

**CLAPTON CFC vs TOWER HAMLETS WFC**

Friendly

2<sup>PM</sup> AUGUST 18, 2019 AT THE STRAY DOG



**CLAPTON CFC vs SPORTING HACKNEY**

Middlesex County Football League Premier Division 1  
7.45<sup>PM</sup> AUGUST 20, 2019 AT WADHAM LODGE STADIUM



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!**



## ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT – WE ARE THE CLAPTON CFC

- We accept that each of us is individually responsible for our own actions and we are collectively responsible for supporting those around us.
- We start from a position of believing and supporting people when they share their experiences with us.
- We accept that other people's lives and histories are invariably different to our own and try to avoid making assumptions about the opinions, background, cultures and identities of others.
- We try not to judge, compete or put each other down. We approach every situation with an open mind.
- We notice and respect each other's physical boundaries and understand the importance of always checking first before crossing them.
- We are mindful of the space we take up and if we are used to talking, we also need to listen to the wisdom that others bring to our organising and discussions.
- We try to communicate in an open, clear and uncomplicated way. We are aware of how the language we use can shut down other people's opinions and exclude participation, even when we do not intend to do so.
- Accountability means that each of us is ready, when challenged about how we act and how we speak, to take on board other's points of view, take responsibility for our actions and make amends in the ways that are asked of us. This accountability is also expected of people and groups working with us.
- If we witness actions or behaviour that is harmful, oppressive or discriminatory, we will challenge it constructively and not leave this to those who are most affected by it or assume others will deal with it.



## GEOFF OCRAN

### MEN'S TEAM PLAYER-MANAGER



**WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT, JUST A YEAR after establishing ourselves as a club, we would be starting the following season having played three international friendlies?**

We would like to thank Roter Stern Leipzig for their excellent hospitality and the opportunity to celebrate their anniversary with them.

The game itself was played in a good manner and on reflection of the 90 minutes, a draw was the fair result.

A win on penalties is a win nonetheless so we'll take it for the record books and look

forward to a potential return leg in London.

Now our focus returns to the league and due to fixture congestion, our first league game is now against Sporting Hackney under the lights.

We both had a chance to do some homework in our pre-season friendly so I envisage a very competitive game in midfield where we hope our front three will make the difference.

It's been a long pre-season and we are ready to get the season underway. I'm sure our fans feel the same with a great weight of anticipation as we step into the unknown of a new league. **#coyt**



*Patrick McLaughlin has been appointed Clapton CFC women's team's first ever head coach.*

*He has the FA Level 2 coaching badge and is a current AFC Wimbledon schools coach. His seven years of experience also saw him coach the Bath University women's team and the Foxes FC youth team.*

*Patrick took charge of the first friendly of pre-season, the 5-2 win over Santacruzense.*

## PATRICK MCLAUGHLIN

### WOMEN'S TEAM HEAD COACH

**HI EVERYONE, I'D LIKE TO START BY WISHING a warm welcome to Tower Hamlets. This friendly gives both sides the opportunity to gain some valuable match time as we approach the start of the season.**

We've been training twice a week and I've been really impressed with effort and application from the players involved.

I'm extremely proud to be given the opportunity to be CCFC's first women's team coach. I'm thrilled to be joining at such an exciting time for the club.

Our inaugural match as Clapton CFC women's, the friendly against Santacruzense, was fantastic both on and off the pitch.

I was pleased with how we played, particularly in possession, as we used the space well against a team just transitioning into 11-a-side football.

Off the pitch, the fans were incredible throughout the game – the players and I were really grateful for your support. It was the most enjoyable game I've coached.

Unfortunately I'm away on holiday for the Tower Hamlets game, so I look forward to returning for training ahead of competitive matches starting on September 1 with the FA Cup against Margate.

After promotion last year as Stoke Newington, first and foremost our target in the league is to stay up.

There's some big clubs in this league, such as Brentford Women, and Crystal Palace and Luton Town having development teams in there.

But beyond that we're going to try and win every game we play. So who knows what the season will bring. Enjoy the game!



## FIXTURE LATEST

The start of the men's team's league season was unfortunately delayed as our Stonewall home game on August 17 had to be postponed. That was because Walthamstow FC had their fixtures rearranged, and they have priority on the stadium pitch.

The fixtures up to the end of October have now been set by the Middlesex County Football League, which you will find elsewhere in this programme. Again, changes are still possible at our level of football.

The first eight women's team fixtures for the Greater London Women's Football League has also just been set, starting the week after their debut in the Women's FA Cup against Margate on Sunday, September 1. These fixtures are also subject to change.

Keep an eye on our website and social media for updates.



## MEMBERSHIP

Join 1,400 people who have become a part-owner of our football club and have an equal say in the big decisions.

Some of the decisions that we've put to a special vote have been the choice of away kit, the name of our temporary ground, to pay for a temporary terrace at the ground, and to move to the Wadham Lodge stadium.

If you join or renew your membership, you get a brand new badge and card for 2019/20. They will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Note that you do need to renew after a year. You should get an email to remind you.  
<https://membermojo.co.uk/ccfc/>

## CATERERS CALLOUT

We're looking for caterers to sell food to fans on home matchdays. This will be both for men's team games on Saturdays and for women's team games on Sundays, and potential games during the week as well. Email [matchday@claptoncfc.co.uk](mailto:matchday@claptoncfc.co.uk) for more details.

## OLD SPOTTED DOG UPDATE

There have been significant developments at the Old Spotted Dog, our spiritual home in Forest Gate. The two teams using the ground have been locked out and a long-overdue clean-up is taking place.

While we're unsure what will happen next, members are obviously taking a keen interest. Our aim remains to restore and return members-run football to the OSD. Members will receive further information as it comes via our newsletter.



