

ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE NEW SEASON

# Football 2018

**92**  
LEAGUE TEAMS  
PREVIEWED

From the makers of **WorldSoccer**

**MEET THE NEW BOYS**

Salah • Lindelof • Bernardo Silva  
• Kolacinac • Lacazette



# KICK-OFF!

NEW SEASON

Everything you need for the new season  
**All the teams! All the fixtures!**

**THE  
EXPERT  
VIEW**  
INSIDE  
YOUR CLUB



# UKSOCCERSHOP

NUMBER ONE FOR FOOTBALL SHIRTS

INFO@UKSOCCERSHOP.COM - 0844 332 1221

# SALE



## UP TO 75% OFF SELECTED STOCK!

## OUR BIGGEST SALE YET!



ITALY 2016-17  
HOME SHIRT

**WAS £59.99**  
**NOW £19.99**



GERMANY 2016-17  
HOME SHIRT

**WAS £54.99**  
**NOW £24.99**



SPAIN 2016-17  
HOME SHIRT

**WAS £54.99**  
**NOW £15.99**



REAL MADRID UCL 2015-16  
HOME KIDS SHIRT (RONALDO 7)

**WAS £59.99**  
**NOW £19.99**



PSG 2016-17  
HOME KIDS SHIRT

**WAS £47.99**  
**NOW £29.99**



MAN UNITED 2015-16  
HOME KIDS SHIRT

**WAS £44.99**  
**NOW £19.99**



CHELSEA 2015-16  
THIRD KIDS SHIRT

**WAS £44.99**  
**NOW £14.99**



AC MILAN 2015-16  
HOME KIDS SHIRT

**WAS £44.99**  
**NOW £22.99**



BARCELONA 2016-17  
TRAINING SHIRT

**WAS £39.99**  
**NOW £26.99**



SPAIN 2014-15  
AWAY KIDS SHIRT

**WAS £44.99**  
**NOW £15.00**

[WWW.UKSOCCERSHOP.COM](http://WWW.UKSOCCERSHOP.COM)



# CONTENTS

Gunner Alexandre Lacazette



# 30

## NEW KITS ON THE BLOCK 6

Our pictorial guide to the best new strips of 2017-18

## ENGLAND U20s 10

Youngsters are the best in the world

## VICTOR LINDELOF 14

Manchester United's most expensive defender

## SEAD KOLASINAC 18

Arsenal's new Bosnian hard man

## ANTONIO RUDIGER 22

New versatile German defender at Chelsea

## BERNARDO SILVA 26

Manchester City's Portuguese playmaker

## ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE 30

Arsenal's new French goal machine

## THE TEAMS

All 92 English teams profiled, along with their 2017-18 fixtures

Premier League 40

Championship 80

League One 104

League Two 116

# 10

Best England under-20s





# CONTENTS

City arrival Bernardo Silva

26



32



Talent Ryan Sessegnon

28

Eagle has landed Frank De Boer



24

Red alert Mohamed Salah



New boys Forest Green Rovers







Time Inc UK  
Pinehurst 2,  
Pinehurst Road,  
Farnborough GU14 7BF

Tel: 01252 555000

**EDITOR**

Gavin Hamilton

**DESIGN**

Kevin Eason  
Jamie Latchford  
Daniel Franklin

**PICTURES**

Duncan Bond

**PRODUCTION**

Nich Hills

**EDITORIAL SECRETARY**

Leeanne Wright

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Nick Bidwell  
James Cannon  
Esteban Coppola  
John Holmesdale  
Debbie Millett

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Getty Images  
Press Association Images

**ADVERTISING**

Hasan Mubarak

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Simon Owen

World Soccer® is a registered trademark of TimeIncUK Ltd.  
Published by Time Inc UK  
Distributed by MarketForce,  
Blue Fin Building, 10 Southwark St,  
London SE1 0SU





**THIS JUST IN**

# NEW KITS ON



Man City keeping it simple



West Ham more claret, less blue



West Brom dark and moody



Man United Glad to be grey



Everton true blues



# THE BLOCK

WE RUN THE RULE OVER 2017-18's LATEST STRIPS



Arsenal no surprises



Watford nothing mellow about the yellow

Liverpool classic



Tottenham white on the night

Chelsea blue and simple





**THIS JUST IN**

# NO ORDINARY FOOTBALL TEAM

**FOREST GREEN ROVERS ARE THE FIRST VEGAN, ECO-FRIENDLY CLUB**

**Forest Green Rovers, the Football League's newcomers, are no ordinary football club. Last season's National League play-off winners are based in the Gloucestershire town of Nailsworth, where the local population is just 5,794. For the past decade they have been owned and bankrolled by green millionaire Dale Vince, a former New Age traveller turned owner of the Ecotricity energy company.**

Vince is passionate about green issues and has turned Forest Green into the country's first eco-friendly football club.

For the solar panels on the stadium roof to vegan food for fans and players and the solar-powered robot lawnmower cutting the organic pitch to electric cars for players and staff, everything at the club must be environmentally friendly.

The club has been fully vegan since June 2014, with no meat, fish, dairy or animal products of any kind on offer at the club, whether for players, visitors or fans.

"Typically football food is hideous," Vince says. "Burgers are really awful.

"They're the most awful parts of an animal and are really unappealing products that are cheap as dirt.

"We've replaced them with really high-quality, plant-based food"

"For those that are really bothered they can bring their own ham sandwiches."

There are also plans to build a new eco-friendly stadium made entirely from wood. The proposed 5,000-seat ground has been designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, who were responsible for the 2012 Olympic Games aquatics centre.



**Electric staff cars**



**Vegan food outlet**



# KEY DATES FOR 2017-18

**AUGUST 6** Community Shield, Arsenal v Chelsea, Wembley

**SEPTEMBER 1** Malta v England, World Cup qualifier

**SEPTEMBER 4** England v Slovakia, World Cup qualifier

**OCTOBER 5** England v Slovenia, World Cup qualifier

**OCTOBER 8** Lithuania v England, World Cup qualifier

**NOVEMBER 4** FA Cup first round

**DECEMBER 2** FA Cup second round

**JANUARY 6** FA Cup third round

**JANUARY 27** FA Cup fourth round

**FEBRUARY 17** FA Cup fifth round

**FEBRUARY 25** League Cup (Carabao Cup) Final

**MARCH 17** FA Cup quarter-finals

**APRIL 21** FA Cup semi-finals

**MAY 19** FA Cup Final, Wembley

**MAY 26** Champions League Final, Kiev  
Championship Play-off Final, Wembley

**MAY 27** League One Play-off Final, Wembley

**MAY 28** League Two Play-off Final, Wembley

**JUNE 14-JULY 15** World Cup finals, Russia



New Lawn organic pitch



Efficient Rovers' solar panel



**FOREST GREEN ROVERS**  
**NEXT HOME GAME**  
Sat 19th Nov 12.15pm



New age Dale Vince



Welcome England's first eco-friendly club



Ready all set for the Football League

Photo: ProSports/REX/Shutterstock



THIS JUST IN

# ON TOP OF THE

ENGLAND'S KIDS STRIKE GOLD IN KOREA



**England have won their first international youth title after beating Venezuela 1-0 in the Under-20 World Cup Final in South Korea.**

In their first appearance in the Final of a global tournament since the 1966 World Cup, Everton forward Dominic Calvert-Lewin's first-half goal was enough for victory after Newcastle United goalkeeper Freddie Woodman saved a second-half penalty.

"This is the reward for some incredible work, some incredible sacrifices, and I do not think you can get a better feeling than what that felt like at the end of the game when the referee blew that whistle," said England's manager Paul Simpson, the former Shrewsbury Town and Stockport County boss.

"We are world champions and we have waited 51 years to be able to say that again as an England team. It is an incredible

feeling and I do not think it will ever go away if I am honest with you."

Simpson, who took charge of the under-20s in March following Aidy Boothroyd's promotion to under-21 manager, said he had called on the players to be ambitious in their plans for the tournament.

"I asked them the question, 'what do you think you can achieve?' and they told me they thought they could win a World Cup," he said.

"We said if we want to win a World Cup we have to be absolutely committed from that moment on and they

**Saved** Dominic Calvert-Lewin is denied by Venezuela



have been"

Several members of the squad are contracted to Premier League clubs, Calvert-Lewin, who started the season with Sheffield United in League One, his Everton team-mate Ademola Lookman and Dominic Solanke, who recently switched from Chelsea to Liverpool.

Everton provided five players for the squad, while captain Lewis Cook is on the books of Bournemouth.

A number of talented youngsters were not present in South Korea. Manchester United striker Marcus Rashford was on duty with the senior England side, while Everton's Tom Davies was rested along with Patrick Roberts, who spent the season on loan at Celtic from Manchester City, and Chelsea's Izzy Brown, who played for Huddersfield Town in the Championship play-off Final.

The Manchester United pair Axel



# WORLD



**Hero Freddie Woodman's penalty save in the Final**

Tuanzebe and Cameron Borthwick-Jackson were also absent.

It remains to be seen how many of the victorious team will become regulars in the Premier League. "I hope it has a positive impact on English football," Simpson said. "I do not really know what is going to come but it is part of the development that we are trying to create football players who are capable of being successful at senior tournaments and hopefully this will go a long way to achieving that.

"I honestly don't know what it means for English football. But for the under-20s it means everything. This is what we have worked so hard for."

Calvert-Lewin scored the only goal of the Final in the 35th minute.

The 20-year-old met a free-kick from Cook and found space behind his marker before slotting home with his left foot following a rebound off the keeper.

With 17 minutes remaining, Woodman denied Adalberto Penaranda from the spot after the Watford forward had been fouled by Kyle Walker-Peters of Tottenham.



Solanke, who spent the 2015-16 season on loan at Dutch club Vitesse, won the Golden Ball as player of the tournament.

England began the tournament in style, beating Argentina 3-0 in their opening Group game to record their first win at an under-20 finals for 20 years and ending a tournament record of 17 games without a win.

Victories over Costa Rica, Mexico and Italy in the knockout phase set up the Final against Venezuela.

## ENGLAND'S WINNING SQUAD

### ● GOALKEEPERS

Dean **HENDERSON** (Manchester United)

Luke **SOUTHWOOD** (Reading)

Freddie **WOODMAN** (Newcastle United)

### ● DEFENDERS

Jake **CLARKE-SALTER** (Chelsea)

Callum **CONNOLLY** (Everton)

Dael **FRY** (Middlesbrough)

Jonjoe **KENNY** (Everton)

Ezri **KONSA** (Charlton Athletic)

Fikayo **TOMORI** (Chelsea)

Kyle **WALKER-PETERS** (Tottenham H)

### ● MIDFIELDERS

Lewis **COOK** (Bournemouth)

Kieran **DOWELL** (Everton)

Ovie **EJARIA** (Liverpool)

Ainsley **MAITLAND-NILES** (Arsenal)

Sheyi **OJO** (Liverpool)

Josh **ONOMAH** (Tottenham H)

### ● FORWARDS

Adam **ARMSTRONG** (Newcastle United)

Dominic **CALVERT-LEWIN** (Everton)

Harrison **CHAPMAN** (Middlesbrough)

Ademola **LOOKMAN** (Everton)

Dominic **SOLANKE** (Chelsea)

● **MANAGER** Paul **SIMPSON**

SUMMER OF SUCCESS

## ENGLAND YOUNGSTERS PULL OFF STRING OF VICTORIES

### TOULON TRIUMPH

England retained their title in the prestigious Toulon youth tournament. An under-18 squad featuring the likes of Sheffield United midfielder David Brooks and Leeds midfielder Ronaldo Vieira beat Ivory Coast on penalties in their final match. A year earlier, then under-21 boss Gareth Southgate was in charge of the England side that also triumphed in Toulon.



**Toulon French success**

### HEARTACHE IN POLAND

England topped their European Under-21 Championship group in Poland but lost on penalties to eventual champions Germany in the semi-finals. The squad included Chelsea's Nathaniel Chalobah and Tammy Abraham, along with new Everton keeper Jordan Pickford.

### UNDER-17S

The young Lions narrowly lost to Spain in the Final of the European Championship. They conceded a last-minute equaliser and then lost the resulting penalty shoot-out.

### UNDER-19S

In July, a squad featuring the likes of Fulham midfielder Ryan Sessegnon competed in the European Championship in Georgia.



**SERIOUS  
OPINION**

Hard-hitting opinions from the game's most respected writers.

**EXPERT  
ANALYSIS**

Football's burning issues analysed by expert figures in the game.

**TALENT  
SCOUT**

Spotlight on the talented youngsters tipped for the top.

**WORLD  
CUP GUIDES**

Essential previews of football's biggest tournament.



**EXCLUSIVE  
INTERVIEWS**

Face to face with football's biggest names.

**EYEWITNESS  
REPORTS**

News and features from our global network of correspondents.





One world...  
One game...  
One magazine

**WorldSoccer**

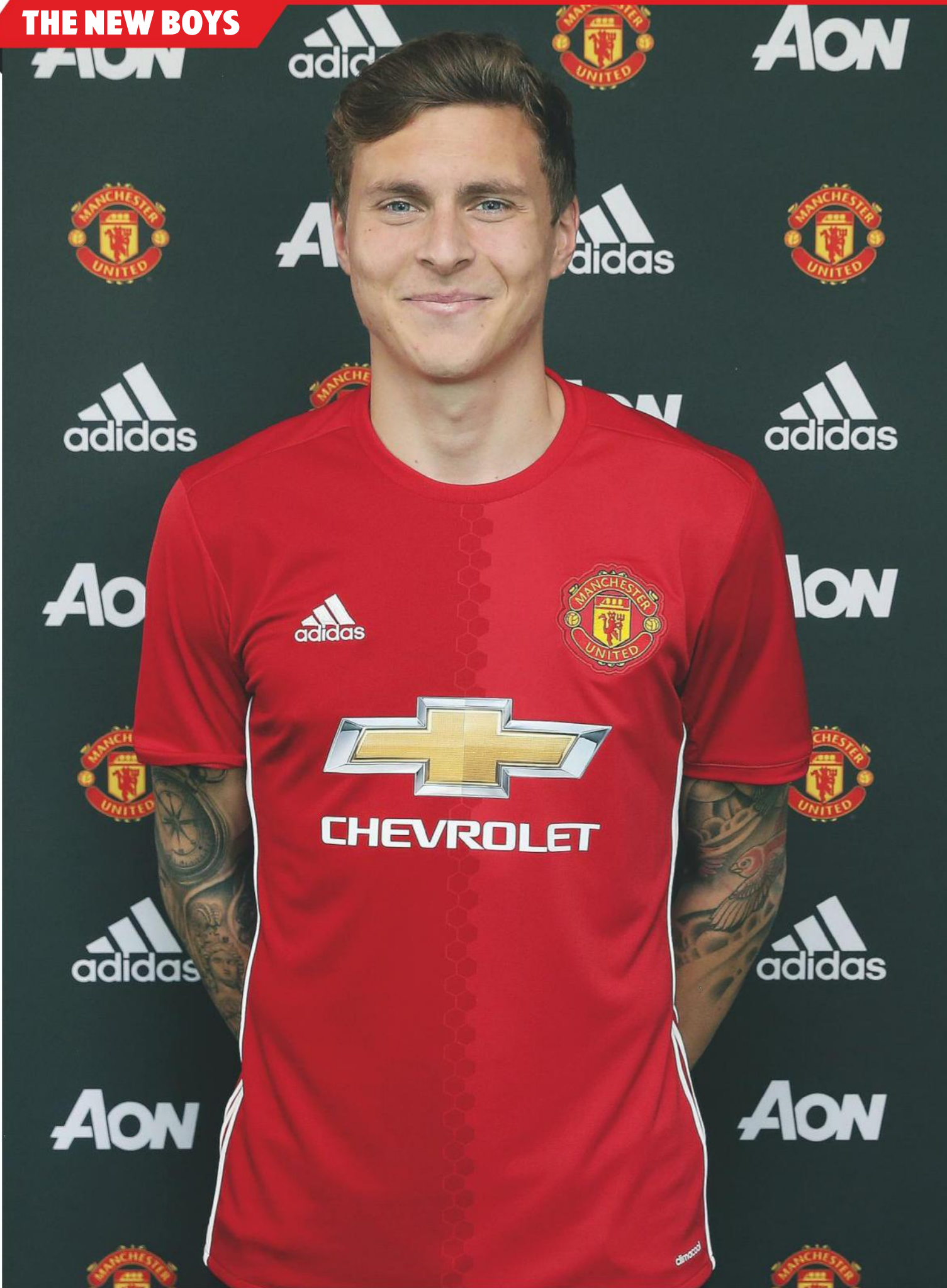
Global football intelligence since 1960



**WorldSoccer**



**THE NEW BOYS**





# THE ICEMAN COMETH

Manchester United's most expensive defender will boost the Old Trafford back line

**In last season's Premier League, Manchester United conceded far too many soft goals. The response of manager Jose Mourinho? Seal a £31 million deal for "The Iceman" – Benfica's up-and-coming Swedish centre-back.**

Still only 23 but already a regular for the Swedish national team, Lindelof has become United's most expensive defender of all time, his price tag eclipsing the £29.1m that Alex Ferguson paid Leeds United for Rio Ferdinand in July 2002.

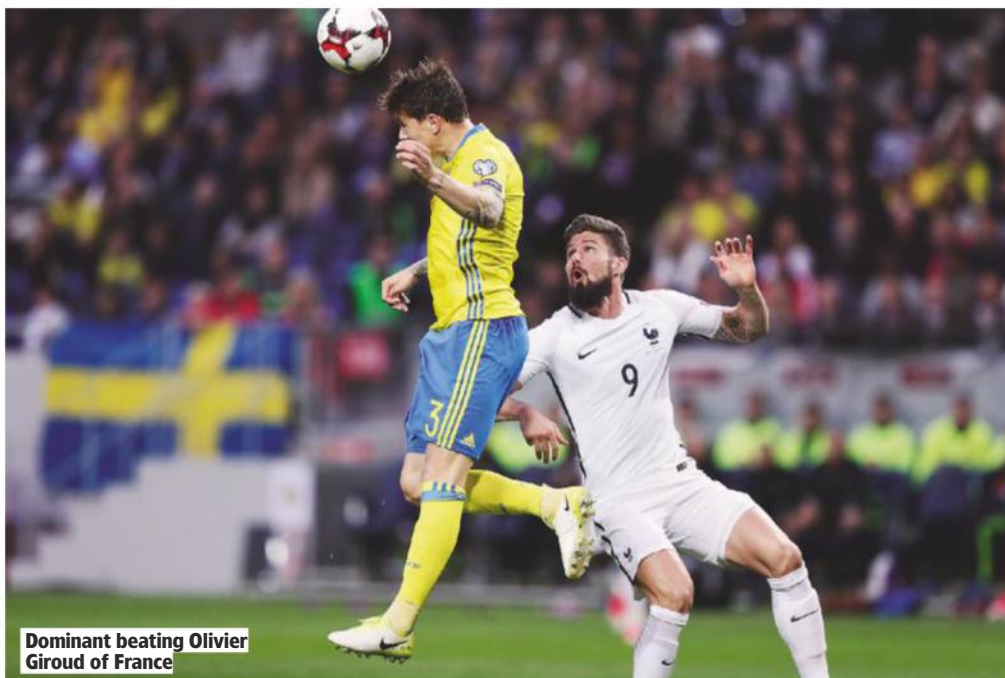
And it's not hard to see why so many experts believe the Swede to be among the best two or three young stoppers in Europe.

Tall, quick, robust, composed and commanding, he is strong in the tackle and in the air and has a good understanding of the game. Thanks to his high concentration levels, enforced errors are kept to a minimum and he plays with considerable self-control, too. Indeed, the sum total of his disciplinary black marks last term was one solitary yellow card in 47 competitive appearances for Benfica.

Crucially for United, another of Victor's strong suits is his technical ability. When the Swedish under-21s triumphed at the 2015 European Championship, he was their starting right-back and he most definitely has the touch and the poise to bring the ball out from the back. Ferdinand revisited.

Nor is he likely to be overawed by the intense atmosphere in Premier League stadia. He is accustomed to performing in front of 56,000 boisterous fans at Benfica's Stadium of Light and can draw upon a well of Champions League experience, having gone head-to-head with the likes of Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund and Napoli.

Lindelof's career has turned full-circle in the last 18 months. Early in 2016, three-and-a-half years after he joined Benfica from Swedish second division side Vasteras, he was only on the fringes of the Eagles first team and was seriously considering a move away. But, as they say, the darkest hours are just before dawn, and thanks a to defensive injury crisis, he finally got his upgrade. Immediately



**Dominant beating Olivier Giroud of France**

impressing, he proved far too accomplished to be dropped and went on to claim a clutch of honours: the Portuguese title in 2015-16 and a league-and-cup double last term.

He might well have pitched up in England much earlier. While a teenage hopeful at Vasteras, he had a trial at Premier League side Stoke City, only for the Potters to balk at the €300,000 asking price.

And in 2015, he came within a whisker of leaving Benfica for Championship outfit Middlesbrough. On no fewer than three separate occasions, the Boro negotiators

**Euro winner Sweden under-21s in 2015**



**Experience in the Champions League against Borussia Dortmund**

thought they had a loan agreement in the bag, but could not get the deal over the finish line. Tired of the goalposts being moved, Middlesbrough walked away from the negotiations in frustration.

Fate, then, has taken the defender down a totally different path: from success with Benfica to a starring role for Sweden and now the big time at Old Trafford.



## VICTOR LINDELOF

**Club** Manchester United  
**Country** Sweden  
**Date of birth** July 17, 1994 (aged 23)  
**Signed from** Benfica (Por)  
**Fee** £31m



## EDERSON

**Club** Manchester City

**Country** Brazil

**Date of birth** August 17 1993 (aged 23)

**Signed from** Benfica (Por)

**Fee** £35m

**What's all the fuss about?** City have paid a whopping fee for a highly rated keeper who recently played his way into the senior Brazil squad.

Has a touch of Manuel Neuer about him: he's commanding, very quick off his line, with quick reflexes and seemingly a chest of steel, and a confidence with the ball at his feet. In short, he's not Claudio Bravo.

**The story so far:** He came through the ranks at Sao Paulo before moving to Portuguese side Rio Ave in 2012 and was snapped up by Benfica in 2015. He got his break at Benfica when fellow Brazilian Julio Cesar was injured and he was thrown into a crunch league game against Sporting. He was set to play for Brazil in last year's Rio Olympics until injury struck.

**What he says:** "I wasn't a goalkeeper [as a kid], I was a defender. I realised I wasn't very skilful to be a defender so I asked to become a goalkeeper.

"My career in Europe started when I was 15 years old and that taught me a lot.

"Getting to Europe was important and I was able to do a good job at Benfica. And thank God, I'm here at Manchester City."





# DAVY KLAASSEN

**Club** Everton  
**Country** Holland  
**Date of birth** February 21, 1993 (aged 24)  
**Signed from** Ajax (Hol)  
**Fee** £23.6m

**What's all the fuss about?** Dynamic box-to-box midfielder with a fierce shot who captained Ajax in last season's Europa League Final against Manchester United. Nicknamed "cheese straw" because of his blond hair and light complexion.

**The story so far:** Klaassen came through the ranks at Ajax and has played for Holland at all levels from under-16 upwards, including 14 times for the senior Dutch side. Was voted the Dutch footballer of the year for 2015-16.

**What he says:** "I spoke a few weeks ago with Ronald Koeman about Everton. I wanted to come here and check if this was the right club for me and since I came here I feel so happy. It's a great club. It's difficult to leave Ajax but I think this is a good step for me now."



# LAURENT DEPOITRE

**Club** Huddersfield Town  
**Country** Belgium  
**Date of birth** December 7, 1988 (aged 28)  
**Signed from** Porto (Por)  
**Fee** £3.5m

**What's all the fuss about?** Tall, powerful striker signed from Porto for a club-record fee by newly promoted Huddersfield.

**The story so far:** Depoitre made his name at Belgian side Gent, winning the league in 2015, scoring 24 goals over two seasons and earning a move last summer to Porto. But he struggled to make an impact in

Portugal, making just 13 appearances.

**What they say:** "I am very happy that we have made Laurent our first signing of this summer window. He is a proper striker; one who has played for a very good Belgium side, featured in elite European competition and who has won domestic titles." Huddersfield head coach David Wagner.





# BOSNIAN BATTLE

Arsenal's summer signing from Schalke will bring fighting qualities to the Emirates

**Brought in on a free, the 24-year-old Bosnian should be just what the Arsenal doctor ordered.**

Apart from his ability to play in a number of positions – left-back, left-wing-back or midfield enforcer – Kolasinac is renowned for his grit and ferocious competitive spirit; commodities not normally associated with Arsene Wenger's side in recent years.

Schalke fans traditionally prefer the up-and-at-'em style to silky technique, and in the combative Bosnian they saw the sort of warrior they easily could identify with: a blue-collar keeper of the faith, rugged, indomitable, hard-running and particularly fearsome in the tackle.

No mission or opponent fazes him, and in a sign of his single-minded effectiveness he produced a man of the match display early this year to neutralise Bayern Munich



**Versatile a defender, he also likes to get forward**

wing-wizard Arjen Robben. Rarely does the flying Dutchman beat a retreat without a kick, but coming up against Kolasinac was one of those rare, fruitless occasions.

A first-teamer at Schalke for five seasons, he thrives on responsibility, invariably looking to set the leadership tone. "I try to push the lads on," he says. "If things aren't going well, it's good to rally the boys. That's how I am. I do play with aggression."

By no means, though, is he solely a destroyer. When playing out wide, he loves to get forward and has improved technically over the last few years. In all competitions last season, he scored three and made nine

more, the best numbers of his sporting life.

Also linked with Manchester City, Everton, Liverpool, Juventus and Milan, the Bosnian battler admits he spent plenty of sleepless nights mulling over his career choices, but is convinced he made the right choice in signing a five-year deal with Arsenal.

"These past few months, I was torn," he wrote on his Facebook page. "Last winter I turned down a lot of offers from big European clubs. I finally decided to pursue my career in London.

"My thinking was that Arsenal offered me the best prospects. Every boy has to leave his family home at some point and get some new air in his lungs."

Born and brought up in the south-west German city of Karlsruhe, he represented Deutschland at various youth levels and was a non-playing member of the German under-21 squad at the 2013 European Championship. However, in November 2013 he opted to play his senior international football for Bosnia, the land of his parents. He has won 23 caps to date and featured for them at the 2014 World Cup finals.

"It was a tough call," he explains. "I owe the DFB [the German federation] a lot. But in the end, followed my heart."

A winner in every sense, he undoubtedly will be backing himself to inject some old school steel into Arsenal.



**Switch German-born i but represents Bosnia**



**Tough Schalke fans loved his battling spirit**





---

# SEAD KOLASINAC

**Club** Arsenal

**Country** Bosnia-Herzegovina

**Date of birth** June 20, 1993 (aged 24)

**Signed from** Schalke (Ger)

**Fee** free

---





  
**MAT  
RYAN**

**Club:** Brighton & Hove Albion

**Country:** Australia

**Date of birth:** April 8, 1992 (aged 25)

**Signed from:** Valencia (Spa)

**Fee:** undisclosed

**What's all the fuss about:** Australia's first-choice keeper is a highly rated shot-stopper who has already played top-level



football in Belgium and Spain.

He joined up with his new Brighton team-mates after playing for Australia at the Confederations Cup in Russia. He is not the tallest of keepers, but he earned plaudits for his performances when Australia won the 2015 Asian Cup.

**The story so far:** Ryan was signed by Club Brugge in 2013 and impressed during two seasons in Belgium, winning the Belgian Cup

**Loan** in goal for Genk last season

and earning a move to Valencia. However, he was sidelined with a knee injury in September 2015 and lost his place to penalty-saving specialist Diego Alves.

In January 2017 he went on loan to Belgian side Genk, where he was first-choice for the second half of the season.

**What they say:** "I'm delighted that we've been able to attract Mathew to the club, and he will certainly be an excellent addition to the squad in time for our first season in the Premier League."

"For somebody of Mathew's age, he has very good experience, having played in the top divisions in Australia, Belgium and Spain. He has also competed in European competition and made a number of appearances at international level!" Brighton manager Chris Hughton



# ROQUE MESA

**Club:** Swansea City  
**Country:** Spain  
**Date of Birth:** June 7, 1989 (aged 28)  
**Signed from:** Las Palmas (Spa)  
**Fee:** £11m

**What's all the fuss about:** Ball-playing midfielder with a pencil-thin moustache who has been one of the stars for Las Palmas and their recent success in Spain, winning promotion to La Liga and then establishing themselves in the Spanish top tier. His pass completion rates, which are very high, and small stature, he's 5ft 7in, have earned him comparisons with Xavi.

**The story so far:** A native of Gran Canaria, he began his career at Levante, in Valencia, before moving back to the Canary Islands, initially to Tenerife and then Las Palmas, where he established himself as the lynchpin of the club's 2015 promotion-winning side.

**What he says:** "The manager knows me, he knows how I play and what I can contribute to the team. I'll try to make the team play. I know he's like Ancelotti: he likes to play and wants to create a different Premier League team which likes to play."



# JAN BEDNAREK

**Club:** Southampton  
**Country:** Poland  
**Date of birth:** April 12, 1996 (Age 21)  
**Signed from:** Lech Poznan (Pol)  
**Fee:** £5m

**What's all the fuss about:** Promising centre-back who agreed a five-year deal with Saints after competing for Poland at the European Under-21 Championship. He was the first signing for new manager Mauricio Pellegrino, who needs to reinforce his defence following the departure of Jose Fonte to West Ham in January and the speculation over the future of Virgil Van Dijk.

**The story so far:** Bednarek made his Polish league debut at the age of 17 for Lech Poznan. He spent time on loan at Gornik Leznica and was expected to develop his career in Poznan, before the offer from Southampton came through. He has played for Poland at every level from under-16 through to under-21.

**What they say:** "Jan is an extremely promising young player who possesses significant potential. We are delighted to bring him to the club, and we believe this will be the ideal place for him to continue his development."

"This is a particularly exciting time for him to arrive here, as he also has the opportunity to learn from Mauricio Pellegrino's extensive experience of playing the centre-back position." Southampton vice-chairman Les Reed





CHELSEA FC





# MR VERSATILE

Big German defender gives Chelsea plenty of options at the back

A star of the second-string German side that triumphed in the summer's Confederations Cup, Antonio Rudiger's sights are now firmly set on winning a starting place in Chelsea's first team – and the 24-year-old will provide Blues boss Antonio Conte with a whole host of options when it comes to deciding where to play him.

In Russia, Rudiger operated on the left-hand side of Germany's back-three – the shape that was favoured by Conte as his side won the Premier League last season – but the 6ft 3in stopper is equally comfortable playing at right-back in a four-man defence.

"We are pleased to be able to bring in a player of proven quality who adds to our defensive options," says Chelsea's technical director, Michael Emenalo.

"Antonio is still young but is experienced at club and international level and possesses all the requisite attributes to thrive in the Premier League.

"We have been aware of him for some time and we are confident he will fit in well with the squad"

A mountain of a man, it will be no surprise to learn that Rudiger is strong in the tackle and dominant in the air. But he is also quick over the ground and comfortable in possession.

However, despite describing himself



in the past as "hard but fair", his aggressive performances have not always found favour with referees and last season he picked up eight yellow cards and was sent off twice.

Born in Berlin to a German father and Sierra Leonean mother, Rudiger grew up idolising Thierry Henry and started out as a striker before becoming a defender and joining Borussia Dortmund's youth set-up.

"You learn football on the streets, and that's completely different to playing for a club," he told an interviewer in 2014. "It's rougher out on the street. I played for my life, defeat was not an option for anyone. You play differently."

He had to leave Dortmund to get first-team football, and after 66 Bundesliga games for Stuttgart he joined Roma in 2015. After finishing third in his first Serie A campaign, he helped Roma to the runners-up spot behind Juventus last term before deciding to try his luck in England.

Capped 17 times by his country, including in Germany's 1-0 friendly win over England in March, he missed Euro 2016 after tearing cruciate knee ligaments – and had to undergo the third knee operation of his career.

Rudiger will be hoping that a change of scenery will help to bring about a change in fortune as far as injuries are concerned, and that his days on the treatment table are now behind him.

Strong in control against Australia



## ANTONIO RUDIGER

Club Chelsea

Country Germany

Date of birth March 3, 1993 (age 24)

Signed from Roma

Fee £35m





## THE NEW BOYS

---



# MOHAMED SALAH

**Club:** Liverpool

**Country:** Egypt

**Date of birth:** June 15, 1992 (aged 25)

**Signed from:** Roma (Ita)

**Fee:** £36.9 (rising to £43.9m)

---

**What's all the fuss about?** One of the brightest performers in Italy's Serie A over the past two-and-a-half seasons. A speedy attacker who plays mainly on the right wing, he is a regular goalscorer who also provides his fair share of assists. Liverpool have paid a club record for the Egyptian international.

**The story so far:** In 2012 he moved from Egypt to Swiss side Basle, where he starred against Chelsea in both the Europa League and Champions League, earning a move to London in January 2014. He failed to impress Jose Mourinho and was sent on loan to Fiorentina where he had an immediate impact. Still a Chelsea player, he moved on loan to Roma for 2015-16 before a £12m permanent deal last summer.

**What they say:** "His pace is incredible, he gives us more attacking threat and we are already strong in this area. I like that we will make it even more competitive. Most important though, for us, is that he is hungry, willing and eager to be even better and improve further."

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp

---





# SANDRO RAMIREZ

**Club:** Everton  
**Country:** Spain  
**Date of birth:** July 9, 1995 (aged 22)  
**Signed from:** Malaga (Spa)  
**Fee:** £5.2m

**What's all the fuss about?** Everton continued their summer spending spree with the purchase of the Spanish under-21 striker who scored 14 goals in 30 games last season following his release from Barcelona.  
**The story so far:** Born in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands, he joined Barca as a 14-year-old. He progressed through their reserves to make it to the fringes of the Camp Nou first team, but his appearances were confined mostly to cup games and he moved to Malaga last summer. He finished the season as the club's top scorer and

Everton swooped to trigger the £5.2m release clause in his contract.

**What he says:** "I'm very happy, this is a big step in my career. I know I'm signing for a massive club in England. Everton is the ideal place for me, I've got the ideal manager who is going to give me the confidence to improve my game. I cannot wait to wear the blue shirt in front of the Everton fans at Goodison Park. It's a big jump in my career coming to the Premier League and for a club like Everton which is really on the up. They have big plans and want to succeed"



# FLORIAN LEJEUNE

**Club:** Newcastle United  
**Country:** France  
**Date of birth:** May 20, 1991 (Aged 26)  
**Signed from:** Eibar (Spa)  
**Fee:** £8.7m

**What's all the fuss about?** Versatile defender or midfielder who was identified by Rafa Benitez as one of his main summer transfer targets. Comfortable on the ball, he usually plays at centre-back and will provide competition for first-choice pairing Jamaal Lascelles and Ciaran Clark.

**The story so far:** Lejeune was born in Paris and raised in France but has played most of his professional career in Spain, where he starred for Eibar as they finished 10th in La Liga last season. He joined Manchester City in 2015 but was loaned straight back to

second-tier Girona, before moving to Eibar last summer.

**What they say:** "I have known about him for a while, since he began playing for Villarreal. He has progressed a lot as a player in the last few years and I know he will give us something different at the back - he is good with both feet, he's big and he's good in the air also. If he settles well into English football then I am sure he will be a success and will give us a lot of competition in this area."

Newcastle manager Rafa Benitez







# SILVA SERVICE

The Portuguese playmaker gives Man City exciting new options

**Manchester City were outplayed by Monaco in last season's Champions League knockout stage. A thrilling tie ended 6-6 on aggregate, with Monaco progressing to the quarter-finals on away goals.**

The teenager Kylian Mbappe grabbed all the headlines, but the footballing masterclass was delivered by Monaco's Portuguese playmaker Bernardo Silva.

Silva set up Mbappe for the opening goal – skinning City midfielder David Silva before brushing aside Leroy Sane, nutmegging Yaya Toure and then slipping a perfectly weighted through-ball in behind the defence for Mbappe to fire home in the second leg.

So it was no surprise when City's first signing of the summer turned out to be the tormentor-in-chief from Monaco in a case of "if you can't beat them, sign them".

The new man gives City manager Pep Guardiola a major headache. How will he fit

Bernardo Silva into a City side brimming with attacking talents?

City already have wide men Sane and Raheem Sterling and Guardiola is expected to sign two new, attack-minded full-backs. So Bernardo Silva is likely to have to adapt and play more of an inside-forward role, competing with attacking stars David Silva and Kevin De Bruyne, as well as playmakers like Ilkay Gundogan, who missed much of last season through injury.

"It was not easy to leave Monaco because I had a great time there," says the 22-year-old.

"I want to thank everyone there,

**Masterclass taking on Man City**



they gave me the opportunity to play at a very high level. But after this very nice season, I wanted to try something different, to leave on a high. It's a good time to do this as a champion."

"When I had the opportunity to play in the Premier League, to be trained by Guardiola, and to evolve with players like De Bruyne, Aguero and Silva, I could not refuse.

"And it was a good offer for Monaco. I am very happy. I'm going to play in the best league in the world."

"I spoke to Pep for about 10 minutes after my signing. He told me that I had to adapt to the league and club, and he told me what position he wants me to play in.

"He sees me on the right or in the middle. I can play both positions, but also on the left if necessary."

Signing for City marks the culmination of a rapid rise for Silva. Born in Lisbon, he came through the ranks at the city's best-supported club, Benfica, playing for the B side before being sent on loan to Monaco. His impact in France took everybody by surprise and Monaco were keen to sign him on a permanent basis in January 2015.

That summer he starred for Portugal as they finished as runners-up in the European Under-21 Championship. He scored the opening goal in a 5-0 rout of Germany in





On target scoring for Portugal at the Confederations Cup

the semi-final, a performance that put him firmly on the European map.

Portugal coach Fernando Santos was quick to sport his potential as he embarked on the qualifying campaign for Euro 2016. By the end of qualifying it surprised nobody that the Monaco man was starting for the senior side.

Unfortunately, a thigh injury ruled him out of the Portugal squad that triumphed in France in last year's European Championship. But he wasted no time in making his presence felt on his return to the Monaco first team. The team from the French principality won plaudits around Europe for their attacking style as they dethroned big-spending Paris Saint-Germain as champions of France.

Silva played a crucial role in Monaco's success, with team-mate Fabinho admitting: "He's maybe the most important member of the team."

The fear for Monaco was always that they would be forced to sell their stars – and so it was when City came calling with a mega bid. The money from City was too good to turn down. But for Bernardo Silva, a new chapter is just beginning.



## BERNARDO SILVA

**Club** Manchester City

**Country** Portugal

**Date of birth** August 10, 1994 (aged 22)

**Signed from** Monaco (Fra)

**Fee** £43m

### Talent playmaker





# THE NEW GAFFERS

## FRANK DE BOER CRYSTAL PALACE

Age 47

**Previous clubs:** Ajax youth (Hol), Holland (assistant), Ajax (Hol), Internazionale (Ita)

**Honours:** Dutch title (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)

**Crystal Palace have taken a leap into the unknown by appointing Frank De Boer as their first permanent foreign manager in place of Sam Allardyce, who stepped down at the end of last season.**

Former Ajax, Barcelona and Holland defender De Boer coached Ajax to four Dutch league titles in a row and helped to lay the foundations of the side that reached this year's Europa League Final, losing to Manchester United in Stockholm.

De Boer has promised to lead a tactical revolution at Palace, who are keen to move away from the defensive style that has characterised their relegation battles of recent seasons.

"I want a team where the fans are excited to come to our games, to see a team that wants to win and wants to fight for every minute," said De Boer.

"That's always the starting point for me. [At



Celebrations...Winning the Dutch title at Ajax

Ajax] it's also in our DNA to try and play technical football and dominate. When you do that, and do that well, it's a plus, it's attractive and it looks nice.

"We are not naive. I want to play dominant when we can be dominant. But we want to dominate with and without the ball. You can be dominant without the ball by trying to move the opposition where you want them to go.

"I was attracted by the opportunity of managing in the Premier League. This is a club that can still go further and further. Every English club in the Premier League has money so there is the possibility to do something. There is a lot of perspective for this club to be a solid Premier League club"





---



---

## MAURICIO PELLEGRINO

### SOUTHAMPTON

**Age:** 45

**Previous clubs:** Liverpool assistant, Valencia (Spa), Estudiantes (Arg), Independiente (Arg), Alaves (Spa)

**Honours:** Spanish Cup runner-up (2017)

---

**Mauricio Pellegrino – Southampton's third new manager in as many seasons – arrives in England with a reputation as a miracle worker in Spain.**

Last season the Argentinian guided newly promoted Alaves to a comfortable ninth place in La Liga, as well as the Spanish Cup Final, where they lost to Barcelona.

Dedicated, committed, analytical and obsessive are all words that have been used to describe a fanatical coach who hates losing.

Pellegrino played in his native Argentina, Spain and England, and won three caps for his country. While with Valencia he won two Spanish league titles and played in the 2001 Champions League Final, where he missed the crucial spot-kick in a shoot-out defeat by Bayern Munich.

Pellegrino played under Rafa Benitez at Valencia and went on to play a handful of games for the Spaniard at Liverpool before joining Benitez's coaching staff at Liverpool and then Internazionale.

He also played a season at Barcelona under Louis Van Gaal, who said of Pellegrino: "He'll make a great coach."

His coaching career took off when he returned to Argentina to take charge of Estudiantes and Independiente before being appointed by Alaves last summer.

"I think my philosophy and the culture of the club will work well together," Pellegrino said. "We have to be a team on and off the pitch."



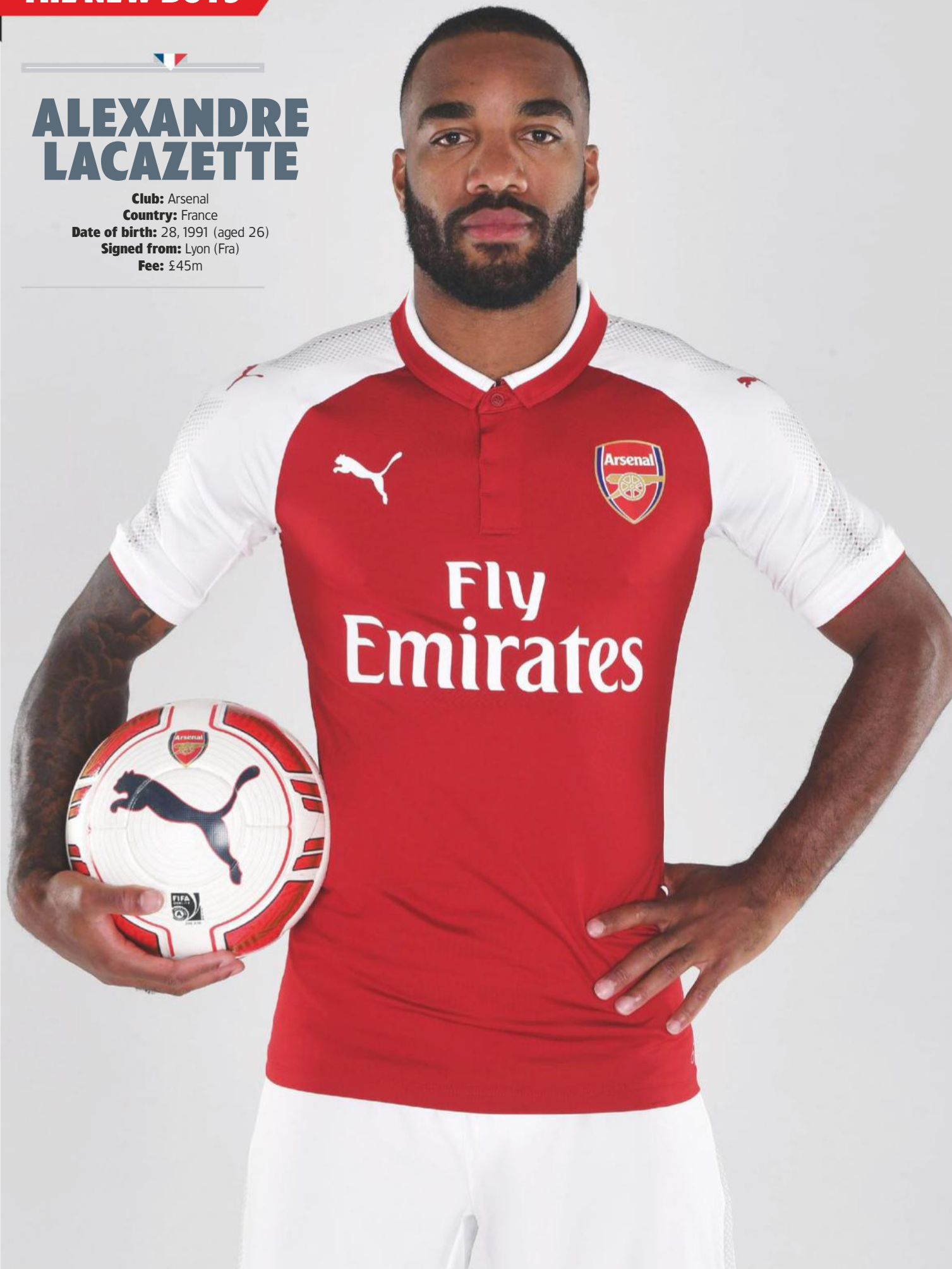
**Liverpool old boy**  
he played in the Premier League



## THE NEW BOYS

# ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE

**Club:** Arsenal  
**Country:** France  
**Date of birth:** 28, 1991 (aged 26)  
**Signed from:** Lyon (Fra)  
**Fee:** £45m





# GOAL MACHINE

**Arsenal broke the bank to sign a prolific striker**

**The word “prolific” could have been invented for Arsenal’s new £45million French hit-man, the most costly signing in the history of the North London club.**

His numbers at the point of the Lyon attack speak for themselves: 129 goals in 275 matches in all competitions since making his first-team bow in the 2009-10 season; 113 Ligue 1 strikes in the last four campaigns; and a gargantuan tally of 37 in 45 official fixtures last term. Put the Lyon local boy on a rectangle of turf and he will prove decisive. Simple as that.

