



**CLAPTON CFC vs
ISLINGTON BOROUGH**

2.00 PM NOVEMBER 1, 2020

AT THE STRAY DOG

**Greater London Women's
Football League Premier**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

With this programme we want to highlight the contribution of black women in football and how it's important to recognise them in the space that at times is not representative of them.



ISLINGTON BOROUGH

Greater London Women's Football League Premier

OUR TWO GAMES WITH Islington Borough last season had three things in common. One, they were goal fests - a dozen goals in fact. Two, the Tons lost narrowly twice. And three, perhaps most memorably of all, they were both absolute mudbaths.

At the Stray Dog in October, we lost out 4-3 despite two superb free-kicks from Ciara Monahan and a goal from Lenny Holmes. In January at St Aloysius Playing Fields in Highgate, a second-half fightback with Emily Link scoring twice wasn't quite enough and we lost 3-2.

Islington are our closest geographical rivals in the Greater London Women's Football League and long-

standing opponents from back in our team's AFC Stoke Newington days. We both have five-a-side teams playing in the Super5 League. In short, we like what they're doing, except when they beat us.

Last season Borough were in second place - with just one game left to play - when all football was postponed. The Tons were in eighth but have improved massively since and we are now in second ourselves.

So far this season Islington have beaten Enfield Town Reserves, who the Tons lost to. They lost to Brentford, who we beat. Let's just say it's a wide open league. Except for Walton Casuals, who are in danger of running away with it again.



THANKS FROM CHELSIE

At last week's women's first team game, supporters displayed a 'get well soon' banner for Chelsie Osborne. Chelsie has been ruled out for the rest of the season due to an ACL knee ligaments injury but came to cheer on the rest of the team.

Afterwards Chelsie said: "I'm still so shocked. It was honestly the sweetest gesture from everyone and it really did mean a lot. I'm really grateful and appreciative. I just really want everyone to know how thankful I am."



LIVE STREAM COMMENTARY

Our commentary team last weekend included a coach, a player, a Young Ton and striker Emily Link's mum. If you are a member and would like to try your hand at commenting on one of our live streams, email comms@claptoncfc.co.uk.

DEVELOPMENT TEAM ACTION

Our women's development team have a league game next Saturday on Clapham Common North against LFA Dynamoes, kick off 1.30pm. Socially distanced spectators welcome. The team has one win and one defeat so far.

FOODBANK COLLECTIONS

We're now able to bring back foodbank collections at home games. Your donations go to the Maggie Project for mums and under fives without permanent housing. They particularly need toothpaste/brushes, shower gel/shampoo, deodorant, bags of rice/pasta, breakfast cereals and washing powder.

CLAUDIO GOMES WOMEN'S TEAM HEAD COACH



AFTER UNDESERVEDLY LOSING OUT IN the cup we came back to the Stray Dog, aiming to keep consistency and have another great performance. A mixture of bad pitch conditions and strong opposition made our job more difficult during the first half.

Whilst still following our plan, it took us some time to adapt to the pitch and we conceded spaces which the opposition were smart to use. Half-time tactical adaptations saw those spaces disappearing, forcing the opposition to long balls and other mistakes. Once we had fully adapted to the pitch, being intelligent in avoiding certain muddy areas, the girls went on for a brilliant second half, creating chance after chance and stopping every Brentford's attack.

Our second half substitutions brought not only fresh legs but even more quality to our game, making sure we got all 3 points.

Today we face Islington Borough, another strong opposition with some rivalry present.



We approach the game with the aim of staying consistent and being intelligent, controlling the emotions the game might bring. Another team performance mixed with intelligence will surely bring us closer to the desired outcome. Adding to it we will be looking to have the fans' support once more. After being so supportive last week and pushing the team to a great win they will definitely play a key role in this match.

PLAYER PROFILE: BETHIA GREEN



PLACE OF BIRTH: London

AGE: 21

WHERE YOU LIVE: Harrow

DAY JOB: Trainee Solicitor

PREVIOUS CLUBS: UCL, Yeovil Town, Pen Mill

ALL TIME FAVOURITE PLAYER:

Dirk Kuyt

FAVOURITE TEAM, APART FROM

CLAPTON CFC: Liverpool YNWA

BIGGEST HIGH IN FOOTBALL:

Liverpool winning the league this year.

LOWEST POINT IN FOOTBALL: losing 24-0 in an under 10s cup match.

LIKES AND HOBBIES: Motorbikes,

sports, cooking and mentoring.