## TODAY'S COVER ART

Today's cover art was created by 12 Yards who create abstract illustrations inspired by the beautiful game. Check them out at [www.from12yards.co.uk](http://www.from12yards.co.uk) or on Instagram @from12yards

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



## MATCH REPORT: 10/08/2019 ROTHER STERN LEIPZIG 2 CLAPTON CFC 2 (0-3 ON PENS)



AUGUST THE 10TH HAD BEEN IN MANY diaries since this pre-season trip was unanimously voted for at a general meeting in February. Tons fans made their way to Leipzig from across Europe in planes, trains and automobiles. It was a second chance to see CCFC's men's team overseas after April's clash with CE Jupiter in Barcelona. And an entertaining game ended in a penalty shootout win for the Londoners.

But the day was about celebrating the achievements of Roter Stern, before their twentieth anniversary. The fan-owned club are a model and inspiration for what CCFC can achieve. It was a terrific honour to be selected as the opposition for this match and the whole weekend lived up to expectations.

### GETTING THERE

The Clapton team set off from London very early on Friday morning. Too early for a few members,





who missed the flight and had to take an alternate route via Dortmund. And they had the kit too.

Those that made it by Friday evening were treated to the chance to see RSL in competitive action, a cup tie with SG Taucha 99. They battled hard, but were defeated 2-0 by opposition from the sixth tier of German football. RSL compete at one level lower down.

On Saturday, the players and some fans were treated to lunch at RSL's clubhouse, in the large Teichstraße complex they will eventually develop into their main ground. Situated in the Connewitz district, there are facilities for a multitude of sports, including beach volleyball and even ten-pin bowling. They reckon it could take them another 20 years to get it all how they want it.

Then, everyone headed down to their current ground, about a half hour walk in the next area to the south.

Sportpark Dolitz is delightfully ramshackle. As you approach the entrance, you are gawped at by a pair of emus in a garden next door. Encircled by trees, it feels like you are entering a magical forest glade. The smell of delicious (and cheap) grilled things in buns fills the air.

Also on sale are beer and t-shirts featuring celebrity fan Eric Cantona.

There are uncovered terraces on either side. A pitchside trampoline provided a backdrop of constantly boinging kids behind one of the goals.

The first game of the day was between RSL and FC St Pauli's senior teams.

After that, the main event.

Both team's supporters crammed into a terrace. Furiously waving flags. Swapping and sharing chants.

With no new signings making the trip, Geoff Ocran's lineup was packed with familiar faces from last season.

### LIGHTNING START

The RSL eleven featured many of the same players who had done a shift in the previous night's cup game. That fatigue perhaps contributed to the Tons' lightning start. Jordan Odofin headed in from close range after just a couple of minutes to give Clapton the lead.

And straight after, they carved out a hatful of chances to go further ahead. Eliot Crosbie broke free down the right. He swung in a dangerous cross. The ball broke to Stefan Nielsen on the edge of the box. The midfielder took a touch and stabbed goalwards, but the Red Star keeper acrobatically tipped over.

From the resultant corner, Nielsen spun in another dangerous cross-shot. The Red Star keeper acrobatically tipped over, again.

On 13 minutes, there were goalkeeping heroics at the other end. RSL's number 8 tried to place in the far corner from near the penalty spot. Ashley Headley brilliantly, beautifully touched it onto the post. He followed that up by tipping a speculative long range effort over the bar.

But the hosts soon beat the Clapton goalie to equalise. Their fleet-footed winger Max "Herzi" Herzog darted in on goal and fired into the corner. Just before half-time, RSL got themselves ahead.





Odofo misjudged a crossed ball. Rather than leave it or clear it, he allowed it to glance off his forehead and past a helpless Headley.

One at each end for the big centre back.

HEROIC HEADLEY

In the second half, the tricky, pacey Lewis Owiredu became the main threat for the Tons. He was the last thing a tiring RSL backline needed to deal with.

On 70 minutes, one of his forays down the left bore fruit. He fired a low ball across the face of goal from the goal line. Crosbie was in the right place to tap in.

After the final whistle, it surprisingly seemed that a penalty shootout was going to happen. CCFC are building a good record, defeating Samurai and Hilltop. And they made it a trio of successes here.

Headley was the hero, saving three. Albeit one of them was an absolute pearoller.

Nielsen, Cemal Agdelen and Ellick Coleman were on target for the Tons. Andrew Lastic diplomatically missed one so the hosts didn't feel too bad.



The crowd chanted 'Clapton, Roter Stern' in unison throughout the spotkicks. Friendship intact.

CELEBRATIONS

Roter Stern had erected a bandstand behind one terrace and put on punk and hip-hop acts for post match entertainment. And then it was all back to the club house for more beers.

Clapton members returned to London, hungover, but bursting with ideas of all the things their club could potentially do

Hopefully this will not be the last tie between these two teams.



Photos: Roter Stern Leipzig at flickr.com

LATEST FINANCIALS

In July 2019, Clapton CFC spent £9,082.74, with most expenditure incurred in preparation for the new season. This included the first instalment of ground rent for the men's first team playing in the main stadium at Wadham Lodge, new kit for the women's team, match balls, training equipment and an order for new CCFC scarves. The men's first team also played five matches in July, with subsequent costs for match officials, kit laundry, food for players and a contribution to the costs of renting a pitch at Mabley Green for our friendly against Lopes Tavares.

In addition, the club donated £170 raised by CCFC supporters to Waltham Forest Stand Up For Your Rights.

Our income in July was £5,390.44. The largest proportion of this was £3,876.30 from membership renewals and new members (after fees charged by MemberMojo). Much of the £935.54 we raised from merchandise last month was from the ongoing sale of our shirts - which remain available to buy at home games.