Early in his OL career, he normally played out wide, either left or right, but in the summer of 2013, he was switched to centre-forward by then-coach Remi Garde, a realignment which would spark net-busting fireworks.

“I knew he could score goals but even I was not expecting him to put away chances in such great quantities,” said Garde at the time. “I think he has it in him to be one of the best.

“I see few forwards as complete as him. He doesn’t only score goals. He’s technically very good and links up well with others.

“For a while he had to play out of position. However, I believe it did him good. It built up his endurance levels, it widened his skill-set”

Garde will no doubt be delighted that, at the age of 26, Lacazette has opted to begin a new chapter with Arsenal. Garde, a midfielder for the Gunners in the late 1990s, remains very close to coach Arsene Wenger and earlier this year publicly advised the striker to spread his wings and quit his hometown club.

“Alexandre has the ability and mentality to play for the very best European clubs,” Garde told French sports channel SFR. “He has no need to sign for just anybody. A long-ball team which by-passes midfield wouldn’t really be for him.”

In other words, he and Arsenal are made for one another.

The challenge he faces at the Emirates will not be one for the faint-hearted. Not only does he have to quickly find his feet in the Premier League and spearhead an Arsenal renaissance, he also will be looking to resurrect his international prospects. Of the 11 full caps he has acquired since his debut in 2013, only three were as a starter and he has managed just one goal, against Denmark in a friendly in 2015.

He has yet to be included in a French squad for a major tournament and if, at long last, he is to convince coach Didier Deschamps, he must pile up



**On fire 37 goals in 45 games for Lyon last season**

the goals for the Gunners.

What he would give to play regularly up front for France alongside good friend Antoine Griezmann. He and the Atletico Madrid star came up through the Gallic youth ranks together, with both featuring in the under-19 side which scooped the European title in 2010. Indeed, if Atletico had not been subject to a transfer ban, the pair might now be reunited at the Estadio Vicente Calderon.

Atletico’s loss. Arsenal’s gain.

**Ability taking on Juventus**





SIX OF THE BEST

# FOOTBALL LEAGUE

THE BRIGHTEST TALENTS OUTSIDE OF THE PREMIER LEAGUE



## RYAN SESSEGNON

**Club:** Fulham

**Position:** Left-back or wide midfielder

**Date of birth:** May 18, 2000 (aged 17)

**Previous clubs:** none

**Linked with:** Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur

**1 Fulham's exciting teenager recently agreed his first professional contract with the club, signing a deal that delighted Fulham fans but disappointed Tottenham Hotspur, who were keen to take him to north London.**

The England Under-19 international made his league debut against Leeds United in August 2016 and a week later scored his first professional goal, against Cardiff City, making him the first English player born in the 21st century to score in a Championship match. By the end of the season he had become a Fulham regular and was named in the PFA Championship Team of the Year.

The new contract means Sessegnon will

continue his development in south-west London, close to where he was born, and alongside his twin brother, Steven, who has also come through Fulham's Academy.

"Last season I got a lot of opportunities so I want to continue that," says Sessegnon. "When you are young you just want to play as many games as you can. To play 30 games last year was good. It is always about improving and now I want to get better."

"I am just happy for it to be done now. I can kick on and get ready for the season."

Fulham boss Slavisa Jokanovic adds: "I'm pleased that Ryan's performances have been rewarded with his first professional contract. He is an exceptional young player who has demonstrated loyalty and commitment by continuing to serve this club."



# TALENTS

## ANDRE GREEN

**Club:** Aston Villa

**Position:** Winger

**Date of birth:** July 26, 1998 (age 18)

**Previous clubs:** none

**Linked with:** several Premier League sides

**2** Andre Green is the youngest that Villa fans are most excited about. The Solihull-born Villa fan is a speed winger who helped to provide hope for the future when the club dropped down to the Championship.

Already capped by England at under-16, under-17, under-18 and under-19 level, he made his Villa debut in March 2016, appearing from the bench to replace Jordan Veretout in a 2-0 Premier League loss to Tottenham Hotspur to become the club's fifth-youngest player of all time.

Green agreed a three-year deal in August 2016 and manager Steve Bruce has tried to manage expectations about his exciting prospect, saying: "He's had a decent couple of games, he's only 18 and he's got a bright future.

"It's not easy for him but he's making himself available every week and he's right in my thoughts. There's nothing better. Even in my hour of need I threw an 18-year-old in [Green] when I needed a performance because it lifts the crowd and gives everyone a lift at the club.

"It certainly lifts the Academy and, of course, it gives the older players a kick up the arse that there's a young kid breathing down their neck.

"When you look at what this academy has produced in the past, it's terrific. I'm all for having three or four players around the squad because that's healthy. There's nothing better for a manager than to see a young kid come through."

Green has already suffered setbacks, though. He missed the final month of last season with a hamstring injury that ruled him out of the England Under-20 squad that won the World Cup in South Korea.





# DAVID BROOKS

**Club:** Sheffield United

**Position:** Midfielder

**Date of birth:** July 8, 1997 (aged 20)

**Previous clubs:** Manchester City, Halifax Town (loan) **Linked with:** Everton

**3** English football enjoyed a highly successful summer. While the under-20 side grabbed the headlines by winning the World Cup in South Korea, the country also claimed victory in the prestigious Toulon youth tournament, where Sheffield United midfielder David Brooks was named the player of the tournament.

Brooks caused controversy in the weeks before the competition after switching his allegiances to England from Wales, who thought they had called him up for the tournament in France.

Brooks was named in the England party just 11 minutes after withdrawing from the Wales squad and went on to score crucial goals in Toulon, where England beat Angola, Cuba, Japan and Scotland before winning a penalty shoot-out over Ivory Coast in the Final.

Born in Warrington, he moved to Sheffield United after being released from Manchester City's Academy in 2014. He has since spent two months on loan at Halifax Town and made four first-team appearances for the Blades last season.

He was set to go on loan to Chesterfield this season, but the Blades pulled the plug on the deal, and the indications are that the youngster will play a role for the newly promoted Championship side in the 2017-18 campaign.

He has been linked to Everton, whose academy scout Jamie Hoyland has said: "He's a lad who got released off Man City when he was 16, so obviously his pedigree is good. He still looks, probably, about 14 or 15. And that's the thing about him, he's still not developed physically [into] what he should be."







## EZRI KONSA

**Club:** Charlton Athletic

**Position:** Central defence

**Date of birth:** October 23, 1997 (aged 19)

**Previous clubs:** none

**Linked with:** Manchester City, Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal, Chelsea

# 4

**The England team that won the Under-20 World Cup this summer in South Korea was dominated by players contracted to Premier League clubs – including player of the tournament Dominic Solanke, who recently moved from Chelsea to Liverpool, and Everton’s Dominic Calvert-Lewin, the scorer of the winning goal in the Final.**

One of the few players not with a Premier League club was Charlton defender Ezri Konsa, who played in the semi-final victory against Italy.

Konsa was born in East London but has quickly made a name for himself in South

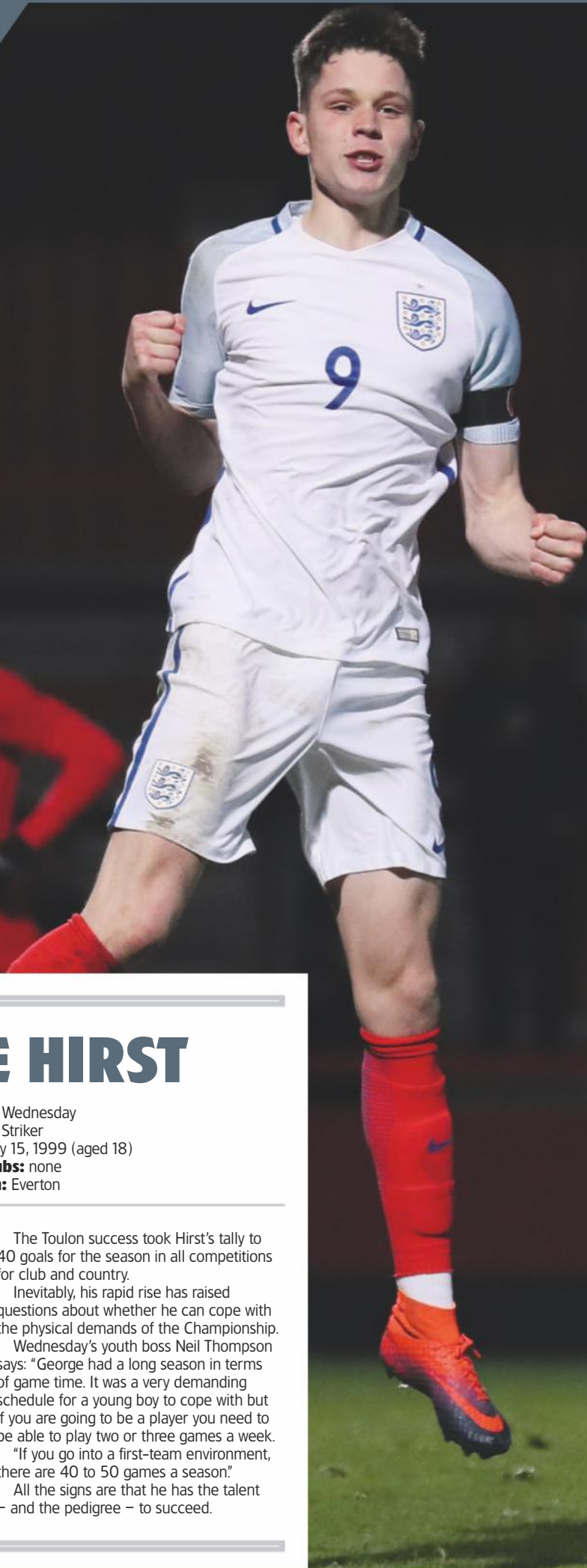
London, breaking into the first team at Charlton, where he made 32 appearances in League One last season.

At Charlton he is as highly rated as Joe Gomez, who joined Liverpool for £3.5m last summer. Charlton sold Ademola Lookman, another of England’s under-20 stars, to Everton in January, so Konsa – whose contract runs until 2019 – could be the next big-money earner for the League One club.

Charlton manager Carl Robinson says: “He’s been an outstanding player since he’s moved into the first team and he’s making an impact on our games.”

Reflecting on Konsa’s under-20 call-up, Charlton’s academy boss Steve Avory said: “He’s always thought he was good enough – and now he has proved that he is.”





## GEORGE HIRST

**Club:** Sheffield Wednesday

**Position:** Striker

**Date of birth:** February 15, 1999 (aged 18)

**Previous clubs:** none

**Linked with:** Everton

**5** Young Sheffield Wednesday striker George Hirst has had the perfect role model ever since he first kicked a football: his father David, the former Wednesday and England centre-forward.

Teenager George has made dramatic steps in the past 12 months, making his senior Wednesday debut and finishing as top scorer as England won the Toulon youth tournament this summer. He chipped in with four goals, including a hat-trick against Cuba, although he missed a penalty in the shoot-out win over Ivory Coast that saw England retain their title.

The Toulon success took Hirst's tally to 40 goals for the season in all competitions for club and country.

Inevitably, his rapid rise has raised questions about whether he can cope with the physical demands of the Championship.

Wednesday's youth boss Neil Thompson says: "George had a long season in terms of game time. It was a very demanding schedule for a young boy to cope with but if you are going to be a player you need to be able to play two or three games a week.

"If you go into a first-team environment, there are 40 to 50 games a season."

All the signs are that he has the talent – and the pedigree – to succeed.



# JOEL ASORO

**Club:** Sunderland  
**Position:** Forward

**Date of birth:** April 27, 1999 (aged 18)

**Previous clubs:** IF Brommapojkarna (Swe)

**Linked with:** Arsenal

**6** Sunderland's relegation from the Premier League was a hammer blow for the club's supporters after years of battling against the drop. But the silver lining may come in the form of more opportunities for young players in the Championship.

While it was inevitable that last season's top scorer Jermain Defoe would leave, Sunderland have a number of youngsters who could step in to fill the void. One of those is Swedish under-21 striker Joel Asoro, who has already been the subject of interest from Arsenal this summer.

Born in Stockholm, Asoro made his professional debut in the league last year against Middlesbrough, appearing as a late sub for Duncan Watmore and becoming Sunderland's and Sweden's youngest Premier League player.

Asoro was a member of Sweden's squad at the European Under-21 Championship this summer but made only one substitute appearance as the defending champions failed to get out of their group.

Asoro has admitted that he was unsure what to make of Arsenal's interest this summer, saying: "People were a little shocked because I have played very little first-team football!"





**FOOTBALL KITS**



TEL: 0845 8382442  
 EMAIL: SALES@SUBSIDE.CO.UK  
 WEB: SUBSIDE.CO.UK



**THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO OFFICIAL WORLDWIDE FOOTBALL PRODUCTS**



**AFRICA CUP OF NATIONS 2017 OFFICIAL PRODUCT INSTOCK!**

**WE ONLY STOCK THE OFFICIAL PSPRO PLAYER SIZE PREMIER LEAGUE PRINTING FOR ADULT SHIRTS!**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.SUBSIDE.CO.UK**  
 We pride ourselves in sourcing official replica, limited editions and exclusive products from around the globe.



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE AFRICAN NATIONS TEES**

Gabon Logo Aubameyang T-Shirt - Yellow £18.99



Cameroon Home Shirt 2016 2017  
**£59.99** PUMA



Ghana Home Shirt 2016 2017  
**£59.99** PUMA



Ivory Coast Home Shirt 2016 2017  
**£59.99** PUMA



DR Congo Africa Nations Championship Winners Shirt  
**£54.99** O'Neills



1980's Mali Home Retro Shirt  
**£39.99** COPA

SUBSIDE SPORTS LTD: TEL: 0845 8382442 / EMAIL: SALES@SUBSIDE.CO.UK / WEB: SUBSIDE.CO.UK

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**AHR**

+44(0)7918 528880

**Advanced Hair Regrowth in London - Natural Hair Regrowth Expert**

**No surgery  
 No Medication  
 No Risk  
 No Complication**

Advanced Hair Regrowth Clinic ( London )  
 2 Latitude House Oval Road NW1 7EU  
 Call now to book your appointment at +44 7918528880  
 or  
 Email to ngmilly@gmail.com  
 www.advancedhairregrowth.com



- ① Stop Hair Loss
- ② Revitalize Hair Follicle to start to grow hair
- ③ Strengthen & Volumize existing Hair



# THE TEAMS

## PREMIER LEAGUE

Arsenal  
Bournemouth  
Brighton & Hove Albion  
Burnley  
Chelsea  
Crystal Palace  
Everton  
Huddersfield Town  
Leicester City  
Liverpool  
Manchester City  
Manchester United  
Newcastle United  
Southampton  
Stoke City  
Swansea City  
Tottenham Hotspur  
Watford  
West Bromwich Albion  
West Ham United

## CHAMPIONSHIP

Aston Villa  
Barnsley  
Birmingham City  
Bolton Wanderers  
Brentford  
Bristol City  
Burton Albion  
Derby County  
Cardiff City  
Fulham  
Hull City  
Ipswich Town  
Leeds United  
Middlesbrough  
Millwall  
Norwich City  
Nottingham Forest  
Preston North End  
Reading  
Queens Park Rangers  
Sheffield United  
Sheffield Wednesday  
Sunderland  
Wolverhampton W

## LEAGUE ONE

AFC Wimbledon  
Blackburn Rovers  
Blackpool  
Bradford City  
Bristol Rovers  
Bury  
Charlton Athletic  
Doncaster Rovers  
Fleetwood Town  
Gillingham  
MK Dons  
Northampton Town  
Oldham Athletic  
Oxford United  
Peterborough United  
Plymouth Argyle  
Portsmouth  
Rochdale  
Rotherham United  
Scunthorpe United  
Shrewsbury Town  
Southend United  
Walsall  
Wigan Athletic

## LEAGUE TWO

Accrington Stanley  
Barnet  
Cambridge United  
Carlisle United  
Cheltenham Town  
Chesterfield  
Colchester United  
Coventry City  
Crawley Town  
Crewe Alexandra  
Exeter City  
Forest Green Rovers  
Grimsby Town  
Lincoln City  
Luton Town  
Mansfield Town  
Morecambe  
Newport County  
Notts County  
Port Vale  
Stevenage  
Swindon Town  
Wycombe Wanderers  
Yeovil Town





# ARSENAL



## WENGER CARRIES ON REGARDLESS

This could be a landmark season for Arsenal. Arsene Wenger remains manager but he is in charge of a team that will compete in the Europa League, not the Champions League, after last season's fifth-place finish. May's FA Cup Final success – an astonishing third in four years and a record seventh for Wenger – is unlikely to keep the fans happy for long, especially if they lose star man Alexis Sanchez.

Full-back Sead Kolasinac and striker Alexandre Lacazette were early summer arrivals.

**Manager** Arsene Wenger agreed a new two-year contract over the summer. His position was strengthened by the board's acceptance of his refusal to work with a director of football.

**Who's the Daddy?** American billionaire Stan Kroenke still holds the majority of shares in the club and refuses to sell to Uzbek-born

billionaire Alisher Usmanov, who owns a fraction under 30 per cent.

**Annual wage bill** £195m (2016)  
**Annual income** £354m (2016)  
**Stadium** Emirates (60,355)  
**Nickname** Gunners  
**Odds** 12/1 to win Premier League



Still in charge...  
Arsene Wenger

## FAN'S VIEW

KEVIN WHITCHER  
The Gooner (onlinegooner.com)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Disappointing with a silver lining at the end. The team dropped from second to fifth in the Premier League and bombed out in Europe again, but at least there was a trophy at the conclusion. That should not mask the season collapsing in the early months of 2017 though.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Fearful of Alexis Sanchez departing, more Monday night matches because of the Europa League, and the reality that the season will probably collapse when the first daffodils are spotted.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Sanchez. Without his contribution, things would have been even worse.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Arsene Wenger – his arrogance, lack of humility and blaming the fans for the team's poor play was unforgivable.

## FLASHBACK

May 27 Aaron Ramsey heads the winning goal past Thibault Courtois as Arsenal beat Chelsea in the FA Cup Final.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Petr <b>CECH</b> (CzR)	(35) 20.05.82	2015 / Chelsea
Emiliano <b>MARTINEZ</b> (Arg)	(24) 02.09.92	2010 / Independiente (Arg)
David <b>OSPINA</b> (Col)	(28) 31.08.88	2014 / Nice (Fra)
Wojciech <b>SZCZESNY</b> (Pol)	(27) 18.04.90	2006 / Legia Warsaw (Pol)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Hector <b>BELLERIN</b> (Spa)	(22) 19.03.95	2011 / Barcelona (Spa)
Calum <b>CHAMBERS</b>	(22) 20.01.95	2014 / Southampton
Mathieu <b>DEBUCHY</b> (Fra)	(31) 29.07.85	2014 / Newcastle United
<b>GABRIEL</b> (Bra)	(26) 26.11.90	2015 / Villarreal (Spa)
Kieran <b>GIBBS</b>	(27) 26.09.89	2004 / Wimbledon
Rob <b>HOLDING</b>	(21) 20.09.95	2016 / Bolton Wanderers
Carl <b>JENKINSON</b>	(25) 08.02.92	2011 / Charlton Athletic
Sead <b>KOLASINAC</b> (Bos)	(24) 20.06.93	2017 / Schalke (Ger)
Laurent <b>KOSCIELNY</b> (Fra)	(31) 10.09.85	2010 / Lorient (Fra)
Per <b>MERTESACKER</b> (Ger)	(32) 29.09.84	2011 / Werder Bremen (Ger)
Nacho <b>MONREAL</b> (Spa)	(31) 26.02.86	2013 / Malaga (Spa)
Shkodran <b>MUSTAFI</b> (Ger)	(25) 17.04.92	2016 / Valencia (Spa)
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Santi <b>CAZORLA</b> (Spa)	(32) 13.12.84	2012 / Malaga (Spa)
Francis <b>COCQUELIN</b> (Fra)	(26) 13.05.91	2008 / Laval (Fra)
Mohamed <b>ELNENY</b> (Egy)	(25) 11.07.92	2016 / Basle (Swi)
Ainsley <b>MAITLAND-NILES</b>	(19) 29.08.97	2014 / youth
Alex <b>OXLADE-CHAMBERLAIN</b>	(23) 15.08.93	2011 / Southampton
Mesut <b>OZIL</b> (Ger)	(28) 15.10.88	2013 / Real Madrid (Spa)
Aaron <b>RAMSEY</b> (Wal)	(26) 26.12.90	2008 / Cardiff City
Jeff <b>REINE-ADELAIDE</b> (Fra)	(19) 17.01.98	2015 / Lens (Fra)
Jack <b>WILSHERE</b>	(25) 01.01.92	2008 / youth
Granit <b>XHAKA</b> (Swi)	(24) 27.09.92	2016 / Bor M'gladbach (Ger)
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Chuba <b>AKPOM</b>	(21) 09.10.95	2002 / youth
Joel <b>CAMPBELL</b> (CR)	(25) 26.06.92	2011 / Saprissa (CR)
Olivier <b>GIROUD</b> (Fra)	(30) 30.09.86	2012 / Montpellier (Fra)
Alex <b>IWOBI</b> (Nga)	(21) 03.05.96	2004 / youth
Alexandre <b>LACAZETTE</b> (Fra)	(26) 28.05.91	2017 / Lyon (Fra)
Lucas <b>PEREZ</b> (Spa)	(28) 10.09.88	2016 / Dep La Coruna (Spa)
Alexis <b>SANCHEZ</b> (Chl)	(28) 19.12.88	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
Theo <b>WALCOTT</b>	(28) 16.03.89	2006 / Southampton
Danny <b>WELBECK</b>	(26) 26.11.90	2014 / Manchester United
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Arsene <b>WENGER</b> (Fra)	(67) 22.10.49	1996 / Grampus Eight (Jap)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 5th // Top scorer Alexis Sanchez 24 // FA Cup Winners // League Cup Quarter-finals  
Average attendance 59,956



Chance... Ainsley Maitland-Niles

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Arsene Wenger, we want you to go".

### YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

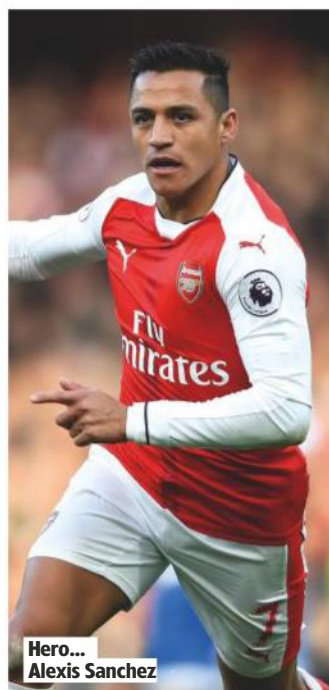
Ainsley Maitland-Niles might get a run if the squad suffers injuries.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Spurs away at Wembley will be surreal.

### GAME TO DREAD

A trip to a relegation contender who give us a lesson in commitment.



Hero... Alexis Sanchez

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Dec 2</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>DEC 12</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Man City (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Man United (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Huddersfield (a)



# BOURNEMOUTH



## CHERRIES HAVE SERIOUS AMBITION

Anybody still referring to “plucky little Bournemouth” should hang their heads in shame. Last season saw Eddie Howe’s men record a best-ever league finish (ninth) and this summer there has been some serious activity on the south coast, with Jermain Defoe arriving from Sunderland, and keeper Asmir Begovic and defender Nathan Ake joining from Chelsea.

**Manager** At 39, Eddie Howe is the Premier League’s youngest manager and the longest serving after Arsene Wenger, having taken charge for a second time in October 2012 after a brief spell at Burnley. During his first period in command, which began in 2008, he saved Bournemouth from relegation from the Football League and led them to promotion to League One.

**Who’s the Daddy?** Secretive Russian businessman Maxim Demin made his money in pharmaceuticals and has backed Bournemouth with

some serious cash – which led to the club being fined £7.6m for breaching Financial Fairplay regulations for over-spending in the Championship.

**Annual wage bill** £60m (2016).  
**Annual income** £88m (2016).  
**Stadium** Vitality Stadium (11,464).  
**Nickname** Cherries.  
**Odds** 750/1 to win Premier League.



Long serving...Eddie Howe

## FAN’S VIEW

STEVE JENKINS  
 fromthesouthend.com (@tftse)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

As about as good as it could get. Finishing ninth, beating Liverpool, drawing with Arsenal and Manchester United, and scoring six against Hull were some of the highlights of our most successful season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping to convert draws into wins, concede fewer goals, finish higher than last season and get to the Final of the FA Cup. The fear is that we will get beaten by Manchester City (again), Callum Wilson won’t come back as good as he once was and that Lewis Grabban will still be a Bournemouth player.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Everyone was a hero last season, but a couple of standouts were Josh King coming of age and (on-loan, now permanent signing) Nathan Ake scoring the last-minute winner against Liverpool.

## FLASHBACK

**Dec 4** Nathan Ake scores in the third minute of added time as Bournemouth come from 1-3 down, with 15 minutes left, to beat Liverpool 4-3.







2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Aug 24</b>	Man City (h)
<b>SEPT 9</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Everton (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Leicester (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Watford (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Burnley (a)

THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Ryan <b>ALLSOP</b>	(25) 17.06.92	2013 / Leyton Orient
Asmir <b>BEGOVIC</b> (Bos)	(30) 20.06.87	2017 / Chelsea
Artur <b>BORUC</b> (Pol)	(37) 20.02.80	2015 / Southampton
Adam <b>FEDERICI</b> (Aus)	(32) 31.01.85	2015 / Reading
<b>DEFENDERS</b>		
Nathan <b>AKE</b> (Hol)	(22) 18.02.95	2017 / Chelsea
Baily <b>CARGILL</b>	(22) 05.07.95	2012 / youth
Steve <b>COOK</b>	(26) 19.04.91	2012 / Brighton & HA
Charlie <b>DANIELS</b>	(30) 07.09.86	2012 / Leyton Orient
Simon <b>FRANCIS</b>	(32) 16.02.85	2012 / Charlton Athletic
Tyrone <b>MINGS</b>	(25) 27.02.92	2015 / Ipswich Town
Adam <b>SMITH</b>	(26) 29.04.91	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
Brad <b>SMITH</b> (Aus)	(23) 09.04.94	2016 / Liverpool
Rhoyo <b>WIGGINS</b> (Wal)	(29) 04.11.87	2016 / Sheffield Wednesday
Marc <b>WILSON</b> (Rol)	(29) 17.08.87	2016 / Stoke City
<b>MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Harry <b>ARTER</b> (Rol)	(27) 28.12.89	2010 / Woking
Lewis <b>COOK</b>	(20) 03.02.97	2016 / Leeds United
Ryan <b>FRASER</b> (Sco)	(23) 24.02.94	2013 / Aberdeen (Sco)
Dan <b>GOSLING</b>	(27) 01.02.90	2014 / Newcastle United
Emerson <b>HYNDMAN</b> (USA)	(21) 09.04.96	2016 / Fulham
Connor <b>MAHONEY</b>	(20) 12.02.97	2017 / Blackburn Rovers
Jordon <b>IBE</b>	(21) 08.12.95	2016 / Liverpool
Marc <b>PUGH</b>	(30) 02.04.87	2010 / Hereford United
Junior <b>STANISLAS</b>	(27) 26.11.89	2014 / Burnley
Andrew <b>SURMAN</b>	(30) 20.08.86	2014 / Norwich City
<b>FORWARDS</b>		
Benik <b>AFOBE</b> (DRC)	(24) 12.02.93	2016 / Wolverhampton W
Jermain <b>DEFOE</b>	(34) 07.10.82	2017 / Sunderland
Lewis <b>GRABBAN</b>	(29) 12.01.88	2016 / Norwich City
Max <b>GRADEL</b> (IvC)	(29) 30.11.87	2015 / Saint-Etienne (Fra)
Josh <b>KING</b> (Nor)	(25) 15.01.92	2015 / Blackburn Rovers
Lys <b>MOUSSET</b> (Fra)	(21) 08.02.96	2016 / Le Havre (Fra)
Callum <b>WILSON</b>	(25) 27.02.92	2014 / Coventry City
<b>MANAGER</b>		
Eddie <b>HOWE</b>	(39) 29.11.77	2012 / Burnley



Warm welcome  
...Matt Ritchie

OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Matt Ritchie for going to a bigger club, not that he has been missed. We will give him a warm welcome after we beat Newcastle this season.

BEST SONG LAST SEASON

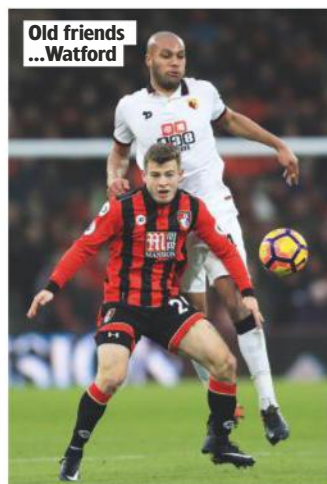
If only there was one. "We come from League Two, we come from League Two, we're AFC Bournemouth, we come from League Two" is a good one to bring out when beating anyone.

YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

US international Emerson Hyndman went on loan to Rangers last season and made a big impression. We're expecting him and England under-20 captain Lewis Cook to be pushing Arter, Gosling and Surman for a place in the starting line-up.

GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The first home game of the new season against our old friends Watford. Looking forward to playing Brighton again and getting six points off Man U.



Old friends  
...Watford

GAME TO DREAD

Man City away is usually a game we get well and truly beaten in. Hopefully this season it will be different.



LAST SEASON

Premier League 9th // Top scorer Josh King 16 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 11,182



# BRIGHTON



## BACK IN THE BIG TIME

Brighton are back in the top flight for the first time in 34 years. In that time, they almost dropped out of the Football League, lost their Goldstone Ground home and found temporary accommodation at Gillingham and the Withdean athletics track. With the backing of Tony Bloom, they built a brand new stadium at Falmer on the outskirts of Brighton and clawed their way back up the divisions.

**Manager** Former Newcastle and Norwich boss Chris Hughton was appointed in December 2014 and agreed a four-year deal last summer.

**Who's the Daddy?** Professional gambler Tony Bloom is very secretive about how he makes his money, but he has ploughed almost £300m into Brighton since becoming club chairman in 2009.

**Annual wage bill** £27.4m (2016)

**Annual income** £24.6m (2016)

**Stadium** Amex (30,750)

**Nickname** Seagulls

**Odds** 1,000-1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

SCOTT MCCARTHY  
wearebrighton.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Absolutely incredible. From the opening day right until the end it was one of the most memorable seasons



In charge...Chris Hughton

we'll probably ever experience as Brighton fans. Twenty years after being made homeless, and being 15 minutes away from dropping out of the Football League, and we've won promotion to the top flight. It's a real fairy tale and of course we did it in typical Brighton style in the end by messing up a seven-point lead to blow the title.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I don't think there are really any fears going into the Premier League. We will probably, and rightly so, be among the favourites for relegation, but when so little is expected of you, you don't have much to lose. We've just got to enjoy the ride and if we finish fourth bottom that's going to be a success.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Anthony Knockaert quite rightly won every award going, but without Glenn Murray to put away the chances we wouldn't have gone up. We missed out on automatic promotion the previous season to Middlesbrough by just two goals; having a 20-goal-a-season striker made all the difference.

## FLASHBACK

Apr 17 Beram Kayal celebrates with teammates in the stands after the win at home to Wigan Athletic secured promotion to the Premier League.

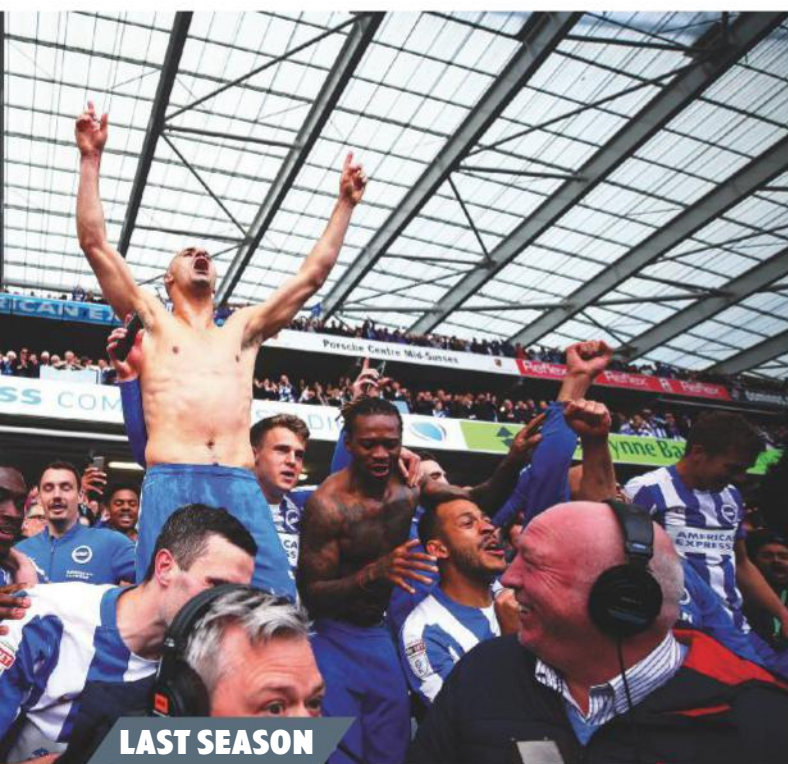






## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Niki <b>MAENPAA</b> (Fin)	(32) 23.01.85	2015 / VVV Venlo (Hol)
Mathew <b>RYAN</b> (Aus)	(25) 08.04.92	2017 / Valencia (Spa)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Gaetan <b>BONG</b> (Cam)	(29) 25.04.88	2015 / Wigan Athletic
<b>BRUNO</b> (Spa)	(36) 01.10.80	2012 / Valencia (Spa)
Shane <b>DUFFY</b> (Rol)	(25) 01.01.92	2016 / Blackburn Rovers
Lewis <b>DUNK</b>	(25) 21.11.91	2010 / youth
Connor <b>GOLDSON</b>	(24) 18.12.92	2015 / Shrewsbury Town
Uwe <b>HUNEMEIER</b> (Ger)	(31) 09.01.86	2015 / Paderborn (Ger)
Liam <b>ROSENIOR</b>	(33) 09.07.84	2015 / Hull City
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Pascal <b>GROSS</b> (Ger)	(26) 15.06.91	2017 / Ingolstadt (Ger)
Rohan <b>INCE</b>	(24) 08.11.92	2013 / Chelsea
Beram <b>KAYAL</b> (Isr)	(29) 02.05.88	2015 / Celtic (Sco)
Anthony <b>KNOCKAERT</b> (Fra)	(25) 20.11.91	2015 / Standard Liege (Blg)
Kazenga <b>LUALUA</b> (DRC)	(26) 10.12.90	2011 / Newcastle United
Solly <b>MARCH</b>	(23) 20.07.94	2013 / youth
Jamie <b>MURPHY</b> (Sco)	(27) 28.08.89	2015 / Sheffield United
Oliver <b>NORWOOD</b> (NI)	(26) 12.04.91	2016 / Reading
Jiri <b>SKALAK</b> (CzR)	(25) 12.03.92	2016 / Mlada Boleslav (CzR)
Steve <b>SIDWELL</b>	(34) 14.12.82	2016 / Stoke City
Dale <b>STEPHENS</b>	(28) 12.06.89	2014 / Charlton Athletic
Richie <b>TOWELL</b> (Rol)	(26) 17.07.91	2016 / Dundalk (Rol)
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Sam <b>BALDOCK</b>	(28) 15.03.89	2014 / Bristol City
Tomer <b>HEMED</b> (Isr)	(30) 02.05.87	2015 / Almeria (Spa)
Elvis <b>MANU</b> (Gha)	(23) 13.08.93	2015 / Feyenoord (Hol)
Glenn <b>MURRAY</b>	(33) 25.09.83	2017 / Bournemouth
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Chris <b>HUGHTON</b>	(58) 11.12.58	2014 / Norwich City



## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 2nd (in Championship) // **Top scorer** Glenn Murray 23 // **FA Cup** 4th round // **League Cup** 3rd round // **Average attendance** 27,995



Awards...Anthony Knockaert (front)

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Alex Pritchard turned around on the M25, after we had agreed a deal with Spurs, to go to Norwich. Seeing as the change of heart clearly had nothing to do with money, it is a real shame congestion on the M25 means he will be in the Championship next season not the Premier League.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Cliched and stolen from Sheffield Wednesday, but "We're on our way" really took off around January, despite some of the more superstitious types saying it was too early to be singing about going up with such confidence.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Solly March is an England under-21 but has had a terrible time with injuries over the last two seasons, so fingers crossed he manages to stay fit.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Everton and West Brom away. We haven't been to The Hawthorns or Goodison Park in my lifetime so they will be new grounds for many.

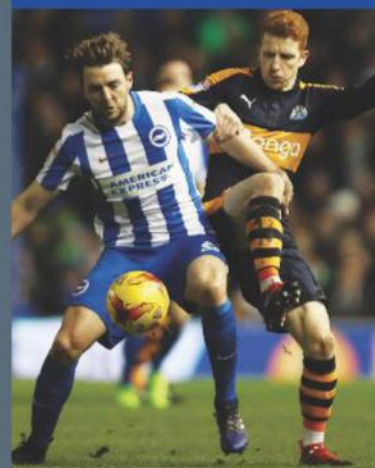


Hope... Solly March

## GAME TO DREAD

Crystal Palace. More often than not in the last 20 years we've failed to perform against them.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Watford (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Man United (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Liverpool (a)



# BURNLEY



## STEADY DOES IT FOR DYCHE

Burnley continued to make steady progress last season under Sean Dyche. Their outstanding home form (10 wins at Turf Moor) laid the foundations for a successful first season back in the Premier League, with virtually the same side that won promotion from the Championship.

The Clarets avoided getting drawn into a relegation battle and the impressive Dyche earned more plaudits for his no-nonsense style.

**Manager** Sean Dyche took charge at Turf Moor in October 2012 and led the club to the Premier League in 2014. The 45-year-old agreed a contract extension last year.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Mike Garlick is a lifelong Burnley fan who has been on the board for a decade.

**Annual wage bill** £29m (2015)  
**Annual income** £79m (2015)  
**Stadium** Turf Moor (22,546)  
**Nickname** Clarets  
**Odds** 1,000/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

**JAMES BIRD**  
 No Nay Never  
 nonaynever.net

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Sensational. I think we all came into the season hoping to survive but

Impressive...  
 Sean Dyche



expecting to drop, so to stay up at the third attempt was a great feeling. Our home form was particularly impressive for a club like us.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes are to stay up again if we can! My fear is definitely that our poor away form carries over into the new season as I feel that could be what relegates us.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

There are a few candidates for this but for me it's Andre Gray. He had a rough patch early in the season with his off-the-field issues but from a purely football point of view his four goals at home over the Christmas period were huge for us.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Joey Barton. He had decided to leave for Scotland in the summer before controversy at Rangers led to his return. He ended the season suspended for 18 months for historic betting issues. There's never a dull moment with Joey but I think his reappearance at the Turf helped our momentum.



## FLASHBACK

**Nov 5** Ashley Barnes scores the winning goal in the 94th minute in a 3-2 win at home to Crystal Palace.

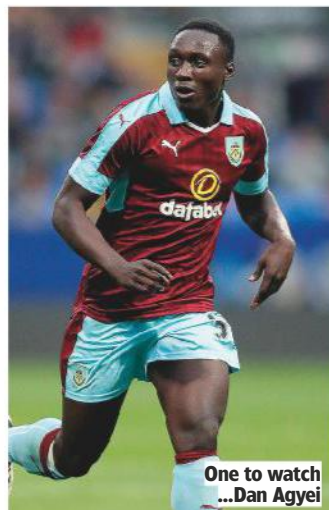






## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Tom <b>HEATON</b>	(31) 15.04.86	2013 / Bristol City
Conor <b>MITCHELL</b> (NI)	(21) 09.05.96	2014 / youth
Nick <b>POPE</b>	(25) 19.04.92	2016 / Charlton Athletic
Paul <b>ROBINSON</b>	(37) 15.10.79	2016 / Blackburn Rovers
<b>DEFENDERS</b>		
Tom <b>ANDERSON</b>	(23) 03.09.93	2012 / youth
Tendayi <b>DARIKWA</b>	(25) 13.12.91	2015 / Chesterfield
Kevin <b>LONG</b> (Rol)	(26) 18.08.90	2010 / Cork City (Ire)
Matthew <b>LOWTON</b>	(28) 09.06.89	2015 / Aston Villa
Ben <b>MEE</b>	(27) 21.09.89	2012 / Manchester City
James <b>TARKOWSKI</b>	(24) 19.11.92	2016 / Brentford
Charlie <b>TAYLOR</b>	(23) 18.09.93	2017 / Leeds United
Stephen <b>WARD</b> (Rol)	(31) 20.08.85	2014 / Wolves
<b>MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Scott <b>ARFIELD</b> (Can)	(28) 01.11.88	2013 / Huddersfield Town
Robbie <b>BRADY</b> (Rol)	(25) 14.01.92	2017 / Norwich City
Steven <b>DEFLOUR</b> (Blg)	(29) 15.04.88	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
Johann Berg <b>GUDMUNDSSON</b> (Ice)	(26) 27.10.90	2016 / Charlton Athletic
Jeff <b>HENDRICK</b> (Rol)	(25) 31.01.92	2016 / Derby County
Dean <b>MARNEY</b>	(33) 31.01.84	2010 / Hull City
Aiden <b>O'NEILL</b> (Aus)	(19) 04.07.98	2012 / Brisbane Athletic (Aus)
Fredrik <b>ULVESTAD</b> (Nor)	(25) 17.06.92	2015 / Aalesund (Nor)
Ashley <b>WESTWOOD</b>	(27) 01.04.90	2017 / Aston Villa
<b>FORWARDS</b>		
Dan <b>AGYEI</b>	(20) 01.06.97	2015 / AFC Wimbledon
Ashley <b>BARNES</b> (Aut)	(27) 30.10.89	2014 / Brighton & HA
Andre <b>GRAY</b>	(26) 26.06.91	2015 / Brentford
Rouven <b>HENNINGS</b> (Ger)	(29) 28.08.87	2015 / Karlsruher (Ger)
Chris <b>LONG</b>	(22) 25.02.95	2015 / Everton
Sam <b>VOKES</b> (Wal)	(27) 21.10.89	2012 / Wolves
<b>MANAGER</b>		
Sean <b>DYCHE</b>	(46) 28.06.71	2012 / Watford



One to watch  
...Dan Agyei

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

I was rather fond of our late season chant about our "friends" down the road [Blackburn] being relegated but it's not quite suitable for print.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

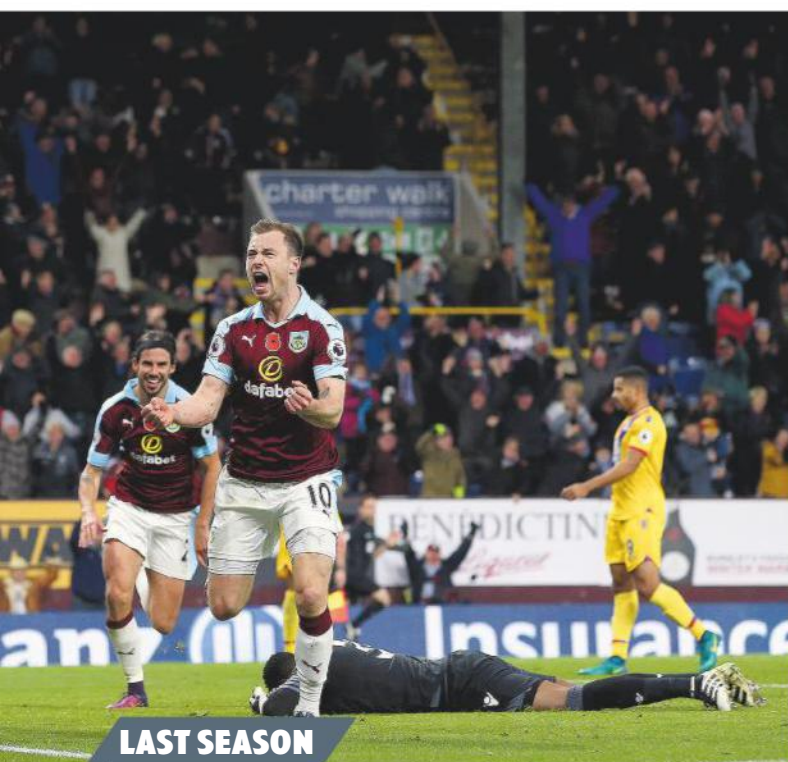
We've had a very brief look at Dan Agyei last season and he's definitely the one to watch in our squad.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm looking forward to playing Brighton again, normally a good game and it'll be good to play them at this level.

