters.

Vladyslav Bendovskyy
Keep 'em out
keeper.
Martin

Defenders

Andrew Lastic
Good luck, skipper.
From CCFC Northern
Supporters aka
Gravy Ultras

Dean Bouho
Your clearances
threaten low-
flying aircraft.
Keep up the
hard work

Liam Smyth
... and we both
looked at each
other and said
"Bobby Moore!"
J

Romelle Pile
Keep it up!
East London Workers
and Peasant's Red
Army.

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

Ellick Coleman Available
Ethan Dixon Available
Yacine Rabia Available
Ashley Headley Available
Alex Akanbi Available

Midfield

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

Joshua Adejokun
Fly down
that wing.
Paul Rutherford

Stefan Kilron
I've joined the
DKMS register.
Have you?
SJ

Phil Blakesley
Best of luck for
the season.
The Homer Tons
A&E Disco Division

Louis Rene
Louis Rene - the
only good
thing about the
right wing
Paul HL

Sham Darr
Thatcher
Died Alone
@thisGRAEME

Nabeel Hashim
Keep on
keepin' on!
The Irn Bru Cru

Paul Oshin
Wilf & Niamh are
epic so score an
epic goal

Ben Kadler Available
Louis Rene Available
Jake Stevens Available
Callum Keir Available
Maxwell Nwofor Available
Prince Kwakye Available
Tré Cartier Available
Cemal Agdelen Available

Attack

Bogdan Panescu
Forza Clapton!
Danny Daly

Eliot Crosbie
Oh Eliot Crosbie -
Keep banging in
the goals
Stan, Austin and Cole

Stefan Nielsen
Tons' very own
Michael Laudrup.
Gary Price

Sherwin Stanley
Good Luck for the
rest of the season.
Colin

Jon Akaly Available
Charlie Fagan Available
Saïd Jaffa Available
Tashan Benjamin Available
Lewis Owiredù Available

THE ARCHIVES

Clapton and Stonewall at Bishopsgate

by Chris Tymkow

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



By an uncanny coincidence, both the Clapton FC and Stonewall Archives are housed at the Bishopsgate Institute.

The Stonewall Archive contains a vast amount of leaflets, newsletters, flyers, posters, press cuttings and ephemera covering four decades of protest and lobbying.

Various Stonewall campaigns can be re-lived by rummaging through the piles of boxes at Bishopsgate,

the most famous campaign being the one against Section 28 of the Local Government Act, which aimed to prevent the 'promotion' of homosexuality in schools and galvanised the LGBT community into action.

Stonewall, founded in 1989, became a highly successful lobbying group, organising against attacks on gay, lesbian and bisexual people and working tirelessly to promote equality, to equalise the age of consent, to lift the ban on LGB people serving in the military, and to give same-sex couples the right to adopt. Most of all, of course, its work was central to achieving the repeal of Section 28 itself.

The Stonewall Archive was deposited at the Bishopsgate Institute in August 2014, just two years before the Clapton FC Archive came there.

With the recent additional input of stickers and other ephemera from Clapton FC members, the two archives present a colourful and 'alternative' introduction to the world of social history study, alongside the more usual archive materials such as minute books, official letters etc (of which there are plenty as well).

Pictured is the oldest existing Clapton FC minute book, which starts in January 1901, nestling among several Stonewall productions.

OPPONENTS

STONEWALL FC



A visit from league leaders and world-famous LGBT football team Stonewall FC is probably the marquee event of our season so far.

Clapton Community FC player-manager Geoff Ocran's side are sure to be fired up after our 4-0 away defeat in January, a match that was much more competitive than the scoreline would suggest.

Since then CCFC have managed to string together some strong performances with wins over Wilberforce Wanderers and, memorably, London Samurai on penalties.

Stonewall were in the MCFL Premier Division last season but were relegated, finishing second bottom. They are well on track for bouncing straight back up with a six point lead and game in hand over their nearest title rivals, NW London.

However, they will be looking for their own return to form after they suffered a heavy 7-0 loss away at London Samurai in their last league game.

CCFC caught up with Stonewall chairman James Motley - look out for him in the number 6 shirt today - to get the inside track on their almost flawless season so far.

"The whole season has been a real positive for us," he told us. "The squad underwent some major changes over the summer and it's been really encouraging to see everyone involved, whether they're new to the club or not, step up and contribute.

"We've surpassed expectations with our current league position and are hoping we can finish the job!"

Back in November they faced MCFL stalwarts Wilberforce Wanderers at Wembley Stadium as part of the Rainbow Laces campaign, coming away with a 3-1 victory (photos on pages 12-14). As you can imagine, Motley looks back on the evening fondly.

"To see the arch lit up with the rainbow colours was an immensely proud moment for the club and we're

very grateful to the FA and Stonewall the charity for allowing us to be part of that.

"The game itself was a bit of a rollercoaster, but to come back from a goal down to win made the event even more special.

"As well as the team, there were a lot of people there that have been part of the club for many years and it was great to show them how far their contribution to Stonewall FC has brought us."

Looking forward to today's games, we asked if there were going to be any major changes from our last meeting.

"One of our strengths this season has been maintaining our own style of play, so I don't think there will be any changes. Although we rode our luck at times [against Clapton], we put in a solid defensive performance last time out and were clinical in front of goal so we'll be hoping for more of the same."

As for future plans for the club, Motley is positive about their prospects.

He said: "In the immediate term, the ambition has to get back to the MCFL Premier Division. We're in a strong position going into the final few games of the season and it would be a great achievement to get promoted straight away, following relegation last season.

"With regards to longer term ambitions - there's no ceiling as to where the club wants to go!"

While it looks like the clubs will be in different divisions next season, there could be one more very special meeting before then.

Stonewall and CCFC are in the other half of the draw in the Jim Rogers Presidents Cup. There's lot of football to be played yet, but that would make one hell of a final...



LIAM SMYTH

Full Name Liam Smyth **Place of Birth** Hackney, London **Birthdate** 02/09/88 **Height** 5'11 (180cm) **Weight** Fluctuating 14 stone 9

lb (93 kg) **Place where you live** Leyton **Day job** History teacher

Previous clubs: Stansted, Ilford and Waltham Forest (over 8 years ago though) **Favourite player** As a kid Teddy Sheringham and now Harry Kane **Favourite team, apart from Clapton CFC** Spurs **Most**

memorable match played in: FA youth win against West Brom **Favourite ground played at** Griffin Park **Biggest high in football** Scoring for Clapton **Lowest point in football** Slipping two discs in my back and not playing football for a long time **Likes and hobbies:** Cycling, Guinness, Orange **Dislikes** 52% of the country, littering, milk

Favourite charity Alzheimer's society **Favourite country visited** Vietnam (Northern Ireland being a close second) **Favourite food:** Indian and Vietnamese **Favourite music/performers** The Streets

Favourite TV shows Curb your enthusiasm, Band of Brothers, Vikings, The Wire, The Office **Favourite film** Monty Python's Life of Brian **What you love about football** The build up, camaraderie and unpredictability (as my weekly accumulators show) **What you hate**

about football The price of football (matches, shirts, Sky Sports), the ridiculous wages and people from London with no link to the north supporting Man United or Liverpool **Biggest influence on you**

My parents **Footballing ambition** To win something with Clapton and score with my right foot **Who would you most like to meet?**

Muhammad Ali, Danny Dyer, Karl Marx

PLAYER

PROFILE



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