EXPENDITURE

First instalment of ground hire costs	£ 4,102.00
Production of team kit	£ 1,824.81
Production of new scarves	£ 921.91
Membership cards	£ 405.72
Physio	£ 325.00
Flight costs for men's first team to Berlin, Aug 2019	£ 230.00
Match officials	£ 228.00
Members' badges for the 2019-20 season	£ 154.80
Annual league registration fees	£ 130.00
Training equipment	£ 128.61
Match balls	£ 103.98
Kit laundry	£ 88.00
Merchandise	£ 83.83
Pitch hire for friendly against Lopes Tavares	£ 80.00
Women's first team training pitch hire	£ 70.04
Accountability signage	£ 61.84
Community Outreach leaflets	£ 48.00
Cup registration fees	£ 30.00
Food for players	£ 30.00
Postage	£ 23.00
Accounting costs	£ 13.20
TOTAL	£ 9,082.74

INCOME

Membership	£ 3,876.30
Merchandise	£ 935.54
Matchday donations	£ 343.20
Other revenue	£ 155.00
Monthly direct debit donations	£ 80.40
TOTAL	£ 5,390.44

THE BOARD

Thomas Bleasdale
Kevin Blowe <i>Treasurer</i>
Robin Cowan
Matthew Cunningham
Evanthia Georgiou
Jack Mellor <i>Secretary</i>
Laura Miller
Tony Roome
Paul Rutherford
Martin Silver
Chris Tymkow
<i>League Representative</i>

**THE LEAGUE IS BACK. THE CLAPTON MEN'S** team welcome Sporting Hackney to Wadham Lodge for our curtain-raiser in the Middlesex County Football League Premier Division on August 20.

However, some of our league rivals have already played two games of the 2019/20 campaign already over the previous two weekends.

With an expansion from 13 to 17 teams and some ambitious outfits gaining promotion, it is bound to be a competitive division...

### BRENTHAM FC

**LAST SEASON: 7TH**

Based in North Ealing, the historic Brentham Club was founded in 1919. As well as football, there is cricket, darts, tennis, bridge, bowls and tennis. Fred Perry dabbled in a spot of the latter in their early days.



### C.B. HOUNSLOW UNITED RESERVES

**LAST SEASON: 4TH**

Level nine side CB Hounslow United rose from the ashes of Richmond Rangers in 1989. The CB stands for Cater Bank, the club sponsor at the time. Kind of like RB Leipzig. The wider CB Hounslow Sports Club also offers running, basketball, netball and archery. CB's ground is near Heathrow Airport, just down the road from where the Tons took on Deportivo Galicia London Reserves in last season's Jim Rogers Cup.

### CRICKLEWOOD WANDERERS FC

**LAST SEASON: 13TH**

This Brent-based side are run by a charity called Youth Engagement Solutions, which aims to 'improve wellbeing by getting young people engaged with work, school, and sport.' Founded 2011, they now have three teams in total. They finished rock bottom last term, but were unlucky to lose out on penalties to St Panteleimon in the final of the Alec Smith Premier Division Cup. Samurai Rovers beat them 5-4 in a pre-season friendly.

### HILLINGDON FC

**LAST SEASON: 8TH**

Founded in 1989 as Hillingdon Irish Saints FC, the club has 14 teams in total. Hillingdon won this league in 2014/15, but were not promoted. They play at Brunel University Sports Complex.

### HILLTOP FC

**LAST SEASON: 1ST IN MCFL DIV 1 WEST**

A side with good memories for Tons fans, as they were the opposition when CCFC claimed their first silverware in the final of the Jim Rogers Cup. We needed penalties on that occasion, but Hilltop were arguably the better side. It was a tremendous year though, as they did the double of the MCFL Division One West and MCFL Junior Cup. Hilltop have prepared for this campaign with a summer trip to Canada.

### INDIAN GYMKHANA FC

**LAST SEASON: 6TH**

This illustrious club in Osterley was founded in 1916 as a cricket club. Their footballing operations got up and running in the early 80s. While it has grown out of the Indian community, the club's stated aim is to be a 'multi-racial centre where old and young alike could meet to play sports and foster goodwill between people across generations.' They won the division in 2008.

### KENSINGTON DRAGONS FC

**LAST SEASON: 18TH**

Set up in 2001 to give chances to kids looking to play football, Dragons now have ten boys' youth teams, a girls' youth team and two men's sides. Their first team won the MCFL Premier in the 2013/14 season. They play in the Linford Christie Stadium, Wormwood Scrubs, in the shadow of the barren hillside where the Tons took on Hereford Palace last season.

### LAMPTON PARK FC

**LAST SEASON: 5TH**

LPFC play at Rectory Park in Hortholt, which just so happens to be Middlesex FA's headquarters. They have a second string who play in the Sunday leagues.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 2019/20

# A LOWDOWN OF OUR OPPOSITION





## LARKSPUR ROVERS FC

LAST SEASON: 11TH

Rovers were formed in 1950, but moved to their current base of Northolt in 1970. They also have youth, Sunday and women's teams. The latter actually played in the same division as AFC Stoke Newington, who are now part of CCFC.

## LONDON SAMURAI ROVERS FC

LAST SEASON: 4TH IN MCFL DIV I EAST AND CENTRAL

The runaway standout team in Clapton's division last season, only a harsh points deduction kept Samurai off top spot. But the Tons were a bit of a bogey team for this ambitious Japanese-heritage team. After a chastening 5-1 defeat in Southall, Ocran's men secured a Jim Rogers Cup win on penalties and a nervy 3-2 league victory back at the Stray Dog. This season, Samurai will be groundsharing with Northwood FC.

## NW LONDON FC

LAST SEASON: 3RD IN MCFL DIV I EAST AND CENTRAL

The Gorillas have played CCFC four times to date. Last summer's pre-season clash was won by the Tons. In the league, NW won 2-1 at the New River Stadium in Haringey and were held to a 4-4 draw by a late equaliser in Walthamstow. This pre-season saw another eight goal thriller, but Clapton only managed to contribute two on that occasion. NW have been on the go since 2015 and are still managed by founder Wasim Khan.

## PFC VICTORIA LONDON

LAST SEASON: 2ND

Founded in 2016, Victoria's squad includes players with experience in the Polish league system. Goalkeeper Bartłomiej Fogler was with Crewe Alexandra (although he didn't make an appearance). They only lost two games last season, finishing runners-up to St Panteleimon. There was silverware though, as they beat Pitshanger Dynamo in the final of the Middlesex Intermediate Cup. Victoria play at Hanworth Villa's Rectory Meadow ground.