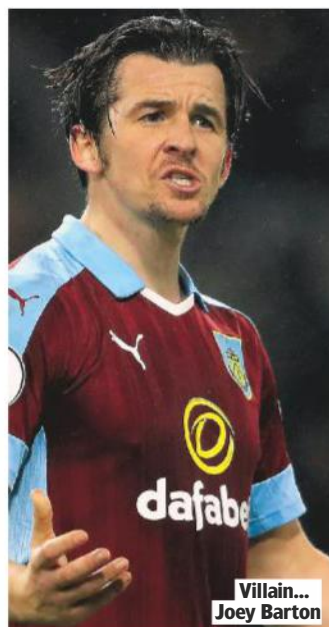
### GAME TO DREAD

I'll go with Chelsea away and hope we avoid a bloodbath.



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 16th // Top scorer Sam Vokes 10 // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 2nd // Average attendance 20,558



Villain...  
Joey Barton

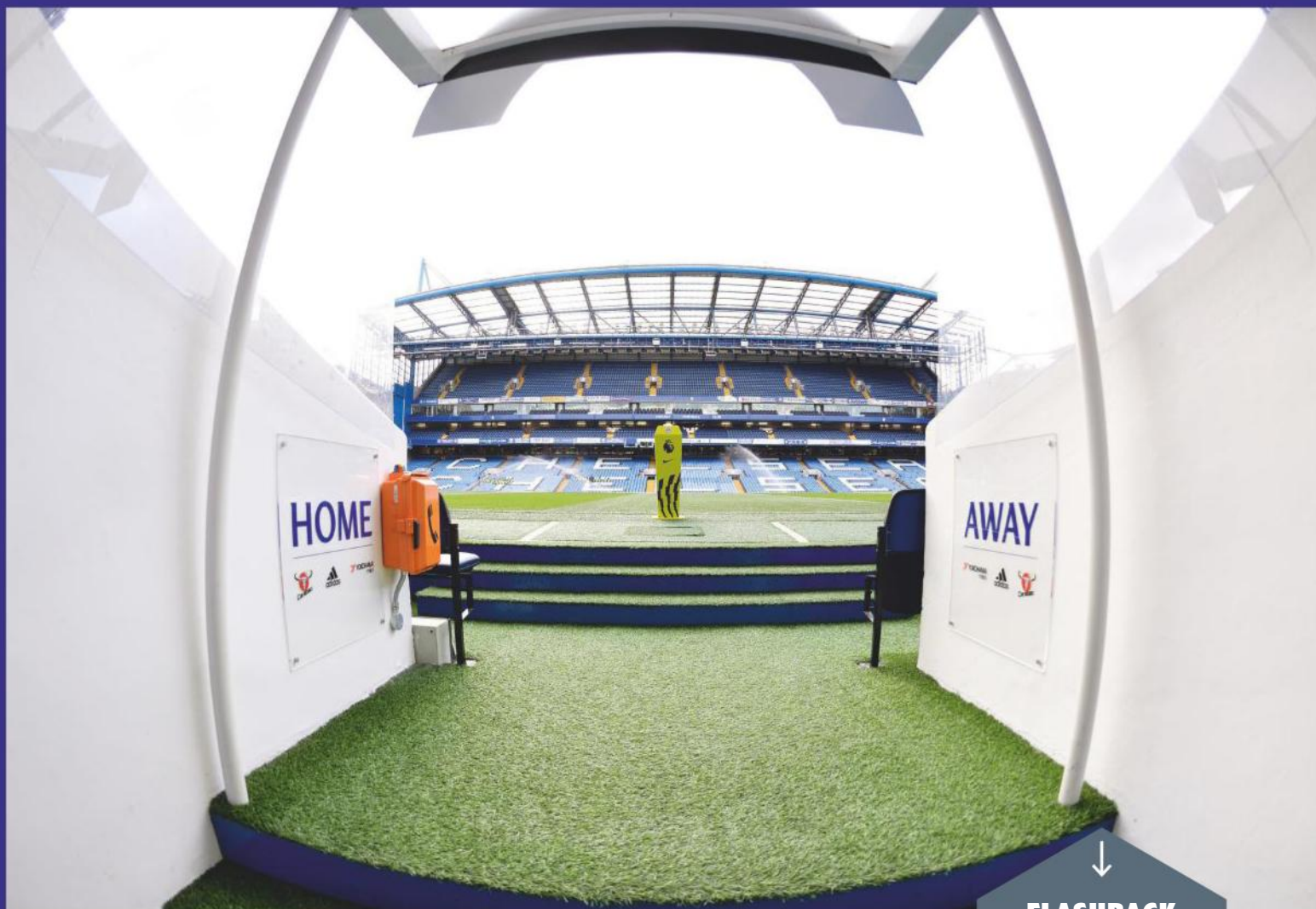
## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Everton (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Bournemouth (h)



# CHELSEA



## CHAMPIONS FACING NEW CHALLENGES

Antonio Conte brought an exciting dynamism to Chelsea last season and delivered an unexpected but impressive title success. The Blues now face the challenge of being back in European competition, with the added pressure of fixture congestion, while last season's star performer Eden Hazard will miss the opening weeks of the season through injury.

**Manager** Antonio Conte agreed a three-year deal in 2016 but has yet to sign a proposed contract extension.

**Who's the Daddy?** Roman Abramovich has spent £1.14 billion since buying Chelsea in 2003, including a planned new stadium rebuild.

**Annual wage bill** £224m (2016)  
**Annual income** £335m (2016)  
**Stadium** Stamford Bridge (41,841)  
**Nickname** Blues  
**Odds** 7/2 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

JUSTIN WEIBLE  
 CFcnet  
 CFcnet.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Far beyond what I expected after a dismal 2015-2016 campaign. While I expected to not finish 10th in the league again, I did expect us to qualify for the Champions League. But you could have never convinced me that we would actually win the Premier League in Antonio Conte's first season, especially with essentially the same squad that played so poorly the season before.

Hero... Cesar Azpilicueta



### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I would hope to see the club press forward and make a good showing in the Champions League while comfortably finishing in the top three. With the top six all showing they're competitive, it's going to be a real challenge to defend the title, though if we could manage it, that would be some achievement. Another Champions League win wouldn't be bad either. My biggest fear is another let down like 2015-16. We got away with that one, in terms of retaining key players. If it happens again, we might not be so lucky.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Cesar Azpilicueta's ability to play on the right of the back three was the key to the tactical switch last season, and provided cover at both full-back positions. He does everything you could possibly want in a defender.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Diego Costa's little strop in the winter transfer window and his severe lack of form towards the end of the season was a bit bothersome.

## FLASHBACK

May 21 Chelsea celebrate with the Premier League trophy after the game against Sunderland at Stamford Bridge.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Willy <b>CABALLERO</b> (Arg)	(35) 28.09.81	2017 / Manchester City
Thibaut <b>COURTOIS</b> (Bel)	(25) 11.05.92	2011 / Genk (Bel)
<b>EDUARDO</b> (Por)	(34) 19.09.82	2016 / Dinamo Zagreb (Cro)
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>		
Ola <b>AINA</b>	(20) 08.10.96	2007 / youth
Marcos <b>ALONSO</b> (Spa)	(26) 28.12.90	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita)
Cesar <b>AZPILICUETA</b> (Spa)	(27) 28.08.89	2012 / Marseille (Fra)
Gary <b>CAHILL</b>	(31) 19.12.85	2012 / Bolton Wanderers
Andreas <b>CHRISTENSEN</b> (Den)	(21) 10.04.96	2012 / Brøndby (Den)
Jake <b>CLARKE-SALTER</b>	(19) 22.09.97	2016 / youth
David <b>LUIS</b> (Bra)	(30) 22.04.87	2016 / Paris Saint-Germain (Fra)
Baba <b>RAHMAN</b> (Gha)	(23) 02.07.94	2015 / Augsburg (Ger)
Fikayo <b>TOMORI</b>	(19) 19.12.97	2016 / youth
Kurt <b>ZOUMA</b> (Fra)	(22) 27.10.94	2014 / Saint-Etienne (Fra)
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Lewis <b>BAKER</b>	(22) 25.04.95	2014 / youth
Nathaniel <b>CHALOBAH</b>	(22) 12.12.94	2005 / Fulham
Cesc <b>FABREGAS</b> (Spa)	(30) 04.05.87	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
Eden <b>HAZARD</b> (Bel)	(26) 07.01.91	2012 / Lille (Fra)
N'Golo <b>KANTE</b> (Fra)	(26) 29.03.91	2016 / Leicester City
<b>KENEDY</b> (Bra)	(21) 08.02.96	2015 / Fluminense (Bra)
Ruben <b>LOFTUS-CHEEK</b>	(21) 23.01.96	2004 / youth
Nemanja <b>MATIC</b> (Ser)	(28) 01.08.88	2014 / Benfica (Por)
Victor <b>MOSES</b> (Nga)	(26) 12.12.90	2012 / Wigan Athletic
Charly <b>MUSONDA</b> (Bel)	(20) 15.10.96	2012 / Anderlecht (Bel)
<b>NATHAN</b> (Bra)	(21) 13.03.96	2015 / Atletico Paranaense (Bra)
Lucas <b>PIAZON</b> (Bra)	(23) 20.01.94	2011 / Sao Paolo (Bra)
Marco <b>VAN GINKEL</b> (Hol)	(24) 01.12.92	2013 / Vitesse (Hol)
<b>WILLIAN</b> (Bra)	(28) 09.08.88	2013 / Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukr)
<b>• FORWARDS</b>		
Michy <b>BATSHUAYI</b> (Bel)	(23) 02.10.93	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
Isaiah <b>BROWN</b>	(20) 07.01.97	2013 / West Brom
Diego <b>COSTA</b> (Spa)	(28) 07.10.88	2014 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
<b>PEDRO</b> (Spa)	(29) 28.07.87	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
Loic <b>REMY</b> (Fra)	(30) 02.01.87	2014 / QPR
<b>• MANAGER</b>		
Antonio <b>CONTE</b> (Ita)	(47) 31.07.69	2016 / Italy



One to watch...  
Nathaniel Chalobah

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Any serenading of Antonio Conte and passion radiates from every pore of his body, and he truly does play every match with his players from the touchline. More importantly, he's developed a genuine connection with the supporters. For the first time in a long time it does feel as if a new era at Chelsea is beginning.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

I would like to see Nathaniel Chalobah get a bit more of a chance in the midfield. I think his match time has been somewhat limited due to not having the normal fixture congestion. As for those players who are coming back from loan spells at other clubs, I hope Andreas Christensen will get a chance to play a few matches.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Arsenal at Stamford Bridge in early September should be fun. Arsene Wenger's record at Stamford Bridge in recent years has not been great. I'd like to see that continue.

### GAME TO DREAD

Tottenham at Wembley in the second match of the season. The fixture computer must have had a wicked sense of humour when it conjured that up. They're the one team that can match up man-for-man and give Chelsea real problems. Playing them so early in the season won't be a lot of fun.



Dynamic...  
Antonio Conte

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Everton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Man City (h)
<b>2OCT 21</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Man United (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Newcastle (a)

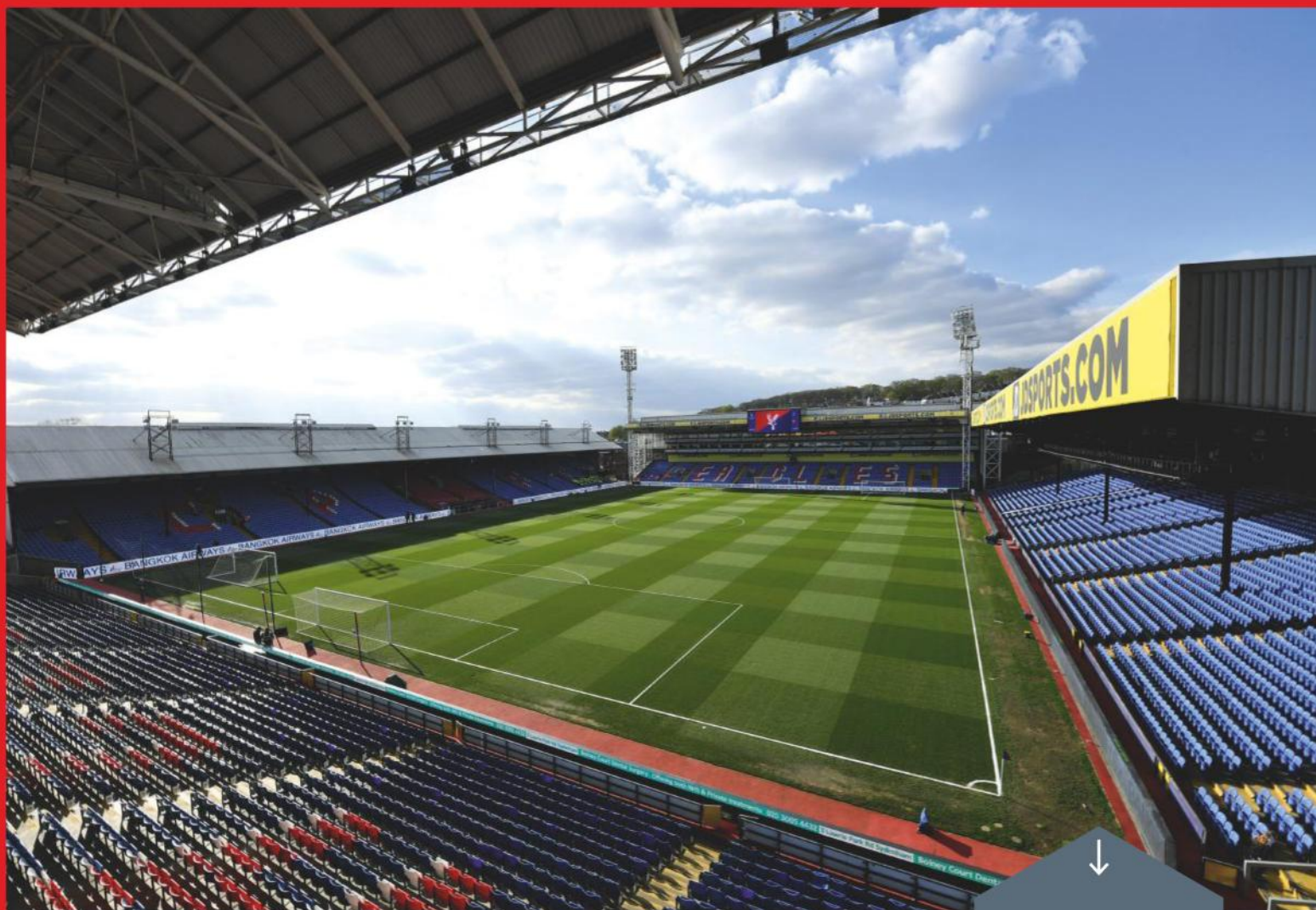


## LAST SEASON

Premier League Champions // Top scorer Diego Costa 20 // FA Cup Runners-up // League Cup 4th round  
Average attendance 41,507



# CRYSTAL PALACE



## THINKING BIG WITH DE BOER

The shock departure of Sam Allardyce a few days after the end of last season left Palace in limbo. The former England boss restored his reputation by saving Palace from the drop, but then opted for retirement.

The hiring of Frank De Boer as Allardyce's replacement is a bold statement of intent by a Palace board that is keen to avoid the relegation struggles of recent seasons. De Boer says he wants to see Palace play a more possession-based game.

**Manager** Former Ajax and Internazionale boss Frank De Boer has agreed a three-year contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Steve Parish made his money in advertising and was one of four fans who stepped in to save the club in 2010. A majority stake was sold to American investors Josh Harris and David Blitzer last year, but Parish now runs the club on a day-to-day basis.

**Annual wage bill** £81m (2016)  
**Annual income** £102m (2016)

**Stadium** Selhurst Park (25,648)  
**Nickname** Eagles  
**Odds** 750/1 to win Premier League

### FAN'S VIEW

ROBERT SUTHERLAND  
Five Year Plan (fyfanzine.uk)

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

A monstrosity. After significant spending during the summer and talk



New man...  
Frank De Boer

of consolidation, Palace gradually dropped to the lower end of the table. Alan Pardew was incapable of finding a solution and even Sam Allardyce, his replacement, found it a challenge to change the club's fortunes. That he did, thanks largely to wins over Arsenal, Chelsea and Liverpool, deserves great credit. His sudden retirement was a shock but he goes with the blessing of Palace supporters.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

With the appointment of Frank De Boer, the hope is that Palace can push for a top-10 position while reforming the squad with younger talent. The fear is that De Boer might try to be a bit too creative with this Palace side; but the failings under Pardew aren't guaranteed to be repeated. The manager's record at Ajax is excellent while Inter seems to have been a wholly forgettable experience for him and the club.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Wilfried Zaha was incredible. He has matured immeasurably over the last two seasons, both in attitude and in performance. His work, whether in

### FLASHBACK

Apr 1 Christian Benteke scores as Palace beat Chelsea 2-1 at Stamford Bridge.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Wayne <b>HENNESSEY</b> (Wal)	(30) 24.01.87	2014 / Wolves
Steve <b>MANDANDA</b> (Fra)	(32) 28.03.85	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
Julian <b>SPERONI</b> (Arg)	(38) 18.05.79	2004 / Dundee (Sco)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Scott <b>DANN</b>	(30) 14.02.87	2014 / Blackburn Rovers
Damien <b>DELANEY</b> (Rol)	(36) 20.07.81	2012 / Ipswich Town
Martin <b>KELLY</b>	(27) 27.04.90	2014 / Liverpool
Jeffrey <b>SCHLUPP</b> (Gha)	(24) 23.12.92	2017 / Leicester City
Pape <b>SQUARE</b> (Sen)	(27) 06.06.90	2015 / Lille (Fra)
James <b>TOMKINS</b>	(28) 29.03.89	2016 / West Ham United
Patrick <b>VAN AANHOLT</b> (Hol)	(26) 29.08.90	2017 / Sunderland
Joel <b>WARD</b>	(27) 29.10.89	2012 / Portsmouth
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Hiram <b>BOATENG</b>	(21) 08.01.96	2013 / youth
Yohan <b>CABAYE</b> (Fra)	(31) 14.01.86	2015 / Paris Saint-Germain (Fra)
Luke <b>DREHER</b>	(18) 27.11.98	2016 / youth
Sullay <b>KAIKAI</b>	(21) 26.08.95	2013 / youth
LEE Chung-soo (SKo)	(29) 02.07.88	2015 / Bolton Wanderers
James <b>MCCARTHUR</b> (Sco)	(29) 07.10.87	2014 / Wigan Athletic
Luka <b>MILIVOJEVIC</b> (Ser)	(26) 07.04.91	2017 / Olympiakos (Gre)
Jordan <b>MUTCH</b>	(25) 02.12.91	2015 / QPR
Jason <b>PUNCHEON</b>	(31) 26.06.86	2013 / Southampton
Bakary <b>SAKO</b> (Mli)	(29) 26.04.88	2015 / Wolves
Andros <b>TOWNSEND</b>	(26) 16.07.91	2016 / Newcastle United
Jonny <b>WILLIAMS</b> (Wal)	(23) 09.10.93	2011 / youth
Wilfried <b>ZAHA</b>	(24) 10.11.92	2015 / Manchester United
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Keshi <b>ANDERSON</b>	(22) 06.04.95	2015 / Barton Rovers
Christian <b>BENTEKE</b> (Blg)	(26) 03.12.90	2016 / Liverpool
Freddie <b>LADAPO</b>	(24) 01.02.93	2016 / Margate
Connor <b>WICKHAM</b>	(24) 31.03.93	2015 / Sunderland
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Frank <b>DE BOER</b> (Hol)	(47) 15.05.79	2017/Ajax (Hol)



Hero...  
Wilfried Zaha

or out of possession, was a major contributor in keeping Palace up last season, while his goals and assists were headline-grabbing.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Jordan Mutch. A player signed for £4m under Pardew who failed to establish himself despite clear injury problems in the side. His few performances last season were the polar opposite of Zaha's: slow, disinterested and ineffective.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The return of "Three Little Birds", the Bob Marley song, provided some much needed solace at the lowest ebb of last season.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Luke Dreher could see sporadic appearances. The midfielder is only 18 but has trained with the first team.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The fixture against Brighton & Hove Albion was the first that Palace fans looked for when the list was released. It's a rivalry that those outside of our clubs can't understand but it's a hugely passionate fixture.

### GAME TO DREAD

Having beaten Liverpool so often in recent years, the early season game against Jurgen Klopp's side might just be one in which their revenge is served.



Rivalry...  
Brighton

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Man United (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Man City (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Jan 30</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>May 13</b>	West Brom (h)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 14th // Top scorer Christian Benteke 15 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 25,160



# EVERTON



## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD

Even with the future of Romelu Lukaku and Ross Barkley in doubt, Everton fans are living in exciting times.

Clever summer signings – including goalkeeper Jordan Pickford, defender Michael Keane, midfielder Davy Klaassen and forward Sandro Ramirez – will improve the squad, while promising youngsters – including a number who starred in England's Under-20 World Cup victory – are ready to be deployed by Ronald Koeman.

**Manager** Ronald Koeman has two years left on his Everton contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Iranian businessman Farhad Moshiri, a close associate of Arsenal director Alisher Usmanov, bought a 49 per cent stake in 2016.

**Annual wage bill** £84m (2016)  
**Annual income** £122m (2016)  
**Stadium** Goodison Park (39,600)  
**Nickname** Toffees.  
**Odds** 100/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

LYNDON LLOYD  
 Toffeeweb  
 toffeeweb.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

It was ultimately underwhelming but, viewed objectively, it was a season of



**Boss...**  
**Ronald Koeman**

necessary consolidation for Everton under new manager Ronald Koeman after two poor seasons under Roberto Martinez. The team's form at Goodison Park in 2017 was hugely encouraging though, even if away from home the need for big improvement was sorely evident.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes are that the significant investment in the squad that is being undertaken this summer will translate into a genuine and successful tilt at finishing in the top four. And that the moves are persuasive enough to keep top scorer Romelu Lukaku around. The fears are that last season's top six will remain that bit out of reach despite the new signings, and if Lukaku does leave that Everton won't be able to adequately replace his goals.

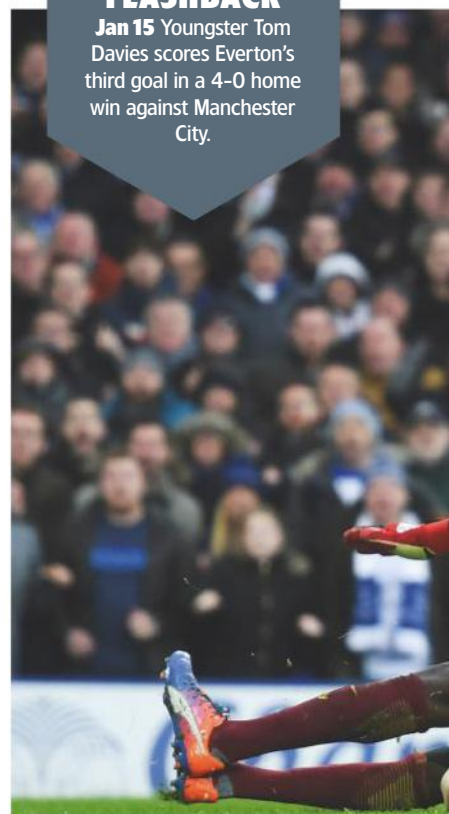
### OUR BIGGEST HERO

You would have to say Romelu Lukaku, even if there is increasingly less love between player and fans as he appears to be preparing to leave. Everton fans had been waiting three decades for a striker to score 20 league goals or more in a season.



## FLASHBACK

**Jan 15** Youngster Tom Davies scores Everton's third goal in a 4-0 home win against Manchester City.

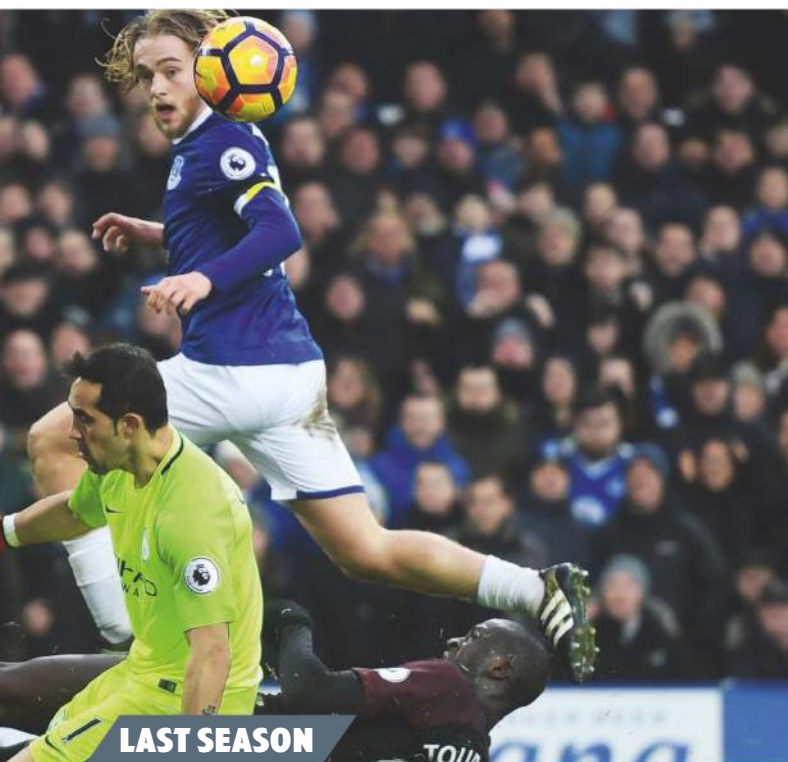






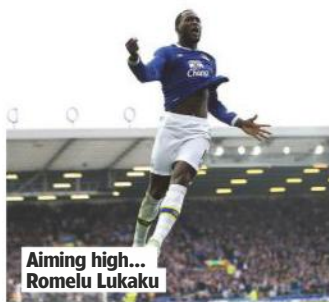
## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Jordan <b>PICKFORD</b>	(23) 07.03.94	2017 / Sunderland
Joel <b>ROBLES</b> (Spa)	(27) 17.06.90	2013 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Maarten <b>STEKELBURG</b> (Hol)	(34) 22.09.82	2016 / Fulham
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>		
Leighton <b>BAINES</b>	(32) 11.12.84	2007 / Wigan Athletic
Tyias <b>BROWNING</b>	(23) 27.05.94	2004 / youth
Seamus <b>COLEMAN</b> (Rol)	(28) 11.10.88	2009 / Sligo Rovers (Rol)
Ramiro <b>FUNES MORI</b> (Arg)	(26) 05.03.91	2015 / River Plate (Arg)
Mason <b>HOLGATE</b>	(20) 22.10.96	2015 / Barnsley
Phil <b>JAGIELKA</b>	(34) 17.08.82	2007 / Sheffield United
Michael <b>KEANE</b>	(24) 11.01.93	2017 / Burnley
Matthew <b>PENNINGTON</b>	(22) 06.10.94	2005 / youth
Ashley <b>WILLIAMS</b> (Wal)	(32) 23.08.84	2016 / Swansea City
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Ross <b>BARKLEY</b>	(23) 05.12.93	2005 / youth
Gareth <b>BARRY</b>	(36) 23.02.81	2013 / Manchester City
Muhammed <b>BESIC</b> (Bos)	(24) 10.09.92	2015 / Ferencvaros (Hun)
Tom <b>DAVIES</b>	(19) 30.06.98	2008 / youth
Idrissa <b>GUEYE</b> (Sen)	(27) 26.09.89	2016 / Aston Villa
Davy <b>KLAASSEN</b> (Hol)	(24) 21.02.93	2017 / Ajax (Hol)
Boris <b>MATHIS</b> (Fra)	(19) 15.08.97	2017 / Metz (Fra)
James <b>MCCARTHY</b> (Rol)	(26) 12.11.90	2013 / Wigan Athletic
Aiden <b>MCGEADY</b> (Rol)	(31) 04.04.86	2014 / Spartak Moscow (Rus)
Morgan <b>SCHNEIDERLIN</b> (Fra)	(27) 08.11.89	2016 / Manchester United
<b>• FORWARDS</b>		
Yannick <b>BOLASIE</b> (DRC)	(28) 24.05.89	2016 / Crystal Palace
Dominic <b>CALVERT-LEWIN</b>	(20) 16.03.97	2016 / Sheffield United
Aaron <b>LENNON</b>	(30) 16.04.87	2015 / Tottenham Hotspur
Ademola <b>LOOKMAN</b>	(19) 20.10.97	2017 / Charlton Athletic
Romelu <b>LUKAKU</b> (Blg)	(24) 13.05.93	2014 / Chelsea
Kevin <b>MIRALLAS</b> (Blg)	(29) 05.10.87	2012 / Olympiakos (Gre)
Oumar <b>NIASSE</b> (Sen)	(27) 18.04.90	2016 / Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus)
Sandro <b>RAMIREZ</b> (Spa)	(21) 09.07.95	2017 / Malaga (Spa)
Shani <b>TARASHAJ</b> (Swi)	(22) 07.02.95	2016 / Grasshoppers (Swi)
<b>• MANAGER</b>		
Ronald <b>KOEMAN</b> (Hol)	(54) 21.03.63	2016 / Southampton



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 7th // Top scorer Romelu Lukaku 25 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 39,310



Aiming high...  
Romelu Lukaku

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

There wasn't a player who really attracted much ire last season apart from Lukaku with his bold pronouncements to the Belgian media that he was ready for the Champions League and he already knew where he would be in 2017-18... and it wasn't with Everton!

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Probably the Morgan Schneiderlin one. It wasn't inventive — it was basically his name put to a familiar tune — but it was a great welcome.



Exciting...  
Ademola Lookman

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Big things are expected of Ademola Lookman, a star of England's under-20 World Cup-winning team, while Jonjoe Kenny, an up-and-coming right-back, is future-captain material.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

It's hard to look beyond the opening day fixture against Stoke, to be honest, as it represents the start of a season that Everton fans hope will be the beginning of something special.

## GAME TO DREAD

The Merseyside derby against Liverpool, always! Everton have developed a psychological block playing against our arch rivals from across Stanley Park.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 12</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Nov 29</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Watford (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Man City (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>May 13</b>	West Ham (a)



# HUDDERSFIELD TOWN



## PLAY-OFF WINNERS WITH ATTITUDE

After their dramatic Wembley play-off triumph over Reading on penalties, Huddersfield are back in the top flight for the first time since 1972, some 45 years ago.

Their promotion was a just reward for manager David Wagner's high-tempo pressing game – and was achieved by a team with one of the smallest wage bills in the Championship.

The club have a rich pedigree though; they were champions of England three times in a row in the 1920s and previous players include Denis Law and 1966 World Cup-winner Ray Wilson.

Wagner plans to stick with most of the players that won promotion. They include Australian midfielder Aaron Mooy, with the club having converted his loan deal into a permanent transfer from Man City.

**Manager** German-born former USA

international David Wagner took charge in November 2015 after four years as boss of Borussia Dortmund's B team. He agreed a lucrative new contract after securing promotion to the Premier League. Wagner is a close friend of Jurgen Klopp and was



Local hero...owner Dean Hoyle

best man at his wedding.

**Who's the Daddy?** Local businessman and lifelong fan Dean Hoyle became a multi-millionaire after selling his greetings-card business in 2010, a year after he became club chairman.

**Annual wage bill** £13.3m (2015)  
**Annual income** £10.8m (2015)  
**Stadium** John Smith's (24,500)  
**Nickname** Terriers  
**Odds** 1,000/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

SEAN MAKIN

### LAST SEASON WAS...

One that will live long in the memory. Written off by almost everyone, we proved them wrong and now we are Premier League.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is 17th place. If we are to be relegated we'll go down with a fight and hopefully pull off a scalp or two along the way. The fear is that we'll get hammered every week and get relegated with a whimper.

## FLASHBACK

**May 29** Christopher Schindler celebrates after scoring the winning penalty as Huddersfield beat Reading in the Championship play-off Final.

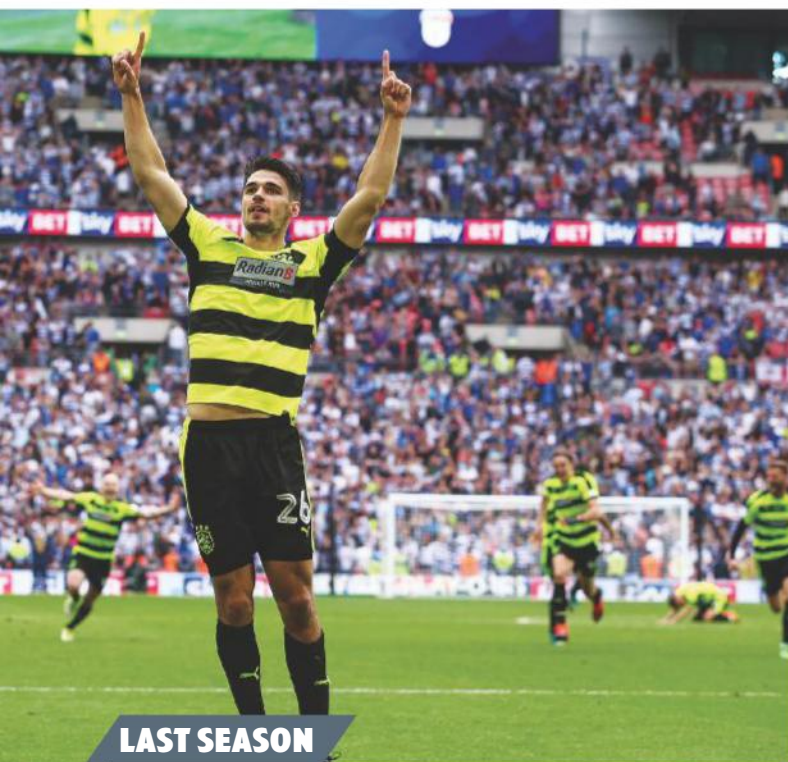






## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Luke <b>CODDINGTON</b>	(22) 06.06.95	2016 / Middlesbrough
Joel <b>COLEMAN</b>	(21) 26.09.95	2016 / Oldham Athletic
Jonas <b>LOSSL</b> (Den)	(28) 01.02.89	2017 / Mainz (Ger)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Martin <b>CRANIE</b>	(30) 26.09.86	2015 / Barnsley
Jason <b>DAVIDSON</b> (Aus)	(26) 29.06.91	2015 / West Brom
Jon <b>GORENC STANKOVIC</b> (Sln)	(21) 14.01.96	2016 / Domzale (Sln)
Michael <b>HEFELE</b> (Ger)	(26) 01.09.90	2016 / Dynamo Dresden (Ger)
Mark <b>HUDSON</b>	(35) 30.03.82	2014 / Cardiff City
Mathias <b>JORGENSEN</b> (Den)	(27) 23.04.90	2017 / Copenhagen (Den)
Chris <b>LOWE</b> (Ger)	(28) 16.04.89	2016 / Kaiserslautern (Ger)
Scott <b>MALONE</b>	(26) 25.03.91	2017 / Fulham
Christopher <b>SCHINDLER</b> (Ger)	(27) 29.04.90	2016 / 1860 Munich (Ger)
Tommy <b>SMITH</b>	(25) 14.04.92	2010 / Manchester City
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Phil <b>BILLING</b> (Den)	(21) 11.06.96	2013 / Esbjerg (Den)
Regan <b>BOOTY</b>	(19) 04.03.98	2017 / youth
Harry <b>BUNN</b>	(24) 21.11.92	2014 / Manchester City
Jonathan <b>HOGG</b>	(28) 06.12.88	2013 / Watford
Tom <b>INCE</b>	(25) 30.01.92	2017 / Derby County
Joe <b>LOLLEY</b>	(24) 25.08.92	2014 / Kidderminster H
Aaron <b>MOOY</b> (Aus)	(26) 15.09.90	2017 / Manchester City
Jack <b>PAYNE</b>	(22) 25.10.94	2016 / Southend United
Kasey <b>PALMER</b>	(20) 09.11.96	2017 / Chelsea
Sean <b>SCANNELL</b> (Rol)	(26) 17.09.90	2012 / Crystal Palace
Rajiv <b>VAN LA PARRA</b> (Hol)	(26) 04.06.91	2016 / Wolves
Dean <b>WHITEHEAD</b>	(35) 12.01.82	2015 / Middlesbrough
Danny <b>WILLIAMS</b> (USA)	(28) 08.03.89	2017 / Reading
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Laurent <b>DEPOITRE</b> (Blg)	(28) 07.12.88	2017 / Porto (Por)
Elias <b>KACHUNGA</b> (DRC)	(25) 22.04.92	2017 / Ingolstadt (Ger)
Steve <b>MOUNIE</b> (Ben)	(22) 29.09.94	2017 / Montpellier (Fra)
Collin <b>QUANER</b> (Ger)	(26) 18.06.91	2017 / Union Berlin (Ger)
Nahki <b>WELLS</b> (Ber)	(27) 01.06.90	2014 / Bradford City
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
David <b>WAGNER</b> (Ger)	(45) 19.10.71	2015 / Bor Dortmund (Ger)



## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 5th (Championship) // **Top scorer** Elias Kachunga 12 // **FA Cup** 5th round // **League Cup** 1st round // **Average attendance** 20,342



Critics...Rajiv Van La Parra

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Can I say all of them? Including the manager and chairman. If I had to pick one it would be Christopher Schindler. A class act all season and scored the winning penalty at Wembley that saw us reach the Premier League.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Some fans have it in for Rajiv Van La Parra. Not me though.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Ain't nobody like Kachunga".

## YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

Phil Billing. Feels like he's been around for a while but still only 21 although he has struggled with a few niggling injuries. Showed he's got it in the cup replay with Manchester City.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

All of them. Except for Burnley.

## GAME TO DREAD

Bournemouth away, just because of the journey.



One to watch... Phil Billing

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Everton (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Man City (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Arsenal (h)



# LEICESTER CITY



## FOXES SEARCHING FOR STABILITY

The 2016 Premier League champions are hoping for a season of stability after the highs and lows of last year: a Champions League run coupled with a relegation battle and the sacking of title-winning coach Claudio Ranieri. The Foxes swooped for young defender Harry Maguire, paying relegated Hull City £12m, but mercurial winger Riyad Mahrez may depart.

**Manager** Craig Shakespeare, the former Walsall, West Brom and Grimsby midfielder, was confirmed as Leicester boss this summer after agreeing a three-year contract. This is his first managerial job after almost 10 years as assistant to Nigel Pearson and Ranieri.

**Who's the Daddy?** Thai billionaire Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha made his fortune from the King Power Shopping empire and bought

Leicester in August 2010.

**Annual wage bill** £80m (2016)  
**Annual income** £129m (2016)  
**Stadium** King Power (32,500)  
**Nickname** Foxes  
**Odds** 200/1 to win Premier League



Confirmed... Craig Shakespeare

## FAN'S VIEW

**SVENS AMBITION**  
 Vital Leicester  
[leicester.vitalfootball.co.uk](http://leicester.vitalfootball.co.uk)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Mixed. Our Premier League form was about survival ultimately, and we successfully managed that, but you can't take away the high that was the Champions League campaign. I doubt few fans would change how the year went – knowing it would be difficult in the league, you can't but feel it was a great season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes are to simply show a bit more improvement in the league and consolidate our position for another season. The fear would be losing key players. Riyad Mahrez everybody accepts is likely to be off but hopefully we don't lose too many others.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

That prize would have to go to Kasper Schmeichel. All season long, through the highs and the lows, his level of consistency was fantastic and

## FLASHBACK

**Mar 14** Wes Morgan celebrates his goal in the 2-0 win at home to Sevilla that took Leicester into the Champions League quarter-finals.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Ben <b>HAMER</b>	(29) 20.11.87	2014 / Charlton Athletic
Kasper <b>SCHMEICHEL</b> (Den)	(30) 05.11.86	2011 / Leeds United
Ron-Robert <b>ZIELER</b> (Ger)	(28) 12.02.89	2016 / Hanover (Ger)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Yohan <b>BENALOUANE</b> (Tun)	(30) 28.03.87	2015 / Atalanta (Ita)
Ben <b>CHILWELL</b>	(20) 21.12.96	2015 / youth
Christian <b>FUCHS</b> (Aut)	(31) 07.04.86	2015 / Schalke (Ger)
Robert <b>HUTH</b> (Ger)	(32) 18.08.84	2015 / Stoke City
Harry <b>MAGUIRE</b>	(24) 05.03.93	2017 / Hull City
Wes <b>MORGAN</b> (Jam)	(33) 21.01.84	2012 / Nottingham Forest
Danny <b>SIMPSON</b>	(30) 04.01.87	2014 / QPR
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Marc <b>ALBRIGHTON</b>	(27) 18.11.89	2014 / Aston Villa
Daniel <b>AMARTEY</b> (Gha)	(22) 21.12.94	2016 / Copenhagen (Den)
Harvey <b>BARNES</b>	(19) 09.12.97	2016 / youth
Danny <b>DRINKWATER</b>	(27) 05.03.90	2011 / Manchester United
Demarai <b>GRAY</b>	(21) 28.06.96	2016 / Birmingham City
Vicente <b>IBORRA</b> (Spa)	(29) 16.01.88	2017 / Sevilla (Spa)
Matty <b>JAMES</b>	(25) 22.07.91	2012 / Manchester United
Bartosz <b>KAPUSTKA</b> (Pol)	(20) 23.12.96	2016 / Cracovia (Pol)
Andy <b>KING</b> (Wal)	(28) 29.10.88	2004 / Chelsea
Riyad <b>MAHREZ</b> (Alg)	(26) 21.02.91	2014 / Le Havre (Fra)
Nampalys <b>MENDY</b> (Fra)	(25) 23.06.92	2016 / Nice (Fra)
Wilfred <b>NDIDI</b> (Nga)	(20) 16.12.96	2017 / Genk (Blg)
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Tom <b>LAWRENCE</b> (Wal)	(23) 13.01.94	2014 / Manchester United
Ahmed <b>MUSA</b> (Nga)	(24) 14.10.92	2016 / CSKA Moscow (Rus)
Shinji <b>OKAZAKI</b> (Jap)	(31) 16.04.86	2015 / Mainz (Ger)
Islam <b>SLIMANI</b> (Alg)	(29) 18.06.88	2016 / Sporting (Por)
Leonardo <b>ULLOA</b> (Arg)	(30) 26.07.86	2014 / Brighton
Jamie <b>VARDY</b>	(30) 11.01.87	2012 / Fleetwood Town
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Craig <b>SHAKESPEARE</b>	(53) 26.10.63	2017 / assistant manager



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 12th // Top scorer Jamie Vardy 13 // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 3rd round // Average attendance 31,893



Hero...  
Kasper Schmeichel

he again made an important and telling contribution.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Probably Ahmed Musa. Many hoped for more from him given his price tag.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Not picking one out in particular, but there were a couple from the Champions League run that I imagine will live fond in the memory for many.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Well-known youngsters Demarai Gray and Wilfred Ndidi showed plenty of promise last season, so next year they will be the two to look out for.