DISLIKES: Man United, Dulwich Hamlet, the English Climate.

FAVOURITE COUNTRY VISITED: Mexico

FAVOURITE FOOD: Curried mutton, hard food, rice & pea, salt fish fritters and bakes.

FAVOURITE FILM: La Haine

FAVOURITE MUSIC:

(pre-match) 21 savage

FAVOURITE TV: Modern Family

FOOTBALLING AMBITION:

Be a director of LFC.

PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO

MEET: Meghan Markle

WOMEN MAKING WAVES IN FOOTBALL

ASISAT OSHOALA (M.O.N)

AS WE SPEND TIME THROUGHOUT BLACK History Month reflecting on those who have made a difference in the past, it is equally important to shine a light on those who are making history at present.

At 26, Asisat Oshoala has won the golden boot at the U-20 World Cup in 2014, appeared in two Champions League finals, and won three league titles in Nigeria, China and Spain.

A devastatingly quick attacker with a natural aptitude for scoring goals, Oshoala has had to demonstrate notable determination in order to prove those around her wrong and pursue her dream of playing football.

Her own path to the top tiers of women's football have been far from simple. As a young girl she was forced to hide her passion from her parents, something many young girls are forced to do as the pressure to focus on education forces many to abandon sports at a young age.

Such experiences have evidently shaped Oshoala considerably, despite only being 26 and in the peak of her career, she still makes considerable effort off the pitch to give back to Nigeria and improve the accessibility of women's football to girls across Africa.

The current Super Falcons captain has established the Asisat Oshoala Foundation in her home country that has helped support over 5000 girls realise their dreams of playing football and continues to grow.

She continually uses her profile to inspire those who follow her while also being vocal about the issues that matter to her. This has included recent condemnation of the brutal, corrupt regime that is currently oppressing so many Nigerians, and



support for the #EndSARS movement on her Instagram account @asisat_oshoola.

Asisat (Liverpool and Arsenal), is one of only three African players to have played in the Women's Super League. This is in large part a direct consequence of the lack of support for women's football across the African continent and the lack of infrastructure that allows top-level players to come through the football pyramid.

But like the other women in this programme, players such as Asisat are working hard on and off the pitch to change that for future generations. A modern day history-maker, Asisat Oshoala is the sort of figure you may not have heard of before today, but shouldn't forget about now.

A FEW YEARS AGO, SOMETHING STRANGE happened. An artist had been researching the history of women's football for an exhibition - and found an article in 1896 describing a black goalkeeper, the first known record. It took seven months for the discovery to be made in 2017, after consulting photographs of the team, that the keeper was actually white, and someone else entirely. Emma Clarke played in this team - predominantly on the right wing (although, as was common, played in different positions), and so the records were set straight, a good 120 years after she played.

Some of this can be attributed to the lack and unreliability of records around the period (and many other stories lost), but we need to recognise that this is a familiar story amongst pioneering black women - their stories are under-represented, often forgotten or with crucial details missing.

Born in 1876, Clarke became a confectioner's apprentice at 15, before playing in the British Ladies' Football Club inaugural match in front of 11,000 spectators on the 23rd March 1895 at the Nightingale Lane ground in Crouch End.

This was a North v South game, with Clarke confusingly playing for the South despite being born in Bootle. The "South" team lost 7-1. This was a huge game - not the first recorded women's football game to be played under association football rules (this took place in 1881 - hopefully more on women's football during this period in future programmes), but this was one of the first

organised games where the women didn't have to wear corsets while playing, nor high-heeled football boots (seriously).

In 1896, Emma, and her sister Jane, joined Mrs Graham's XI, playing exhibition matches in a tour of Scotland. Crowds of thousands watched this team (more than were watching the men's sport), with the Clarkes being paid a shilling per week, plus food and lodging, in expenses - which would have been significant to a working class family from the North West.

Playing records for Emma dry out in around 1903, although the Clarke sisters may have continued to play. We're not certain when she died, nor do we have a reliable picture of what games she actually played - most records note a 'Clarke' - but which one is unclear. Furthermore, there were other Clarkes/Clarks playing football during this period - such as Florence Clarke, from Plumstead in London who may or may not have been unrelated.

The notion that we may never uncover more about Clarke, or learn her reflections of playing in this period, is a sad indictment of the treatment of both women and black footballers during this period and another reminder of why we need to ramp up our efforts as a club to stand against racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination.

EMMA CLARK - THE FIRST BLACK FEMALE FOOTBALLER?