## PITSHANGER DYNAMO FC

LAST SEASON: 3RD

The wonderfully nicknamed 'Carrots' – yes, they play in orange – have been bumping around various Middlesex leagues since they were founded in 1972. They play at Hanwell Town's Reynolds Field ground in Perivale.

## STONEWALL FC

LAST SEASON: 2ND IN MCFL DIV I EAST AND CENTRAL

As the world's first LGBT+ team and CCFC's league rivals last season, Stonewall FC need little introduction. The Tons were routed 4-0 upon their visit to Barnes. But they got revenge with a comfortable 5-1 win back at the Stray Dog in February. Stonewall were promoted as runners-up.

## SPORTING HACKNEY FC

LAST SEASON: 9TH

Based on Hackney Marshes, this is the closest thing the Tons have to a league derby. CCFC's first ever win (indeed first ever goals) came in last pre-season's 4-2 win over Hackney. The Parrots got their revenge with a 2-1 friendly win this summer. Sporting were set up in 1986 with a council grant, for the benefit of unemployed Hackney residents. Supporting young people in the local area remains key to the club's ethos. Their men's first team enjoyed a wonderful season in 2013-14, when they won a league and cup double.

## YEADING TOWN FC

LAST SEASON: 2ND IN MCFL DIV I WEST

Yeading finished second in the MCFL Division One West last season, a mere point behind champions Hilltop, but were initially denied their application for promotion. After a hearing at Wembley Stadium, that decision was overturned. It will be the first time the club, who were founded in 2013, have competed at Step 7.



# GORILLAS HIT SIX IN PRE-SEASON ENCOUNTER

MATCH REPORT: 03/08/2019  
CLAPTON CFC 2  
NW LONDON FC 6

THREE SECOND HALF GOALS IN AS MANY minutes saw Clapton's MCFL Premier rivals NW London take the pre-season bragging rights and set down a marker for the 2019/20 season.

As with previous games against the team known as the Gorillas, large periods of the game were closely-matched.

An early chance came for left-back Justin Cummins who used a free kick from the halfway line to try and lob the ball over the keeper's head from range.

Minutes later, NW were able to convert on their first real opportunity of the game. Daniel Pinheiro made a 90 degree pass across the box and a couple of Clapton defenders. He found the feet of striker Wesley Negri, who was able to easily tap it in.

However, the Tons soon drew level. Stefan Nielsen and Bogdan Panescu set up new boy Bilal Hussain after stealing an attempted clearance and a clever exchange of passes.

NW started to find and exploit gaps in the Clapton defence more frequently. A headed goal was struck off by the linesman's flag. At the other end





of the pitch, Panescu and Nielsen had chances in quick succession.

In the dying minutes of the half both teams scored. NW made it 1-2 when Phil Da Silva found some space in the box and slotted it to the keeper Jack Francis' left. Hussain evened things up again when he was left with acres of room in the box. He got on the end of a trademark Nielsen delivery to steer in a cushioned header.

### BOILING POINT

In the second half, the Tons briefly lost control of the game and conceded three goals in less time than it takes to boil an egg. And a soft-boiled one at that...

Pinheiro found space on the left of the pitch to take a long pass. The Brazilian was able to control it and get a shot away in two touches sending the ball to substitute keeper Ashley Headley's right.

The very next attack of the game led to a NW corner. This was taken short to the edge of the box, where Johan Ahipeaud was able to strike it clean over Headley's head.

The rapid trio of NW goals was finished off by Joao Marcos. His top corner strike from outside the box was the best goal of the game.

Clapton made some substitutions, which led to several more chances, but none were converted.

NW grabbed the last goal of the match just before the final whistle when an attacker tumbled in the Clapton area. He was unable to get a clean shot away, but did scuff it enough to send it trickling toward the goalmouth. Ezequiel Franchi was able to tap in to make it six.



## LINK GOAL HAUL LIGHTS UP WOMEN'S TEAM CURTAIN-RAISER

### MATCH REPORT: 03/08/2019 CLAPTON CFC 5 SANTACRUZENSE 2

**AFTER MONTHS OF TALKS AND PLANS, CCFC women's team were about to make their debut in red and white stripes. Centre-back Alice Nutman gives her take on a historic match.**

The sun was shining and the Stray Dog looked as inviting as ever for us to play out from the back. We put on our shirts for the first time and with them the weight of anticipation.

Patrick McLaughlin, newly appointed manager named the starting 11 and we took to the pitch for a much needed warm up.

### NERVE-SETTLER

The Tons started quickly, popping the ball around the Santacruzense midfield before an assist on her debut from Ana Holmes was expertly slotted away

by Emily Link within the first few minutes of the game. Nerves were settled, cobwebs cleared, now the game really began.

Link doesn't stay quiet for long and a long range shot sailed through the keeper's outstretched hands to make it two.

Santacruzense woke up, through a combination of Link's almost indecent finishing ability and the sound of the drums and chanting from the supporters. A quick through ball was latched onto and slotted away. 2-1.

Not ones to panic, we continued to pass it out from the back, with Harriet Plows and Hannah Wright bombing forward from full back positions



and delivering some lovely balls into the box. Eventually a perfect ball from Plows landed on the head of Link and was neatly headed into the top corner. Link with a hatrick in the first half – she'll be unbearable at the pub.

### STAKING CLAIMS

The second half saw a lot of changes giving the new gaffer a chance to see our strength in depth.

Substitute Riddi snatched at a long range opportunity on her debut to make it 4-1. Ciara Monaghan and Holmes continued to control the midfield. Popping off passes and drifting past players with ease.

Santacruzense weren't finished yet though. Another through ball from the back saw them close the gap. 4-2.

Last ten minutes of the game and time for a final hurrah from the Tons.

Link had been moved out to the left, but can't be kept away from the goal.

A side-footed slot into the net. The 5-2 scoreline sealed. Her dad Vite had travelled from Birmingham for her debut now got to hear her name being sung from the stand.

An excellent day at the office for all involved.

A momentous day for CCFC and women's football. The start of a beautiful journey.

With Link up top – next stop Wembley.