One to watch...  
Demarai Gray

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

With Michael Appleton joining as assistant gaffer, West Brom might be interesting given his, and Craig Shakespeare's, association with them.

### GAME TO DREAD

Not really dreading any game this year, as Leicester have shown they can more than mix it with the best of them when we're on form and it's our day – just hope we have a few more days in 2017-18 than we did early on in 2016-17.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Man United (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Everton (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Everton (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Tottenham (a)



# LIVERPOOL



## ON THE UP WITH KLOPP

Champions League football returns to Anfield this autumn as Liverpool continue to make steady progress under Jurgen Klopp. Record signing Mohamed Salah, a £34m capture from Roma, will bring pace and trickery to an already talented front line, where Sadio Mane and Philippe Coutinho shone last season.

**Manager** Former Borussia Dortmund boss Jurgen Klopp has been in charge since autumn 2015. Last summer the 50-year-old extended his contract until 2022.

**Who's the Daddy?** American businessman John W Henry is the club's principal owner, having bought out the deeply unpopular Tom Hicks and George Gillett in 2010.

**Annual wage bill** £208m (2016)  
**Annual income** £302m (2016)  
**Stadium** Anfield (54,074)  
**Nickname** Reds  
**Odds** 10/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

GAVIN KELLEY-DAY  
 Vital Liverpool  
[liverpool.vitalfootball.co.uk](http://liverpool.vitalfootball.co.uk)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Finishing fourth and qualifying for the



Boss...Jurgen Klopp

Champions League represents a successful season but it should have been even better given the way we were playing pre-Christmas and the identity of the teams who defeated us.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopefully silverware will finally reappear at Anfield for only the second time in 12 seasons. Unfortunately a title tilt could be undermined by the spectre and exertions of European football.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Several players shone last season so it's unfair to single one out. The attacking abilities of Sadio Mane, Philippe Coutinho and Adam Lallana continually dovetailed to overcome the lack of a conventional front man.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Nobody stands out as having had a shocker on the field last term, but our regular defensive frailties make the pre-season antics of Mamadou Sakho, which hastened his departure on loan to Crystal Palace, a source of much frustration.

## FLASHBACK

**Aug 14** Adam Lallana scores Liverpool's third goal in their 4-3 win away to Arsenal on the opening day of the season.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Adam <b>BOGDAN</b> (Hun)	(29) 27.09.87	2015 / Bolton Wanderers
Loris <b>KARIUS</b> (Ger)	(24) 22.06.93	2016 / Mainz (Ger)
Simon <b>MIGNOLET</b> (Blg)	(29) 06.03.88	2013 / Sunderland
Danny <b>WARD</b> (Wal)	(24) 22.06.93	2012 / Wrexham
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Trent <b>ALEXANDER-ARNOLD</b>	(18) 07.10.98	2004 / youth
Nathaniel <b>CLYNE</b>	(26) 05.04.91	2015 / Southampton
Jon <b>FLANAGAN</b>	(24) 01.01.93	2010 / youth
Joe <b>GOMEZ</b>	(20) 23.05.97	2015 / Charlton Athletic
Ragnar <b>KLAVAN</b> (Est)	(31) 30.10.85	2016 / Augsburg (Ger)
Dejan <b>LOVREN</b> (Cro)	(28) 05.07.89	2014 / Southampton
Joël <b>MATIP</b> (Cam)	(25) 08.08.91	2016 / Schalke (Ger)
Alberto <b>MORENO</b> (Spa)	(25) 05.07.92	2014 / Sevilla (Spa)
Connor <b>RANDALL</b>	(21) 21.10.95	2001 / youth
Mamadou <b>SAKHO</b> (Fra)	(27) 13.02.90	2013 / Paris Saint-Germain (Fra)
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
<b>ALLAN</b> (Bra)	(20) 03.03.97	2015 / Internacional (Bra)
Cameron <b>BRANNAGAN</b>	(21) 09.05.96	2001 / youth
Emre <b>CAN</b> (Ger)	(23) 12.01.94	2014 / Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)
Pedro <b>CHIRIVELLA</b> (Spa)	(20) 23.05.97	2013 / Valencia (Spa)
Ovie <b>EJARIA</b>	(19) 18.11.97	2014 / Arsenal
Marko <b>GRUJIC</b> (Ser)	(21) 13.04.96	2016 / Red Star Belgrade (Ser)
Jordan <b>HENDERSON</b>	(27) 17.06.90	2011 / Sunderland
Adam <b>LALLANA</b>	(29) 10.05.88	2014 / Southampton
Lucas <b>LUCAS</b> (Bra)	(30) 09.01.87	2007 / Gremio (Bra)
Lazar <b>MARKOVIC</b> (Ser)	(23) 02.03.94	2014 / Benfica (Por)
James <b>MILNER</b>	(31) 04.01.86	2015 / Manchester City
Sheyi <b>OJO</b>	(20) 19.06.97	2011 / MK Dons
Mohamed <b>SALAH</b> (Egy)	(25) 15.06.92	2017 / Roma (Ita)
Kevin <b>STEWART</b>	(24) 07.09.93	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
Georginio <b>WIJNALDUM</b> (Hol)	(26) 11.11.90	2016 / Newcastle United
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Taiwo <b>AWONIYI</b> (Nga)	(19) 12.08.97	2015 / youth
Philippe <b>COUTINHO</b> (Bra)	(25) 12.06.92	2013 / Internazionale (Ita)
Roberto <b>FIRMINO</b> (Bra)	(25) 02.10.91	2015 / Hoffenheim (Ger)
Danny <b>INGS</b>	(24) 23.07.92	2015 / Burnley
Sadio <b>MANE</b> (Sen)	(25) 10.04.92	2016 / Southampton
Divock <b>ORIGI</b> (Blg)	(22) 18.04.95	2014 / Lille (Fra)
Dominic <b>SOLANKE</b>	(19) 14.09.97	2017 / Chelsea
Daniel <b>STURRIDGE</b>	(27) 01.09.89	2013 / Chelsea
Ben <b>WOODBURN</b> (Wal)	(17) 15.10.99	2016 / youth
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Jürgen <b>KLOPP</b> (Ger)	(50) 16.06.67	2015 / Bor Dortmund (Ger)



Main men...Sadio Mane (left) and Philippe Coutinho

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Sadio Mane instantly impressed upon his arrival from Southampton and fans responded with a fun and catchy "Oh Mane, Mane" ditty, to the tune of "Sugar, Sugar" by The Archies.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

There are several talented players coming through and new acquisition Dominic Solanke (signed from Chelsea for £3million) is an exciting forward who was recently crowned player of the tournament for England at the Under-20 World Cup this summer.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Any European game under the floodlights is special, and that notion should prove especially true in front of the fantastic new Main Stand.

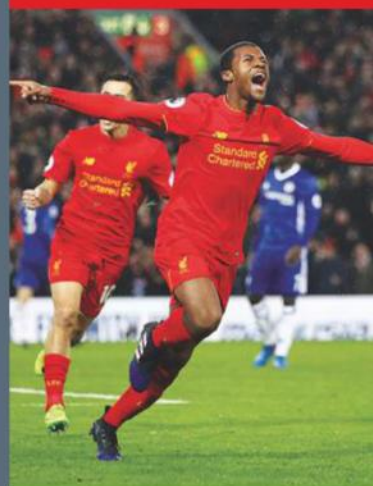
### GAME TO DREAD

We shouldn't be dreading anyone but bogey team Crystal Palace have won their last three meetings at Anfield and, perhaps predictably, they represent our first 2017-18 home fixture.

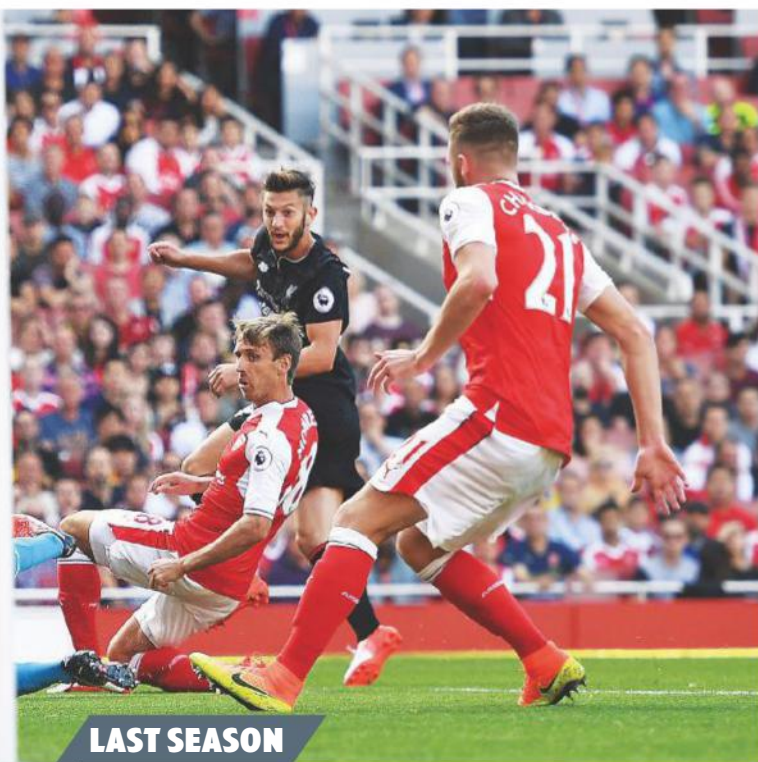


Bogey team... Crystal Palace

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Dec 13</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Brighton (h)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 4th // Top scorer Philippe Coutinho 13, Sadio Mane 13 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup Semi-finals // Average attendance 53,039



# MANCHESTER CITY



## PEP PLOTTING CHANGES

After last season's trophyless campaign – the first of Pep Guardiola's coaching career – City had a busy summer, with major new arrivals, including Bernardo Silva from Monaco and keeper Ederson from Benfica.

New full-backs were also planned as Guardiola implemented a major overhaul of an ageing City defence.

**Manager** Former Barcelona and Bayern Munich boss Pep Guardiola's is under contract with City until 2019.

**Who's the Daddy?** Owner Sheikh Mansour, a member of the ruling family of Abu Dhabi, has spent £1.21 billion on City since 2008.

**Annual wage bill** £198m (2016)

**Annual income** £392m (2016)

**Stadium** Etihad (55,097)

**Nickname** Sky Blues

**Odds** 15/8 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

RIC TURNER

Blue Moon [bluemoon-mcfc.co.uk](http://bluemoon-mcfc.co.uk)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Expectations were high, particularly after an exhilarating start that saw us win our first 10 games. To end the season trophy-less, and well off the pace in the league, was something of a disappointment, but Guardiola was hampered by an ageing defence and a team still adapting to his methods. However, there were glimpses of what the future might hold with some scintillating displays, notably in beating United at Old Trafford and Barcelona at The Etihad.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is to compete for the title and progress further in the Champions League. The fear is that Vincent Kompany's injuries could come back to haunt us.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

David Silva was outstanding once again. Arguably the most underrated player in the Premier League, it's a

## FLASHBACK

**Nov 1** Ilkay Gundogan scores twice in the 3-1 home win against Barcelona in the Champions League group stage.

Trophyless...  
Pep Guardiola







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Claudio <b>BRAVO</b> (Chl)	(34) 13.04.83	2016 / Barcelona (Spa)
<b>EDERSON</b> (Bra)	(23) 17.08.93	2017 / Benfica (Por)
Joe <b>HART</b>	(30) 19.04.87	2006 / Shrewbury Town
<b>DEFENDERS</b>		
Tosin <b>ADARABIOYO</b>	(19) 24.09.97	2003 / youth
Jason <b>DENAYER</b> (Blg)	(22) 28.06.95	2013 / youth
Aleksandar <b>KOLAROV</b> (Ser)	(31) 10.11.85	2010 / Lazio (Ita)
Vincent <b>KOMPANY</b> (Blg)	(31) 10.04.86	2008 / Hamburg (Ger)
Pablo <b>MAFFEO</b> (Spa)	(20) 12.07.97	2013 / Espanyol (Spa)
Eliuquim <b>MANGALA</b> (Fra)	(26) 13.02.91	2014 / Porto (Por)
Nicolas <b>OTAMENDI</b> (Arg)	(29) 12.02.88	2015 / Valencia (Spa)
John <b>STONES</b>	(23) 28.05.94	2016 / Everton
<b>MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Luke <b>BRATTAN</b> (Aus)	(27) 08.03.90	2015 / Brisbane Roar (Aus)
Kevin <b>DE BRUYNE</b> (Blg)	(26) 28.06.91	2015 / Wolfsburg (Ger)
Fabian <b>DELPH</b>	(27) 21.11.89	2015 / Aston Villa
<b>FERNANDINHO</b> (Bra)	(32) 04.05.85	2013 / Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukr)
<b>FERNANDO</b> (Bra)	(29) 25.07.87	2014 / Porto (Por)
Alex <b>GARCIA</b> (Spa)	(20) 28.06.97	2015 / Villarreal (Spa)
Ikey <b>GUNDOGAN</b> (Ger)	(26) 24.10.90	2016 / Borussia Dortmund (Ger)
Samir <b>NASRI</b> (Fra)	(30) 16.06.87	2011 / Arsenal
Olivier <b>NTCHAM</b> (Fra)	(21) 09.02.96	2012 / Le Havre (Fra)
Leroy <b>SANE</b> (Ger)	(21) 11.01.96	2016 / Schalke (Ger)
David <b>SILVA</b> (Spa)	(31) 08.01.86	2010 / Valencia (Spa)
Raheem <b>STERLING</b>	(22) 08.12.94	2015 / Liverpool
Yaya <b>TOURE</b> (IvC)	(34) 13.05.83	2010 / Barcelona (Spa)
Oleksandr <b>ZINCHENKO</b> (Ukr)	(20) 15.12.96	2016 / Ufa (Rus)
Bruno <b>ZUCULINI</b> (Arg)	(24) 02.04.93	2014 / Racing (Arg)
<b>FORWARDS</b>		
Sergio <b>AGUERO</b> (Arg)	(29) 02.06.88	2011 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Wilfried <b>BONY</b> (IvC)	(28) 10.12.88	2015 / Swansea City
Kelechi <b>IHEANACHO</b> (Nga)	(20) 03.10.96	2014 / youth
Gabriel <b>JESUS</b> (Bra)	(20) 03.04.97	2017 / Palmeiras (Bra)
Marlos <b>MORENO</b> (Col)	(20) 20.09.96	2016 / Atletico Nacional (Col)
<b>NOLITO</b> (Spa)	(30) 15.10.86	2016 / Celta Vigo (Spa)
Patrick <b>ROBERTS</b>	(20) 05.02.97	2015 / Fulham
Bernardo <b>SILVA</b> (Por)	(22) 10.08.94	2017 / Monaco (Fra)
Ruben <b>SOBRINO</b> (Spa)	(25) 01.06.92	2015 / Ponferradina (Spa)
<b>MANAGER</b>		
Pep <b>GUARDIOLA</b> (Spa)	(46) 18.01.71	2016 / Bayern Munich (Ger)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 3rd // Top scorer Sergio Aguero 20 // FA Cup Semi-finals // League Cup 4th round  
Average attendance 54,018



Hero...  
David Silva

travesty that he is so frequently overlooked in the end of season awards.

### OUR BIGGEST OURVILLAIN

Anthony Taylor, the "Altrincham fan" from Wythenshawe who gave one of the worst refereeing displays I have seen for some time in the home defeat against Chelsea.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We've got Guardiola", to the tune of Glad All Over.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Jadon Sancho and Brahim Diaz are two of the brightest prospects in the academy. The pick of the bunch, however, might be Phil Foden, a 16-year-old midfielder from Stockport. He looks like an exceptional talent.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The Manchester derbies are always eagerly anticipated, even if the much-hyped rivalry between Guardiola and Mourinho hasn't really materialised as yet.

### GAME TO DREAD

I wouldn't say I'm dreading any fixture as such, although Anfield is a notoriously unhappy hunting ground for us. Incredibly, we have only won there once in the previous 35 years.



Talent...  
Phil Foden

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Everton (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Southampton (a)



# MANCHESTER UNITED



## A 'SPECIAL' SUCCESSOR TO FERGIE?

Have United finally moved on from Alex Ferguson? David Moyes and Louis Van Gaal both struggled to live up to expectations, but Jose Mourinho has raised hopes once again at Old Trafford.

Mourinho's Premier League record was no better than Moyes or Van Gaal – United missed out on the Champions League places again last season – but the "Special One" delivered a League Cup success and the Europa League triumph in Stockholm.

New signing Victor Lindelof could form a powerful central defensive partnership with Eric Bailly, while United are also in the market for a new striker to replace Zlatan Ibrahimovic, who was released after just one season.

**Manager** Former Porto, Chelsea, Internazionale and Real Madrid boss Jose Mourinho agreed a four-year contract to succeed Louis Van Gaal in 2016.

**Who's the Daddy?** Former banker Ed Woodward advised the Glazer family on their controversial takeover of the club and now runs United on their behalf. The Glazers' ownership has cost United more than £700m in interest payments since 2005.

**Annual wage bill** £232m (2016)  
**Annual income** £515m (2016)



Special...Jose Mourinho

**Stadium** Old Trafford (75,731)  
**Nickname** Red Devils  
**Odds** 10/3 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

BARNEY CHILTON  
Red News

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Indifferent league form and above-average cup runs. We've been in a flux. Jose needed us, we needed him. And it's worked, on the whole. Considering the three seasons before, last year was a big step forward, league position or not.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Much more optimism actually. Better signings and players should help and Jose is usually excellent in his second season. And hopefully better, more attacking football. We were hard to beat last year, which bodes well.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Zlatan for his goals when form was patchy, Antonio Valencia for his tireless shifts he put in all year, but Ander Herrera really grew into the

## FLASHBACK

**May 24** United lift the Europa League trophy for the first time in the club's history after beating Ajax 2-0 in the Final in Stockholm.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
David <b>DE GEA</b> (Spa)	(26) 07.11.90	2011 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Sam <b>JOHNSTONE</b>	(24) 25.03.93	2009 / youth
Joel <b>PEREIRA</b> (Por)	(21) 28.06.96	2012 / Neuchatel Xamax (Swi)
Sergio <b>ROMERO</b> (Arg)	(30) 22.02.87	2015 / Sampdoria (Ita)
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Eric <b>BAILLY</b> (IvC)	(23) 12.04.94	2016 / Villarreal (Spa)
Daley <b>BLIND</b> (Hol)	(27) 09.03.90	2014 / Ajax (Hol)
Cameron <b>BORTHWICK-JACKSON</b>	(20) 02.02.97	2015 / youth
Matteo <b>DARMIAN</b> (Ita)	(27) 02.12.89	2015 / Torino (Ita)
Timothy <b>FOSU-MENSAH</b> (Hol)	(19) 02.01.98	2014 / Ajax (Hol)
Phil <b>JONES</b>	(25) 21.02.92	2011 / Blackburn Rovers
Victor <b>LINDELOF</b> (Swe)	(23) 17.07.94	2017 / Benfica (Por)
Demetri <b>MITCHELL</b>	(20) 11.01.97	2013 / youth
Marcos <b>ROJO</b> (Arg)	(27) 20.03.90	2014 / Sporting (Por)
Luke <b>SHAW</b>	(22) 12.07.95	2014 / Southampton
Chris <b>SMALLING</b>	(27) 22.11.89	2010 / Fulham
Axel <b>TUANZEBE</b>	(19) 14.11.97	2005 / youth
Guillermo <b>VARELA</b> (Uru)	(24) 24.03.93	2013 / Penarol (Uru)
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Michael <b>CARRICK</b>	(35) 28.07.81	2006 / Tottenham Hotspur
Marouane <b>FELLAINI</b> (Belg)	(29) 22.11.87	2013 / Everton
Angel <b>GOMES</b>	(16) 31.08.00	2017 / youth
Ander <b>HERRERA</b> (Spa)	(27) 14.08.89	2014 / Athletic Bilbao (Spa)
Adnan <b>JANUZAJ</b> (Belg)	(22) 05.02.95	2011 / Anderlecht (Belg)
Jesse <b>LINGARD</b>	(24) 15.12.92	2000 / youth
Juan <b>MATA</b> (Spa)	(29) 28.04.88	2014 / Chelsea
Henrikh <b>MKHITARYAN</b> (Arm)	(28) 21.01.89	2016 / Bor Dortmund (Ger)
Andreas <b>PEREIRA</b> (Bra)	(21) 01.01.96	2011 / PSV (Hol)
Paul <b>POGBA</b> (Fra)	(24) 15.03.93	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
Antonio <b>VALENCIA</b> (Ecu)	(31) 04.08.85	2009 / Wigan Athletic
Ashley <b>YOUNG</b>	(32) 09.07.85	2011 / Aston Villa
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Anthony <b>MARTIAL</b> (Fra)	(21) 05.12.95	2015 / Monaco (Fra)
Marcus <b>RASHFORD</b>	(19) 31.10.97	2016 / youth
Wayne <b>ROONEY</b>	(31) 24.10.85	2004 / Everton
James <b>WILSON</b>	(21) 01.12.95	2014 / youth
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Jose <b>MOURINHO</b> (Por)	(54) 26.01.63	2016 / Chelsea



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 6th // Top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic 17 // FA Cup Quarter-finals // League Cup Winners  
Europa League Winners // Average attendance 75,289



Hero...  
Ander Herrera

side and did well – and he's well appreciated by the fans.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Not Marouane Fellaini for once! He had a remarkable – for him – season. So we'll nominate nobody this time, they all tried.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Well, the one that grew and paid off was "Follow, Follow, Follow, cos United are off to Stockholm, there will be 1,000s of Reds and we'll be pissed out of our heads, cos United are going to Stockholm." And a few strong Swedish ales were sunk.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Well it was great seeing the youngsters in that final game against Palace. Look out for Angel Gomes in the reserves, if he can stay fit.



Youngster...Angel Gomes (right)

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Can I say the first five games – it'll tell us if we can mount a title challenge.

### GAME TO DREAD

None. Which is a pleasant change in the post Fergie years!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Watford (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Watford (h)



# NEWCASTLE UNITED



## BOUNCING BACK

Newcastle are back in the Premier League after just one season away. Manager Rafa Benitez was justified in his decision to stay on Tyneside following relegation in 2016. Despite the sale of players such as Andros Townsend and Moussa Sissoko, the new signings – Dwight Gayle, Matt Ritchie, Mo Diame and Isaac Hayden – quickly gelled. From October 2016 the Magpies were never out of the Championship's top two.

**Manager** Former Valencia, Liverpool and Real Madrid boss Rafa Benitez signed a three-year contract in 2016.

**Who's the Daddy?** Sports Direct boss Mike Ashley continues to attract criticism but has now been the owner of the club for more than a decade.

**Annual wage bill** £75m (2016)  
**Annual income** £126m (2016)  
**Stadium** St James' Park (52,404)  
**Nickname** Magpies  
**Odds** 500/1 to win Premier League.

## FAN'S VIEW

ALEX HURST  
 True Faith fanzine  
[true-faith.co.uk](http://true-faith.co.uk)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Essential. Failure to gain promotion would have meant serious playing-staff cutbacks as well as a likely managerial change. Much like last time, our brief stay in the second tier was immensely enjoyable – almost like the football club booked in for a season's therapy to cleanse the ills of the previous four seasons. Would



Big boss...Mike Ashley

recommended it for struggling, toxic Premier League teams... although there's always the danger of doing a Villa.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope United compete in the top 10 of the Premier League aided by one of the world's great managers. The manager is not here to finish 17th – and that's a welcome change. The fear is Mike Ashley does something bizarre and inexplicable or doesn't back the manager in January, which is what happened last season and it almost derailed the season. Takeover talk refuses to disappear.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Dwight Gayle was only available for half the season – he played 50.1 per cent of the minutes in the league – and he still scored 23 goals.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Any Championship referee. The general standard of refereeing in the Championship was a disgrace and could have cost us promotion. This sounds arrogant, but referees whose day jobs were in Leagues One and

## FLASHBACK

**May 7** Jamaal Lascelles (left) and Jonjo Shelvey lift the trophy after Newcastle secured the Championship title with a win over Barnsley at St James' Park.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Karl <b>DARLOW</b>	(26) 08.10.90	2014 / Nottingham Forest
Rob <b>ELLIOT</b> (Rol)	(31) 30.04.86	2011 / Charlton Athletic
Tim <b>KRUL</b> (Hol)	(29) 03.04.88	2006 / Den Haag (Hol)
Freddie <b>WOODMAN</b>	(20) 04.03.97	2014 / youth
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Ciaran <b>CLARK</b> (Rol)	(27) 26.09.89	2016 / Aston Villa
Paul <b>DUMMETT</b> (Wal)	(25) 26.09.91	2010 / youth
Jesus <b>GAMEZ</b> (Spa)	(32) 10.04.85	2016 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Massadio <b>HAIDARA</b> (Fra)	(24) 02.12.92	2013 / Nancy (Fra)
Grant <b>HANLEY</b> (Sco)	(25) 20.11.91	2016 / Blackburn Rovers
Jamaal <b>LASCELLES</b>	(23) 11.11.93	2014 / Nottingham Forest
Achraf <b>LAZAAR</b> (Mor)	(25) 22.01.92	2016 / Palermo (Ita)
Florian <b>LEJEUNE</b> (Fra)	(26) 20.05.91	2017 / Eibar (Spa)
Chancel <b>MBEMBA</b> (DRC)	(22) 08.08.94	2015 / Anderlecht (Blg)
Stefan <b>O'CONNOR</b>	(20) 23.01.97	2017 / Arsenal
Jamie <b>STERRY</b>	(21) 21.11.95	2015 / youth
DeAndre <b>YEDLIN</b> (USA)	(24) 09.07.93	2016 / Tottenham Hotspur
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Rolando <b>AARONS</b>	(21) 16.11.95	2014 / youth
Christian <b>ATSU</b> (Gha)	(25) 10.01.92	2017 / Chelsea
Jack <b>COLBACK</b>	(27) 24.10.89	2014 / Sunderland
Siem <b>DE JONG</b> (Hol)	(28) 28.01.89	2014 / Ajax (Hol)
Mo <b>DIAME</b> (Sen)	(30) 14.06.87	2016 / Hull City
Yoan <b>GOUFFRAN</b> (Fra)	(31) 25.05.86	2013 / Bordeaux (Fra)
Isaac <b>HAYDEN</b>	(22) 22.03.95	2016 / Arsenal
Matt <b>RITCHIE</b> (Sco)	(27) 10.09.89	2016 / Bournemouth
Henri <b>SAIVET</b> (Sen)	(26) 26.10.90	2016 / Bordeaux (Fra)
Jonjo <b>SHELVEY</b>	(25) 27.02.92	2016 / Swansea City
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Adam <b>ARMSTRONG</b>	(20) 10.02.97	2014 / youth
Dwight <b>GAYLE</b>	(27) 17.10.89	2016 / Crystal Palace
Aleksandar <b>MITROVIC</b> (Ser)	(22) 16.09.94	2015 / Anderlecht (Blg)
Daryl <b>MURPHY</b> (Rol)	(34) 15.03.83	2016 / Ipswich Town
Ayoze <b>PEREZ</b> (Spa)	(23) 29.07.93	2014 / Tenerife (Spa)
Emmanuel <b>RIVIERE</b> (Fra)	(27) 03.03.90	2014 / Monaco (Fra)
Ivan <b>TONEY</b>	(21) 16.03.96	2015 / Northampton Town
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Rafael <b>BENITEZ</b> (Spa)	(57) 16.04.60	2016 / Real Madrid (Spa)



Top gun...  
Dwight Gayle

Two simply couldn't handle games at St James' Park or on television.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We're Newcastle and we're going to win the league" (to the tune of "Yellow Submarine"). I have a feeling it'll take another relegation to be singing that one again!

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

He's 22 but Isaac Hayden is absolutely class. Wenger letting him go for £2m will go down in years to come as a dreadful error.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Spurs at home on the opening day. We've an excellent record against Spurs and memorably beat Mauricio Pochettino's side 5-1 – and we had 10 men – in our last Premier League game. It was the game that Rafa Benitez decided to stay and a relegated team went out on a high with a full stadium singing. Spurs are a great side and it will be a fantastic chance to test ourselves at St James'. Tickets will be impossible to buy for it and the city will be electric.



Class act...  
Isaac Hayden

### GAME TO DREAD

All of the games on the south coast. They're so far. London is a six-hour drive. Our closest game is Burnley, two-and-a-half hours away, so it's technically our "derby".

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



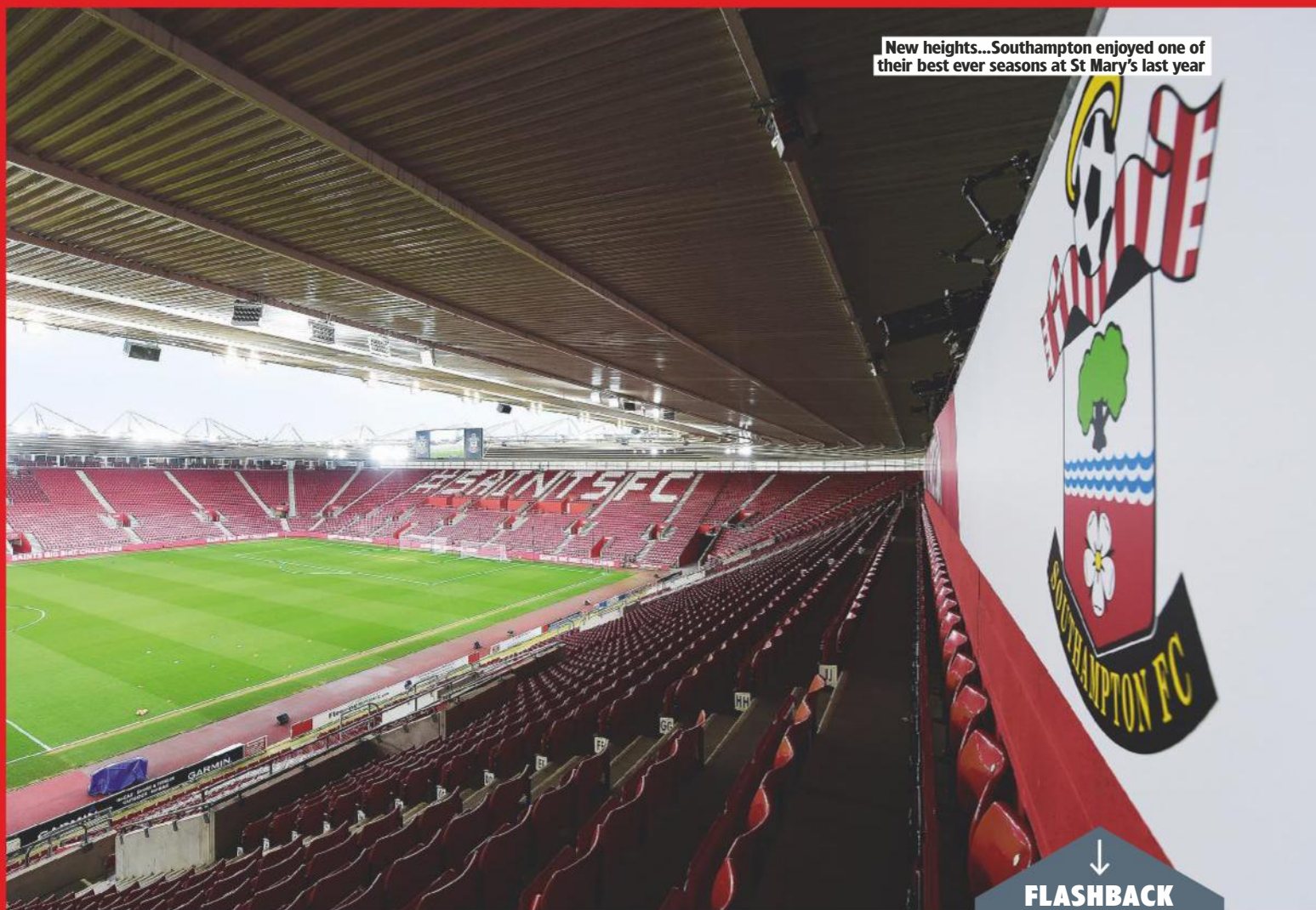
<b>AUG 12</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Watford (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Chelsea (h)

## LAST SEASON

**Championship 1st (Championship) // Top scorer Dwight Gayle 23 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup Quarter-finals // Average attendance 51,106**



# SOUTHAMPTON



New heights...Southampton enjoyed one of their best ever seasons at St Mary's last year

## ALL CHANGE AT SAINTS – AGAIN

It's been all change at Southampton again this summer, with Mauricio Pellegrino replacing Claude Puel after just one season in charge. Puel guided the team to the League Cup Final and a comfortable eighth place in the Premier League, but fans were not completely appreciative of his conservative tactics.

**Manager** Mauricio Pellegrino was an assistant to Rafa Benitez at Liverpool and the Argentinian worked wonders at Spanish side Alaves last season, reaching the Spanish Cup Final.

**Who's the Daddy?** Katharina Liebherr inherited the club from her Swiss billionaire father Markus in 2010.

**Annual wage bill** £85m (2016)  
**Annual income** £124m (2016)  
**Stadium** St Mary's (32,689)  
**Nickname** Saints  
**Odds** 150/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

NICK ILLINGSWORTH  
 The Ugly Inside  
 theuglyinside.net

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Strange! On one hand it could be argued that in terms of achievement



New man...Mauricio Pellegrino

this was the fourth-best season in our history, with the addition of at least three games right up there in the best I have ever been to in my 45 years of support in terms of enjoyment. Yet for the most times the football was dire and uninspiring.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My hope is that the new manager can take a decent squad and again get it to a top-10 finish and perhaps another Final. My fear is that for a second time running we will not have picked the right man for the job.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

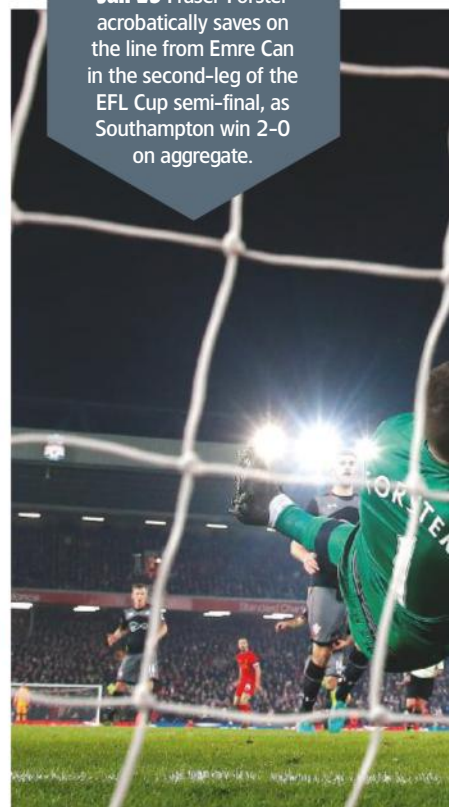
Oriol Romeu stepped up to the plate after the departure of Victor Wanyama and really added something to the team. He looked like he wanted to play for the team when some seemed unmotivated.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

The linesman who disallowed a perfectly good goal at Wembley that might just have changed the result was a big candidate, but even he could not beat Jamie Vardy of Leicester City, who snidely raked

## FLASHBACK

Jan 25 Fraser Forster acrobatically saves on the line from Emre Can in the second-leg of the EFL Cup semi-final, as Southampton win 2-0 on aggregate.

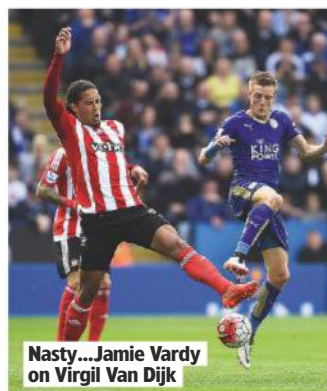






## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Fraser <b>FORSTER</b>	(29) 17.03.88	2014 / Celtic (Sco)
Paulo <b>GAZZANIGA</b> (Arg)	(25) 02.01.92	2012 / Gillingham
Harry <b>LEWIS</b>	(19) 20.12.97	2015 / Shrewsbury Town
Alex <b>MCCARTHY</b>	(27) 03.12.89	2016 / Crystal Palace
Stuart <b>TAYLOR</b>	(36) 28.11.80	2016 / Leeds United
<b>DEFENDERS</b>		
Jan <b>BEDNAREK</b> (Pol)	(21) 12.04.96	2017 / Lech Poznan (Pol)
Ryan <b>BERTRAND</b>	(27) 05.08.89	2014 / Chelsea
Florin <b>GARDOS</b> (Rom)	(28) 19.10.88	2014 / Steaua (Rom)
Sam <b>MCQUEEN</b>	(22) 06.02.95	2003 / youth
Jeremy <b>PIED</b> (Fra)	(28) 23.02.89	2016 / Nice (Fra)
Cedric <b>SOARES</b> (Por)	(25) 31.08.91	2015 / Sporting (Por)
Jack <b>STEPHENS</b>	(23) 27.01.94	2011 / Plymouth Argyle
Matt <b>TARGETT</b>	(21) 18.09.95	2003 / youth
Virgil <b>VAN DIJK</b> (Hol)	(26) 08.07.91	2015 / Celtic (Sco)
Maya <b>YOSHIDA</b> (Jap)	(28) 24.08.88	2012 / VVV Venlo (Hol)
<b>MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Sofiane <b>BOUFAL</b> (Mor)	(23) 17.09.93	2016 / Lille (Fra)
Jordy <b>CLASIE</b> (Hol)	(26) 27.06.91	2015 / Feyenoord (Hol)
Steven <b>DAVIS</b> (NI)	(32) 01.01.85	2012 / Fulham
Jake <b>HESKETH</b>	(21) 27.03.96	2006 / youth
Pierre-Emile <b>HOJBJERG</b> (Den)	(21) 05.08.95	2016 / Bayern Munich (Ger)
Nathan <b>REDMOND</b>	(23) 06.03.94	2016 / Norwich City
Oriol <b>ROMEU</b> (Spa)	(25) 24.09.91	2015 / Chelsea
Josh <b>SIMS</b>	(20) 28.03.97	2011 / youth
Dusan <b>TADIC</b> (Ser)	(28) 20.11.88	2014 / Twente (Hol)
James <b>WARD-PROWSE</b>	(22) 01.11.94	2003 / youth
<b>FORWARDS</b>		
Charlie <b>AUSTIN</b>	(28) 05.07.89	2016 / QPR
Manolo <b>GABBIADINI</b> (Ita)	(25) 26.11.91	2017 / Napoli (Ita)
Sam <b>GALLAGHER</b>	(21) 15.09.95	2012 / Plymouth Argyle
Shane <b>LONG</b> (Rol)	(30) 22.01.87	2014 / Hull City
Olufela <b>OLOMOLA</b>	(19) 05.09.97	2014 / Arsenal
<b>MANAGER</b>		
Maurício <b>PELEGRINO</b> (Arg)	(45) 05.10.71	2017 / Alaves (Spa)



Nasty... Jamie Vardy on Virgil Van Dijk

his studs down Virgil Van Dijk's ankle, finishing his season and ending Saints' hopes of not only a trophy but of a top-seven finish.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We struggled with anything too original but this was popular: "Les Reed went to Europe to buy a Lamborghini, instead he bought a striker, his name was Gabbiadini!"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Josh Sims had an electric debut and impressed on several other occasions with his willingness to run at players and create chances.



Electric debut ...Josh Sims

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Given the issues with Liverpool and their alleged tapping-up of our players, the fixtures against the ex-Saints team are ones all Saints fans will really want to win.

### GAME TO DREAD

Traditionally we are thumped at Manchester United, Spurs, Manchester City and, bizarrely, Everton. But in recent years we have got results at all of them.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Man City (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Man United (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Everton (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Man City (h)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 8th // Top scorer Charlie Austin 9 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup Runners-up  
Average attendance 30,936



# STOKE CITY



## STEADY EDDIES SEEKING MORE SPARKLE

Stoke are the Steady Eddies of the Premier League, rarely leaving the mid-table places. Manager Mark Hughes has moved the club on from the safety-first tactics of the Tony Pulis era but big-name signings (Shaqiri, Bojan, Imbula) have failed to sparkle on a consistent level. Veteran midfielder Darren Fletcher was the first signing of the summer, joining on a free from West Brom.

**Manager** Premier League veteran Mark Hughes is contracted until 2019

**Who's the daddy?** Chairman Peter Coates is in his second spell as club owner. His family made their money from the Bet365 betting business.

**Annual wage bill** £82m (2016)  
**Annual income** £104m (2016)

**Stadium** Bet365 (27,902)  
**Nickname** Potters  
**Odds** 500/1 to win Premier League

### FAN'S VIEW

VITAL STOKE  
stoke.vitalfootball.co.uk

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

Down, up and down again. Recovered from a poor start to be on for



Steady...  
Mark Hughes

another top-10 finish before a woeful end to the campaign that, while not resulting in a bad position as such, could, if not should, have been better.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping for consistency throughout the season enabling that forward moving momentum again, but worst case fears would be a middle not matching the positive middle section of last season – we know what that could, if not would, spell.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Marco Arnautovic, was probably the most consistent performer, but the performances of goalkeeper Lee Grant perhaps kept Stoke in the Premier League. Jack Butland was missed but Grant stepped up to the plate.

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Admittedly, he wasn't alone as there were some poor players at Stoke last season, but Wilfried Bony went from one of the most lethal finishers in the Premier League to one who couldn't get a look-in at the Potters as his career went further off track.



### FLASHBACK

**Apr 15** Xherdan Shaqiri scores a spectacular goal to secure a 3-1 win at home to Hull City.







2017-18 FIXTURES



Youngster...  
Julien Ngoy

**BEST SONG LAST SEASON**

Simple, effective, I liked it and it makes me laugh so I'm going with this one – few would agree but you asked me the question so I can give the answer... "Let's all have a party! Whelan, Butland, Arnie. Na na na na, na na na na."

**YOUNGSTER TO WATCH**

Belgian forward Julien Ngoy, 19, signed from Brugge as a 15-year-old and was involved in the first team last season but big things are expected going forward, where he should play a big part for Stoke. Well, assuming he doesn't get whisked away as its being reported Monaco could see him as the replacement for the in-demand Kylian Mbappe.

**GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO**

Arsenal, quite simply as it'll be the first home game of the upcoming season. No other reason than that.

**GAME TO DREAD**

Bournemouth, again, not because we should fear the Cherries – Stoke shouldn't, with all due respect, but the trip to Dean Court will be the longest we face this season.