HOPE POWELL

HOPE POWELL, CBE, IS the Women's First Team manager of Brighton & Hove Albion. She is also a former international footballer, with 66 caps and 35 goals scored for England.

Powell was the first woman to manage an England side in football, which she did between 1998 and 2013. She was also the first woman to achieve a UEFA Pro Licence in 2003 (the highest coaching qualification there is). And she was the first female coach educator at the PFA in 2016.

For her though, it was never about being the first of anything, it was "always about the game".



THE MAIN DEBATE ABOUT NIKITA Parris is whether she is a greater role model on or off the pitch.

At 25 years old, Parris is a double Champions League winner and striker of the Olympique Lyonnais. In 2019, she won the Football Writers Association Player of the Year, the Women's FA Cup and Continental Cup, and is the WSL's all-time leading goalscorer.

Growing up, Parris faced a number of obstacles to play football. She grew up in Toxteth, a suburb of Liverpool, with a single mother who worked three jobs to make ends meet and took care of four kids. During that time, Parris received funding from the charity Sports Aid. In many interviews, she discusses how grateful she is to her community, as she relied on the support of others, including managers and neighbours, to drive her to training and matches.

Age 14, she joined Everton's Centre of Excellence and made her senior debut five months after turning 16. She joined Manchester City in 2015 on a loan and was made permanent a year later. They won the league in 2016 and made the FA Cup final in 2017. Rational about the limits of women's football careers, she took on a full degree whilst balancing

being a professional player at Manchester City. She graduated with a degree in Sports Development from Liverpool John Moores University in 2018.

When Parris was selected to represent England at the youth level, up to a quarter of the squad was Black. Now, she is one of only two Black players playing for England. Parris can see "how a team with a minimum of nine white footballers fails to encourage BAME women that there is a future for them in the sport". She is passionate about providing young BAME girls from inner cities the opportunity to easily access their local Centres of Excellence. In a Forbes article in 2020, she explains "I do think that it is imperative that we do go inside these communities (...) the FA do have to look at how the displacement of the Centers of Excellence affects opportunities for girls to get into elite sport."

As she does on the pitch, the tenacious player did not wait to make a difference. In 2018, age 24, Parris set up the NP17 Academy in Toxteth for deprived girls in the area. Since It opened, around 40 girls started at the academy and are studying towards a Sports Development foundation degree course at The City of Liverpool College.

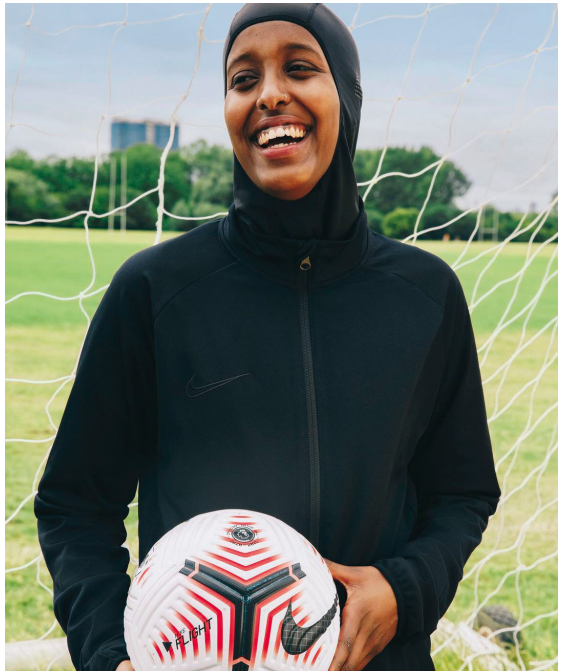
IQRA ISMAIL

IQRA ISMAIL, RAISED IN SOUTHALL, LONDON, has always loved playing football. But there hasn't always been a space for her to do so. So she created one.

In June 2019, Iqra and two of her friends created the football team NUR, 'Never Underestimate Resilience', a football club created for BAME women. The need was made apparent straight away. The first session they had 15 women there. Then 18, then 23, and then 40.

For this season, NUR merged with Hilltop FC to become Hilltop WFC. There were many reasons for this. Iqra had always been a supporter of Hilltop FC, and knew many connected to the men's team. To ensure the longevity of the club, and ensure stability, the merger felt like the most obvious solution, especially as the two teams were already part of the same community.

Iqra strongly believes that the community surrounding the team is just as important as the team dynamics. They have an all BAME management team for example, and the wider community has been very supportive. What was created with NUR has never before been seen here, and maybe others didn't think they needed to see it.