ALL PHOTOGRAPHS: MAX REEVES



## CLAPTON HISTORY BY GARY PRICE

# THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN

## CLAPTON'S DEBUT IN THE ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

ON THE 9/9/1905 CS RANCE SCORED Clapton's first league goal of the 20th century. In fact it was Clapton's first league goal since resigning from the Southern League in 1896 after two seasons of struggling to compete with professional opposition.

The growth of professionalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries had resulted in the formation of national and regional leagues. The amateur game had relied on cup ties and friendlies to fill the fixture list but change was about to happen.

The amateur game could no longer live in its own bubble as more enlightened people were entering its ranks, though the idea of being paid to play was still a step too far for many.

A meeting was held in Broad Street, London, in February 1905 to consider the formation of a strong amateur league. The attendees, Casuals, Civil Service, Clapton, Ealing Association, Ilford, and London Caledonians all agreed in principle to the idea. Two further meetings, the second

held on the 8th of March, resulted in the Clapton secretary, Frank Evans, proposal to form a league, being passed unanimously.

The league which was to commence in September was to be named after The Isthmian Games first held in Corinth in 581 BC. This was possibly a nod to the classically educated public school and university classes still prevalent in the game. It's no coincidence that other classically named leagues followed suit, the Athenian, Spartan, and Corinthian among others flourished in the amateur game. Honor Sufficit" (honour suffices), was adopted as the motto of The Isthmian League, so it was hardly surprising that no cups or medals were to be awarded. Membership - by invitation only - was limited exclusively to amateur clubs.

The first two games were played on 9/9/1905, with Clapton at home to London Caledonians, and Ilford entertaining Civil Service. Both games were played in torrential rain with The Sportsman newspaper commenting that the attendance at The Old Spotted Dog was 'moderate'.

THE ISTHMIAN LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	H	A
LONDON CALEDONIANS	10	9	1	2	25	8	15	1-0	0-4
CLAPTON	10	6	1	3	11	13	13	-	-
CASUALS	10	3	4	3	14	14	10	2-0	1-1
CIVIL SERVICE	10	4	1	5	16	20	9	1-0	2-1
EALING ASSOCIATION	10	3	2	5	15	19	8	2-3	0-4
ILFORD	10	1	3	6	5	12	5	1-0	1-0

The Clapton team on that historic day:

**KEEPER:** J Wilding. **HALF BACKS:** H Parkinson, L Peel-Yates, and HC Hollis. **BACKS:** AK Vinkridge and R Ewan. **FORWARDS:** HJ Eastwood, CG Russell, CS Rance, P Campbell and AJ Seaton.

It was an under strength side that faced Caledonians, only Wilding and Hollis remaining from the team that had been beaten by West Hartlepool in the previous season's FA Amateur Cup Final. Notable absentees were the Farnfield brothers, Algernon, Percy, and Herbert, plus prolific scorer Clyde Purnell. The Sportsman reported that Clapton deservedly won a close encounter 'one goal to love', Rance's goal coming late in the second half, 'after a good piece of passing by the home forwards'. Clapton thus created more history, with the first ever home goal and home victory in The Isthmian League. Ilford lost the day's other fixture 0-1.

Clapton enjoyed an encouraging first season in the new league finishing runners up to Caledonians. Goal scoring remained a season long problem for Ton, failing to score more than twice in any game. Two heavy defeats gave their end of season statistics an unusual look. Though achieving twice as many victories than defeats, Clapton ended the season with a negative goal difference.

On the same day that Clapton defeated Caledonians, neighbours West Ham United lost a Southern League game at Millwall. The professional Southern League comprised 18 clubs who all went on to play in The Football League. A decade earlier Clapton had played a significant part in the formation of The Southern League. It could be argued that Clapton then played a more decisive role in the formation of The Isthmian League, a league very much in existence to this day though having undergone various name changes. Rothmans, Servowarm, Vauxhall-Opel, Berger, Ryman, Bostik, Bet Victor? The only name that still resonates is Isthmian, probably the most famously named non league in English football.



### 1903 CUP MEDAL

This rarity was recently deposited in the Clapton Archive by Life Member Andy Barr. It comes from the 1903 London Charity Cup Final, played at the Old Spotted Dog Ground in front of a crowd of about 3,000. Clapton, holders from the previous season, beat Casuals 3-1 with a hat-trick from Roger Evans to keep the cup in Forest Gate.

There is no name engraved on the back, but we assume that the medal belonged to one of the victorious Clapton team. Perhaps it had been handed to hat-trick hero Evans himself (who was called up to play for Wales around this time), or to one of the three Farnfield brothers in the side.

Not that all the news was good for Clapton at the time. The minute books record Mrs Vause of the Spotted Dog pub issuing the club a letter via her solicitors, terminating the current ground tenancy and looking for a new rent of £175 for the period 1st September 1903 to 31st March 1904. But negotiations led to a lease being signed at the end of March, keeping Clapton at the ground.

Chris Tymkow

The Clapton FC Archive is kept at the Bishopsgate Institute Library, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH [library@bishopsgate.org.uk](mailto:library@bishopsgate.org.uk)



## PLAYER PROFILE:

# LUCY ROLINGTON

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** Leicester  
**BIRTHDATE:** 01/07/1992  
**HEIGHT:** 5 feet 2 inches  
**WHERE YOU LIVE:** Hackney  
**DAY JOB:** Project manager for a street child rights charity  
**PREVIOUS CLUBS:** Stoke Newington  
**ALL TIME FAVOURITE PLAYER:** Paul Scholes  
**FAVOURITE TEAM, APART FROM CLAPTON CFC:** Leicester City FC  
**BIGGEST HIGH IN FOOTBALL:** Leicester winning the 15/16 league (I will probably never get over this)  
**LOWEST POINT IN FOOTBALL:** Getting bitten in the head aged 15

when playing football for my college team  
**LIKES AND HOBBIES:** Dogs  
**DISLIKES:** Lack of dogs  
**FAVOURITE COUNTRY VISITED:** Bolivia  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Peas  
**FAVOURITE FILM:** City of God  
**FAVOURITE MUSIC:** Fleetwood Mac  
**FAVOURITE TV:** RuPaul's Drag Race  
**FOOTBALLING AMBITION:** Scoring a very important bicycle kick at a final or something, without breaking my neck  
**PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET:** Lizzo