Hero...  
Lee Grant



**THE SQUAD**

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Jack <b>BUTLAND</b>	(24) 10.03.93	2013 / Birmingham City
Lee <b>GRANT</b>	(34) 27.01.83	2016 / Derby County
Jakob <b>HAUGAARD</b> (Den)	(25) 01.05.92	2015 / Midtjylland (Den)
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>		
Phil <b>BARDSLEY</b> (Sco)	(32) 28.06.85	2014 / Sunderland
Geoff <b>CAMERON</b> (USA)	(32) 11.07.85	2012 / Houston Dynamo (USA)
Glen <b>JOHNSON</b>	(32) 23.08.84	2015 / Liverpool
Marc <b>MUNIESA</b> (Spa)	(25) 27.03.92	2013 / Barcelona (Spa)
Erik <b>PIETERS</b> (Hol)	(28) 07.08.88	2013 / PSV (Hol)
Ryan <b>SHAWCOSS</b>	(29) 04.10.87	2008 / Manchester United
Josh <b>TYMON</b>	(18) 22.05.99	2017 / Hull City
Philipp <b>WOLLSCHIED</b> (Ger)	(28) 06.03.89	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Charlie <b>ADAM</b> (Sco)	(31) 10.12.85	2012 / Liverpool
Ibrahim <b>AFELLAY</b> (Hol)	(31) 02.04.86	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
Joe <b>ALLEN</b> (Wal)	(27) 14.03.90	2016 / Liverpool
Moha <b>EL OURIACHI</b> (Mor)	(21) 13.01.96	2015 / Barcelona (Spa)
Darren <b>FLETCHER</b> (Sco)	(33) 01.02.84	2017 / West Brom
Giannelli <b>IMBULA</b> (Fra)	(24) 12.09.92	2016 / Porto (Por)
Stephen <b>IRELAND</b> (Rol)	(30) 22.08.86	2014 / Aston Villa
Xherdan <b>SHAQIRI</b> (Swi)	(25) 10.10.91	2015 / Internazionale (Ita)
Ramadan <b>SOBHI</b> (Egy)	(20) 27.06.97	2016 / Al Ahly (Egy)
Glenn <b>WHELAN</b> (Rol)	(33) 13.01.84	2008 / Sheffield Wednesday
<b>• FORWARDS</b>		
Marko <b>ARNAUTOVIC</b> (Aut)	(28) 19.04.89	2013 / Werder Bremen (Ger)
Saido <b>BERAHINO</b>	(23) 04.08.93	2017 / West Brom
<b>BOJAN</b> Krkic (Spa)	(26) 28.08.90	2014 / Barcelona (Spa)
Peter <b>CROUCH</b>	(36) 30.01.81	2011 / Tottenham Hotspur
Mame Biram <b>DIOUF</b> (Sen)	(29) 16.12.87	2014 / Hanover (Ger)
<b>JOSELU</b> (Spa)	(27) 27.03.90	2015 / Hanover (Ger)
Julien <b>NGOY</b> (Blg)	(19) 02.11.97	2013 / Club Brugge (Blg)
Jon <b>WALTERS</b> (Rol)	(33) 20.09.83	2010 / Ipswich Town
<b>• MANAGER</b>		
Mark <b>HUGHES</b> (Wal)	(53) 01.11.63	2013 / QPR



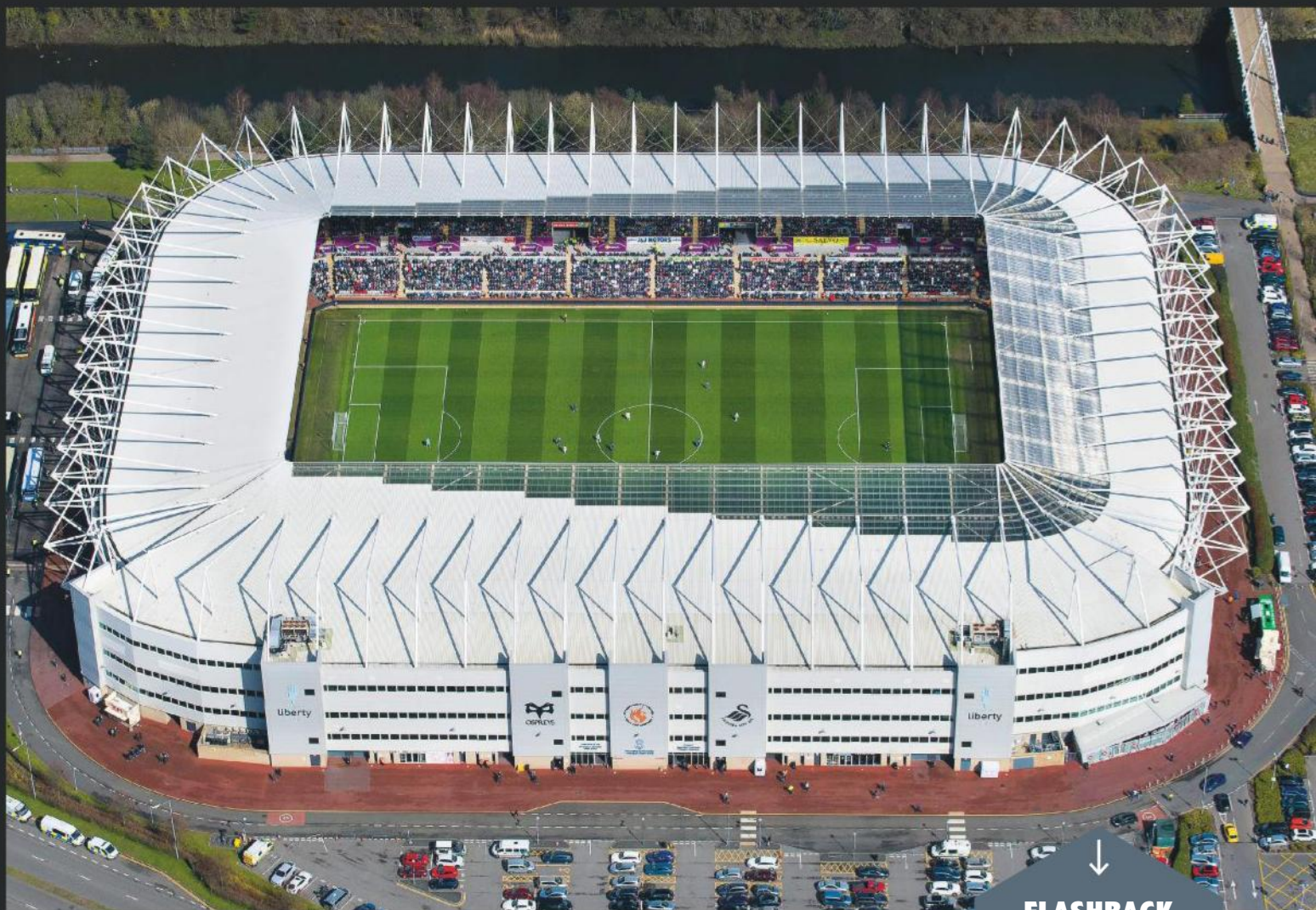
**LAST SEASON**

Premier League 13th // Top scorer Peter Crouch 10 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 27,117

<b>AUG 12</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Watford (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Watford (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Swansea City (a)



# SWANSEA CITY



## SWANS LOOKING UP NOT DOWN

Swansea are looking forward with confidence to the new campaign after the ups and downs of last season when three different managers (Francesco Guidolin, Bob Bradley, Paul Clement) took charge at the Liberty stadium. And hopes will be further raised following a deal for Spanish midfielder Roque Mesa and a loan for Chelsea teenager Tammy Abraham.

**Manager** Paul Clement took charge in January, agreeing a two-and-a-half-year contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** An American consortium led by Jason Levien and Steve Kaplan bought a controlling interest in the club in July 2016, with Huw Jenkins staying on as chairman.

**Annual wage bill** £82m (2016)  
**Annual income** £97m (2016)  
**Stadium** Liberty (20,938)  
**Nickname** Swans  
**Odds** 1,000/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

NIGEL DAVIES  
A Touch Far Vetched

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A James Carpenter-style horror story that somehow ended up with a Disney-style fairytale ending. Awful



**Boss...**  
Paul Clement

football on the pitch met civil unrest under new owners off it - chuck in no less than three managers and it was a rich recipe for near disaster.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I'm hoping that we make a few quality signings and our Champions League form under Paul Clement continues, leading to a comfortable season with a cheeky Cup win. I fear that our clueless American owners will inflict another Bob Bradley-type decision on us and undo all the good work done by Clement thus far.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Paul Clement would be the obvious choice but the real hero was Leon Britton. His calm influence and considerable skill on the field transformed our fortunes, and his leadership off the pitch galvanised players and fans alike. Hero doesn't even begin to cover it where this Swans Legend is concerned.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

We had more super villains than a Marvel/DC crossover comic but chief among them has to be chairman

## FLASHBACK

**Jan 21** Fernando Llorente scores as Swansea take a shock 2-0 lead away to Liverpool before going on to win 3-2.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Mark <b>BIRIGHITTI</b> (Aus)	(26) 07.04.91	2016 / Newcastle Jets (Aus)
Lukasz <b>FABIANSKI</b> (Pol)	(32) 18.04.85	2013 / Arsenal
Erwin <b>MULDER</b> (Hol)	(28) 03.03.89	2017 / Herenveen (Hol)
Kristoffer <b>NORDFELDT</b> (Swe)	(28) 23.06.89	2015 / Heerenveen (Hol)
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>		
Kyle <b>BARTLEY</b>	(26) 22.05.91	2012 / Arsenal
Federico <b>FERNANDEZ</b> (Arg)	(28) 21.02.89	2014 / Napoli (Ita)
Stephen <b>KINGSLEY</b> (Sco)	(22) 23.07.94	2014 / Falkirk (Sco)
Alfie <b>MAWSON</b>	(23) 19.01.94	2016 / Barnsley
Kyle <b>NAUGHTON</b>	(28) 11.11.88	2015 / Tottenham Hotspur
Martin <b>OLSSON</b> (Swe)	(29) 17.05.88	2017 / Norwich City
Angel <b>RANGEL</b> (Spa)	(35) 28.01.82	2007 / Terrassa (Spa)
Mike <b>VAN DER HOORN</b> (Hol)	(24) 15.10.92	2016 / Ajax (Hol)
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Leon <b>BRITTON</b>	(34) 10.09.82	2011 / Sheffield United
Tom <b>CARROLL</b>	(25) 28.05.92	2017 / Tottenham H
Jack <b>CORK</b>	(28) 25.06.89	2015 / Southampton
Nathan <b>DYER</b>	(29) 29.11.87	2009 / Southampton
Leroy <b>FER</b> (Hol)	(27) 05.01.90	2016 / QPR
Jay <b>FULTON</b> (Sco)	(23) 01.04.94	2014 / Falkirk (Sco)
Matt <b>GRIMES</b>	(22) 15.07.95	2015 / Exeter City
Ki Sung-yueng (SKo)	(28) 24.01.89	2012 / Celtic (Sco)
Adam <b>KING</b> (Sco)	(21) 11.10.95	2014 / Hearts
Roque <b>MESA</b> (Spa)	(28) 07.06.89	2017 / Las Palmas (Spa)
Jefferson <b>MONTERO</b> (Ecu)	(27) 01.09.89	2014 / Morelia (Mex)
Luciano <b>NARSINGH</b> (Hol)	(26) 13.09.90	2017 / PSV (Hol)
Wayne <b>ROUTLEDGE</b>	(32) 07.01.85	2011 / Newcastle United
Gylfi <b>SIGURDSSON</b> (Ice)	(27) 08.09.89	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
<b>• FORWARDS</b>		
Tammy <b>ABRAHAM</b>	(19) 02.10.97	2017 / Chelsea
Jordan <b>AYEW</b> (Gha)	(25) 11.09.91	2017 / Aston Villa
Modou <b>BARROW</b> (Gam)	(24) 13.10.92	2014 / Ostersund (Swe)
Fernando <b>LLORENTE</b> (Spa)	(32) 26.02.85	2016 / Sevilla
Oliver <b>McBURNIE</b> (Sco)	(21) 04.06.96	2015 / Bradford City
<b>• MANAGER</b>		
Paul <b>CLEMENT</b>	(45) 08.01.72	2017 / Derby County



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 15th // Top scorer Fernando Llorente 15 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 20,619



Hero...  
Leon Britton

Huw Jenkins. His villainous act of selling out for greed directly led to the club falling into the hands of a pair of clueless Americans.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

There were funnier chants but the best chant by far was: "The Jacks are staying UP". After staring certain relegation in the face all season, belting out the words as we beat Everton was simply unbeatable.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The brightest lights from our all-conquering under-23 set up from last season will likely go out on loan. One player that may stay and make a breakthrough is Adam King - the Scottish starlet can play a central midfield role or out wide.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm looking forward to welcoming Huddersfield to the Liberty, not least of which because of the frenzy it will whip up among the "elitist snobs" following self-styled "big" Championship clubs like Leeds, Forest and Sheffield Wednesday.



Starlet...  
Adam King

## GAME TO DREAD

We just can't seem to get a result against Spurs, and Wembley will only make the feeling of defeat worse!

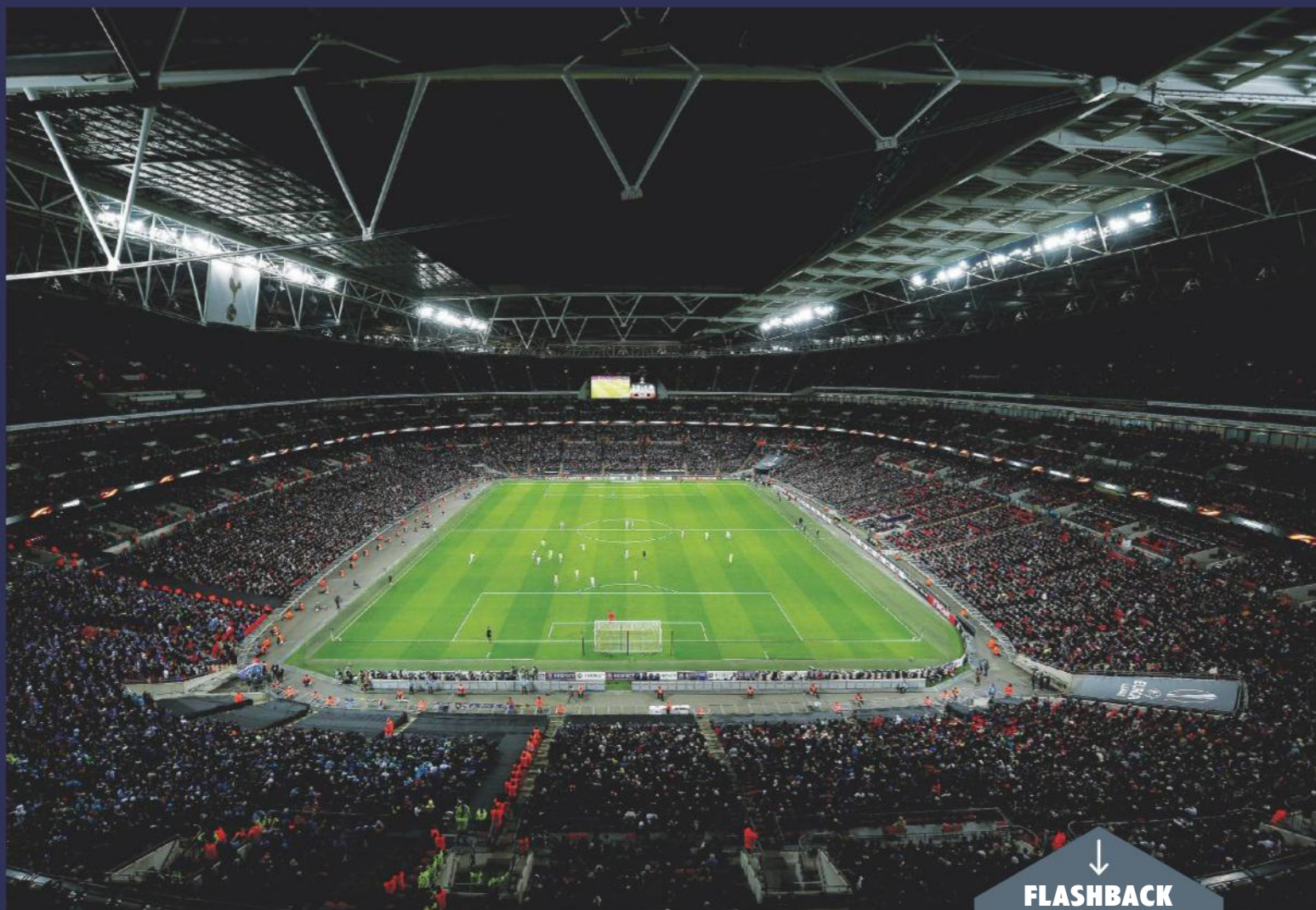
## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Newcastle United (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Huddersfield Town (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Watford (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Newcastle United (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Huddersfield Town (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Man United (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Stoke City (h)



# TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR



## SPURS FACE WEMBLEY CHALLENGE

After their highest league finish since 1963, last season's Premier League runners-up are back in the Champions League and will be playing all their home games – league, Europe and cup – at Wembley while a new home is built at White Hart Lane. The big question is whether Spurs can adapt to the challenge of playing at the national stadium.

**Manager** Argentinian Mauricio Pochettino joined from Southampton in 2014 and extended his deal last year, committing to Spurs until 2021.

**Who's the Daddy?** Tough negotiator Daniel Levy has been chairman since 2001.

**Annual wage bill** £100m (2016)  
**Annual income** £210m (2016)  
**Stadium** Wembley (90,000)  
**Nickname** Spurs  
**Odds** 8/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

PAUL SMITH  
 Spurs Odyssey  
 spursodyssey.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

↓  
 Astounding, finishing runners-up in



Success...Mauricio Pochettino

the top flight for the first time since 1962–63, securing our highest-ever Premier League points total and placing. We scored more goals, conceded less and finished with a better goal difference than any other team. We finished a home league season unbeaten for the first time since 1964–65, winning 14 consecutive home games for the first time since 1987.

Despite all the achievements, there is more than a tinge of disappointment because we did not win a trophy, and ultimately lost in disappointing fashion in the domestic cups and in European competition.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

↓  
 Spurs exceeded expectations last season, so why shouldn't they do that again? My biggest hope is for some silverware. My fear is we may not make our temporary Wembley home the fortress we enjoyed at White Hart Lane.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

↓  
 Victor Wanyama was surely the signing of the season by any club in 2017–18. A rock in front of the Spurs back four (or three), added plenty of skill to his play and scored five goals.

## FLASHBACK

↓  
**May 14** Harry Kane scores Tottenham's last goal at the old White Hart Lane, before the stadium gets rebuilt, in the 2-1 win at home v Manchester United.







## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>● GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Hugo <b>LLORIS</b> (Fra)	(30) 26.12.86	2012 / Lyon (Fra)
Michel <b>VORM</b> (Hol)	(33) 20.10.83	2014 / Swansea City
<b>● DEFENDERS</b>		
Toby <b>ADERWEIRELD</b> (Blg)	(28) 02.03.89	2015 / Atletico Madrid (Spa)
Cameron <b>CARTER-VICKERS</b> (USA)	(19) 31.12.97	2009 / youth
Ben <b>DAVIES</b> (Wal)	(24) 24.04.93	2014 / Swansea City
Federico <b>FAZIO</b> (Arg)	(30) 17.03.87	2014 / Sevilla (Spa)
Danny <b>ROSE</b>	(27) 02.07.90	2007 / Leeds United
Keiran <b>TRIPPIER</b>	(26) 19.09.90	2015 / Burnley
Jan <b>VERTONGHEN</b> (Blg)	(30) 24.04.87	2012 / Ajax (Hol)
Kyle <b>WALKER</b>	(27) 28.05.90	2009 / Sheffield United
Kevin <b>WIMMER</b> (Aut)	(24) 15.11.92	2015 / Cologne (Ger)
<b>● MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Delle <b>ALLI</b>	(21) 11.04.96	2015 / MK Dons
Mousa <b>DEMBELE</b> (Blg)	(30) 16.07.87	2012 / Fulham
Eric <b>DIER</b>	(23) 15.01.94	2014 / Sporting (Por)
Christian <b>ERIKSEN</b> (Den)	(25) 14.02.92	2013 / Ajax (Hol)
Erik <b>LAMELA</b> (Arg)	(25) 04.03.92	2013 / Roma (Ita)
Georges-Kevin <b>N'KOUDOU</b> (Fra)	(22) 13.02.95	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
Josh <b>ONOMAH</b>	(20) 27.04.97	2015 / youth
Moussa <b>SISSOKO</b> (Fra)	(27) 16.08.89	2016 / Newcastle United
Victor <b>WANYAMA</b> (Ken)	(26) 25.06.91	2016 / Southampton
Harry <b>WINKS</b>	(21) 02.02.96	2014 / youth
<b>● FORWARDS</b>		
Vincent <b>JANSSEN</b> (Hol)	(23) 15.06.94	2016 / AZ (Hol)
Harry <b>KANE</b>	(23) 28.07.93	2011 / youth
Clinton <b>N'JIE</b> (Cam)	(23) 15.08.93	2015 / Lyon (Fra)
<b>SON</b> Heung-min (SKO)	(25) 08.07.92	2015 / Bayer Leverkusen (Ger)
<b>● MANAGER</b>		
Mauricio <b>POCHETTINO</b> (Arg)	(45) 02.03.72	2014 / Southampton



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 2nd // Top scorer Harry Kane 29 // FA Cup Semi-finals // League Cup 4th round // Average attendance 31,639

Hero...  
Victor Wanyama



## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Most Spurs fans regard the signing of Moussa Sissoko (for a club record-equalling £30m) as a poor acquisition, but I personally think there is a skilled footballer in there, who hasn't yet been given many minutes in his new club colours.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"He's magic you know! Mauricio Pochettino!"

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Harry Winks broke through and impressed this season. The Spurs development squad includes plenty of potential stars, including 18-year-old winger Marcus Edwards.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The first game at Newcastle, where we need to extract firm revenge for the pasting we took from the relegated club on the last day of the 2015-16 season.

## GAME TO DREAD

Spurs fear nobody. However, I do dread the last game of the season, because I have always hated the close season. Bring on the games!



Talent...  
Harry Winks

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Man United (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Man United (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Watford (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Leicester City (h)



# WATFORD



## BIG THINGS EXPECTED FROM SILVA

It's all change again at Vicarage Road as the Hornets start the new season with a new manager for the fifth successive year. Following the sacking of Italian Walter Mazzarri, in comes Portuguese boss Marco Silva, fresh from his battle against relegation with Hull City.

The new man will be expected to play a more attack-minded game. With that in mind, England Under-21 midfielder Will Hughes has been snapped up from Derby.

**Manager** Marco Silva agreed a two-year contract just days after leaving relegated Hull City.

**Who's the Daddy?** Giampaolo Pozzo bought Watford in 2012 and has been criticised for his changing of coaches and for moving players between Watford and other clubs.

**Annual wage bill** £58m (2016)  
**Annual income** £94m (2016)  
**Stadium** Vicarage Road (21,577)

**Nickname** Hornets  
**Odds** 1,000/1 to win Premier League

### FAN'S VIEW

MIKE PARKIN

From the Rookery End podcast  
[fromtherookeryend.com](http://fromtherookeryend.com)

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

Successful, in as much as Watford stayed in the Premier League. This was achieved against the backdrop of an unprecedented swathe of injuries to key performers and an unpopular



New man...  
**Marco Silva**

head coach who had failed to ingratiate himself to supporters or players. There were a few highlights, including memorable wins against Manchester United and Arsenal, but in truth it was a difficult and largely forgettable campaign.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

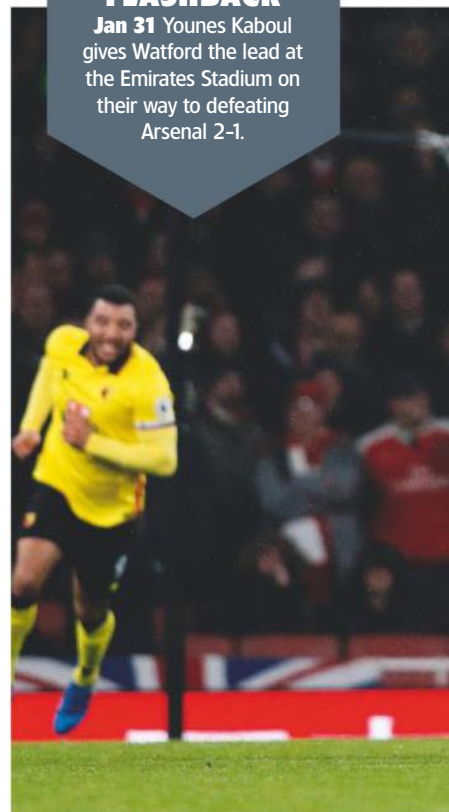
Once again, survival has to be the primary objective. This time, however, owner Gino Pozzo will expect it to be achieved with a little bit more to spare. The hope for Watford's supporters is that Marco Silva can bring a more entertaining brand of football to Vicarage Road, getting the best out of what is arguably the most talented squad in Hornets history. The main fear is that the hangover from last season continues.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

The Austrian international centre-back Seb Prodl cut a composed and confident figure for the majority of the season, looking assured against some of the world's most recognisable and dangerous attackers. Marco Silva will almost undoubtedly be building his defensive unit around him.

### FLASHBACK

**Jan 31** Younes Kaboul gives Watford the lead at the Emirates Stadium on their way to defeating Arsenal 2-1.







<b>AUG 12</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Man City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Man United (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Everton (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Man United (a)

## THE SQUAD

Name	AGE/D.O.B.	Signed/prev club
<b>GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Giedrius <b>ARLAUSKIS</b> (Lit)	(29) 01.12.87	2015 / Steaua (Rom)
Daniel <b>BACHMANN</b> (Aut)	(23) 09.07.94	2017 / Stoke City
Heurelho <b>GOMES</b> (Bra)	(36) 15.02.81	2014 / Tottenham Hotspur
Costel <b>PANTILIMON</b> (Rom)	(30) 01.02.87	2016 / Sunderland
<b>DEFENDERS</b>		
Miguel <b>BRITOS</b> (Uru)	(32) 17.07.85	2105 / Napoli (Ita)
Craig <b>CATHCART</b> (NI)	(28) 06.02.89	2014 / Blackpool
Brice <b>DJA DJEDJE</b> (IvC)	(26) 23.12.90	2016 / Marseille (Fra)
Pervis <b>ESTUPINAN</b> (Ecu)	(19) 28.01.98	2016 / LDU Quito (Ecu)
Kiko <b>FEMENIA</b> (Spa)	(26) 02.02.91	2017 / Alaves (Spa)
Tommie <b>HOBAN</b> (Rol)	(23) 24.01.94	2009 / Arsenal
Jose <b>HOLEBAS</b> (Gre)	(33) 27.06.84	2015 / Roma (Ita)
Daryl <b>JANMAAT</b> (Hol)	(27) 22.07.89	2016 / Newcastle United
Christian <b>KABASELE</b> (Blg)	(26) 24.02.91	2016 / Genk (Blg)
Younes <b>KABOUL</b> (Fra)	(31) 04.01.86	2016 / Sunderland
Adrian <b>MARIAPPA</b> (Jam)	(30) 03.10.86	2016 / Crystal Palace
Juan Carlos <b>PEREDES</b> (Ecu)	(30) 08.07.87	2014 / Granada (Spa)
Sebastian <b>PRODL</b> (Aut)	(30) 21.06.87	2015 / Werder Bremen (Ger)
<b>MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Nordin <b>AMRABAT</b> (Mor)	(30) 31.03.87	2016 / Malaga (Spa)
Valon <b>BEHRAMI</b> (Swi)	(32) 19.04.85	2015 / Hamburg (Ger)
Steven <b>BERGHUIS</b> (Hol)	(25) 19.12.91	2015 / AZ (Hol)
Etienne <b>CAPOUE</b> (Fra)	(29) 11.07.88	2015 / Tottenham Hotspur
Tom <b>CLEVERLEY</b>	(27) 12.08.89	2017 / Everton
Abdoulaye <b>DOUCOURE</b> (Fra)	(24) 01.01.93	2016 / Rennes (Fra)
Will <b>HUGHES</b>	(22) 17.04.95	2017 / Derby County
Roberto <b>PEREYRA</b> (Arg)	(26) 07.01.91	2016 / Juventus (Ita)
Mario <b>SUAREZ</b> (Spa)	(30) 24.02.87	2016 / Fiorentina (Ita)
Uche Henry Agbo (Nga)	(21) 04.12.95	2016 / Udinese (Ita)
Ben <b>WATSON</b>	(32) 09.07.85	2015 / Wigan Athletic
<b>FORWARDS</b>		
Troy <b>DEENEY</b>	(29) 29.06.88	2010 / Walsall
Stefano <b>OKAKA</b> (Ita)	(27) 09.08.89	2016 / Anderlecht (Blg)
Obbi <b>OULARE</b> (Blg)	(21) 08.01.96	2015 / Club Brugge (Blg)
Adalberto <b>PENARANDA</b> (Ven)	(20) 31.05.97	2016 / Udinese (Ita)
Jerome <b>SINCLAIR</b>	(20) 20.09.96	2016 / Liverpool
Isaac <b>SUCCESS</b> (Nga)	(21) 07.01.96	2016 / Granada (Spa)
Mauro <b>ZARATE</b> (Arg)	(30) 18.03.87	2017 / Fiorentina (Ita)
<b>MANAGER</b>		
Marco <b>SILVA</b> (Por)	(40) 12.07.77	2017 / Hull City

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Has to be departed head coach, Walter Mazzarri. The football Watford played under his stewardship was attritional at best, with his side looking lost and directionless in far too many games. The language barrier meant that Mazzarri never forged any sort of relationship with the supporters.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The most notable contribution from the crowd was the adopting of a minute's applause on the 72nd minute of each game, in memory to the late, great Graham Taylor. Hornets supporters are still reeling from his untimely death. He will be sorely missed but forever remembered.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Michael Folivi has been a name on the lips of many at Vicarage Road for a few seasons now. A diminutive striker with an excellent record in Watford's various youth teams, there's a palpable feeling that he could be the real deal.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

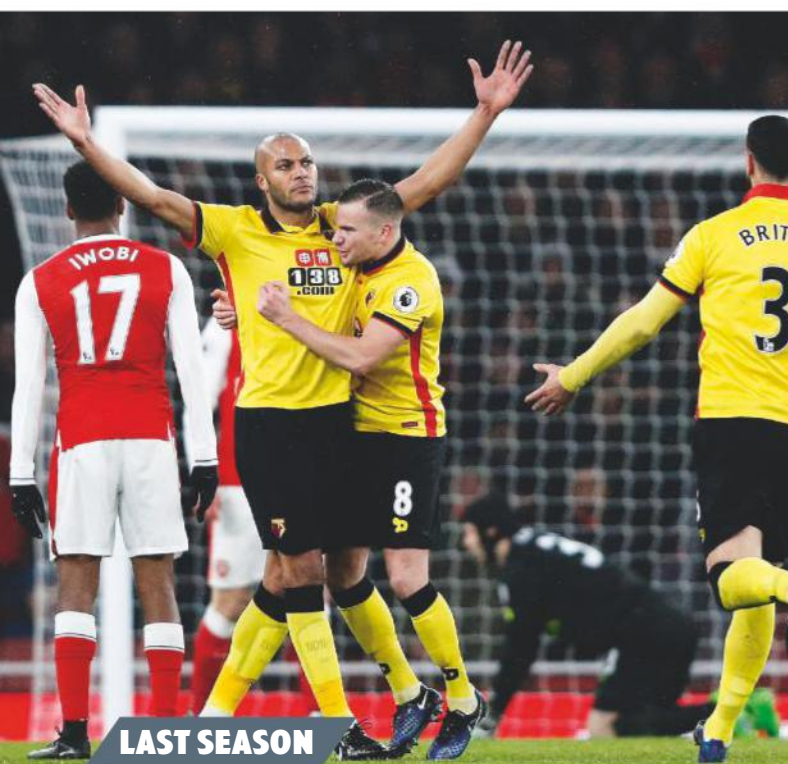
I'd like to see us record a long overdue victory against Spurs, so (more in hope than expectation) I'm looking forward to seeing what Marco Silva's team can do against Mauricio Pochettino's men.

## GAME TO DREAD

I must confess to being nervous about the games in which we play teams of a similar stature – the fixtures that we're expected to take points from. A nice little rivalry has developed with Bournemouth, so losing to them would be unpalatable, while West Bromwich Albion were a, shall we say difficult, proposition last year.



Battling...  
Etienne Capoue



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 17th // Top scorer Troy Deeney 10 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 2nd round  
Average attendance 20,571



# WEST BROMWICH



## SAFETY FIRST FROM PULIS

Last season, Tony Pulis delivered a top-10 finish, improving on the previous season's 14th place, but his safety-first approach continued to frustrate fans, especially with the Baggies suffering early exits in the cups.

An ageing squad is in need of refreshment, with veteran midfielder Darren Fletcher the first to depart the Hawthorns this summer, joining Stoke City on a free.

**Manager** Tony Pulis agreed a new contract in summer 2016.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chinese businessman Guochuan Lai bought the club from Jeremy Peace last summer in a deal reported to be between £150m and £200m, with John Williams, previously with Blackburn Rovers, replacing Peace as chairman.

**Annual wage bill** £74m (2016)  
**Annual income** £98m (2016)  
**Stadium** Hawthorns (26,768)  
**Nickname** Baggies

**Odds** 750/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

**MARK THOMAS**  
 Albion Till We Die  
[albiontillwedie.co.uk](http://albiontillwedie.co.uk)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

On the surface, a 10th-place finish



Safety...  
Tony Pulis

looks like it was a good season for the Baggies, but considering how poor we were from Christmas onwards it really should have been a lot better. The majority of fans were satisfied, however.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The two things I am hoping for the most are the addition of three or four quality players to our weak and ageing squad, and that boss Tony Pulis improves our style of play, which for most of the time is awful to watch. My fear is neither will happen.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

I think it has to be Ben Foster. On his day there is no better English goalkeeper and thankfully he had plenty of those days last season. Defender Jonny Evans deserves a mention too, with the pair head and shoulders above all of their team-mates.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Baggies boss Tony Pulis really does split opinion among the Albion faithful. He does have his fans but they seem to be a dwindling number,

## FLASHBACK

**Mar 18** Craig Dawson scores with a header in West Brom's 3-1 win at home to Arsenal.





# ALBION



## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>		
Ben <b>FOSTER</b>	(34) 03.04.83	2012 / Birmingham City
Boaz <b>MYHILL</b> (Wal)	(34) 09.11.82	2010 / Hull City
Alex <b>PALMER</b>	(20) 10.08.96	2015 / youth
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>		
Chris <b>BRUNT</b> (NI)	(32) 14.12.84	2007 / Sheffield Wednesday
Craig <b>DAWSON</b>	(27) 06.05.90	2010 / Rochdale
Jonny <b>EVANS</b> (NI)	(29) 03.01.88	2015 / Manchester United
Gareth <b>McAULEY</b> (NI)	(37) 05.12.79	2011 / Ipswich Town
Allan <b>NYOM</b> (Cam)	(29) 10.05.88	2016 / Watford
Kane <b>WILSON</b>	(17) 11.03.00	2007 / youth
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>		
Nacer <b>CHADLI</b> (Blg)	(28) 02.08.89	2016 / Tottenham Hotspur
Sam <b>FIELD</b>	(19) 08.05.98	2016 / youth
Jake <b>LIVERMORE</b>	(27) 14.11.89	2017 / Hull City
James <b>McCLEAN</b> (Rol)	(28) 22.04.89	2015 / Wigan Athletic
Callum <b>McMANAMAN</b>	(26) 25.04.91	2015 / Wigan Athletic
James <b>MORRISON</b> (Sco)	(31) 25.05.86	2007 / Middlesbrough
Matt <b>PHILLIPS</b> (Sco)	(26) 13.03.91	2016 / QPR
Claudio <b>YACOB</b> (Arg)	(30) 18.07.87	2012 / Racing (Arg)
<b>• FORWARDS</b>		
Jonathan <b>LEKO</b>	(18) 24.04.99	2015 / youth
Tyler <b>ROBERTS</b> (Wal)	(18) 12.01.99	2016 / youth
Hal <b>ROBSON-KANU</b> (Wal)	(28) 21.05.89	2016 / Reading
Jay <b>RODRIGUEZ</b>	(27) 29.07.89	2017 / Southampton
Salomon <b>RONDON</b> (Ven)	(27) 16.09.89	2015 / Zenit (Rus)
<b>• MANAGER</b>		
Tony <b>PULIS</b> (Wal)	(59) 16.01.58	2015 / Crystal Palace



Hero...  
Ben Foster

with more and more supporters now seemingly growing tired of his style of play, tactics and excuses.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Nothing really stuck in the mind to be honest. Much like the football on the pitch, it was rather a bland, uninspiring and tedious time in the stands too.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The Baggies do have a good number of quality youngsters in and around the first-team squad of whom the pick of the bunch is winger Jonathan Leko. He may need a loan move away to impress though with Tony Pulis reluctant to use the younger players.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I always look forward to the first game of the campaign. All that new season



Youngster...  
Jonathan Leko

optimism, new signings, happy fans and the sun shining. It generally goes downhill fairly quickly after that though...

### GAME TO DREAD

I'm not a fan of local derbies, I really do not like them. However, with Villa, Wolves and Birmingham all in the Championship, I can now dread all of our games equally!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES



<b>AUG 12</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	West Ham (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Watford (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Man City (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>Nov 28</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Dec 13</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Everton (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	West Ham (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Everton (a)
<b>Jan 31</b>	Man City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>May 13</b>	Crystal Palace (a)



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 10th // Top scorer Salomon Rondon 8 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round  
Average attendance 23,876



# WEST HAM UNITED



## HAMMERS SEEKING BIG NAMES

West Ham are slowly adapting to life at London Stadium. The first season at the former Olympic arena was not without its problems, with the previous season's hero, Dimitri Payet, quickly turning into a villain and

leaving in a huff for Marseille.

There was criticism of Slaven Bilic but he was backed by the owners and West Ham began the summer by chasing a number of big transfer targets. Argentinian defender Pablo Zabaleta was first to arrive, joining on a free after leaving Manchester City.

**Manager** Slaven Bilic was appointed in 2016 on a three-year contract.

**Who's the daddy?** Co-chairmen

David Gold and David Sullivan made their fortunes in the pornography industry and were previously owners of Birmingham City.

**Annual wage bill** £85m (2016)

**Annual income** £142m (2016)

**Stadium** London Stadium (57,000)

**Nickname** Hammers

**Odds** 500/1 to win Premier League

## FAN'S VIEW

ROHAN TORKILDSEN

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A hard slog, not very enjoyable and few high spots. However, in view of the implications of the new stadium, unsuccessful signings, poor form and injuries I think we did well to finish where we did.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

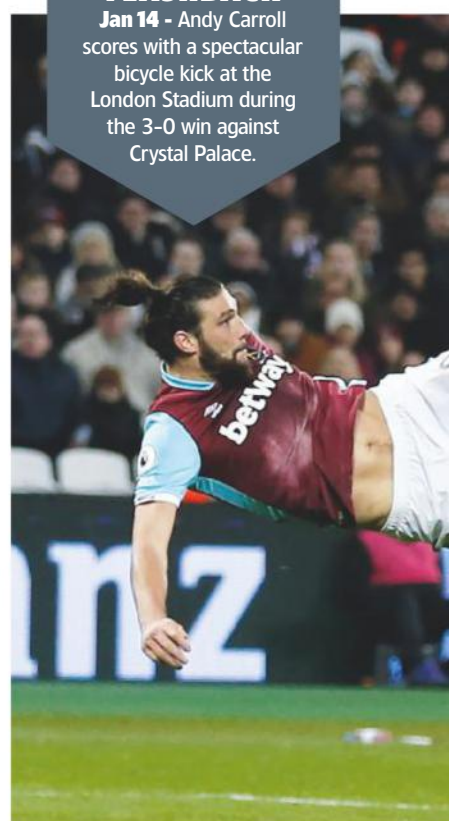
I can only hope for a more injury-free season. My fear is that the soul of the club has diminished since leaving the Boleyn..

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Michail Antonio showed real spirit

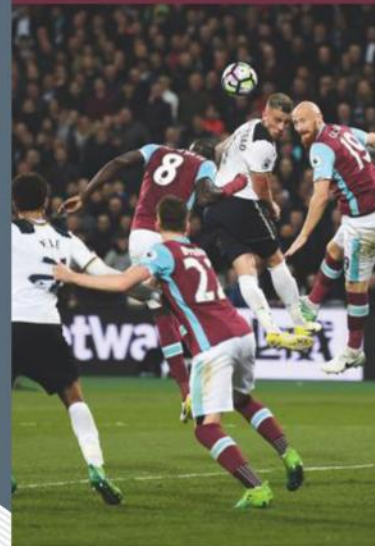
## FLASHBACK

**Jan 14** - Andy Carroll scores with a spectacular bicycle kick at the London Stadium during the 3-0 win against Crystal Palace.



Backing...  
Slaven Bilic





## THE SQUAD

Name	Age/d.o.b.	Signed/prev club	Nationality
<b>• GOALKEEPERS</b>			
ADRIAN (Spa)	(30) 03.01.87	2013 / Real Betis (Spa)	
Darren RANDOLPH (Rol)	(30) 12.05.87	2015 / Birmingham City	
<b>• DEFENDERS</b>			
Reece BURKE	(20) 02.09.96	2003 / youth	
Sam BYRAM	(23) 16.09.93	2016 / Leeds United	
James COLLINS (Wal)	(33) 23.08.83	2012 / Aston Villa	
Aaron CRESSWELL	(27) 05.12.89	2014 / Ipswich Town	
Jose FONTE (Por)	(33) 22.12.83	2017 / Southampton	
Doneil HENRY (Can)	(24) 20.04.93	2015 / Apollon (Cyp)	
Arthur MASUAKU (Fra)	(23) 07.11.93	2016 / Olympiakos (Gre)	
Angelo OGBONNA (Ita)	(29) 23.05.88	2015 / Juventus (Ita)	
Winston REID (NZ)	(29) 03.07.88	2010 / Midtjylland (Den)	
Declan RICE (Rol)	(18) 14.01.99	2014 / youth	
Pablo ZABALETA (Arg)	(32) 16.01.85	2017 / Manchester City	
<b>• MIDFIELDERS</b>			
Michail ANTONIO	(27) 28.03.90	2015 / Nottingham Forest	
Sofiane FEGHOULI (Alg)	(27) 26.12.89	2016 / Valencia (Spa)	
Edimilson FERNANDES (Swi)	(21) 15.04.96	2016 / Sion (Swi)	
Cheikhou KOUYATE (Sen)	(27) 21.12.89	2014 / Anderlecht (Blg)	
Manuel LANZINI (Arg)	(24) 15.02.93	2016 / Al Jazira (UAE)	
Mark NOBLE	(30) 08.05.87	2003 / none	
Pedro OBIANG (Spa)	(25) 27.03.92	2015 / Sampdoria (Ita)	
Domingos QUINA (Por)	(17) 18.11.99	2016 / Chelsea	
Robert SNODGRASS (Sco)	(29) 07.09.87	2017 / Hull City	
<b>• FORWARDS</b>			
Andre AYEWE (Gha)	(27) 17.12.89	2016 / Swansea City	
Andy CARROLL	(28) 06.01.89	2013 / Liverpool	
Ashley FLETCHER	(21) 02.10.95	2016 / Manchester United	
Diafro SAKHO (Sen)	(27) 24.12.89	2014 / Metz (Fra)	
Enner VALENCIA (Ecu)	(27) 04.11.89	2014 / Pachuca (Mex)	
<b>• MANAGER</b>			
Slaven BILIC (Cro)	(48) 11.09.68	2015 / Besiktas (Tur)	



Huff...  
Dimitri Payet

and boundless enthusiasm, despite frequently being played out of position. Lanzini was great and most players had their moments.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

It would be easy to opt for Payet, but I think the operators of the London Stadium edge it for me. Corporate self-interest in a microcosm of football as a whole.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The Lanzini song to Rufus and Chaka Khan's "Ain't Nobody", or maybe "Tottenham Hotspur – it's happening again!"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The club sends them off too readily on loan for my liking, but either Fernandes, Quina or Declan Rice look the most likely to make a name for themselves.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The surprise 4-1 away win at Arsenal.

### GAME TO DREAD

Manchester City.



Spirit...  
Michail Antonio



## LAST SEASON

Premier League 11th // Top scorer Michail Antonio 9 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup Quarter-finals  
Average attendance 56,970

<b>AUG 12</b>	Man United (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Southampton (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Newcastle (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Huddersfield (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	West Brom (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Tottenham (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Swansea City (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Burnley (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Brighton (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Crystal Palace (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Liverpool (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Watford (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Leicester City (h)
<b>Nov 29</b>	Everton (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Man City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Chelsea (h)
<b>Dec 12</b>	Arsenal (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Stoke City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Newcastle (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Bournemouth (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Tottenham (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	West Brom (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Huddersfield (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Bournemouth (h)
<b>Jan 30</b>	Crystal Palace (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Brighton (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Watford (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Liverpool (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Swansea City (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Burnley (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Man United (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Southampton (h)
<b>APR 7</b>	Chelsea (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Stoke City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Arsenal (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Man City (h)
<b>MAY 5</b>	Leicester City (a)
<b>May 13</b>	Everton (h)



# ASTON VILLA



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Preston (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Millwall (a)

## VILLA PLOT PREMIER LEAGUE RETURN

After a difficult first season back in the second tier, Villa are the bookies' favourites to win promotion to the Premier League.

Villa have all the ingredients – an experienced manager, talented players and enthusiastic fans – to make that happen.

But there are many examples – Wolves, Forest, Derby – of big clubs who have struggled to recapture former glories.



Rolling contract... Steve Bruce

**Manager** Steve Bruce replaced Roberto Di Matteo in October last year on a rolling contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chinese businessman Tony Xie bought the club from American Randy Lerner for a reported £76m last year.