Women's football in the UK is in general extremely white. Iqra believes that the lack of diversity is down to a lack of opportunities and that the environments created are very harsh.

Football is not only about ability, it is mental as well. Iqra herself has been made to feel "othered" in majority white spaces, and players may feel that they need to choose between being a footballer, or themselves. NUR, and now Hilltop WFC, is a safe space for female players to be able to be unapologetically themselves, in terms of the way they dress, the way they express themselves and the way they pray.

Iqra isn't just making waves for female footballers on UK soil. Just 6 months after Iqra founded NUR, she captained the first ever Somali Women's National Football Team, which consisted of a mix of players from Mogadishu and NUR. Iqra hopes to captain the side again, and although work has been put on the back-burner due to the pandemic, the aim is still for there to be a Somalian National Football Team for women, and for more games to be played in the future.



CLAPTON CFC

GOALKEEPERS

SOPHIA AXELSSON
SUSANA FERREIRA
POLLY ADAMS
IRIS POPE

DEFENDERS

ALICE MAY WILLIAMS
CHELSIE OSBORNE
PHOEBE PARTHEWS
MIM CHADWICK
ANNIKA QUARTEY
ALICE NUTMAN
HARRIET PLOWS
SUE AGYEI-MANTE
HANNAH WRIGHT

ANNIE LYONS
CEREN BAYSAN

MIDFIELDERS

LENNY HOLMES
LI STEINER
LUCY SPOURS
CIARA ROBINSON
VERITY PHILLIPS
LARISSA VIEIRA
MARIA MENDONCA
CIARA MONAHAN
MARTA BOIRO
TEJU CALLISTO
REBECCA VON
BLUMENTHAL

ZHANE AMOATEN
SENSEI

ANEEQUA
PRESCOD-WRIGHT
ANNIE BARTKOWSKI
LUCY ROLINGTON
ESSIE ROUTLEDGE
FLORA LEVI
CAPS RIOM

FORWARDS

EMILY LINK
BETHIA GREEN
STEDRIKA PERKINS
SASKIA WALKER
YEM

ISLINGTON BOROUGH

• Mofiyinfoluwa Abimbola • Kate Anstey • Yana Ballantyne • Yasmin Bonsu
• Deannna Brunyee • Sarah Cleary • Chloe Copsey • Eda Demiralay • Ashley Fletcher
• Nicole Grainger • Naomi Hunter • Lily Jones • Kaylie Katherine Clark • Kelly Kitagaw
• Carrie-Anne Layton • Ellen Maggs • Ornella Mbula • Farley Morgan
• Merley Morgan • Onyinye Nkemdirim • Nicola Sheehan • Ellie Sherrard-Smith
• Fiona Smith • Ella Turvil • Abby Webster • Molly Weiland • Cleo Williams

CLUB RULES DURING THE COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

- If you have any symptoms, don't attend
- Ticketholders only for home games, NO walk ups
- Stray Dog capacity 200, Wadham Lodge stadium 300
- Arrive in plenty of time as entering will take longer
- QR code by turnstile for those with the NHS Covid-19 app
- Temperature check and hand sanitiser at entry
- 2m distancing throughout ground
- Mask up where possible when passing others and when singing
- Maximum groups of six
- Keep walkways clear and no congregating in passing areas
- Follow any instructions from Matchday volunteers and be respectful of others

UPCOMING FIXTURES

WOMEN'S TEAM

DATE	TIME	COMP	VENUE / OPPONENTS
01/11/2020	2pm	GLWFL	(H) Islington Borough
08/11/2020	3pm	GLWFL	(A) Walton Casuals
15/11/2020	2pm	GLWFL	(H) Dulwich Hamlet Reserves

VIEW LEAGUE TABLE HERE bit.ly/W20-21

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT TEAM

07/11/2020	1.30pm	CWSFL	LFA Dynamoes – Clapham Common
------------	--------	-------	-------------------------------

MEN'S TEAM

DATE	TIME	COMP	VENUE / OPPONENTS
07/11/2020	2.00pm	MCFL	(H) CB Hounslow Res
14/11/2020	2.00pm	MCFL	(A) PFC Victoria
21/11/2020	1.30pm	EST	(A) Hullbridge Sports U23

VIEW LEAGUE TABLE HERE bit.ly/MN20-21

MEN'S DEVELOPMENT TEAM

01/11/2020	10.30am	HLSFL	Bow Badgers – Hackney Marshes
08/11/2020	10.30am	HLSFL	Athletico DFZ – Hackney Marshes