## PLAYER PROFILE:

# CEMAL AGDELEN

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** London  
**BIRTHDATE:** 6 January 1991  
**HEIGHT:** 5 ft 5 inches (165cm)  
**WHERE YOU LIVE:** Hackney  
**DAY JOB:** University Student Support Advisor  
**PREVIOUS CLUBS:** Leyton Youth, Wadham Lodge, Stansted, London Apsa  
**ALL TIME FAVOURITE PLAYER:** Steven Gerrard  
**FAVOURITE TEAM, APART FROM CLAPTON CFC:** Arsenal  
**BIGGEST HIGH IN FOOTBALL:** Beating AFC Wimbledon in the FA youth cup for Leyton Youth at 17

**LOWEST POINT IN FOOTBALL:** Getting my nose broken by my own player's pass  
**LIKES AND HOBBIES:** Music, comedy  
**DISLIKES:** Donald Trump, negative attitudes  
**FAVOURITE COUNTRY VISITED:** Cyprus  
**FAVOURITE FOOD:** Pasta  
**FAVOURITE FILM:** John Q/Man on fire  
**FAVOURITE MUSIC:** RnB/Soul  
**FAVOURITE TV:** My Wife & Kids  
**FOOTBALLING AMBITION:** To keep playing and enjoying football past the age of 40  
**PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET:** Karl Pilkington





## SPORTING HACKNEY FC

**THE OPPOSITION FOR THE MEN'S side's first competitive game of the season come in the familiar form of Sporting Hackney.**

As well as being the only other team in the MCFL Premier to play in East London, the Parrots have already taken on the Tons twice. Last pre-season, the men in red and while triumphed

4-2 at Mabley Green, to secure their first ever win. But this July, Sporting had their revenge, beating the Tons 2-1 at The Stray Dog. Bogdan Panescu grabbed the consolation from the spot on that day.

The Hackney Marshes-based side have been on the go for over 20 years and finished eighth in the league last term.



### A WORD FROM THE OPPOSITION

**PRE-SEASON AT THIS LEVEL IS always frustrating with players away on holiday. I always feel that squads do not really settle until September. However I have managed to retain 16 first team players from last season with only three players moving on for various reasons.**

I have been really pleased with our new signings. Three of them played against Clapton and they have certainly fitted in well at our club. In total we have played four pre-season games winning three and losing one. So that has been positive but we must remember that nothing is like a competitive league game.

Like all seasons in the MCFL, it will be difficult to predict the winners with so many new clubs joining. I will be looking at PFC Victoria to be strong again this season as well as Pitshanger. If we stay injury free (unlike last year) we will be there or thereabouts. We'll certainly be challenging. But like all seasons it is imperative to get off to a good start, especially with 32 games to play.

*Peter Harrington, joint manager, Sporting Hackney*



## TOWER HAMLETS WOMEN

**THE FRIENDLY AGAINST TOWER Hamlets Women is set to be entertaining as both sides are not shy of scoring goals.**

The last time the two sides met, Clapton CCFC (as AFC Stoke Newington) won an eleven-goal thriller with the final score 6-5.

Tower Hamlets (previously known as Clapton Orient Women) are an iconic team, as they were the first female team to be founded in East London.

The core squad have played together more than 10 seasons so have a lot of experience as a squad under their belts.

This September, Tower Hamlets' first and reserve teams will be rejoining Greater London Division 2 North and Reserves Division 2 North, respectively.

The teams train every Wednesday at Mile End Stadium as well as competing in five-a-side leagues and other competitions throughout the year.

Tower Hamlets first and reserves are training hard as they look to progress through GLWFL come September.

As a club they continue to grow and welcome new players who align with their beliefs around enjoying football, excellent teamwork and always playing fair.







## PITSHANGER DYNAMO



**THE CLAPTON CFC MEN'S TEAM could scarcely have been handed a tougher first away trip after promotion than a visit to Ealing-based side Pitshanger Dynamo.**

The Carrots (nicknamed after their orange strip) finished third in the Middlesex County Football League Premier Division, and lost the final of the Middlesex FA County Cup.

They were defeated just once in all competitions at their fortress Reynolds Fields home, now known as the Powerday Stadium, which they groundshare with Isthmian League side Hanwell Town.

While last season's performance was impressive, Gabriel Jones, Pitshanger Dynamo first team coach, admits he was gutted they didn't go that bit further.

Jones told us: "We were very disappointed with our third place finish having led for the majority of the season.

"We were in a brilliant three-horse race with very little between us, PFC Victoria and St. Panteleimon and unfortunately dropped points against mid-table sides on a few too many occasions.

"Huge credit to St. Panteleimon who did not lose until the final day. They had an incredible season and showed us the levels we need to be at this time around."

Pre-season results for Dynamo have been a mixed bag, but they've been training or playing three times a week, mainly against clubs in higher leagues.

Jones said: "We looked good against these opponents and have already seen some good football played as we get into gear and establish our squad.

"We've had a few notable departures from the squad this season, including three key players from last term.

"This is always to be expected but the hope is that among the 5 or 6 new faces we have brought in, we have adequately replaced that quality and hopefully strengthened further."

With a strong playing squad, good community links, and a quality stadium, everything seems set for Pitshanger Dynamo to finally achieve promotion out of the MCFL for the first time since they were joined the league in 1977.

Asked about targets, Jones said: "Our hopes for this season is firstly to enjoy

the ride again and make this season another great adventure.

"We would like to see ourselves promoted this season having narrowly missed out last year. However, the process of that is taking things one game at a time.

There are many new faces in the league including Clapton CFC, and we are aiming to focus hard on getting things right against the 'unknown quantities' in our league.