**Stadium** Villa Park (42,660)  
**Nickname** Villains  
**Odds** 5/2 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

JONATHAN FEAR  
Vital Villa

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Bang average. There is no excuse with the expensively assembled players we have, and the wages that they take, that so many went missing at crucial times. We should have made the play-offs and actually, without the goals from Kodjia...gulp.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The fear is we don't hit the ground running and have another average season. Aston Villa is set up as a Premiership club – the size, the stadium, the fan base – and if we don't get up this time we could be stuck in the Football League a long time. Hopes? Our players realise how lucky they are: turn up and turn it on. They should be playing with swagger and entertaining this amazing fanbase.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

The 12th man. We sold out pretty

much everywhere on the road and had great attendances at Villa Park considering we were so average. Plus Jonathan Kodjia for his goals.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

I just can't abide our long-standing striker [Gabby Agbonlahor], he turned it on for one game (v Blues) and that was it. But collectively too many went into hiding and that is not good enough.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

It wasn't so much the best chant or song, it was the fact we bossed the league, attendance and noise-wise. Plenty of opposition fans were posting on social media that we were the loudest and best they'd seen visit. It's an incredible supporter base for a club that has had so little success in recent years.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Andre Green. Trust me. The least hyped of our youth products and he will be our best. The lad is so exciting.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Each and every one. I love it, I live it!

### GAME TO DREAD

Unlike many Villa fans, I am not always a massive fan of the local derby because of the off-field issues. I sort of love it and hate it.

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 13th // **Top scorer** Jonathan Kodjia 19 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 1st round  
**Average attendance** 32,107



Hero... Jonathan Kodjia



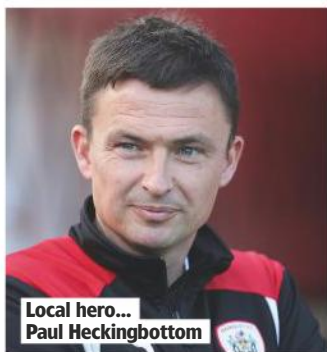
# BARNLSLEY



2017-18 FIXTURES

## TYKES BATTLE AGAINST THE ODDS

The Tykes' return to the Championship last year was threatened by the departures of striker Sam Winnall (Wednesday) and captain Conor Hourihane (Villa) in January, but hopes are high that Paul Heckingbottom can continue to achieve success against the odds.



Local hero... Paul Heckingbottom

**Manager** Barnsley-born Paul Heckingbottom was confirmed as permanent manager in summer 2016 after two spells as caretaker.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Maurice Watkins was previously a director of Manchester United.

**Stadium** Oakwell (23,009)  
**Nickname** Tykes

## LAST SEASON

Championship 14th // Top scorer Sam Winnall 11 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round  
Average attendance 13,857

Odds 33/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

IAN WILKINSON  
onthepontyend.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Overall it has to be considered a success. The January transfer window had definitely "wobbled the ship", and at times seemed to snatch a good season from something that could have been remarkable.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The play-offs are still an ambitious target for a club of our stature, but could be achieved with our talented head coach and team. However, the cynic at Oakwell always believes that worse weather is around the corner. We remain susceptible to every club who can offer improved personal terms to our gems and increase our club's operating coffers. That is the reality. But our success against this backdrop is always sweeter.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Conor Hourihane. This man was the ultimate ambassador for Barnsley Football Club, not only on the pitch, but also in his capacities as club captain and within our community. Personally, I'm 98 to 100 per cent sure that Dr Tony Xia at Villa will never appreciate and love this man the way that Reds supporters will.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Sam Winnall. This man lacked class. While in the past there has been "traffic" between Barnsley and Sheffield Wednesday (more often in the reverse direction), when the "big club" came knocking, Sam and his agent didn't even have the decency to prevent a leak on Twitter which revealed the transfer and the sharing of their inflated financial glee.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Marley Watkins Baby" or "Here's to you Conor Hourihane".

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Sessi D'Almeida originally joined the Reds from Paris Saint-Germain B in summer 2016. Sadly missing in his first season after tearing knee ligaments. A powerful and energetic defensive midfielder, he could be just the man to replace Josh Scowen.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The derbies are always big occasions. Perhaps if I had to select one, it would be the game against a resurgent Sheffield United (away) on August 19. It will be a real test to see if we are now an established Championship team.

### GAME TO DREAD

Fulham (away). They murdered us last season, at home and away.

<b>AUG 5</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Ipswich (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Reading (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Derby County (a)



Villain... Sam Winnall



# BIRMINGHAM CITY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Reading (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	QPR (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Fulham (h)

## HEADY TIMES AHEAD WITH HARRY?

Interesting times lie ahead for the blue half of Birmingham. Fresh from saving the club from relegation after being parachuted in for the final few games of last season, Harry Redknapp has decided to stick around for the whole of this season.

Several deals are in the pipeline, with former favourite Craig Gardner rejoining the club from West Brom and keeper David Stockdale moving from Brighton.



Relegation escape... Harry Redknapp

**Manager** Harry Redknapp was the surprise choice to replace Gianfranco Zola in April. He agreed a one-year contract this summer.

**Who's the Daddy?** Panos Pavlakis, who ran the club on behalf of owners Trillion Trophy Asia, stepped down as a director in May.

**Stadium** St Andrews (30,016)

**Nickname** Blues

**Odds** 6/1 to win promotion

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 19th // **Top scorer** Lukas Jutkiewicz 12 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 1st round  
**Average attendance** 18,717

## FAN'S VIEW

ROB WILDEY  
 Vital Birmingham

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A big disappointment. We looked to be challenging for the play-offs until the club pressed the self-destruct button and replaced Gary Rowett with Gianfranco Zola. In the end, it was a relief to stay up - thanks to Harry Redknapp.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

If Redknapp can build a decent team, the expectation must be to at least challenge for the top six. The Championship is a difficult league in which Birmingham City could end up anywhere between 1st and 24th. The fans have embraced Redknapp though and the hope has returned to the blue half of the second city.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Harry Redknapp. It may be premature to label him a hero but he saved us from inevitable relegation to League One.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Panos Pavlakis and Gianfranco Zola. I feel harsh writing that as Pavlakis dictated the takeover which saved the club from the previous regime. But the biggest decision he made last season was to sack Rowett and hire

Zola - it backfired and almost cost the club dearly. Zola was a very likeable man but was severely lacking in the most basic of managerial nous.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Blues fans were very patient with Zola under trying circumstances. But the Easter weekend was the final straw - the fans finally turned on the Italian. At Rotherham and against Burton at home, "We want Zola out" was the theme of the afternoon. An hour after the Burton game, he was gone. It was important that the fans let Zola know that they had lost patience before it was too late.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

In previous years I have been the curse of the youngsters, so I am reluctant to say, but it'll be interesting to see Josh Dacres-Cogley continue his development under an experienced manager.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The derbies against Villa (our record against them in recent years is terrible - surely a win is due) and seeing if Redknapp can push the club on to the next level.

### GAME TO DREAD

The derbies against Villa, for the reasons stated above. And any game that Sky Sports decides to rearrange to the most inconvenient of times.



Youngster... Josh Dacres-Cogley



# BOLTON



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 6</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Sheffield Weds (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Nottm Forest (h)

## BOUNCING BACK UNDER PARKINSON

Bolton are back in the second tier of English football after just one year away, having bounced back under the strong leadership of manager Phil Parkinson.

This summer they have signed experience in the form of full-back Andrew Taylor (Wigan), striker Adam Le Fondre (permanent deal) and right-back Mark Little (Bristol City).

**Manager** Former Colchester, Charlton and Bradford boss Phil Parkinson agreed a two-year contract in summer 2016.



Recovery... Phil Parkinson

### Who's the Daddy?

The Sports Shield consortium, owned by Ken Anderson, bought the controlling share of previous owner Eddie Davies in 2016, with Davies writing off the club's extensive debts.

## LAST SEASON

**League One** 2nd // **Top scorer** Gary Madine 10, Josh Vela 10 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 1st round  
**Average attendance** 14,934

**Stadium** Macron (28,723)  
**Nickname** Trotters  
**Odds** 33/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

CHRIS MANN  
Burnden Aces

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Dropping into League One was a hammer blow, especially in the manner we did, but seeing the club bounce back so well rejuvenated a previously demoralised fan base. Off-field issues continue to be a source of frustration, but 2016-17 was a huge success on the field and there is now renewed optimism under the management of Phil Parkinson.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Surely Bolton can't be as bad as they were in their last Championship campaign. A winning mentality is back at Macron Stadium for the first time since our Premier League days but the only hope is to avoid the drop - anything after that would be a bonus given where we've come from.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Released after five injury-hit years at the club, David Wheater returned on trial and ultimately signed a one-year contract on vastly reduced terms. He put his injury woes behind him, making 49 appearances and scoring an incredible nine goals.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

How can you pick a villain from a team that finished second in the league? A big disappointment was James Henry, who spent the campaign on loan from Wolves.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Our response to conceding a goal at Fleetwood Town in March. Their connection to the shores is well-known, with their nickname being the Cod Army, but playing the theme tune from Captain Pugwash was greeted with the ironic laughter it deserved.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

England under-18 goalkeeper Jake Turner is possibly our biggest prospect and could be in for a very bright 12 months.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

No disrespect to some of the teams we played last season, but midweek games against the likes of Bristol Rovers and Gillingham just don't have the same feel as Aston Villa and Sunderland.

### GAME TO DREAD

Other than Preston North End, who neither set of supporters would list as rivals, we have no derby matches following the relegations of Blackburn Rovers and Wigan Athletic.



Hero... David Wheater



# BRENTFORD



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	QPR (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Hull City (h)

## BEES EYEING STABILITY

Brentford continue to move and shake in the transfer market, bringing in lower-league players who can be sold for a profit. But the club are also seeking more stability as they establish themselves in the Championship.

Spanish striker Jota has agreed a deal to stay on until summer 2018.

**Manager** Former Walsall boss Dean Smith has been head coach since November 2015.

**Who's the Daddy?** Professional gambler Matthew Benham also owns Danish club Midtjylland.

**Stadium** Griffin Park (12,573)

**Nickname** Bees

**Odds** 9/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

**BILL GRANT (@BillyTheBee99)**  
Beesotted (@Beesotted)

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Our fourth consecutive season in the Championship approaches and at no time have we looked like being relegated. For Brentford fans that says it all. Scott Hogan was scoring for fun and people thought that our season would collapse when he left

for Aston Villa in January. When he went, we were even better – scoring the second-highest number of goals in the Championship in 2017. If we had started the way we finished, we would have easily made the play-offs.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My biggest hope is we can come out of the summer window with the squad intact while buying the three key players who will make us real candidates for promotion: striker, defensive midfielder and one more.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

If I had to give it to one person, I would give it to captain Harlee



Captain... Harlee Dean

Dean has really come of age and showed real leadership quality in the centre of defence.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

It has to be Sky TV for moving the

Newcastle game from a Saturday to Monday knowing the date would be moved back to the Saturday at a mere seven days notice if either Newcastle or Brentford were involved in an FA Cup replay. Needless to say, Newcastle drew with Birmingham in the cup. A lot of return train tickets and hotel rooms went to waste.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Jota had a song penned to the tune of "The Logical Song" by Supertramp: "Oh his name is Jota. Oh he is so wonderful. He scores a goal. Oh he's beautiful, magical, magical. When he runs down the wing...he's as fast as lightning...it's frightening. And he makes all the boys sing...do do do do do do do do do do."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Brentford had the youngest average age squad in the Championship last season – 23 years – making it hard to choose one youngster. England under-20 international Rico Henry (19), Tom Field (20) and Sergi Canos (20) are all great young prospects.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

We play Sheffield United away first game of the season. Brilliant awayday is Sheffield. Fulham away in April is always lively. But the designated BG (big game) is at Sunderland in February, although it could be scuppered by the FA Cup 5th round on the same day.

## LAST SEASON

**Championship 10th // Top scorer** Lasse Vibe 15 // **FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 1st round**  
**Average attendance** 10,491



Head coach... Dean Smith



# BRISTOL CITY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Birmingham (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Wolves(h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	QPR (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Sheffield United (h)

## LIFE AFTER ABRAHAM?

In their second campaign back in the Championship, City flirted with relegation but did enough to beat the drop. They were grateful for the goals of Tammy Abraham, but the youngster has headed back to parent club Chelsea, with City breaking their transfer record to sign Senegal striker Famara Diedhiou for £5.3m from Angers as his replacement.

**Manager** Lee Johnson has been in charge since February 2016.



Gaffer...  
Lee Johnson

**Who's the Daddy?** Local businessman Steve Lansdown is a billionaire who also owns Bristol Rugby club.

**Stadium** Ashton Gate (16,600)  
**Nickname** Robins  
**Odds** 11/1 to be promoted

## LAST SEASON

Championship 17th // Top scorer Tammy Abraham 23 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 2nd round  
Average attendance 19,256

## FAN'S VIEW

PAUL BINNING  
The Exiled Robin

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Less than middling, overall. A fantastic, exciting start, a truly miserable, dreadful middle, then a decent recovery to end. We showed we can compete with the best teams home or away, but also showed we're capable of going on long, losing runs without scoring goals.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

A solid top-half finish would be the limit of ambition, especially given the money other clubs will be spending. If we can consistently eradicate the defensive slips and bring in a couple of extra truly quality players then we could have a sniff of the play-offs. However, as last season showed it's a really tough division, so if we lose a key player or two, we could struggle.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Tammy Abraham without a shadow of a doubt. The teenager led the line, scored our goals and finished the season as our on-field motivator too. He came as a lanky, slightly weak, string of a boy, and left a stronger, established man who can lead a line with confidence. A star of the future.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

At one point around 95 per cent of

the fan base wanted Lee Johnson sacked, and many still do, so it's got to be him. A chirpy character, he's a great TV and radio option when things are going well, but many still point at his inexperience and question if he's up to managing at this level.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Signing Matty Taylor from rivals Bristol Rovers – their top scorer for three years in a row – for just £300,000 gave us some of our best moments of the season (which says a lot about the rest) and the songs that followed were suitably mocking and abusive.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Irish international winger Callum O'Dowda grew in stature during last season and could play a big role, while Josh Brownhill has put in some excellent midfield performances.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

We haven't played at the Stadium of Light for 20 years so I guess that will be the trip many fans look out for – and hopefully a weekend in Newcastle to boot.

### GAME TO DREAD

Personally for me it's the Cardiff games. I live that side of the Severn Bridge and we've got a dreadful record against them recently. We haven't played Millwall in a while either so that could be tasty.



Signing...  
Matty Taylor



# BURTON ALBION



2017-18 FIXTURES

- AUG 5** Cardiff City (h)
- Aug 12** Hull City (a)
- Aug 15** Middlesbrough (a)
- Aug 19** Birmingham City (h)
- Aug 26** Sheffield Wed (h)
- SEP 9** Leeds United (a)
- Sep 12** Norwich City (a)
- Sep 16** Fulham (h)
- Sep 23** QPR (a)
- Sep 26** Aston Villa (h)
- Sep 30 Wolves (h)
- OCT 14** Bristol City (a)
- Oct 21** Nottm Forest (a)
- Oct 28** Ipswich Town (h)
- Oct 31** Barnsley (h)
- NOV 4** Millwall (a)
- Nov 18** Sheffield United (h)
- Nov 21** Brentford (a)
- Nov 25** Sunderland (h)
- DEC 2** Derby County (a)
- Dec 9** Preston (h)
- Dec 16** Bolton (a)
- Dec 23** Reading (a)
- Dec 26** Leeds United (h)
- Dec 30** Norwich City (h)
- JAN 1** Sheffield Wed (a)
- Jan 13** QPR (h)
- Jan 20** Fulham (a)
- Jan 27** Reading (h)
- FEB 3** Aston Villa (a)
- Feb 10** Ipswich Town (a)
- Feb 17** Nottm Forest (h)
- Feb 20** Barnsley (a)
- Feb 24** Millwall (h)
- MAR 3** Sheffield United (a)
- Mar 6** Brentford (h)
- Mar 10** Bristol City (h)
- Mar 17** Wolves (a)
- Mar 31** Cardiff City (a)
- APR 2** Middlesbrough (h)
- Apr 7** Birmingham City (a)
- Apr 10** Hull City (h)
- Apr 14** Derby County (h)
- Apr 21** Sunderland (a)
- Apr 28** Bolton (h)
- MAY 6** Preston (a)

## ALBION CONTINUE TO DEFY THE CRITICS

Burton's incredible rise through the divisions continues. Eight years after the promotion to the Football League, Nigel Clough's side ended their historic first season in the second tier safe from relegation after a campaign in which they again confounded the critics.

This season, Clough plans to stick with the same nucleus of players but



Second spell... Nigel Clough

has added Northern Ireland international striker Liam Boyce, the top scorer in last year's Scottish Premiership with 23 goals for Ross County, signed for a club record fee, believed to be £500,000.

**Manager** Former Sheffield United and Derby boss Nigel Clough returned

for a second spell in December 2015 and was linked with a move to Nottingham Forest in January.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Ben Robinson has been on the Albion board since the 1970s and has overseen the club's incredible rise through the divisions.

**Stadium** Pirelli (6,912)  
**Nickname** Brewers  
**Odds** 40/1 to win promotion

### FAN'S VIEW LIAM EATON Burton Albion Supporters FC

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

Phenomenal! It's a true testament to how well run we actually are as a football club and hopefully another sign of things to come as we continue to progress.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My hopes are to remain in the Championship for another year, but I do fear that a few teams may have sussed us out now and it could potentially be even tougher than last season.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Michael Kightly had such a dramatic impact and just had that little bit of magic every now and again that could turn a game on its head.



Youngster... Marcus Dinanga

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

I think there were a lot of villains last season, pretty much everybody that said we'd go straight back down and didn't "deserve" to be in the Championship.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Sung to any away crowd droning on about how small we are. "How shit must you be, it's Burton away!"

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Marcus Dinanga banged the goals in last year for Matlock Town. Hopefully he'll get a chance at playing in a higher division this season.

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm most looking forward to Derby County away, especially as it's on a Saturday afternoon this time!

#### GAME TO DREAD

Millwall away - because who actually likes going to Millwall?

## LAST SEASON

Championship 20th // Top scorer Jackson Irvine 10 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round  
Average attendance 5,227



Excited...Derby



# CARDIFF CITY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	QPR (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Preston (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Leeds (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Reading (h)

## THINKING BIG WITH WARNOCK

Cardiff's form was turned around in dramatic style by Neil Warnock after the veteran boss arrived in October and they now have realistic hopes of involvement in a promotion battle. A new contract was agreed for defender Bruno Ecuele Manga while veteran midfielder Peter Whittingham left the club.

**Manager** Neil Warnock signed a contract extension to stay until the end of the 2017-18 season.

**Who's the Daddy?** Controversial Malaysian businessman Vincent Tan also owns Bosnian club FK Sarajevo and Belgians KV Kortrijk.

**Stadium** Cardiff City (33,280)

**Nickname** Bluebirds

**Odds** 9/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

MICHAEL MORRIS  
cardiffcity-mad.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A two-part season. After 11 games the club was hurtling towards League One and boss Paul Trollope was in free fall. But then he was dismissed, Neil Warnock came in and the club

rallied and finished top half.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope we are top six at the very least. We now have a proven manager at this level who is looking for one final promotion before his retirement. Things should be positive going forward. At this moment we should have nothing to fear.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

The manager, Neil Warnock. He turned around a disastrous start



Flunked... Lex Immers

to the season and completed the campaign in play-off form. He's brought a new level of hope and comradeship. People are now interested in Cardiff City again.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Lex Immers. At the end the 2015-16 season he was on loan and was putting in performances that were good enough to earn him a permanent contract. But once that was signed he flunked. He dropped

out of first team contention and left the club. Very disappointing.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We are not great with creative chants. Many of the players have a song but they are to tunes that you hear at all grounds. Now that he's been transferred, we will miss: "He does what he wants, he does what he wants, Peter Whittingham, he does what he wants".

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Kenneth Zohore. After a very average start he came through last season showing power, pace and goals. I'm hoping he pushes on this season to be one of the leading strikers in the division

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The opening day. Burton away. On a terrace behind the goal. Nice compact ground and full of hope for the new season.

### GAME TO DREAD

I don't dread any game unless there was one that could get us relegated. Some can be a little bit uncomfortable like Bristol City and Leeds. Cardiff fans have mellowed a lot but games like these can bring tension and more of an edge between supporters. Already the Bristol City away game is an early kick off on police advice.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 12th // Top scorer Kenneth Zohore 12 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 16,564



Veteran... Neil Warnock



# DERBY COUNTY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 4</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Reading (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Barnsley (h)

## ROWETT TO THE RESCUE?

Last season was chaotic for County. Former Leicester City boss Nigel Pearson was sacked after less than five months in charge and replaced by Steve McClaren, 17 months after he himself had been fired.

McClaren's second spell lasted just until March but he departed after a run of one win in nine games, to be replaced by Gary Rowett, who had been unlucky to be sacked by Birmingham earlier in the season.

Rowett must make do without Will Hughes, sold to Watford, but has reinforced his defence with Andre Wisdom (Liverpool) and Curtis Davies (Hull City).

**Manager** Gary Rowett is County's fifth permanent manager in less than two years.



High hopes... Gary Rowett

**Who's the Daddy?** Mel Morris made his fortune from computer games and has been criticised for his trigger-happy attitude to managers.

**Stadium** Pride Park (33,597)  
**Nickname** Rams  
**Odds** 7/2 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

CHRIS SMITH  
 ramspace.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Owner Mel Morris described it as "a disaster". With the Nigel Pearson debacle, the Steve McClaren fiasco, the farcical Chris Martin saga and the team generally going backwards, it's tough to disagree with that assessment.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

With the resources at our disposal, by a pure law of averages, somebody at some point will get it right and we will finally make it back to the Premier League. My hope is that man is Gary Rowett, my fear is he doesn't make it to Christmas!

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Although Scott Carson swept the board in the end-of-season player-of-the-year awards, I would say Tom Ince. Despite the Rams being in an almost constant state of flux, Ince was remarkably consistent and with an all new work ethic to add to his undoubted quality, had a cracking season. Will be in the Premier League next season, having joined Huddersfield.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Overall I'd say Nigel Pearson. Trying to implement a new system and style without signing a single player to support it before deadline day was madness. Not surprisingly, it didn't work out but also killed our season before it started.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Couple of contenders here. The Abdoul Camara song ("We found him in Calais by the side of the road in a Vauxhall Zaphira") was good for a time, there was also the highly repetitive but fun Steve McClaren & Powell chant, but my favourite was when 3-0 up against Forest on 60 minutes: "It's happening again, it's happening again, Nottingham Forest, it's happening again."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

I call Max Lowe every year and he did finally break through last season. If he can stay fit, he could be a regular at left-back this time around.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Forest, Villa and Sheffield Wednesday are the obvious standouts. It will be great to have Sheffield United back on the fixture list.

### GAME TO DREAD

Norwich away is a personal dread, we always get hammered there.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 9th // Top scorer Tom Ince 14 // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 3rd round  
 Average attendance 29,042



Quality... Tom Ince



# FULHAM



## JOKANOVIC TURNS THE TIDE

Fulham earned plaudits for their attacking football last season. Slavisa Jokanovic turned around the fortunes of a team that were 18th in the table when he arrived in 2015 and staring at a relegation battle.

The Cottagers were joint top scorers (with Newcastle and Norwich) and had the best goal difference after Newcastle and Brighton. They had the most shots (711), the highest possession (62 per cent) and the most accurate passes (83 per cent) but they suffered from inconsistency, losing key games that ultimately cost them dear.



Impact... Slavisa Jokanovic

**Manager** Former Chelsea and Serbia midfielder Slavisa Jokanovic was appointed in December 2015, replacing Kit Symons.

**Who's the Daddy?** American billionaire Shahid Khan paid Mohamed Al Fayed a reported £180m for the club in 2013. He also owns American NFL side the Jacksonville Jaguars.

**Stadium** Craven Cottage (15,700)

**Nickname** Cottagers

**Odds** 5/2 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

DAVID PRESTON

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Brilliant (apart from the play-offs). We overachieved.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping that the chairman backs the manager with some transfer funds and we go up as champions. Fearful that the chairman doesn't back the manager with transfer funds and the manager leaves.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Slavisa Jokanovic.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Chris Martin - thankfully back on the train to Derby.



Youngster... Ryan Sessegnon

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Slavisa, wwhooooaa. He comes from Serbia, he'll f\*\*kin murder ya."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The Sessegnon twins, Ryan and Stephane.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

All of them, but mainly Reading. We owe them for last season.

### GAME TO DREAD

All of them.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	QPR (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Birmingham City (a)



Villain... Chris Martin

## LAST SEASON

Championship 6th // Top scorer Tom Cairney 13 // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 19,198



# HULL CITY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Brentford (a)

## SILVA GOES, SLUTSKY IN

Hull are preparing for life back in the Championship without Marco Silva, who quit after narrowly failing to pull off a miracle escape from relegation.

The appointment of Russian Leonid Slutsky to replace Silva was a surprise and the new man faces a challenge to keep hold of players: Harry Maguire was sold to Leicester while Curtis Davies moved to Derby.

**Manager** Former CSKA Moscow boss Leonid Slutsky agreed a two-year deal this summer.

**Who's the Daddy?** The Allam family remain in charge of the club, despite their attempts to sell up.



Surprise... Leonid Slutsky

**Stadium** KCOM (25,450)  
**Nickname** Tigers  
**Odds** 11/2 to win promotion

### FAN'S VIEW

IAN WATERSON  
City Independent  
cityindependent.net

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

The most ill-prepared promotion to the Premier League in living memory, utterly compounded by incompetent owners hell bent on maintaining their vindictive nature against the fans. When you know you're already relegated in July, it was an unmitigated disaster from start to finish – and the blame lays squarely at boardroom level.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is the club finally gets some desperately needed new owners who actually have the commitment to fulfil the potential at Hull City. The fear is the club continues in its purgatory state of flux and the Allams continue with their vice-like grip on a club they claim they don't even want.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Marco Silva's appointment as manager in January was a leftfield appointment for all manner of reasons, but he provided a glimmer of hope when there was absolutely none. He allowed us to be relegated

with a modicum of dignity – and in all honesty – stole the fans' hearts.

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Yet again – for the third season running now, is it? – the Allams. For goodness sake, just go, like you stated you would "within 24 hours". Your words, not ours, three-and-a-half years ago. They're killing our club.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

With Hull appointed UK City of Culture, "City of Culture, we know what we are!" got plenty of airings, along with "You've only come for the culture" and "City of Culture, you'll never sing that!"

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

There was promising left-back Josh Tymon who is only 18 but is now in the Premier League with Stoke City, thanks to the total mismanagement of his contract.

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The Allams' final game, just like they triumphantly claimed in their programme notes last season that the Manchester United game was supposed to be their last match in charge. If only...

#### GAME TO DREAD

While the Allams remain... all of them.

## LAST SEASON

**Premier League** 18th // **Top scorer** Robert Snodgrass 9 // **FA Cup** 4th round // **League Cup** Semi-finals  
**Average attendance** 20,761



Relegated... Oumar Niasse



# IPSWICH TOWN



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Preston (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Reading (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Middlesbrough (h)

## FRUSTRATION MOUNTING AT PORTMAN RD

These are frustrating times at Portman Road. Ipswich failed to get close to the play-off places last season, with manager Mick McCarthy insisting he won't walk away from the job despite criticism from fans and a lack of cash to improve matters. Joe Garner from Rangers was Town's deal of the summer.

**Manager** Former Sunderland boss Mick McCarthy took charge in November 2012. Last year he agreed a contract extension until 2018

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Marcus Evans is a controversial figure



Frustrated... Mick McCarthy

in the sports hospitality business and has been described as the "world's biggest ticket tout".

**Stadium** Portman Road (30,311)  
**Nickname** Tractor Boys  
**Odds** 20/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

PHIL HAM  
 Editor, TWTD.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Thoroughly underwhelming and fractious. Having finished sixth and seventh in the previous two seasons, Town never looked like challenging for the play-offs this time around leading to frustrations with manager Mick McCarthy and owner Marcus Evans to be made clear from the terraces. An embarrassing live-on-national TV FA Cup exit at the hands of then-non-league Lincoln City added to the woe.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

A play-off finish is the only realistic target. Given the much bigger money available to so many other clubs, that would be significantly overachieving budget-to-league position-wise. The biggest fear is the Blues, who were 16th last season, five points off the bottom three, underachieve to what would be a lesser extent and go down.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Keeper Bartosz Bialkowski carried off most of the player of the year awards for the second season running in a series of landslides which would turn Theresa May green with envy. Tom Lawrence, who spent the year on loan from Leicester, netted 11 goals and was the other standout performer.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

To many fans it was a toss-up between boss Mick McCarthy – for the lack of on-field success and functional football not in keeping with the club's traditions – and owner Marcus Evans for the lack of cash made available to his manager.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Nothing really stands out on that front. It was that kind of season.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Quite a number are on the way through but Andre Dozzell, the son of former Blue Jason, is probably the most notable. The team's overall lack of form has not been conducive to bleeding youngsters but after turning 18 over the summer, the England under-19 international should make more of a mark in 2017-18.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The derbies with Norwich City are the obvious highlights. Last season's games both ended 1-1 and Town haven't claimed local bragging rights since a 3-2 win at Portman Road in April 2009 which all but relegated the Canaries to League One. A Blues' victory is well overdue.

### GAME TO DREAD

For just the same reasons, those derbies.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 16th // Top scorer Tom Lawrence 11 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round  
 Average attendance 16,980



Derby clash... Norwich



# LEEDS UNITED



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 6</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	QPR (h)

## NEW OWNER, NEW ERA

It's been all change at Elland Road this summer. Last season, Leeds almost made the play-offs under Garry Monk despite the chaotic mismanagement of owner Massimo Cellini.

Now both men have gone, with new owner Andrea Radrizzani appointing Middlesbrough's former head of recruitment Victor Orta as director of football and ex-APOEL Nicosia coach Thomas Christiansen as coach.



New boss...  
Thomas Christiansen

**Manager** Thomas Christiansen agreed a two-year contract in June.

**Who's the Daddy?** Italian investor Andrea Radrizzani completed his buyout of former owner Massimo Cellini in May.

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 7th // **Top scorer** Chris Wood 27 // **FA Cup** 4th round // **League Cup** Quarter-finals  
**Average attendance** 27,697

**Stadium** Elland Road (37,890)  
**Nickname** Whites  
**Odds** 6/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

MARCHING ON TOGETHER  
motforum.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A ray of hope, after a decade of dross. Monk got us organised, and although it wasn't always pretty, it was effective for most of the season. We ran out of steam at the finish due to a lack of support in the January transfer window (thanks, Massimo), and some rumblings that all was not well between Monk and the players.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We have a new owner, a new manager, a new management structure, and some new players. On the plus side we now own Elland Road after 13 years. Time will tell whether Christiansen will have the right stuff to manage in a tough league, and whether the European director-of-football model will work. Buying back the stadium has got the whole fan base buzzing, and we are starting to act like a proper football club again.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

There were two really, Chris Wood and Pontus Jansson. Everything about both players in terms of

incredible ability and attitude on and off the pitch made them automatic fan favourites, also our best two players by some distance.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Charlie Taylor. A promising young player with a great career ahead of him but badly advised by his agent and refused to play in a bid to engineer a move away and has joined Burnley.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Pontus Jansson's magic, he wears a magic hat and when you throw a brick at him. He'll head the \*\*\*\*\* back. He heads it to the left, he heads it to the right, and when we win the championship we'll sing this song all night"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Ronaldo Vieira. Big name to live up to but he impressed last year with his incredible tackling ability and engine, crucial at times for us last season. He also bagged the winning penalty for England under-20s against Ivory Coast in the final of the Toulon Tournament this summer.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Boro...but only if we win.

### GAME TO DREAD

Millwall away. They don't like us much.



Upended...  
Gaetano Berardi



# MIDDLESBROUGH



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Preston (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Ipswich Town (a)

## PINNING THEIR HOPES ON MONK

Middlesbrough are hoping that Garry Monk can lead an immediate return to the Premier League after he was appointed as the long-term successor to Aitor Karanka. Monk will oversee an overhaul of the Boro squad. Already some senior figures have departed: keepers Brad Guzan and Victor Valdes and Stewart Downing have been released, while striker Alvaro Negredo returned to Spain at the end of his loan spell.

**Manager** Former Swansea boss Garry Monk joined Boro this summer after abruptly leaving Leeds.



New boss... Garry Monk

**Who's the Daddy?** Steve Gibson has invested large chunks of his fortune in his home-town club since 1994.

**Stadium** Riverside (34,742)  
**Nickname** Boro  
**Odds** 11/4 to win promotion

## LAST SEASON

**Premier League** 19th // **Top scorer** Alvaro Negredo 10 // **FA Cup** 6th round // **League Cup** 2nd round  
**Average attendance** 30,449

## FAN'S VIEW

ROBERT NICHOLS  
 Fly Me To The Moon (30th season)  
 fmttm.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A nightmare. After waiting seven years to return to the top flight we had a quite disastrous campaign, only recording five wins and scoring a meagre 27 goals. What a let down, especially as we were in a strong position halfway through but we threw it all away.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope has to be we can bounce back at the first attempt. Burnley did it, Newcastle did it. The fear is we get stuck again and as we know to our cost in the past it gets more and more difficult the longer you stay in the Championship. We need to take advantage of our financial position and new manager Garry Monk's experience and vision.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Ben Gibson. He stepped up to the challenge of the Premier League and marched on into Gareth Southgate's England squad.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Gaston Ramirez. He was absolutely vital to our cause but downed tools and played a big part in sending us down.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Attack Attack Attack" apparently infuriated Aitor Karanka and led to him turning on his own (astonished) fans. Chants and applause for Ugo Ehiogu after his untimely death were very moving indeed.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We hardly played any youngsters under Karanka. We are hoping that England Under-20 World Cup squad members Dael Fry and Harry Chapman get a chance to shine. Garry Monk has certainly indicated the door is open.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Wolves, August 5, the big kick-off. Am looking forward to seeing first hand the impact new manager Garry Monk and new players can have on our squad to turn the club around. After a disastrous season I am excited by the prospect of scoring goals and winning games again.

### GAME TO DREAD

Leeds away. Our "Yorkshire derby" at a toxic Elland Road where, traditionally, Leeds always lift their game, we have a man sent off, and/or a controversial disallowed goal, and come away with a sickening defeat. With former Leeds boss Garry Monk now in charge at Boro I don't expect we will see any Yorkshire hospitality. I hope we can defy recent history.



Youngster... Dael Fry



# MILLWALL



2017-18 FIXTURES

- AUG 4** Nottm Forest (a)
- Aug 12** Bolton (h)
- Aug 15** Ipswich Town (h)
- Aug 19** Bristol City (a)
- Aug 26** Norwich City (h)
- SEP 9** Wolves (a)
- Sep 12** QPR (a)
- Sep 16** Leeds United (h)
- Sep 23** Preston (a)
- Sep 26** Reading (h)
- Sep 30** Barnsley (h)
- OCT 14** Brentford (a)
- Oct 21** Birmingham City (h)
- Oct 28** Cardiff City (a)
- Oct 31** Sheffield Wed (a)
- NOV 4** Burton Albion (h)
- Nov 18** Sunderland (a)
- Nov 21** Hull City (h)
- Nov 25** Fulham (a)
- DEC 2** Sheffield United (h)
- Dec 9** Aston Villa (a)
- Dec 16** Middlesbrough (h)
- Dec 23** Derby County (a)
- Dec 26** Wolves (h)
- Dec 30** QPR (h)
- JAN 1** Norwich City (a)
- Jan 13** Preston (h)
- Jan 20** Leeds United (a)
- Jan 27** Derby County (h)
- FEB 3** Reading (a)
- Feb 10** Cardiff City (h)
- Feb 17** Birmingham City (a)
- Feb 20** Sheffield Wed (h)
- Feb 24** Burton Albion (a)
- MAR 3** Sunderland (h)
- Mar 6** Hull City (a)
- Mar 10** Brentford (h)
- Mar 17** Barnsley (a)
- Mar 31** Nottm Forest (h)
- APR 2** Ipswich Town (a)
- Apr 7** Bristol City (h)
- Apr 10** Bolton (a)
- Apr 14** Sheffield United (a)
- Apr 21** Fulham (h)
- Apr 28** Middlesbrough (a)
- MAY 6** Aston Villa (h)

## RISING ABOVE OFF-PITCH PROBLEMS

Last season Millwall gained more headlines off the pitch than on it. Lewisham council's controversial plans to compulsory purchase land around the New Den prompted the club to consider moving out of the borough. Even the Wembley play-off victory over Bradford City, securing promotion back to the second tier after two seasons in League One, was marred by a pitch invasion.

But in club hero Neil Harris, Millwall have a manager who has turned matters around on the pitch.

**Manager** Club record goalscorer Neil Harris took over as permanent manager in summer 2015 after a number of caretaker spells.

**Who's the Daddy?** American banker John Berylson took full control of the club in 2011.

**Stadium** New Den (20,146)

**Nickname** Lions

**Odds** 25/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

NICK HART

Achtung! Millwall podcast

## LAST SEASON WAS...

An adrenalin-filled roller-coaster ride.

From potentially being driven out of The Den by Lewisham Council last September, to a late winner, promotion and the first pitch invasion at Wembley by May. Remarkable.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes: that manager Neil Harris can adapt to the tactics needed in the Championship. Fears: that we are found to be too predictable in our approach.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Steve Morison.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Lewisham mayor Steve Bullock.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Football wise: I had best not say for fear of an FA enquiry. Non football: national hero and Lion of London Bridge Roy Lerner's "\*\*\*\* you, I'm Millwall".

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Mahlon Romeo - destined for the top.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Leeds United is always amusing.

## GAME TO DREAD

None. Millwall fans don't do "dread".

Millwall hero...Neil Harris



## LAST SEASON

League One 6th // Top scorer Lee Gregory 18 // FA Cup 6th round // League Cup 2nd round // Average attendance 9,340



Youngster... Mahlon Romeo



# NORWICH CITY



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Aug 16</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Reading (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Preston (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Apr 2</b>	QPR (a)
<b>APR 7</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)

## FARKE IN AT CARROW ROAD

It's all change at Carrow Road, with Norwich going down the German route by appointing Daniel Farke, the coach of Borussia Dortmund's reserve team, as the long-term successor to Alex Neil.

Farke returned to his old team to sign central defender Christoph Zimmermann and used his German contacts to sign midfielder Mario Vrancic from Darmstadt. Angus Gunn, son of Bryan, has rejoined



New boss... Daniel Farke

on a loan from Man City, while striker Marley Watkins joined from Barnsley.

**Manager** Daniel Farke, who succeeded David Wagner as coach of Borussia Dortmund II, agreed a two-year contract in May.

**Who's the Daddy?** Delia Smith and her husband Michael Wynn-Jones are still the club's major shareholders.

**Stadium** Carrow Road (27,244)

**Nickname** Canaries

**Odds** 11/4 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

JACOB SINKINS  
TheCarrowCrowd.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A disappointment for all, but from the ashes we've been able to restructure the club from top to bottom, and the future looks bright.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope that we'll get promoted this season, as the Premier League is where Norwich belong, as we've shown with our quality in previous seasons. I fear we could fail to get promotion, and our parachute payments would shrink further, making promotion an even tougher task.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Probably midfielder Alex Pritchard. When he finally got his chance to play, he excelled and showed the class that Norwich so desperately needed during our poor periods. His stunning goals and exciting play brought a glimmer of hope in a mostly dark season.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Would have to be Ryan Bennett. I've always tried to back him, but he had some awful performances at centre-back. He was released at the end of last season, to the delight of a great number of our fans.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

My personal favourite was our song for the Murphy twins, who broke into the first team. Because they are identical twins, you can often hear the Barclay End chanting: "When they're on the pitch, don't know which one's which, they're the Murphy twins!"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

In my opinion, next season will see James Maddison tear up the Championship. He impressed when sent on loan to Aberdeen.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Burton away. Having spent four of the last six seasons in the Premier League, being able to travel to a terraced stadium is somewhat of a rarity.

### GAME TO DREAD

Once again, I'm dreading the prospect playing Ipswich. If we lose, we'd never hear the end of it. Who knows, they may even add another star to their shirt to commemorate the rare occasion.

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 8th // **Top scorer** Cameron Jerome 16 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 4th round  
**Average attendance** 26,335



Hero... Alex Pritchard



# NOTTM FOREST



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 4</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Reading (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Feb 3</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>FEB 10</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	QPR (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Bolton (a)

## NEW ERA AT THE CITY GROUND

There's a new mood of optimism at the City Ground following the takeover by Greek businessman Evangelos Marinakis. Highly rated manager Mark Warburton is expected to have cash to improve the squad, with striker Jason Cummings the first signing of the summer, joining from Hibernian. Veteran midfielder David Vaughan has agreed a new one-year deal.

**Manager** Mark Warburton signed a two-and-a-half year contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Shipping tycoon Evangelos Marinakis also owns Greek club Olympiakos.



**Boss...**  
Mark Warburton

**Stadium** City Ground (30,445)  
**Nickname** Forest  
**Odds** 11/1 to win promotion

### FAN'S VIEW

PAT RIDDELL

Seat Pitch

seatpitch.co.uk (@SeatPitch)

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

An unmitigated disaster; prevented from being completely catastrophic by an emphatic 3-0 win against Ipswich Town on the final day, which saved us from relegation. The repeated errors of previous seasons all started to catch up with us. Bad decisions, bad money and bad blood.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Our one hope really is to be run professionally and no longer be one of the basket cases of the division. Mark Warburton looks a good fit and the bones of a decent squad already exist. Our only fear is that this is Forest and nothing is ever as easy as it should be.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

It would have been Oliver Burke but he was flogged to RB Leipzig before you could say "£13m cash deal, no sell-on fee". After that it was a combination of the metronomic David Vaughan in

midfield and graduates from the Academy, the one thing Fawaz didn't destroy.

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Undoubtedly (previous owner) Fawaz. Unfit to run a bath, let alone a football club. Season after season he stripped away our structure, reputation and dignity.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Capturing the mood, "We don't care about Fawaz. He don't care about us. All we care about is NFFC."

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We don't talk about the number 45. He's played for the England Under-19 side, he's preciously talented and scores goals for fun. Everyone now knows the first rule of Ben Brereton Club...

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Millwall at home on the opening day of the season. It might not be the best game on paper – it certainly won't be the best game on grass – but it represents so much in terms of a new beginning, a new era.

#### GAME TO DREAD

After last season, there's nothing really to dread. Derby games are always the most hyped, and usually the most disappointing.

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 21st // **Top scorer** Britt Assombalonga 14 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 3rd round  
**Average attendance** 20,332



**Derby...**  
local rivalry



# PRESTON



2017-18 FIXTURE

<b>AUG 5</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Burton Albion (h)

## LEFT IN LIMBO BY GRAYSON WALK-OUT

PNE were left in limbo when Simon Grayson, one of the longest-serving managers in the Championship, left to join Sunderland on the first day of pre-season. The club moved quickly to appoint Alex Neil as Grayson's successor.

Exciting young attacker Josh Harrop, who scored on his Manchester United debut on the final day of last season, has joined on a four-year contract.

**Manager** Former Norwich boss Alex Neil agreed a one-year rolling deal.



Villain... Jermaine Beckford (right)

**Who's the Daddy?** Chairman Peter Ridsdale, previously with Leeds, Barnsley and Cardiff City, runs the club on behalf of owner Trevor Hemmings.

**Stadium** Deepdale (23,404)  
**Nickname** Lilywhites  
**Odds** 14/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

GAVIN WILLACY

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Another pleasant surprise. If we knew in pre-season that we would be without both our star strikers (Joe Garner sold to Rangers, Jermaine Beckford injured/suspended/unused), club captain (John Welsh, out since October) and main summer signing (Ben Pringle, injured or not selected) almost all season, we'd have expected to be fighting relegation, not having another top half finish.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping we continue to punch above our weight under a new manager, Simon Grayson having gone to Sunderland on the first day of pre-season; fearing that we'll be in the relegation battle that our budget suggests we always should.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Defender Tom Clarke was consistency personified and won Players' Player of the Year, on-loan Aiden McGeady added moments of magic from January, but it has to be manager Simon Grayson for working miracles in a tough division of very wealthy opponents.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Jermaine Beckford: after being a hero on loan to get us promoted, his two seasons after signing have been blighted by injury. When he was fit he got sent off for fighting a team-mate and again for a stupid foul three minutes into his first game back!

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Ooh Aiden McGeady" to Seven Nation Army got a lot of airtime, as did "50 Grand, 50 Grand, Daniel Johnson" when he was looking sublime in the first half of the season.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Following the success of League of Ireland imports Daryl Horgan and Andy Boyle, the Dundalk duo who have both adjusted well, PNE fans are hoping the latest arrival – prolific Cork City striker Sean Maguire – will have the same impact.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Not excited by the Championship newcomers, although Bolton away could be lively. Fulham is a great trip and we are due a win there.

### GAME TO DREAD

Our record at Sheffield United is absolutely diabolical – we went 20 visits there without victory, although we have won on two of the last three trips. I won't expect much!

## LAST SEASON

**Championship** 11th // **Top scorer** Jordan Hugill 12 // **FA Cup** 3rd round // **League Cup** 4th round  
**Average attendance** 12,614



Song... Aiden McGeady





2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Aug 16</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Reading (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Leeds United (a)

## HOLLOWAY FACING TOUGH TASK

Ian Holloway has brought some much-needed stability at Rangers after some tumultuous seasons shuttling between the Championship and the top flight. The club is trying to bring through more youngsters while balancing the books in a tightly contested division.

Striker Jamie Mackie has signed on for another year while midfielder Karl Henry left the club. Midfielder Michael Dougherty joined Peterborough and Ben Gladwin moved to Blackburn Rovers.

**Manager** Ian Holloway rejoined the club in November 2016, signing a two-and-a-half-year deal.



Stability... Ian Holloway

**Who's the Daddy?** Malaysian businessman Tony Fernandes bought out Bernie Ecclestone in 2011.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 18th // Top scorer Idrissa Sylla 10 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 14,615

**Stadium** Loftus Road (18,489)  
**Nickname** Rangers  
**Odds** 16/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

DAVE THOMAS  
A Kick Up the Rs  
www.akutrs.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Rangers started the season with a bang and finished it with a whimper. A 3-0 demolition of Leeds at home on the opening day promised a successful season ahead; a 4-0 stuffing at Norwich on the final day completed a nine-month downhill slide thereafter.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The simple hope is that Ian Holloway can start getting the best out of a decent enough squad for this level, while also instilling a greater degree of collective confidence and some desperately needed leadership on the pitch. The fear is he won't.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Alex Smithies collected all the Player of the Year awards, and was the only viable contender, truth be told, with a series of consistent performances and a happy knack of saving penalties.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Full-back James Perch is always a red

card waiting to happen, and would be a far better player and more of an asset to the team if he could cut out the nastier side to his game and improve his disciplinary record.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The response to a disorganised performance by the surrealistic juxtaposition of the manager's name with degenerate figurative expression. "Ollie, Ollie, sordid art..."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Josh Bowler made his debut as a late substitute on the final day of last season and immediately showed why he is so highly regarded at QPR - and why Everton were reportedly interested in him already.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Any games that don't get moved to suit television will do for starters. The cost and inconvenience to fans when this happens is far greater than is ever acknowledged. Specific games? One day QPR will win at Nottingham Forest but probably not in my lifetime.

### GAME TO DREAD

Nottingham Forest away. It's the hope that slowly kills you. It's our own version of Groundhog Day, except that nothing ever changes. It's 32 visits and counting, and we've never won there.



Hero... Alex Smithies



# READING



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	QPR (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Cardiff City (a)

## WILL STAM STAY?

After the heartache of losing the Wembley play-off on penalties to Huddersfield, Reading face the task of picking themselves up and launching another promotion challenge. Jaap Stam, who oversaw last season's top-six place, insists he will be staying at the club. "I'm still happy to be here, to work here, to live in the area. I still have a contract at Reading, there's nothing that's going to take me away from the club."

**Manager** Former Holland defender Jaap Stam was the surprise choice as Royals boss in summer 2016 when he signed a two-year contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Chinese businessman Dai Yongge recently bought a 75 per cent stake in the club, having previously tried to buy Hull City. Former owner John Madesjski remains chairman.

**Stadium** Madesjski (24,161)  
**Nickname** Royals  
**Odds** 11/2 to win promotion.

## FAN'S VIEW

DAN WIMBUSH  
 From the Tilehurst End

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A very unexpected journey that

## LAST SEASON

Championship 3rd // Top scorer Yann Kermorgant 19 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 4th round // Average attendance 17,504

ended in ultimate heartbreak at Wembley.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is we use Wembley as motivation to kick on. The fear is that the tight games that went for us last season will flip the other way.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Probably Jaap Stam himself, for somehow turning a side around from bottom half strugglers to play-off finalists.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

The Wembley penalty spot.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Jaap Stam had a dream, to build a

football team. He had no money so he had to sign them for free. McShane at the back, Rakels in attack, We're Reading FC, we're on our way back."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Forward Yakou Meite showed flashes of raw ability in his first year over from France and has gone back on loan. If he can refine those skills he could be a real handful.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Fulham away is always a great day out, especially now with the added niggles from the play-offs last season.

### GAME TO DREAD

Sunderland away. A long trip and we don't have a great record there.



Hero...  
 Jaap Stam



# SHEFFIELD UNITED



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	QPR (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Preston (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Bristol City (a)

## WILDER BRINGS THE GOOD TIMES BACK

The good times are back at Bramall Lane after Chris Wilder confirmed his growing reputation by steering the Blades to promotion to the Championship after six seasons in League One.

Early summer signings included defender George Baldock from MK Dons, left-back Enda Stevens from Portsmouth and midfielder Nathan Thomas from Hartlepool.



Success... Chris Wilder

**Manager** Former United defender and Halifax Town, Oxford United and Northampton Town boss Chris Wilder was appointed in May 2016 on a three-year contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Property developer Kevin McCabe owns 50 per cent of the club, along with Saudi investor Prince Abdullah, who bought a 50 per cent stake in 2013.

**Stadium** Bramall Lane (32,702)  
**Nickname** Blades  
**Odds** 9/1 to win promotion

### FAN'S VIEW

IAN RANDS  
unitedview.com

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

After an early wobble Chris Wilder brought good times back to Bramall Lane. 100 points, 92 goals and six years of frustration brought to an end.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping that we carry the unity, team spirit and momentum into the new season and secure mid-table security. Fearing defeats to our rivals across the city and the ensuing stick that follows, but secretly thinking we might surprise them.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

It has to be Chris Wilder. Fan, ball boy, player, manager and the man who moulded a team in his image. Closely followed by a captain in Billy Sharp who is following a similar path.

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Ken Anderson, Bolton chairman and one of the most ungracious men in football. Could not bring himself to recognise how much his team had

been outplayed at Bramall Lane or congratulate us on promotion.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

There were a few new chants but "Jack O'Connell's Magic Hat" led to an away end of magic hats at MK and the man himself heading a foam brick thrown at him by Billy Sharp.

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

It looks as though we have cancelled the potential loan of David Brooks to Chesterfield, purportedly to include him in pre-season with the first team, but the player of the Toulon tournament may end up in the Premier League before the season begins.

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

There are many tasty fixtures in a Championship packed with decent draws. The return of the Sheffield derby will have many fans licking their lips, and with a feeling around the club very similar to that of the hugely successful Dave Bassett era you can believe the team will enter each clash with a great deal of fight and passion.

#### GAME TO DREAD

The Sheffield derby will have many fans stressed with nerves. A game is as much about not losing as winning. Months of bragging rights between fixtures rest on them.

### LAST SEASON

League One Champions // Top scorer Billy Sharp 30 // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 1st round // Average attendance 21,892



Champions...in April



# SHEFFIELD WED



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Reading (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Wolves (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>MAR 4</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Preston (h)
<b>APR 2</b>	Sunderland (a)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Apr 10</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Norwich City (h)

## HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Defeat on penalties to Huddersfield in the semi-finals was a second successive season that the Owls have failed in the play-offs. But the club is moving in the right direction under former Sporting Lisbon boss Carlos Carvalhal.

**Manager** Portuguese boss Carlos Carvalhal took charge in 2015 and recently extended his Owls contract.

**Who's the Daddy?** Thai businessman Dejphon Chansiri bought the club in 2015.

**Stadium** Hillsborough (39,732)

**Nickname** Owls

**Odds** 4/1 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

RICHARD BROOK

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Has to be seen as progress by Wednesday fans, in retrospect. At the time struggling to claw our way into sixth spot in the midst of a late wobble didn't feel like it, but we actually finished with a bigger points tally than the season before.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 4th // Top scorer Sam Winnall 14 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round  
Average attendance 27,129

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We have to hope that we can hold on to key players who are deservedly the subject of transfer interest, or adequately replace them. It would also be nice to see a more effective way of controlling the games where the opposition are keeping men behind the ball. Ultimately the hope is that we're part of the promotion race again in our 150th anniversary year.



Progress... Carlos Carvalhal

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

The heroes of last season were owner Dejphon Chansiri and head coach Carlos Carvalhal for rescuing the season almost before it began. The way they handled the transfer speculation surrounding Fernando Forestieri last August protected the morale of the entire squad.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

The home kit. No disrespect to Ipswich Town but I like our own identity. A Sheffield Wednesday kit, for a lot of fans, is equal blue and

white stripes and black shorts. I believe that that will not be happening again this season.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We're on our way" It feels like we are. We proved last season that the season before was no fluke.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

George Hirst. He is the son of club legend and former England striker David. A regular scorer for the Owls under-18s and under-23s, goals for England in the Toulon Tournament took Hirst to the total of 40 for the season. There's already talk of Premier League clubs showing interest in the 18-year-old.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The Sheffield derby. As much as we love to hate them, United's promotion is a good thing for the city and with both clubs having been Premier League clubs during its inaugural season it would be wonderful to have this fixture being played in the top tier again very soon.

### GAME TO DREAD

There's no reason for Wednesday to dread any fixture. We have fought it out at the top end of the Championship for the last two seasons and last season did the double over Newcastle United. A little more consistency is the key.



Unloved... too blue kit



# SUNDERLAND



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 4</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Preston (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Wolves (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Mar 10</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Wolves (h)

## STATE OF FLUX

Sunderland were a club in a state of flux this summer. While owner Ellis Short negotiated the sale of the club with various interested parties, Simon Grayson was eventually announced as David Moyes' replacement.

As expected, a number of players left following relegation from the Premier League. Keeper Jordan Pickford was sold to Everton for £25m in a deal that could rise to £30m, while veterans John O'Shea and Seb Larsson were released.

**Manager** Former Preston boss Simon Grayson signed a three-year contract.



New boss...  
Simon Grayson

**Who's the Daddy?** American financier Ellis Short has been looking to sell the club for some time.

**Stadium** Stadium of Light (49,000)

**Nickname** Black Cats  
**Odds** 11/2 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

PATRICK HOLLIS  
A Love Supreme  
a-love-supreme.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

I think to say we were poor was the understatement of the century. Our squad was weak and we had too many players who either weren't good enough or didn't care.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My only real fear is that we continue to struggle in the Championship. Things have been going very slowly at the club over the summer and we took our time in appointing Grayson. However, I hope we can still hit the ground running and give performances which fans can be proud of.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

This is a 50/50 split. Jordan Pickford had an amazing season and he really earned his move to Everton. He was passionate and stepped up in a season of very few highlights. My other hero from last year was Jermain Defoe. To notch up 15 goals for a side that rarely moved out of the relegation zone all season is incredible. He sealed his place as a Sunderland legend and he deserves to remain in the Premier League.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

All the players who didn't work for the team, so there's a few. If I had to choose one it would be Adnan Januzaj. I was very optimistic when we secured his services, however I can't think of a lazier player. David Moyes would keep him in the side week in week out, but in all honesty he was a poor, lethargic player who robbed the club blind.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Unfortunately, probably our best song was about Januzaj. This was of course made soon after he signed and it was scarcely heard after Christmas. It came from Stone Roses' "Made of Stone" and was wasted on a poor player.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

A young striker Joel Asoro looks to be an exciting prospect.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The away games to the Sheffield clubs and Leeds are sure to be stand out games and the atmosphere should be fantastic. And the Birmingham home game as it's just two days before Christmas.

### GAME TO DREAD

Burton Albion, especially away. They're a tough little unit and we have a history of struggling against teams who are strong defensively.

## LAST SEASON

Premier League 20th // Top scorer Jermain Defoe 15 // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 4th round  
Average attendance 41,286



Prospect...  
Joel Asoro



# WOLVES



2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Middlesbrough (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Derby County (a)
<b>Aug 15</b>	Hull City (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Cardiff City (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Brentford (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Millwall (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Bristol City (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Nottm Forest (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Barnsley (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Sheffield United (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Burton Albion (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Aston Villa (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Preston (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	QPR (a)
<b>Oct 31</b>	Norwich City (a)
<b>NOV 4</b>	Fulham (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Reading (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Leeds United (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Bolton (h)
<b>DEC 2</b>	Birmingham City (a)
<b>Dec 9</b>	Sunderland (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Sheffield Wed (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Ipswich Town (h)
<b>Dec 26</b>	Millwall (a)
<b>Dec 30</b>	Bristol City (a)
<b>JAN 1</b>	Brentford (h)
<b>Jan 13</b>	Barnsley (a)
<b>Jan 20</b>	Nottm Forest (h)
<b>Jan 27</b>	Ipswich Town (a)
<b>FEB 3</b>	Sheffield United (h)
<b>Feb 10</b>	QPR (h)
<b>Feb 17</b>	Preston (a)
<b>Feb 20</b>	Norwich City (h)
<b>Feb 24</b>	Fulham (a)
<b>MAR 3</b>	Reading (h)
<b>Mar 6</b>	Leeds United (a)
<b>Mar 10</b>	Aston Villa (a)
<b>Mar 17</b>	Burton Albion (h)
<b>Mar 31</b>	Middlesbrough (a)
<b>APR 2</b>	Hull City (h)
<b>Apr 7</b>	Cardiff City (a)
<b>Apr 10</b>	Derby County (h)
<b>Apr 14</b>	Birmingham City (h)
<b>Apr 21</b>	Bolton (a)
<b>Apr 28</b>	Sheffield Wed (h)
<b>MAY 6</b>	Sunderland (a)

## INTO THE UNKNOWN WITH NUNO

Interesting times at Molineux, where Chinese owners Fosun have brought in Portuguese coach Nuno Espirito Santo, whose time at Valencia was short-lived amid criticism of his close links to super-agent Jorge Mendes.

**Manager** Former Valencia and Porto coach Nuno Espirito Santo agreed a three-year contract in May.

**Who's the Daddy?** Jeff Shi runs the club on behalf of Chinese investment company Fosun International, who bought the club in summer 2016.

**Stadium** Molineux (31,700)

**Nickname** Wolves

**Odds** 11/2 to win promotion

## FAN'S VIEW

THOMAS BAUGH  
wolvesblog.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Not very good. We had new owners (Fosun) and significant investment in the team but another mid-table finish and an occasional flirtation with the bottom three. Some decent results in the cup, most notably victory over Liverpool at Anfield, couldn't mask

what was ultimately a disappointing campaign.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is we see some genuine progress under our ambitious owners and that continued investment gets us in the promotion shake-up. The fear is more of what we saw last season: wasted money, instability and a bottom-half finish.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Helder Costa, who was easily the pick of our numerous signings. Had it not been for his goals and assists I dread to think what might have happened. I'd be surprised if he was still a Wolves player come August and if he does go, there's one hell of a gap to fill.



New boss...Nuno

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Although it's probably not a popular answer, I'm going to say Fosun. Although they stumped up some money and showed good intentions, their decision-making from start to finish was highly questionable. They created instability and that was a breeding ground for our inconsistent season on the pitch.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

I quite like (to the tune of Achy Breaky Heart) "We've got Edwards, Super Dave Edwards, I just don't think you'd understand. He's Paul Lambert's man. He's better than Zidane. We've got super Dave Edwards." Classic terrace humour.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Loads. We've got a great academy and haven't been afraid to push kids through into the first team. I'm looking forward to seeing if striker Niall Ennis can break through.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The local derbies against Birmingham and Villa are always important games. I'm expecting all three teams to step up next season so how those matches pan out will be very interesting.

### GAME TO DREAD

Middlesbrough away. We never get anything from the Riverside.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 15th // Top scorer Helder Costa 12 // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 3rd round  
Average attendance 21,570



Breakthrough...Niall Ennis



## AFC WIMBLEDON



## FAN'S VIEW

CHARLIE TALBOT

## LAST SEASON WAS...

An incredible achievement on paper to stay up so easily, oddly dull to watch in reality with a second-half slump to make fans nervous about this campaign.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The fear is we continue our 2017 form and find points very hard to come by. The hope is Neal Ardley rebuilds a new squad to keep us in league one.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Overall, Tom Elliott. His goals and hold-up play will be sorely missed. But the iconic moment of the season was

## LAST SEASON

League One 15th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round



Celebration...  
beating MK

supplied by Lyle Taylor sealing the home win over the franchise.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Karl Robinson. More revisionist nonsense and pot-stirring dissembling from a man who should learn to keep his mouth shut.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Seeing MK in the flesh was much more cathartic than I expected: "You stole a club

and you messed it up" summed it up. Except we didn't sing "messed".

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Hopefully Alfie Egan finally gets a run of games to show what he can do. And this could be the year Will Nightingale stays fit enough to stake a claim as a regular centre-back.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The 44 league games against proper football clubs are all equally eagerly anticipated, but we are most excited about counting down the days to our return to Plough Lane, hopefully for the start of next season.

## GAME TO DREAD

We have another two games scheduled against a team that shouldn't exist.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Bradford City (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Southend (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Bury (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Bradford City (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Bury (h)

## BLACKBURN ROVERS



## FAN'S VIEW

SIMON SMITH  
Lancashire Telegraph

## LAST SEASON WAS...

Miserable, gloomy and even when it finally rained soup we all had forks.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping that we have enough to get straight back up and emerge stronger than before. Fearing that we sink into the doldrums and lose all key players.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Charlie Mulgrew. Scored winners in both games against the champions Newcastle and was a rock when all we had was rubble.

## LAST SEASON

Championship 22nd // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 3rd round



Youngster...  
Willem Tomlinson

Too easy to say the teetotaler who drove us all to drink – Owen Columba Coyle – so Shane Duffy: scored four against us in his four league games (three while a Rovers player) costing us vital points.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Mahoney, Mahoney, Mahoneeeeeee", a version of Police's "So Lonely" in tribute to Connor, our now departed wing-wizard.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Willem Tomlinson looks good but may struggle for a place with new signings. Free-scoring Lewis Mansell may get his chance this season.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Blackpool away. It may be October but Gary Bowyer will get a warm reception from us lot.

## GAME TO DREAD

Oxford in late November. A midweek fixture at a ground that two young lads got rinsed of their wallets and trainers at a cup match two seasons ago.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Southend (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Rotherham Utd (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Bury (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Bury (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Oxford Utd (h)



# BLACKPOOL



## FAN'S VIEW

PETER GILLATT  
Blackpool FC on This Day

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Manager Gary Bowyer arrived at a club which looked as if its life support had been switched off, with around half a dozen players who were demoralised and dejected. Playing to empty home gates and in testing circumstances, he turned things around and fully deserved our respect.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Clearly the events at the courtroom are keeping us all occupied and quite rightly because that will affect where the club goes next. A bitter battle between Blackpool FC's owners and its president is being fought out at the High

## LAST SEASON

League Two 7th // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 2nd round



Wembley success  
...Gary Bowyer

Court in what could prove to be one of British football's most expensive legal actions.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Although 5,800 were at the play-off final at Wembley, there were a further 5,000 or more fans out there, who are suffering from our NAPM (Not A Penny More) campaign. Each and every one can be very proud indeed of our shared ultimate sacrifice and standing up for our morals and principles.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

We have £30million for a rainy day, so finishing 7th in League Two is underachieving. Not a criticism of the manager and players but of the owners.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

There really wasn't any home support last season but the mantra was "support the team, not the regime".

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Bright Osayi-Samuel has been linked with loads of clubs.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Neighbours Fleetwood Town. It is a good gauge of how far we've fallen but also how far we will have recovered.

### GAME TO DREAD

See previous!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Bury (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Bury (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Rotherham (a)

# BRADFORD CITY



## FAN'S VIEW

JASON MCKEOWN  
Width of a Post  
widthofapost.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

After a difficult summer of change, to perform as well as we did over the season was well beyond expectations. It was heartbreaking to lose the play-off Final at Wembley, but still a brilliant season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We've seen a worryingly high number of departures this summer, which means an unexpectedly large rebuilding job. If the club - who last season introduced a transfer committee approach - continues to recruit strongly, we should push for promotion again. But it's a big if.

## LAST SEASON

League One 5th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Youngster...  
Danny Devine

Stuart McCall's return proved inspired, as he demonstrated he was a better all-round manager than his first spell, got the team playing some excellent football and so nearly took us all the way to the Championship.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

The Millwall supporters who invaded the Wembley pitch at full time of the play-off Final, especially those who ran over to goad McCall and the team.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We got him from West Ham, he's better than Zidane, we've got Joshua Cullen". Great song for the young West Ham loanee who became a massive fans' favourite.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Danny Devine and Ellis Hudson made strong impressions when given opportunities last season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Having come so close to the Championship, the releasing of another year's set of League One fixtures was depressing. Looking forward to a trip to Blackburn though.

### GAME TO DREAD

It's difficult to get excited about yet another long trip to Gillingham.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Bury (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Bury (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Scunthorpe (a)



# BRISTOL ROVERS



## FAN'S VIEW

NATHAN BEES

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Successful. After back-to-back promotions from the National League to League One, a top-10 finish represented another terrific year of progression.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My hope is we improve on last season and compete for a play-off place. I fully believe that with Clarke at the helm anything is possible. My biggest fear is that we do not get positive news on our proposed new stadium.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Billy Bodin came into his own in the second half of the

## LAST SEASON

League One 10th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round



Impressive...  
Billy Bodin

season and scored a number of very impressive goals.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Matty Taylor was loved by Gasheads but he showed his true colours by jumping ship to Bristol City. Any other club and he would have been wished all the luck in the world, but moving to that lot is absolutely unforgivable.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We had a penalty and Luke

James, a striker who hadn't scored all year, took it. The chant was "If Luke James scores, we're on the pitch!" He missed.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Ryan Broom is the only one who comes to mind. He hasn't made a huge impact on the first team as yet, but he is highly thought of by the coaching staff.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I am looking forward to visiting Fratton Park again because we always take big support. If we could grab a win down there it has the potential to be a superb away day.

### GAME TO DREAD

Southend United is a long old trip on the final day of the season, especially as it is currently a 5.30pm kick-off.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Bury (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Peterborough(h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Bury (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Southend Utd (a)

# BURY



## FAN'S VIEW

NICK HOLT  
mannyroadend.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Up and Down. A run of 12 consecutive defeats took us from 2nd in September to 22nd by Christmas. David Flitcroft was fired and Lee Clark came in before we recovered and finished 19th, avoiding relegation by a point.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope our new manager and his new squad make it to the play-offs. I fear they won't and that we'll be left with an expensive but unsuccessful squad.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

James Vaughan. His 24 goals

## LAST SEASON

League One 19th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Goals...  
James Vaughan

kept us in League One. Also Ryan Lowe because he's always our hero.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

David Flitcroft. League two is his level but sadly he doesn't realise it. He talks a lot of waffle, is a bit thick and lacks tactical knowledge. He would have taken us down given an extra few weeks in charge.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We hate Bolton and we hate Bolton, we hate Bolton and

we hate Bolton, we hate Bolton and we hate Bolton, we are the Bolton haters." I'm almost glad they got promoted so we don't have to go there this season.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

George Miller progressed from the academy and did well as did Callum Styles. Hopefully Lee Clark will give the youngsters a chance this season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I've never seen us play Blackburn so I'm looking forward to those games. Got a few local games this year and I'm looking forward to most of those.

### GAME TO DREAD

I never like losing to Rochdale but we always do so I'm getting used to it now.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)



# CHARLTON ATHLETIC



## FAN'S VIEW

DANNY CARLIER  
forum.charltonlife.com

### LAST SEASON WAS...

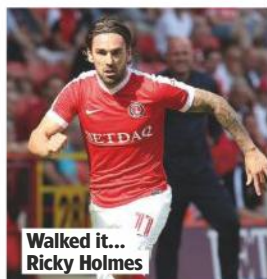
Abject nothingness. Following relegation, the club plodded along, never threatening to challenge nor be woeful enough for relegation. Russell Slade was sacked after just one defeat in five, a week after our CEO had said he was our future. Karl Robinson failed to generate any pickup.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hope beyond hope that our absent Belgian owner and his sidekick finally leave and we can start the rebuild to being a proper football club again. My fear is Robinson just won't be given the board support to drive us forward.

## LAST SEASON

League One 13th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 1st round



Walked it...  
Ricky Holmes

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Ricky Holmes walked the Player of the Year vote last season.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Keith Stroud. Our record versus South London rivals Millwall is worse than abysmal. Referee Stroud ruled out what would have been a perfectly good winning goal. Had it stood, Millwall would not have made the play-offs and then been promoted.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Last summer's England dirge "Don't take me home" was adapted to "Just sell the club, our famous football club, we just don't really want you here. We want Roland out, we hate Katrien Meire, we don't really want you here."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Next off our seemingly endless production line of financial loss-negating youngsters will be Ezri Konsa, a versatile defender.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Portsmouth at The Valley, 25 years to the week of when they featured in our first game back in 1992.

### GAME TO DREAD

The 500-mile round trip to Wigan on a Friday night.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>Dec 26</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>Dec 30</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Bury (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Bury (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Rochdale (a)

# DONCASTER ROVERS



## FAN'S VIEW

TOM BILTCLIFFE

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A case of job done in the end for the club who returned to League 1 at the first time of asking. However, the title was ours to lose – and we did, picking up one point from the final five games.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is consolidation at the very least and even perhaps a top ten finish, using momentum from last season ala Burton Albion. The fear is collapsing at the end of the season similar to previously.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

John Marquis. He arrived on a free transfer from Millwall,

## LAST SEASON

League Two 3rd // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Return...James  
Coppinger

worked his socks off and scored more Football League goals in one season than anyone else in 40 years for Doncaster.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Luton's Danny Hylton – he and Marquis competed fiercely for the Golden Boot all season and their physicality boiled over when the sides met.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Who's the best striker in the

Football League? It's you John, John, John," to the tune of The Crystals.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Liam Mandeville came through the ranks and plundered 10 goals in 27 appearances last season. Quick feet, deceptive pace and hits a sweet dead ball.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Rotherham. It's a decade since we crossed swords with arguably our biggest South Yorkshire rivals.

### GAME TO DREAD

Despite the game against Blackpool at Bloomfield Road being on Good Friday, our record on the Fylde coast is awful so it could be a long Easter weekend. We've yet to win against Fleetwood in four attempts, too.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>Dec 26</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>Dec 30</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Bury (h)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Bury (a)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Wigan (h)



# FLEETWOOD TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

JOHN WOOLFENDEN

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Absolute superb top-four season after nearly getting relegated the season before. Ran out of steam towards the end, but brilliant overall.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Another upper-table finish would be nice. My biggest fear is we don't beat Blackpool.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

It has to be Cian Bolger. Magnificent giant, ginger Irishman!

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

That Nick Ajose. Scored against us yet again!

## LAST SEASON

League One 4th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round



Top-four... playing Bradford

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Cian Bolger's magic he wears a magic hat, if you throw a brick at him he'll head it back"

### YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

We have plenty of quality youngsters. Web Burns, Ash Hunter, Kyle Dempsey, George Glendon and Conor McAleny.

There's plenty of young English and Welsh talent in our squad.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The games home and away against Blackpool.

### GAME TO DREAD

See above.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Bury (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Bury (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Walsall (h)

# GILLINGHAM



## FAN'S VIEW

KEITH PESTELL

Gillingham Independent Supporters Club

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Awful. A massive contrast from the season before. We had hoped to build on the success and challenge for the play-offs. Confidence and expectations were high, but the season never lived up to them. Justin Edinburgh failed to get anything out of the squad, before Adrian Pennock took over.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is to have a better season than last - most Gills fans will take a quiet season in mid-table. We have to improve in defence and replace key players, especially

## LAST SEASON

League One 20th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 3rd round



In charge... Adrian Pennock

Bradley Dack and Cody McDonald. If we don't, the fear is we end up in another relegation battle.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Josh Wright won Player of the Year, scoring some key goals from midfield including three penalties against Scunthorpe.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Justin Edinburgh, who turned a team full of promise into an absolute farce, with players played out of position.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We sadly heard a lot of "You're not fit to wear the shirt". The Last Waltz has become a terrace favourite.

### YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

Noel M'bo. He recently signed his first professional contract for the Gills and scores goals for fun for the youth team.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Home games against local sides always have a good atmosphere. The game against Northampton will have some added spice - with former manager Justin Edinburgh in charge.

### GAME TO DREAD

Not really dreading any but hope we don't get hit for six when we come up against the bigger sides.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Bury (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Bury (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Plymouth (h)



# MK DONS



## FAN'S VIEW

ADAM FAIERS

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Tale of two halves. Frustration until December, then hope with the new manager. We were lucky with the stability Karl Robinson brought to the club, but the team and our play grew lethargic and predictable. Robbie Neilson brought hope and excitement in the second half of the year.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My hope is that the team really start to show the potential that Robbie Neilson can bring. He's multidimensional and changes tactics throughout the game. My biggest fear is that it could become too confusing for our players.

## LAST SEASON

League One 12th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round



**Strong...Brandon Thomas-Asante**

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

George Williams. A real rags to riches story having been let go a few years ago and coming back to us and winning player of the year.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

It's got to be Karl Robinson, sadly. Villain might be a bit harsh but from promotion to flirting with relegation is not a great career move. The team were getting slow and lazy as well. Sorry Karl!

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Simple: "Du du du-du-du Robbie Muirhead" If one song galvanised the club it was that one. Robbie had a slow start but really started firing late in the summer.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Brandon Thomas-Asante. Strong, powerful, skilful.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Portsmouth. If I could have a second club it would be that one. The fans are amazing and it's a great area to spend a long weekend!

### GAME TO DREAD

Probably Bradford. We drew away last year but it's a tough place to go. If we do well against them, I think we've got a chance this year.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Bury (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Bradford	<b>FEB 24</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Bury (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Blackpool
<b>NOV 11</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>NOV 28</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Shrewsbury (a)

# NORTHAMPTON TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

DANNY BROTHERS

### LAST SEASON WAS...

I'd have taken mid-table at the start of the season. Could have been a lot better had Rob Page not taken us in the wrong direction, but could have been a lot worse if Justin Edinburgh hadn't steadied the ship mid-season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopefully we can kick on towards a top-half finish but it's a tough league once again.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Another good season from talisman John-Joe O'Toole who stepped back up to League One impressively.

## LAST SEASON

League One 16th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 3rd round



**Newcomer... Leon Lobjoit**

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Rob Page. Cup exit to Stourbridge was the beginning of the end.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Not a vintage year for new chants so "We've got O'Toole, John-Joe O'Toole..." remains pick of the bunch.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Leon Lobjoit signed from

Buckingham Town towards the end of last season having hit 62 goals in 36 games, albeit in the 10th tier.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The games against Oxford have started to become tastier as the years go on and, of course, Peterborough home and away.

### GAME TO DREAD

Wigan away.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Bury (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Bury (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Oldham (h)



# OLDHAM ATHLETIC



## FAN'S VIEW

WAYNE AUSTIN

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Groundhog day. As he did the season before, John Sheridan came back to save us. We went from certain relegation candidates to promotion form.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping we can kick on and maybe threaten the play-offs. We only need to add a bit more quality. The fear is that we revert to type and a relegation fight.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

A toss up between Conor Ripley and Peter Clarke. I'll marginally give it to Clarke (our captain), a man mountain. We'd be relegated by

## LAST SEASON

League One 17th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round



Returning...  
John Sheridan

Christmas without these two.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Calvin Andrew, subsequently banned for 12 games for GBH on Clarke.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We've got (clap, clap) Conor Ripley!"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Jamie Stott followed closely

by George Edmundson, Kallum Mantack and I'll throw in Darius Osei.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I am looking forward to welcoming Blackburn Rovers and going to Ewood Park.

### GAME TO DREAD

I'm not really dreading any, though I'm glad Millwall have gone up. Bradford will be tough, they're a good team.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>Feb 13</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Bury (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Bury (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Northampton (a)

# OXFORD UNITED



## FAN'S VIEW

SCOTT WALKINSHAW  
Oxblogger

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Consolidation after promotion was the objective. Throw in a couple of cup giant-killings, a visit to Wembley [in the Checkatrade Trophy Final] and a derby win or two and I think we can agree it was a successful year all round.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We were hoping that last season would be a platform for a play-off place and promotion. That's still the hope, but we've lost Michael Appleton to Leicester City and the biggest fear is that we can't replace him with someone who can maintain the momentum.

## LAST SEASON

League One 8th // FA Cup 5th round // League Cup 2nd round



Wembley...  
Checkatrade loss

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Goalkeeper Simon Eastwood played in every minute of our 62-game season and was deservedly player of the year.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Sean Harvey, chief executive of the EFL and his championing of Premier League under-23s in the EFL Trophy. It cast a significant shadow over our success in reaching the Final. His arrogance, suggesting the experiment was a success, was breathtaking.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The cult of full-back Joe Skarz was fun while it lasted, as the song goes, he is the best defender in the land.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Republic of Ireland under-17 international Canice Carroll is the latest homegrown talent to break into the first team.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

League One is a bit of an elephant's graveyard of fallen giants. Away days to Blackburn, Charlton, Wigan and Portsmouth are all likely to be a lot of fun.

### GAME TO DREAD

Can you dread a game where the outcome is inevitable? Next season's dismal 2-0 defeat to Southend is already booked in the diary.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Bury (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Bury (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>Mar 10</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Northampton	<b>Mar 31</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Blackburn (a)



# PETERBOROUGH UTD



## FAN'S VIEW

JOHN VERRALL

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Can only really be described as a fairly dull one. We never looked like sustaining a play-off push, and the inconsistency of our performances was a major frustration.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping that manager Grant McCann gets it right and we get promoted. Posh have been stagnating in League One for too long now, and really need to start showing some signs that we're heading in the right direction.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Luke McGee signed on loan

## LAST SEASON

League One 11th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round



**Villain...**  
Tom Nichols

from Spurs, with absolutely no experience of playing senior football, but he was superb over the entire length of the campaign.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Tom Nichols may have finished the season as top scorer, but he's not exactly

popular with the Posh supporters.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The ABAX Stadium wasn't the most atmospheric this season, due to a lack of entertainment on the pitch, so it's hard to think of a particularly memorable chant.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Leo Da Silva Lopes had a solid breakthrough year last term and he should push on further this time around.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Northampton Town away. We took six points off them last season, and hopefully can do the same again.

### GAME TO DREAD

Portsmouth away on the final day will be a massive test.

2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>Dec 26</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>Dec 30</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Bury (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Bury (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Portsmouth (a)

# PLYMOUTH ARGYLE



## FAN'S VIEW

ANDY CHAPMAN

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A promotion season that never really properly felt like one. Having seemingly got top spot back from Donny, getting pipped by Pompey on goal difference on the final day summed it all up!

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes are to push on and have another good go at it. Fears are that it still feels like the club has off-the-field limitations which may not be able to keep pace with the progress on the pitch.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Mercurial midfielder Graham Carey was our talisman –

## LAST SEASON

League Two 2nd // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round



**Party...**  
promotion celebrations

weighing in with some quality goals. Currently out of contract – with the Green Army hoping he chooses to stay.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Steve McManaman with his ridiculous ramblings about the negativity of our defensive display at Anfield in the FA Cup. That won him few plaudits, given the money that tie and the replay earned us.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Sonny Bradley's magic, he

wears a magic hat" – based on nothing at all, other than adulation!

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Seventeen-year old Alex Fletcher scores prolifically, made his debut against Newport in the Checkatrade Trophy and even made the bench for the replay with Liverpool at home. He could have a future.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

It's been 25 years since we played Blackburn – so that will be good – though we did play at Ewood last season (and won) against Carlisle when their ground was flooded.

### GAME TO DREAD

Scunthorpe away – well, there are better days out and we rarely seem to get anything there.

2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>Dec 26</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>Dec 30</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Bury (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Bury (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Gillingham (a)



# PORTSMOUTH



## FAN'S VIEW

RICHARD MOGER

### LAST SEASON WAS...

An emotional roller coaster. To go up as a fan-owned club as champions was unreal. Years of hard work, court battles and dark days finally paid off. I will never forget the scenes at Notts County away or Cheltenham at home. The euphoria of winning the title was on a par with, if not better than, winning the FA Cup because of the emotional and financial investment the fans put in.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hope to be competitive in League One and hope that the new owner Michael Eisner does not turn out to be too good to be true.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 1st // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Hero...  
Enda Stevens

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Enda Stevens was consistent for the entire season. Sheffield United have probably made the biggest steal of the summer in the championship getting him on a free.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Former manager Paul Cook. He should never have said that he wanted to remain loyal to the club and then promptly leave a week later.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Jamal Lowe, (Lowe) always believe in your soul, you've got the power to know you're indestructible, always believe in Jamal Lowe (Lowe)."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Jamal Lowe, pacy winger who likes to take defenders on.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Wigan, April 2, the return of Paul Cook to Fratton Park. Pompey fans never forget.

### GAME TO DREAD

Doncaster away, Tuesday October 17, really? The league computer gives out an eight hour 465-mile round trip on a Tuesday night. I know the league ensure that teams play locally over the festive period, why can't the same be done for Tuesday night games?

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Rotherham (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Rotherham Utd (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Bury (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Bury (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Peterborough (h)

# ROCHDALE



## FAN'S VIEW

COL CAVANAH

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A season of ups and downs, finishing a lot higher than we should have. We came close to the play-offs, so overall was a pleasing season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hopes are that we go that one bit further than we have for the last three seasons and sneak into the play-offs.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Hilly [Keith Hill]. He's the greatest thing to happen to this football club and we've just signed him up for another five years. I know we're biased but there's not

## LAST SEASON

League One 9th // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 2nd round



Hero...  
Keith Hill

a better English manager out there. And anyone disagreeing can't remember the Rochdale of old.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Calvin Andrew, who launched what appeared to be an unprovoked attack on Oldham's Peter Clarke, earning him the biggest ban in English football since Cantona. Was so out of character for him, and he's often a gentle giant. We forgave him obviously, though not sure they did in Oldham.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We went all Christmas crazy last season, belting out Wham for Steven Davies and E17 for Keith Keane.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We've got loads coming through! The next one on the Keith Hill conveyor belt is 17-year-old Aaron Morley. He's already played for the first team and we picked him up from right under the nose of Bury.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Blackburn away on Boxing Day will be a good one. We've not had a league game against them since the early 1970s. They'll no doubt use us as a barometer of how far they've fallen, but bigger teams than Blackburn have done that before and paid the cost.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Doncaster (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Bury (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Southend Utd (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Southend Utd (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Rotherham Utd (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Rotherham (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Bury (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Charlton (h)



# ROTHERHAM UTD



## FAN'S VIEW

JAMIE NOBLE

### LAST SEASON WAS...

As a club you never start a season to be relegated. At the time we thought we'd invested well both in the new manager and team, but the Championship is one of the toughest leagues in the world.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The aim has to be getting off to a good start, especially at home, to show we mean business and aim to bounce back to the Championship as quick as we can.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

That has to go to the fans! They stuck with us at home and despite the poor season

### LAST SEASON

Championship 24th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round



New contract...  
Jerry Yates

we had a die-hard group attending our away matches who spent a lot of money and covered a lot of miles.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

We can't really blame anyone apart from ourselves. Every season is a learning curve and the last campaign has given both the management and

players the experience to be hungry for the new season.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We gave our mascot Miller Bear a drum, which seemed to go down well.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Jerry Yates has now signed a new contract with us and we're excited for his future.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

It will be nice to have a local derby with Doncaster back in the league.

### GAME TO DREAD

We had poor away form last season so we need to treat every away game with care and try to get some early points on the board to give the players some confidence for the rest of the campaign.

### 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Bury (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Bradford (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Bury (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Blackpool (h)

# SCUNTHORPE UTD



## FAN'S VIEW

JOHN NEEDHAM  
Secretary of the Iron Trust

### LAST SEASON WAS...

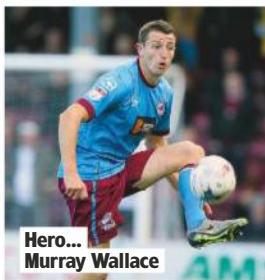
A bit frustrating. At the start of the season most fans would have been happy with reaching the play-offs, but having been top of the league for so long there was disappointment at slipping out of the top two and further frustration at not reaching the Wembley play-off Final.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hoping that the Iron will at least make it to the play-offs again, but if we strengthen the spine of the team, maybe a top two place is possible. The fears are that we miss out again and that the promised new ground doesn't materialise.

### LAST SEASON

League One 3rd // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round



Hero...  
Murray Wallace

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Murray Wallace played every minute of the season and showed what a classy defender he is. It is to be hoped that he remains with us.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

The young Millwall lad who during the first leg of the play-off semi-final game threw coins at one of our players while he was receiving treatment on the ground.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

We don't really do good chants! The "We hate cod heads" surfaces each year.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Levi Sutton had a few games for the first team at right-back. He looks promising and I'm hoping to see continued development.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The games against Doncaster. Now they have been promoted they are our nearest derby game.

### GAME TO DREAD

Blackpool. Over the years they have become a bogey team for us. The away game against them on Boxing Day could have been better arranged! Hardly a day in the sun at the seaside!

### 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Bury (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Bury (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Bradford (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	MK Dons (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	MK Dons (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Bradford (h)



## SHREWSBURY TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

OLLIE WARNER  
Salopcast podcast

## LAST SEASON WAS...

A real rollercoaster! We started the season so poorly, leaving us rock bottom of the table. Following a change of manager the club went on a super run that had Salop top of the form table. The points in this run saved us from relegation.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope we can exceed all expectations and push for the play-offs. Mid-table mediocrity would be progress and more realistic. Another relegation battle would be a nightmare and torment the fans with another long season with little to cheer!

## LAST SEASON

League One 18th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round

Manager...  
Paul Hurst

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Manager Paul Hurst. He took over when we were bottom of the league and by saving us from relegation he performed a miracle.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Former manager Micky Mellon. He was fantastic in League Two in the 2014-15 season, he failed twice to build a team that would cement our place in League One. Mellon's shadow still

hangs over us with poor quality players on the books.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The most popular chant has to be for our tricky winger Shaun Whalley. "Ainttttt nobody like Shaun Whalley! Makes me happy, makes me feel this way!"

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Ryan Sears signed a professional contract mid-year after rumoured interest from bigger clubs.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Boxing Day away at Wigan.

## GAME TO DREAD

Fleetwood away - we played them too many times last season with replays in the cup. One road in and one road out!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Wigan (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Wigan (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Plymouth (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Plymouth (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Bury (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Bury (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	MK Dons (h)

## SOUTHEND UNITED



## FAN'S VIEW

CALLUM BOND

## LAST SEASON WAS...

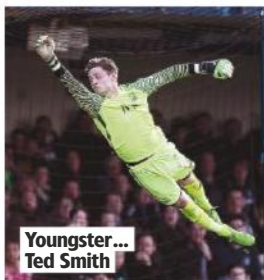
Definitely a rollercoaster. Once certain players clicked, we played some great football and made a push for promotion. But the pressure in the last few games got to us and we missed the play-offs by one point to eventually promoted Millwall.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The manager has stated that promotion is the aim and it's also been a while since Southend had a decent cup run. However, I fear that the departures of Adam Thompson (Bury) and unsung hero Will Atkinson (Mansfield) will be difficult to replace.

## LAST SEASON

League One 7th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round

Youngster...  
Ted Smith

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Anton Ferdinand always put in maximum effort on the pitch.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Without a doubt Frank Nouble. He missed an open goal late in the game away to Charlton that would have given us the point to hold on to the fourth play-off place.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The chant about Simon Cox for his goal scoring abilities:

"Cox is on fire, your defence is terrified", inspired by the famous Will Grigg chant.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Ted Smith had a fair number of games in goal due to Mark Oxley's long-term injury, before getting injured himself.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Blackburn at home is a great way to kick off the season, but Portsmouth away is the game that caught my eye. Expect a bumper Blues contingent to turn up at Fratton Park.

## GAME TO DREAD

Gillingham home and away are the matches I fear the most. We lost 3-1 at home in last season's opener and again four days later by the same score, on the same ground, in the EFL Cup.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Rochdale (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Fleetwood (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Rochdale (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Fleetwood (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Bury (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Walsall (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Bury (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Walsall (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Oxford Utd (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Oxford Utd (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Bradford (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Bradford (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)



# WALSALL



## FAN'S VIEW

### BESCOT BANTER

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

Disappointing. A season of hope which ultimately ended with something of a whimper.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We hope to be competitive but fear that it may not be possible. The summer has seen yet another exodus of players along with a slow trickle of new arrivals. With the addition of several stronger (and richer) teams to the league we may struggle.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

It has to be Erhun Oztumer. The "Turkish Messi" burst onto the scene after joining from Peterborough last summer.

## LAST SEASON

League One 14th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



"Turkish Messi"...  
Erhun Oztumer

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Simply for his disappointing campaign we're going with Andreas Makris. The Cyprus international arrived for a club-record fee last summer but failed to make any sort of impact.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We've got the ball/We've lost the ball", a chant that was the epitome of our 2016/17 campaign. A possession game played without possession.