"We're looking forward to playing a team with such a huge following, and adding to your fans experience this season, as well as our own - it will no doubt be an entertaining game!"

This is one of the easier MCFL away games to make - about 10 minutes walk from Perivale on the Central Line.

Prepare for a significant step up in facilities from some of the park pitches we visited last season - to match the increased quality we'll face on the pitch.

**Pitshanger Dynamo vs Clapton CFC is on Saturday, August 24th at the Powerday Stadium in Greenford, UB6 8TL. Admission is £2.**



## WIVENHOE TOWN FC / FA VASE / SEPTEMBER 14TH

**CLAPTON CFC MAKE THEIR FA Vase debut with a trip to a buoyant Wivenhoe Town, on the outskirts of Colchester, on August 31st.**

The Dragons play at one step higher than us in the Eastern Senior League South so will be big favourites, not least due to their form.

Despite finishing 14th in the table, the turnaround under new manager Gary Monti was phenomenal, losing just once in the last nine games from his appointment in February.

Before he was brought in as boss, from Essex & Sussex Border League club Tiptree Jobserve, they'd lost a whopping 15 games in a row.

The club were formed in 1925 and have been based at Broad Lane - now known as the Blackstone Stadium - since 1977 when it was a carrot field which they bought for £2,500.

After decades in local leagues, their heyday was the late Eighties and early Nineties when they reached the dizzy heights of the Isthmian League Premier Division.

They set their attendance record of 1,992 in the FA Trophy against Runcorn

in 1990 while the next season they played neighbours Colchester in the same competition in front of 4,923 away at Layer Road.

Their best performance in the FA Vase was in 1995/6 when they reached the last 16 but lost to Mangotsfield United on a replay.

Several meetings took place between Clapton and Wivenhoe in that era, with the Tons grabbing just a solitary win, 3-2 in the Isthmian League Division 2 in front of 83 spectators September 1987. Four months later, 147 people saw Wivenhoe take revenge with a 7-0 win in the return match.

In the last few decades, financial problems have seen them drop down the leagues, but Monti appears to have got the Dragons breathing fire again and they look back on the up.

Whoever wins our tie will play either Barkingside of the Eastern Senior League South or FC Broxbourne Borough of the Spartan South Midlands

League Division One away in the second qualifying round. That tie will take place on Saturday, September 14th.

The FA Vase is the best chance grassroots football clubs have of playing at Wembley given that entry is restricted to clubs at Step Five and below. CCFC, who play at Step Seven, are one of the lowest placed clubs to qualify for the competition.



Our acceptance into the FA Vase means we will not be competing in the Anagram Records Trophy, which is only for clubs in the South East who don't qualify for the Vase because of ground regulations. Last season we reached the final before losing to Catholic United.



## RESULTS/FIXTURES

## MEN'S

DATE	COMP	VENUE / OPPONENTS	RESULT	SCORERS	ATT.
6/7/19	Friendly	Wadham Lodge 3G (H) vs <b>Wanderers FC</b>	W 3 - 2	Wise, Ocran, Kilron	30
13/7/19	Friendly	Mabley Green (A) vs <b>Lopes Tavares</b>	L 4 - 1	Nott	75
20/7/19	Friendly	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Sporting Hackney</b>	L 1 - 2	Panescu (Pen)	150
25/7/19	Friendly	Wadham Lodge Stadium (A) vs <b>Walthamstow FC</b>	L 2 - 1	Nielsen	120
27/7/19	Friendly	Menace Arena (A) vs <b>Peckham Town</b>	W 3 - 4	Wise, Hussain (2), Adejokun	97
3/8/19	Friendly	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>NW London FC L</b>	L 2 - 6	Hussain (2)	207
10/8/19	Friendly	Sportpark Dölitz (A) vs <b>Roter Stern Leipzig</b>	W 2 - 2 (3-0 pens)	Odofin, Crosbie	650
20/8/19	MCFLPD	Wadham Lodge Stadium (H) vs <b>Sporting Hackney</b>			
24/8/19	MCFLPD	Powerday Stadium (A) vs <b>Pitshanger Dynamo</b>			
31/8/19	FA Vase	Blackstone Stadium (A) vs <b>Wivenhoe Town</b>			
7/9/19	ASPD Cup	Brunel Uni Sports Complex (A) vs <b>Hillingdon FC</b>			
14/9/19	MCFLPD	Wadham Lodge Stadium (H) vs <b>Hillingdon FC</b>			
21/9/19	MCFLPD	Rectory Park (A) vs <b>Hilltop FC</b>			
05/10/19	MCFLPD	Wembley FC (A) vs <b>Cricklewood Wanderers</b>			
12/10/19	MCFLPD	Wadham Lodge Stadium (H) vs <b>Stonewall FC</b>			
19/10/19	MCFLPD	Wadham Lodge Stadium (H) vs <b>Brentham FC</b>			
26/10/19	MCFLPD	Wadham Lodge Stadium (H) vs <b>CB Hounslow Res</b>			

## WOMEN'S

DATE	COMP	VENUE / OPPONENTS	RESULT	SCORERS	ATT.
03/8/19	Friendly	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Santacruzense</b>	W 5 - 2	Link (4), Riddick	207
18/8/19	Friendly	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Tower Hamlets</b>			
01/9/19	FA Cup	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Margate</b>			
8/9/19	GLWFL	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Luton Town Development</b>			
15/9/19	GLWFL	Barn Elms (A) vs <b>Regents Park Rangers</b>			
22/9/19	GLWFL	St Aloysius Playing Fields (A) vs <b>Islington Borough</b>			
29/9/19	GLWFL	Champion Hill (A) vs <b>Dulwich Hamlet Reserves</b>			
06/10/19	GLWFL	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Walton Casuals</b>			
13/10/19	GLWFL	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Comets</b>			
27/10/19	GLWFL	The Stray Dog (H) vs <b>Crystal Palace Development</b>			
03/11/19	GLWFL	Tudor Park Sports & Leisure (A) vs <b>Hampton &amp; Richmond Borough</b>			

MESSAGE  
FOR THE TONS

Send a message of encouragement  
to your favourite player in the  
men's or women's team.

Your message will be printed

on a page in every programme  
throughout the season, in  
return for a small donation.  
Keep your eyes on social media  
for further details.

## Sin Bins

**Temporary Dismissals** - otherwise known as 'sin bins' - will become mandatory for matters of dissent across all of grassroots football from the 2019/20 season.



## HOW DO YOU FIND YOURSELF IN THE SIN BIN?



Players will only go in to the sin bin for dissent cautions



For use of words or gestures questioning or undermining the ref's decisions



## EXAMPLES OF DISSENT

- Shouting at the ref
- Questioning ref's ability
- Slamming the ball in to the ground
- Sarcastically clapping a decision

## DURATION OF A SIN BIN



For matches of 90 minutes, players spend 10 minutes in the sin bin



For matches of all other lengths, players spend 8 minutes in the sin bin



If the sin bin period has not expired at the end of:

**1st half:** Continues into 2nd half  
**2nd half:** Continues into extra time  
**Extra time:** Player can participate in penalties

## THE MATCH DAY PROCESS



Dissent



Dissent caution: Ref issues a yellow card and directs the player to the touchline



Player can't be substituted until period expires and not if all subs have been made



Whilst in the sin bin, if the player commits a yellow or red card offence they can't take any further part in the game and can't be substituted



If the player commits a 2nd dissent caution and has already been booked, they will take no further part in the game and can't be substituted



If the player commits a 2nd dissent caution and no other offences, they will receive a 2nd sin bin. After which they can't take any further part in the game but can be substituted



If the player commits a yellow card offence on the field of play in addition to a period in the sin bin, they will continue to play



Ref decides when player returns to play

## FOUL AND ABUSIVE LANGUAGE IS STILL A RED CARD OFFENCE!



# CLAPTON CFC

## WOMEN'S TEAM

### GOALKEEPERS

POLLY ADAMS  
SOPHIA AXELSSON  
SUSANA ROCHA FERREIRA

### DEFENDERS

GEORGIE BROPHY  
EMILY FARMER  
ALICE NUTMAN  
PHOEBE PARTHEWS  
IRIS POPE

ANNIKA QUARTEY  
ALICE MAY WILLIAMS  
LAURA WRIGHT

### MIDFIELDERS

KIRI AIKMAN  
ZHANE AMOATEN  
REBECCA VON BLUMENTHAL  
ANA HOLMES  
ELENA HOLMES  
CIARA MONAHAN

VERITY PHILLIPS  
HARRIET PLOWS  
CAPUCINE RIOM  
ESTHER ROUTLEDGE  
LUCY ROLINGTON  
HOLLY SIBLEY  
LUCY SPOURS  
HANNAH WRIGHT  
ANEQUA PRESCOD WRIGHT

### FORWARDS

EMILY JAYNE LINK  
STEDRIKA PERKINS  
FLO POLLOCK  
NAOMI SCRIVEN  
SASKIA WALKER

## MEN'S TEAM

### GOALKEEPERS

DANIEL ANFOSSY  
JACK FRANCIS

### DEFENDERS

DEAN BOUHO  
TOM CARDING  
JUSTIN CUMMINS  
ASHLEY HEADLEY  
STEFAN KILRON  
ANDREW J. LASTIC

NICK LOBLACK  
ALBY MILLER  
JORDAN ODOFIN  
ROMELLE PILE  
LIAM SMYTH

### MIDFIELDERS

CEMAL AGDELEN  
PHIL BLAKESLEY  
ELICK COLEMAN  
SHAM DARR

NABEEL HASHIM  
BILAL HUSSAIN  
JERRY JAIRETTE  
PRINCE KWAKYE  
FAHAD NYANJA  
GEOFF OCRAN  
PAUL OSHIN  
LOUIS RENE  
FAMA SANGARE  
JAKE STEVENS  
BILLY WISE

### FORWARDS

JOSHUA ADEJOKUN  
NOAH ADEJOKUN  
ELIOT CROSBIE  
CHARLIE FAGAN  
STEFAN NIELSEN  
LEWIS OWIREDU  
BOGDAN PANESCU  
SHERWIN STANLEY

## TOWER HAMLETS FC

Tamsin Hall  
Jen Ross  
Evie Wilson  
Holly Boatright  
Ogechi Anokwuru  
Kate Warner

Bex Smith  
Lucy Powell  
Birgul Oz  
Siobhan Daley  
Hannah Griffiths  
Camilla Cullen

Natalie Keating  
Carmel Pragnell  
Iris Lopez Rafegas  
Gigi Hewison  
Harriet Sim

## SPORTING HACKNEY FC

Ryan Thompson  
Lekan Akineumi  
Gareth Symmons  
Leantus Alexander  
Jordan Brown  
Karim Bukleb  
Joseph Coker  
James Davies

Luis Emanuel  
Alistair Gordan  
Jon Green  
Joel Akuwudike  
Ryan Kitt-Geraghty  
Johnathan Marsh  
William McCartney  
Jon Muzzi

Liam O'Hara  
Immanuel Oluwole  
Ritchie Palata  
Andy Pham  
Alessandro Puerini  
Tyler Springer  
Delaney Tomlison  
Joe Tousent

**Information General enquiries:** [info@claptoncfc.co.uk](mailto:info@claptoncfc.co.uk) **Membership:** [membership@claptoncfc.co.uk](mailto:membership@claptoncfc.co.uk)  
(£10 (£5 Concession) or £20 Solidarity) **Secretary:** [secretary@claptoncfc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@claptoncfc.co.uk) **Media enquiries:** [comms@claptoncfc.co.uk](mailto:comms@claptoncfc.co.uk)  
**Address** Clapton CFC, c/o CIU Offices, Durning Hall, Earls Grove, Forest Gate, London E7 9AB **Web** [claptoncfc.co.uk](http://claptoncfc.co.uk)  
**Twitter** @claptoncfc **Print** [tranquilityprint@gmail.com](mailto:tranquilityprint@gmail.com)  
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