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We have a few talented youngsters on the fringes of the first team. Winger Tobias Hayles-Docherty and left-back Callum Cockerill-Mollett are two to watch out for.

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Trips to Portsmouth, Blackpool and Fleetwood Town are often fun (depending on the weather). Our clash with Blackburn Rovers, a side we haven't played in ten years, could also be a good competitive affair. The meeting with our neighbours from across the border, Shrewsbury Town, is always a spicy occasion.

#### GAME TO DREAD

Our New Year's Day clash to Plymouth Argyle is going to be a nightmare – a 400-mile round trip.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Bury (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Oldham (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Portsmouth (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Bradford City (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Peterborough (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Charlton (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Peterborough (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Blackpool (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Charlton (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Doncaster (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Wigan (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Gillingham (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Shrewsbury (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Blackburn (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Blackpool (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Shrewsbury (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Doncaster (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Wigan (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Oldham (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Blackburn (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Portsmouth (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Gillingham (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Bradford City (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Bury (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Scunthorpe (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Scunthorpe (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Northampton (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Northampton (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Fleetwood (a)

# WIGAN ATHLETIC



## FAN'S VIEW

MARTIN TARBUCK  
Mudhutter editor  
@mudhutter

#### LAST SEASON WAS...

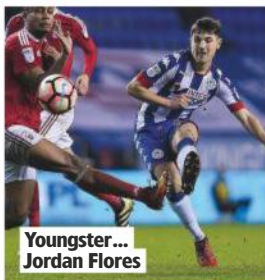
A complete shambles. The cycle of going from feast to famine has again repeated itself. Going through three managers, four including both of Graham Barrow's spells, was never going to end well.

#### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We want to bounce back in style but we don't have the budget this time. Even though Sheffield United have finally escaped, there's still Bradford, Blackburn, Portsmouth and quite a few others. And we've got to change mentality from losing every week to winning every week. There's a good

## LAST SEASON

Championship 23rd // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 1st round



Youngster...  
Jordan Flores

chance League One will be our home for some time.

#### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Whoever at the Football League decided to conclude the season early on May 7 to put us out of our misery.

#### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

It's hard to call him a villain as he was so meek and inoffensive but Warren Joyce's defensive anti-football wasn't what we were expecting from a coach with Man United pedigree.

#### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Sadly, after the Will Grigg song went global, we're still working on the difficult second album.

#### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Surprisingly, the club has offered Wigan lad Jordan Flores a two-year contract. We're delighted, as his family are all big Wigan fans.

#### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Fleetwood away. The fact a certain Mr Rosler is (currently) their manager adds a bit of spice.

#### GAME TO DREAD

Probably Pompey at home in August. Given we've nicked their manager, I'm expecting a large, disgruntled away support to travel up from the South Coast.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	MK Dons (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Shrewsbury (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Bury (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Charlton (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Oldham (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Northampton (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Portsmouth (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Bristol Rovers (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Northampton (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Peterborough (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Shrewsbury (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Plymouth (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Charlton (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Oxford Utd (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Bristol Rovers (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Gillingham (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Peterborough (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Southend Utd (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Plymouth (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Blackpool (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Walsall (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Bradford City (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Scunthorpe (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Rochdale (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Southend Utd (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Blackburn (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Gillingham (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Scunthorpe (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Blackpool (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Walsall (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Blackburn (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Bury (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Rochdale (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Oldham (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Bradford City (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Portsmouth (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Doncaster (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	MK Dons (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Rotherham (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Rotherham (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Fleetwood (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Fleetwood (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	AFC Wimbledon (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	AFC Wimbledon (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Oxford Utd (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Doncaster (a)



## ACCRINGTON STANLEY



## FAN'S VIEW

NICK WESTWELL

## LAST SEASON WAS...

Very up and down. Early doors there was the excitement of our progress in the League Cup with a trip to the Olympic Park to play West Ham – which was a day I won't forget in a hurry. League form up till Xmas was very poor, we never got going at all. But at the turn of the year, with a few loan signings, we really picked up and could in the end have nicked a play-off spot.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes are that we keep a large part of last year's team. Fears are that players such as McCartan and Pearson will leave in August.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 13th // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 3rd round



Awesome...  
Shay McCartan

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Easy. From January till the end of the season we had loanee goalkeeper from Fulham, Geoff Rodak. He turned us around and confidence spread through the side.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Our two contracted goalkeepers Chapman and Parish found ways mostly every game to concede a very soft goal.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Our following at West Ham was 725 in a total attendance of 39,413. To hear "shit ground, no fans" was hilarious coming from us.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Shay McCartan, an awesome talent in Burnley's youth team. He came into his own in January and was outstanding, 10 goals in 15 games with many free-kick specials. He has been called up to the full Northern Ireland squad.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Coventry away. Not long ago they were in the top flight plus it's a new ground.

## GAME TO DREAD

Crawley away. It's easier to fly to France and then get the ferry back!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Luton (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Newport (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Luton (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Newport (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Swindon (a)

## BARNET



## FAN'S VIEW

Christophe Emery

## LAST SEASON WAS...

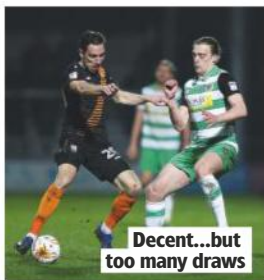
An up and down season, we had a half-decent start but had too many draws. After finding ourselves in the bottom two we then had a decent run and found ourselves flirting with the play-offs. But after a rotten run of form after Xmas we slipped down the table but then had a decent last few games of the season.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

If John Akinde keeps finding the back of the net and Rossi Eames can find someone to contribute more goals from midfield, we can push for a play off place. The fear is that Akinde loses form or gets a

## LAST SEASON

League Two 15th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Decent...but  
too many draws

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Michael Nelson at the back was outstanding in most games last season. He must be great for the youngsters we have in the team. I was very happy when he signed a new deal.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Kevin Nugent did not have the best time in charge of the club, although he was at

times unfortunate (his defeats were never by more than one goal). But his time in charge coincided with our worst run of the season.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Que sera sera, whatever will be will be, we're going to Coventry, que sera sera."

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The Taylor brothers, Harry and Jack, have promising futures.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I think most Bees fans are looking forward to Coventry away as it's a new ground for us all.

## GAME TO DREAD

Luton away. We don't have a great record there plus it's not the best away end.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Luton (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Luton (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Newport (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Newport (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Chesterfield (h)



# CAMBRIDGE UTD



## FAN'S VIEW

MATT RAMSAY

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A missed opportunity. A dismal start and a poor home record denied the Us a realistic chance of making the play-offs in a very open division.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hopes: that Shaun Derry can learn from his first full season in charge and progress the club into one that can seriously challenge. Fears: that he won't, and pressure on him will mount from the wider fan base.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Unquestionably Luke Berry. With forwards misfiring, he

### LAST SEASON

League Two 11th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round



Learning...  
Shaun Derry

struck 22 goals. No midfielder in the top four divisions scored more.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Those forwards. Except Uche Ikpeazu, Barry Corr was the second highest scoring striker. He only started one game all season.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"He's magic you know, we've got Medy Elito" Not lyrically brilliant, but it was first aired during a drab first-half at Carlisle. Elito came off the bench at half-time and scored a hat-trick.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Central defender Harry Darling was the stand-out player in an Under-18 side that made it through to round four of the FA Youth Cup.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

A local trip to Stevenage four games from the end of the campaign could be a blockbuster clash if the team still has something to play for.

### GAME TO DREAD

Forest Green Rovers away in the middle of January is one that will be hard for fans to be enthusiastic about.

### 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Luton (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Luton (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Newport (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Newport (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Port Vale (h)

# CARLISLE UNITED



## FAN'S VIEW

ALASTAIR WOODCOCK  
Secretary, CUOSC

### LAST SEASON WAS...

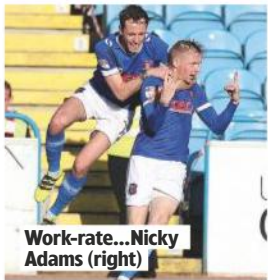
Ultimately, very disappointing. We were lying in the top two at Christmas but the second half of the season saw us almost completely collapse, before a late run of results got us into the play-offs.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

A lot will depend on how we replace the experienced trio of Mark Gillespie, Michael Raynes and Jabo Ibehre. We also need to sort out our defence as a whole, which has been a problem for years. If we can do those things, hopefully we should at least make the play-offs again.

### LAST SEASON

League Two 6th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round



Work-rate...Nicky  
Adams (right)

Without a doubt Nicky Adams, who swept the player of the year awards. His work-rate is second to none and he gets among the goals as well.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Charlie Wyke leaving for Bradford City in the January window didn't help us. Wyke had scored 18 goals up to that point, so you couldn't criticise his contribution, but when he went, he was never properly replaced.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Can't think of one to be honest. The atmosphere at home games has been a bit flat for some time.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Cameron Salkeld, who recently signed a full professional contract.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

With the loss of two of our "derbies" with Hartlepool and Blackpool, I guess the Morecambe away game is the one that most fans will want to be at. We usually outnumber their supporters.

### GAME TO DREAD

Newport away. They've won this fixture three seasons running. We last won there in 1988, which kept us in the League at their expense.

### 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Luton (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Newport (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Luton (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Newport (h)



# CHELTENHAM TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

MARK HELLEWELL

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Frustrating. After coming straight back up, we were hoping momentum would carry us into the top half at least but it never happened. Injuries and suspensions from the off meant the season never got going and it became a struggle.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Just hoping for better than last season. The biggest fear is another relegation battle, as off the field things are looking promising and we cannot let that go to waste on the pitch.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Our returning goalkeeper

## LAST SEASON

League Two 21st // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round



Loan...  
Scott Brown

Scott Brown came back on loan from Wycombe and put in some sterling displays as we crept above the dreaded line, notably saving a penalty in the win at Leyton Orient.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

His value on the pitch was demonstrated at the end of the season as he was superb in the final few weeks as we stayed up - but Kyle Storer missed 15 games through various suspensions which could have proved very costly.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

A three-word ditty about Forest Green was a regular. I can't mention the third word, but it comes before "Forest Green".

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Adam Page, a teenage winger, has spent two years out with injury but the club have stuck by him and Gary Johnson has high hopes for him.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Forest Green home and away. Our big-spending noisy neighbours have finally got out of the National League. It's nice to finally have a Gloucestershire county derby. Just don't call it "El Glosico".

### GAME TO DREAD

See above. The hype will be ridiculous.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Newport (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Newport (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Luton (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Luton (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Crewe (a)

# CHESTERFIELD



## FAN'S VIEW

HILLY81

Bob's Board, Spireites forum

### LAST SEASON WAS...

An absolute car crash. Shambles on the field. Scandal off it. Absolute basket case of a football club.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The hope is that we will not be getting relegated again. The fear is getting relegated again.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

The members of Bob's Board who worked tirelessly to uncover the shady goings on at this football club. Ian Evatt was the only player who looked truly committed.

## LAST SEASON

League One 24th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 1st round



Seeing red...  
Dan Gardner

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Former chairman Dave Allen, club director Ashley Carson, the majority of the players, fictitious competition winner James Higgins. Take your pick.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Hard to think of one for last season.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Joe Rowley broke into the first team and got good reviews.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Crewe away.

### GAME TO DREAD

The first six. A bad start could be a big disaster.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Newport (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Luton (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Luton (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Newport (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Barnet (a)



## COLCHESTER UTD



## FAN'S VIEW

JON BURNS

## LAST SEASON WAS...

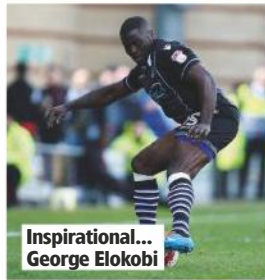
It was a real season of two halves. Dreadful and sitting second from bottom in mid-November, the team rolled up their sleeves and found a winning formula that they could believe in. After that we stormed up the table to only just miss out on the play-offs.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

There's a strong belief that if we can keep the bulk of last season's squad together then, at the very least, they can finish one place higher this season. Our greatest fear will be a return of the injury blight that crippled us last time around.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 8th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round

Inspirational...  
George Elokobi

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Look no further than number 15, George Elokobi, who came back from a non-league loan to be a part of a new back three. George inspired everyone around him, team mate and fans. Truly memorable.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Our selfish treatment table which demanded too many players visit it during the season.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

More of a drum beat than a sort of song or chant. On more than one occasion Big George would hit the drum so hard that it now needs a new skin.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

With so many Academy players in and around the first team squad, the one I would like to see make a real impact next season is Louis Dunne.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm really looking forward to visiting Forest Green Rovers in April. Only new ground for me. Have to add that the League Cup visit of Aston Villa is also pretty decent.

## GAME TO DREAD

Travelling to Newport County on an October Tuesday night.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Luton (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Newport (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Newport (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Luton (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Exeter (a)

## COVENTRY CITY



## FAN'S VIEW

NEIL ALLISON

## LAST SEASON WAS...

The party line is that it was the worst-season ever, yet we still won a trophy at Wembley in front of 43,000 Sky Blue fans. Whisper it quietly, but that victory helped to numb the anger somewhat.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope we win League Two by some considerable margin. My fear is that it'll play out exactly as it has done in every season since our owners Sisu arrived. I have to say, we're all getting a little tired of wishing our lives away.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Wembley winner George

## LAST SEASON

League One 23rd // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 2nd round

EFL Trophy...  
Wembley

Thomas cemented his place as a bona fide Cov legend, alongside such luminaries as Lady Godiva and that one who plays Masood in EastEnders.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

He may have only been at the club for three months, but in that time Russell Slade did an unfathomably effective job of plunging the club to the Mariana Trench-depths of League One, before being told - quite rightly - to sling his hook.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

In the penultimate home game City fans blasted out a 30-minute rendition of "Twist and Shout" for no good reason. For one half of football we forgot about protests, politics, and invading the pitch, and it felt great.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Young Ben Stevenson strikes me as being the real deal.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Luton Town away. I've never been, although I hear rumours that you have to traverse someone's back garden in order to gain entry.

## GAME TO DREAD

Swindon away. Always Swindon away. Take my eyes, take my sanity, please Lord - take anything - don't make me go to Swindon again.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Newport (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Luton (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Luton (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Newport (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Morecambe (h)



# CRAWLEY TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

CAROL BATES

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Disappointing in the end. From a very good start, it diminished into a battle flirting near the relegation places, which was a mirror of last season.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Before James Collins, our 22-goal striker, was on his way to Luton, there was a lot more optimism! I'm hoping for a couple of big signings to bring back that optimism.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Difficult to choose between James Collins and Glenn Morris. Without Collins' goals, we would have been in

## LAST SEASON

League Two 19th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Didn't work out... Jason Banton

trouble but then Morris in goal made so many important saves, especially penalties, that earned us points.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Not really a villain but when Jason Banton arrived we thought he would be a good addition but it didn't work out and he is now at Woking.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Dermot Drummy's mentality was going for gold so

Spandau Ballet's "Gold" was the ideal song for Enzo Boldewijn... "Enzio-o, always believe in your soul, you got the power to know you're indestructible, always believeeeeee, Enzo-o."

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We've signed a forward, Panutche Camara from Dulwich Hamlet. He's a 20-year-old striker so we're hoping for good things.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm looking forward to an early one in the cup at Birmingham City. It's a new ground for us and we'll be going there as underdogs which usually means we'll step up a gear.

### GAME TO DREAD

Yeovil away on New Year's Day is not filling me with enthusiasm! We haven't won there in any previous visit.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Newport (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Newport (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Luton (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Luton (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Mansfield (a)

# CREWE ALEXANDRA



## FAN'S VIEW

ADRIAN DOBSON

### LAST SEASON WAS...

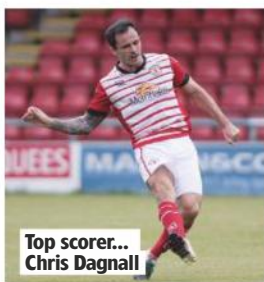
Hopes were running high of getting back into League One at the first time of asking. How wrong we were, as the season steadily declined – and after a seven match winless run, in January our manager, Steve Davis, was sacked. Things did vastly improve under replacement David Artell and smiling faces from the home support returned to Gresty Road.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Really hoping that the improvements of last season continue and a realistic hope of the play-offs is not out of the question.

## LAST SEASON

League one 17th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round



Top scorer... Chris Dagnall

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Chris Dagnall was top scorer and player of the season.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Just two seasons before, Steve Davis had been lauded as the new Messiah. However he came up with the same excuses week after week and it was a relief in January when he was relieved of his duties.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The appointment of Dave

Artell gave the place a lift and the song "Dave Artell's Red and White Army" was one of the new favourite chants heard around the Alexandra.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

I had great hopes for Callum Ainley and Charlie Kirk last season, but I'm sure the air of depression around the ground didn't help their development.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Our near neighbours Port Vale are now back with us. Victory at Vale Park very early in the season would give us bragging rights for some time.

### GAME TO DREAD

The newspapers and TV love a giant-killing act in the FA Cup, but please don't let this be Crewe as surely we are due a cup run.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Newport (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Newport (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Luton (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Luton (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Cheltenham (h)



# EXETER CITY



## FAN'S VIEW

ALICE COOKE

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A real rollercoaster - from bottom of the league in November to the play-off Final at Wembley against Blackpool. Wow!

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We hope the manager will be able to build on the team that took us so far but always have the fear of being left behind due to lack of investment - always a problem with a supporter-owned club.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO & OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Could be seen as the same person, our manager, Paul Tisdale. Fans were calling for

## LAST SEASON

League One 5th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round



Good and bad  
...Paul Tisdale

his head at the end of 2016 but were full of praise by the end of the season.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

One of our supporters puts a bet on City to win 4-1 every match and he'd had a payout the previous game. We were 4-0 up at home and the

crowd began chanting "let them score so Roger can win". Not something you hear every day.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Ethan Ampadu. He's 16 and played a part in several first-team matches last season, alongside taking his GCSEs, and has now joined Chelsea.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Forest Green Rovers. I'm a vegan so looking forward to being able to eat at a football ground. I hear the food is great!

### GAME TO DREAD

Now we're not playing derby rivals, Plymouth, this season, I don't think we'll dread anyone that much really. We'll be looking forward to new challenges.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Newport (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Newport (h)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Luton (a)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Luton (h)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Colchester Utd (h)

# FOREST GREEN ROVERS



## FAN'S VIEW

Voodooobluesman, SkunkMan  
forum.fgrfc.net

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Unpredictable, at times frustrating, but ultimately joyous. Towards the end of the season we did not look particularly sharp, but we pulled together brilliantly in the play-offs.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We want to consolidate. So I hope for a few good wins, to keep playing attacking football and to finish six or more points clear of the relegation zone! Going down would be a nightmare.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Without the Welsh Wonder

## LAST SEASON

National League 3rd // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup n/a



Welsh wonder...  
Christian Doidge

Christian Doidge scoring 27 goals, we would still be in the National League. Sam Russell produced some legendary saves to keep us in the running, even during the tough times.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Lincoln. Both their team and their fans were very ungracious in victory, in complete contrast to the Tranmere fans, who were magnanimous at the play-off Final despite the obvious disappointment of losing.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Woke up this morning feeling fine, I've got promotion on my mind"

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Reece Brown, an attacking midfielder signed after he was released from Birmingham. A very talented young player, but dogged by rumours about his character. And Olly Mayhew: this kid can score goals, watch out for him.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Coventry at home, because the ground will hopefully be full to it's intended 5,000 capacity, plus the "derbies" against Yeovil, Swindon and Cheltenham.

### GAME TO DREAD

None. We should respect everyone, but fear no one.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Newport (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Newport (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Luton (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Luton (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Grimsby (h)



## GRIMSBY TOWN

FAN'S VIEW  
CODALMIGHTY

## LAST SEASON WAS...

Should have been better, could have been worse. We had a new set of players in a league we knew nothing about, so not getting relegated was the aim. By Christmas we realised that everyone (except Pompey, Plymouth, Donny and the ailing Orient) were of the same standard, so we could escape to victory and go straight up. Then Marcus Bignot went mad and threw out the bathwater leaving us with his babies.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We hope and fear for a terribly dull grind towards the play-offs, possibly, maybe.

## LAST SEASON

League One 14th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Heroic...  
Shaun Pearson

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Craig Disley and Shaun Pearson, just because they are heroically old-fashioned footballers who understood the club and town.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

We're mildly peeved at many for the waste of time and money that was last season. Three managers, two complete squad overhauls, and one giant mis-step for Town kind.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The fourth division was not prepared for the fish chant (that pre-dates that annoying Icelandic thing). Clap. Clap. Clap-clap-clap. FISH!

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

We like Harry Clifton, so some non-league side somewhere down the food chain is going to be happy soon.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Obviously the grand return of the Lincolnshire derby, if only to see in person how long it takes for Lincolnites to remember they don't actually like football that much.

## GAME TO DREAD

We don't dread anyone in this division. A slight apprehension at the possibility we won't continue our romps at Lincoln.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Newport (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Luton (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Newport (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Luton (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Forest Green (a)

## LINCOLN CITY

FAN'S VIEW  
GARY HUTCHINSON  
Editor, The Stacey West  
staceywest.net

## LAST SEASON WAS...

The most emotional and remarkable season I have ever experienced as a football fan. Groundbreaking, unparalleled and beyond our wildest dreams.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

My main hope is that we are competitive on our return to the Football League. If we could sit somewhere in the top 10 that would be real progress. Our biggest fear is a relegation battle.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

The real heroes were the

## LAST SEASON

National League 1st // FA Cup Quarter-finals // League Cup n/a



Big future...  
Sean Raggett

management team of Danny and Nicky Cowley. It took them 10 months to turn a battle-weary bottom half side into title winners, full of belief and purpose.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Mark Cooper of Forest Green made many condescending remarks about our team despite us beating them twice.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We are going up", purely

because it isn't one we usually get to sing.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

There isn't a youth player as such, but both Sean Raggett and Alex Woodyard are under 23 and have big futures.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

I'm really looking forward to the first game, seeing the boys running out with EFL badges on their arms once again. Aside from that, the derby matches with Grimsby and Notts County.

## GAME TO DREAD

Forest Green away, apart from their bank balance they're a non-league set up. Their business model repulses me, it's unsustainable and represents a little slice of everything wrong with the modern game.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Luton (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Luton (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Newport (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Newport (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Yeovil (h)



# LUTON TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

**DEPLETED**  
Luton Outlaws

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Consistently inconsistent. We never lost consecutive games but until the final month we never put more than a run of two winning games together. Fourth place was about right for a young team. The play-off's were no surprise as we continue our run of never being promoted via them – our fifth failed attempt.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Hope to go one better. Despite the loss of McGeehan and Marriott our squad already looks stronger than last season, particularly the key additions of McCormack, Stech and Shinnie.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 4th // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 2nd round



Composed...  
James Justin

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Danny Hylton – a pantomime villain – all opposition fans hated him!

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Stuart Moore. Unfortunately for the young keeper he made a season defining clanger in the play-offs which ultimately cost us promotion.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"F\*\*k the FA and The Football

League, we are the famous Luton Town; they tried to kill us off, but we are not so soft, we are the famous Luton Town."

### YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

James Justin, a composed right-back. Called up to England under-19s in the summer. He will most certainly become a Premier League player in the future.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Notts County away, the final game of the season, Nottingham is always a good away day and celebrating the league two title there will be a great (drink fuelled) day out!

### GAME TO DREAD

Carlisle away. Last year's midweek trip coincided with upteen road closures and getting home at 4am.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Newport (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Newport (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Notts County (a)

# MANSFIELD TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

**DEAN FOULKES**

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Bizarre in many ways as it felt like it was actually two seasons rolled in to one. We started steady before fading, then manager Adam Murray left and in came Steve Evans with several new players. Generally the improvement was huge although we just missed out on a play-off place.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope we win every single match, soundly thrashing Chesterfield and Notts County both home and away! There are no fears, most Stags fans are super excited and can't wait for the season to start.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 12th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round



Arrival...  
Steve Evans

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Our fans, especially those who travelled away particularly midweek to far flung places like Yeovil and Carlisle.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Probably the referee who failed to send off a Pompey player in our last home game for blatantly wrestling down our centre-forward when clean through.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"Slater, Slater, what's The score", in reference to a local radio commentator when we were beating Notts County.

### YOUNGESTER TO WATCH

There are several that if they reach their potential we could have a great season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Chesterfield, Notts County and Lincoln.

### GAME TO DREAD

Luton away is very rarely fun!

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Luton (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Newport (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Newport (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Luton (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Crawley (h)



# MORECAMBE



## FAN'S VIEW

JACK STEER

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A disaster off the pitch and a miracle on the pitch. Well publicised ownership issues seriously threatened the existence of the club but Jim Bentley worked miracles to keep us in the League.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Even the most optimistic Morecambe fan will be very cautious at the moment with the loss of key players from last year. Survival is the only immediate target.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Ryan Edwards cleaned up at the end-of-season awards do and has earned a move up a

## LAST SEASON

League Two 18th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round



Miracle...  
Jim Bentley

league with Plymouth in the close season.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Diego Lemos, a Brazilian who "bought" the club then did a runner. However, the off-field problems had the positive effect of uniting the fans and the club to an extent we haven't seen since leaving Christie Park in 2010.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

When Jim got banned for one

game for losing his cool after a red card given by one of many atrocious referees in the league. The whole stadium united in singing his name and a collection was taken to pay his fine.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Luke Jordan, who has pace in abundance.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Having lost local seaside rivals Blackpool, it was selfishly pleasing to at least keep Carlisle in the division for what is always an entertaining fixture both home and away.

### GAME TO DREAD

No game in particular but any Shrimps that are dedicated enough to make such a long journey won't relish the fact that we have Yeovil away on a Tuesday night.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Newport (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Luton (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Newport (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Luton (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Coventry City (a)

# NEWPORT COUNTY



## FAN'S VIEW

SIMON SADLER

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Difficult for the club. Pitch and performance issues dominated the first half of the season but the Great Escape in the final 12 games was something our supporters will never forget.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

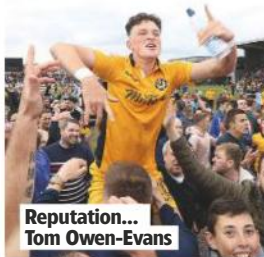
My hope is that we get off to a good start despite having to play the first handful of games away from Rodney Parade. My fear is that we start poorly and lose the momentum from last season.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Manager Mike Flynn. Performances since he was

## LAST SEASON

League Two 22nd // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 1st round



Reputation...  
Tom Owen-Evans

appointed caretaker were incredible and he restored the relationship between the fans and the players.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Graham Carey of Plymouth. His penalty cost us a trip to Anfield in the FA Cup and his hand in their 6-1 league demolition of us almost cost us our place in the League on goal difference.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

To the tune of Glad All Over,

"We've got Michael Flynn, we've got Michael Flynn, we've got Michael Flynn, so glad you're mine".

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Tom Owen-Evans is building a reputation of being a silky playmaker with the ability to glide past opponents. We hope his progression continues this season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Notts County away. It is a fantastic club and the stadium gives you a real sense of the history of our game. Both teams also like to play so they are always entertaining games.

### GAME TO DREAD

Probably Barnet away. I like the club and their business model but John Akinde always gets the better of us.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Luton (a)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Luton (h)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)



# NOTTS COUNTY



## FAN'S VIEW

STUART BROTHERS

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Hopefully, the start of a new, successful era. New owner Alan Hardy has reinvigorated matters off the field. Kevin Nolan has exceeded all expectations as manager.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

We're always cautious given we've seen more false dawns than a stripclub, but players like Shola Ameobi and Jon Stead suggests things are a little rosier at Meadow Lane.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Great to see Rob Milsom become the player we'd seen sporadically in spells, each cut short due to injury.

## LAST SEASON

League Two 16th // FA Cup 2nd round // League Cup 1st round



Impressed...  
Kevin Nolan

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

John Sheridan's tenure as manager was a dark one, with a dreary demeanour upsetting the applearc and prompting a losing streak that cost us being in play-off contention.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

The way the Wheelbarrow Song echoed from the Kop last year as the supporters re-found their passion for the club and the players was fantastic, about as loud

and as proud as it has been in many years.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Dominic Brown-Hill has been a class act since joining the academy and represents a real opportunity to see a youth team prospect come good. Joe Searson-Smithard in goal has grown immensely also and will be knocking on Nolan's door soon.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

We're about due something positive against Mansfield Town after two years of abuse at their hands since they came back into the Football League.

### GAME TO DREAD

Probably visiting Mansfield for another early kick-off with the over-the-top policing that brings with it.

2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>Dec 30</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Newport (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Newport (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Luton (a)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Luton (h)

# PORT VALE



## FAN'S VIEW

ROB FIELDING  
onevalefan.co.uk

### LAST SEASON WAS...

A farce. A dreadful and expensive gamble on untried foreign signings was followed by the loss of several key players in January. Then late hope that we may escape relegation was dashed as we went down on the final day.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

A massive rebuilding job awaits. I think the club desperately needs stability and less off-field controversy. The long-term goal for many fans is a change of ownership.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Youth team graduate Nathan

## LAST SEASON

League One 21st // FA Cup 3rd round // League Cup 1st round



Graduate...  
Nathan Smith

Smith didn't deserve to be relegated after a stellar first season that ended with him winning six end-of-season awards.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

After such a disastrous season there were a few. Owner Norman Smurthwaite and Bruno Ribeiro's summer recruitment drive went spectacularly awry, caretaker Michael Brown failed to strengthen well in January and many of the players were clearly not good enough

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Striker Rigino Cicilia divided opinion but earned supersub status after a couple of goals. With fans struggling to fit "Rigino" into songs, the six-footer quickly became known as "Big Reg" and chants of "Reggie" rang out.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

I am looking forward to seeing James Gibbons, Billy Reeves and Dan Turner this season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

As a South East based Valiant, the games against Wycombe, Stevenage and Barnet will make for easy away trips.

### GAME TO DREAD

Whichever B side we are drawn against in the Checkatrade Trophy.

2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>Aug 12</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>Dec 30</b>	Luton (h)
<b>Aug 19</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>Aug 26</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>Jan 6</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>Jan 13</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>Sep 9</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>Jan 20</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>Sep 12</b>	Luton (a)	<b>Jan 27</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>Sep 16</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>Sep 23</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>Feb 10</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>Sep 26</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>Feb 13</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>Sep 30</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>Feb 17</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>Feb 24</b>	Newport (h)
<b>Oct 14</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>Oct 17</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>Mar 10</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>Oct 21</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>Mar 17</b>	Stevenage (h)
<b>Oct 28</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>Mar 24</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Newport (a)	<b>Mar 31</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>Nov 18</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>Nov 21</b>	Mansfield (h)	<b>Apr 7</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>Nov 25</b>	Lincoln City (a)	<b>Apr 14</b>	Lincoln City (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>Apr 21</b>	Mansfield (a)
<b>Dec 16</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>Apr 28</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>Dec 23</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)



## STEVENAGE



## FAN'S VIEW

PETE HAYMAN

## LAST SEASON WAS...

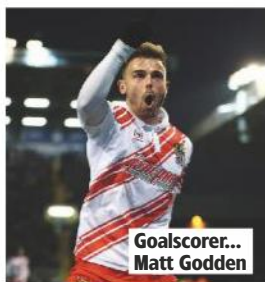
After an inconsistent first half of the season, we came to life after Christmas, putting together a string of results that lifted us right up into the promotion mix. The impressive 3-0 win at home to Pompey had us dreaming of a top-three finish, but we ran out of steam at the worst possible moment. No wins in the last six cost us even a play-off spot.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

The fundamental hope is that Boro keep building on the past couple of seasons. Promotion wasn't even on the cards at the start of last season; this

## LAST SEASON

League Two 10th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round

Goalscorer...  
Matt Godden

time, however, it could well be if Darren Sarll can reignite the form that lifted us into the top four. The fears are that we've let the wrong players go (Charlie Lee); that we'll lose Matt Godden; and that we finish below Barnet.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Matt Godden for his goalscoring feats and goalkeeper Chris Day for proving that age is just a number.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Trevor Kettle. Awful referee.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

It wasn't such a strong season in the songwriting stakes last season.

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

The squad overall has a younger feel to it; the likes of Ben Kennedy and Dale Gorman are now among some of our longest-serving players.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

If we're aiming to start as we mean to go on this season, then Newport at home is as good a game to look forward to.

## GAME TO DREAD

Luton, probably.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Newport County (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Lincoln (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Grimsby (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Accrington Stanley (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Luton (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Crewe Alexandra (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Luton (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Accrington Stanley (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Crewe Alexandra (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Grimsby (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Newport County (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Exeter (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Exeter (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Wycombe (a)

## SWINDON TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

AARON SMITH  
thewashbag.com

## LAST SEASON WAS...

Terrible. Somehow Lee Power has taken the club from near promotion to relegation. The feeling among Town fans is a lack of engagement with supporters coupled with the woeful performances made 2016-17 one of the worst seasons in living memory.

## THIS SEASON WILL BE...

Our greatest fear is the real possibility of repeating Leyton Orient's feat of League One play-off runners-up followed by non-league football in three seasons. The only hope is we maintain our good record in the fourth division of promotion at the

## LAST SEASON

League One 22nd // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 1st round

Accolade...  
Lawrence Vigouroux

first attempt.

## OUR BIGGEST HERO

Our keeper Lawrence Vigouroux was player of the season and scooped all the awards. We always get relegated when the goalkeeper wins

that accolade.

## OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Tim Sherwood. Branded by Power as the "biggest appointment in the club's history" soon turned into the biggest disappointment. He also didn't wear a gilet.

## BEST SONG LAST SEASON

"We want Power Out!" What else?

## YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Probably lots as most of the team are kids.

## GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

A short trip to Forest Green, like most of the division.

## GAME TO DREAD

The long trip to Carlisle on the opening day.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Luton (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Notts County (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Luton (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Notts County (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Crewe (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Wycombe (a)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Cheltenham (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Yeovil (h)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Cheltenham (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Wycombe (h)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Yeovil (a)	<b>APR 2</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Newport (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Newport (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Crewe (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Accrington (h)



# WYCOMBE WANDERERS



## FAN'S VIEW

DALE JENKINS

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Exciting and a bit of a rollercoaster. The season started slowly with many injuries, followed by a fantastic 16-match unbeaten run in the league, and cup runs to the FA Cup fourth round, where we lost to Tottenham, and the semi-finals of the Checkatrade Trophy. Unfortunately another blip meant we finished one point below the play-offs.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I am certainly hopeful of at least a play-off place if we can keep our core body of players fit throughout the season. We will probably have one of the smaller squads in

## LAST SEASON

League Two 9th // FA Cup 4th round // League Cup 1st round



Big man...  
Adebayo Akinfenwa

terms of quantity, but the quality is certainly there.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Without question Adebayo Akinfenwa. The big man split opinion upon his arrival, but his effect on and off the pitch last season was incredible. A skilful player and a humble man who had a brilliant season.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

Danny Hylton of Luton. Opposition players rarely

infrigate me as much as that man. His diving exploits are embarrassing.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Scott Kashket and Dom Gape, at just 21 and 22, are players to watch. Kashket's pace and goalscoring could be crucial to a promotion push, and I am hoping Dom can make the centre midfield position his own this season.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

The Luton matches are always interesting and Colchester still has a bit of extra spice.

### GAME TO DREAD

I don't think there's anyone to fear particularly. Mansfield have made a number of signings but will they gel? I always dread Yeovil as we have such a poor record against them historically.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Newport (h)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Port Vale (a)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Forest Green (a)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Luton (a)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Forest Green (h)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Colchester Utd (h)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Newport (a)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Coventry City (h)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Luton (h)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Colchester Utd (a)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Swindon (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Barnet (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Morecambe (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Crawley (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Swindon (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Barnet (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Port Vale (h)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Morecambe (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Crawley (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Accrington (a)	<b>APR 7</b>	Lincoln City (a)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Yeovil (h)	<b>APR 14</b>	Yeovil (a)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Stevenage (a)	<b>APR 21</b>	Accrington (h)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Chesterfield (h)	<b>APR 28</b>	Chesterfield (a)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Coventry City (a)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Stevenage (h)

# YEOVIL TOWN



## FAN'S VIEW

BEN BARRETT

### LAST SEASON WAS...

Honestly, pretty tough. A realisation has set in that the days of being competitive at the top end of League One and for a season in the Championship are a long way behind us. It's back to being happy with staying in the League each year.

### THIS SEASON WILL BE...

I hope for a change in attitude, attacking football and a club that we can fall in love with again. I fear we're staring at non-league.

### OUR BIGGEST HERO

Now that Matty Dolan has moved on, the pressure is on

## LAST SEASON

League Two 20th // FA Cup 1st round // League Cup 2nd round



Stick...  
Darren Way

Nathan Smith to show the new faces exactly what playing for Yeovil means.

### OUR BIGGEST VILLAIN

It's a cheap shot, but the manager Darren Way took a lot of stick on social media. Eyes are now turning upstairs and asking questions of the owners and directors.

### BEST SONG LAST SEASON

Another hard one to answer as support has wavered in

both numbers and passion due to what we're seeing on the pitch.

### YOUNGSTER TO WATCH

Young keeper Jenny Maddison might have been the only positive to take from the Football League Trophy games.

### GAME TO LOOK FORWARD TO

It's easy to look forward to sides like Coventry and Wolves (League Cup), but we've got local games against Cheltenham and Exeter at key times.

### GAME TO DREAD

Games against Lincoln and Forest Green may just show how close the gap is between non-league and the EFL. We finish the season away at Lincoln; I'm already praying we don't need a result there.

## 2017-18 FIXTURES

<b>AUG 5</b>	Luton (a)	<b>DEC 26</b>	Cheltenham (a)
<b>AUG 12</b>	Accrington (h)	<b>DEC 30</b>	Morecambe (a)
<b>AUG 19</b>	Forest Green (a)	<b>JAN 1</b>	Crawley (h)
<b>AUG 26</b>	Coventry City (h)	<b>JAN 6</b>	Grimsby (h)
<b>SEP 2</b>	Crawley (a)	<b>JAN 13</b>	Port Vale (a)
<b>SEP 9</b>	Cheltenham (h)	<b>JAN 20</b>	Chesterfield (h)
<b>SEP 12</b>	Morecambe (h)	<b>JAN 27</b>	Exeter (a)
<b>SEP 16</b>	Grimsby (a)	<b>FEB 3</b>	Cambridge Utd (h)
<b>SEP 23</b>	Port Vale (h)	<b>FEB 10</b>	Crewe (a)
<b>SEP 26</b>	Chesterfield (a)	<b>FEB 13</b>	Barnet (h)
<b>SEP 30</b>	Colchester Utd (h)	<b>FEB 17</b>	Stevenage (a)
<b>OCT 7</b>	Newport (a)	<b>FEB 24</b>	Carlisle Utd (h)
<b>OCT 14</b>	Crewe (h)	<b>MAR 3</b>	Swindon (a)
<b>OCT 17</b>	Cambridge Utd (a)	<b>MAR 10</b>	Newport (h)
<b>OCT 21</b>	Barnet (a)	<b>MAR 17</b>	Colchester Utd (a)
<b>OCT 28</b>	Stevenage (h)	<b>MAR 24</b>	Accrington (a)
<b>NOV 11</b>	Carlisle Utd (a)	<b>MAR 31</b>	Forest Green (h)
<b>NOV 18</b>	Swindon (h)	<b>APR 2</b>	Coventry City (a)
<b>NOV 21</b>	Notts County (h)	<b>APR 7</b>	Luton (h)
<b>NOV 25</b>	Wycombe (a)	<b>APR 14</b>	Wycombe (h)
<b>DEC 9</b>	Lincoln City (h)	<b>APR 21</b>	Notts County (a)
<b>DEC 16</b>	Mansfield (a)	<b>APR 28</b>	Mansfield (h)
<b>DEC 23</b>	Exeter (h)	<b>MAY 5</b>	Lincoln City (a)



# Save 50%

when you subscribe today!



PAY ONLY  
**£2.57**  
AN ISSUE

Monthly extras,  
Exclusive for  
subscribers.

*Rewards*

Subscribe today and join Rewards for free to get even more from your magazine. Handpicked offers, unique giveaways and unmissable prizes.

Join Rewards at [worldsoccer.com/rewards](http://worldsoccer.com/rewards)



Subscribe online at  
[worldsoccersubs.com/13EQ](http://worldsoccersubs.com/13EQ)



Complete the  
coupon opposite

THE DIRECT DEBIT GUARANTEE: This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits - If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit Time Inc. (UK) Ltd will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Time Inc. (UK) Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request. - If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit, by Time Inc. (UK) Ltd or your bank or building society you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society - If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Time Inc. (UK) Ltd asks you to - You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.



**WORLD SOCCER**

**SUBSCRIPTION OFFER**

## HERE'S THE DEAL:

- ★ Pay less than at the newsagent
- ★ 13 issues a year delivered direct to your door
- ★ Enjoy exclusive offers with Rewards. Visit [worldsoccer.com/rewards](http://worldsoccer.com/rewards)

Post the completed order form to: FREEPOST Time Inc  
(No further address needed. No stamp required – for UK only)

**YES!** I would like to subscribe to **World Soccer**

UK 6 Monthly Direct Debit: Pay only £16.65 every 6 months saving 50% (full price £33.40)

**TOP OFFER**

2 years (26 issues) Cheque/Credit or Debit Card- Pay only £66.75 (full price £133.58) saving 50% across the two years

1 year (13 issues) Cheque/Credit or Debit Card- Pay only £33.35 (full price £66.79) saving 50% across the year

### OVERSEAS OFFERS: SAVING 50%

+44 330 333 1113 quote code 13EQ

or visit [worldsoccersubs.com/13EQ](http://worldsoccersubs.com/13EQ)

US toll free number 1 888 313 5528 (lines open Mon-Sat 7am-12 Midday Central Time)

#### YOUR DETAILS:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: Forename: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel. No: (inc area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth:

#### GIFT SUBSCRIPTION:

Please fill out to give more than one subscription, please supply address details on a separate sheet.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: Forename: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CHOOSE FROM 3 EASY WAYS TO PAY:

##### 1. CHEQUE

I enclose a cheque/postal order for: £ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Time Inc. (UK) Ltd.

##### 2. CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

Please debit my:  Amex  Visa  Visa Debit  Mastercard

Card No.

Expiry Date

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(I am over 18)

##### 3. DIRECT DEBIT: To pay £16.65 every 6 months by UK Direct Debit, please complete your details below:

PAYMENT DETAILS – DIRECT DEBIT  
Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit.  
For office use only: Originators Reference – 764 221



Name of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Bank: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Account Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code:       Account No:

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society Please pay Time Inc. (UK) Ltd Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Time Inc. (UK) Ltd and if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank or Building Society.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(I am over 18)

\*£16.65 payable by 6 monthly Direct Debit. This price is guaranteed for the first 12 months and we will notify you in advance of any price changes. Offer closes 31st July 2017. Offer open to new subscribers only. Please allow up to six weeks for delivery of your first subscription issue (up to eight weeks overseas). The full subscription rate is for 1 year (13 issues) and includes postage and packaging. If the magazine ordered changes frequency per annum, we will honour the number of issues paid for, not the term of the subscription. For full terms and conditions, visit [www.magazinesdirect.com/terms](http://www.magazinesdirect.com/terms). For enquiries from the UK please call: 0330 333 1113, for overseas please call: +44 330 333 1113 (lines are open Monday - Saturday, 8am - 6pm UK Time) or e-mail: [help@magazinesdirect.com](mailto:help@magazinesdirect.com). Calls to 0330 numbers will be charged at no more than a national landline call, and may be included in your phone providers call bundle. We will process your data in accordance with our Privacy Policy ([www.timeincuk.com/privacy](http://www.timeincuk.com/privacy)). By providing your information, you agree to be contacted by Time Inc. (UK) Ltd, publisher of World Soccer and other iconic media brands, with information about our goods and services and those of our carefully selected third parties. Please tick here if you do not wish to receive these messages:  by email and/or SMS  by post and/or telephone  about carefully selected third party goods and services.



**0330 333 1113**

Quote code: 13EQ

Monday to Saturday from 8am to 6pm (UK time)

The Rewards scheme is available for all active print subscribers of magazines published by Time Inc. (UK) Ltd, free of charge. Digital subscribers also get access as long as the subscription has been purchased directly through the publishers at [magazinesdirect.com](http://magazinesdirect.com). For full terms and conditions visit [mymagazinerewards.co.uk](http://mymagazinerewards.co.uk).

XWS Code 13EQ



AND FINALLY...



## BROTHERS IN ARMS

The rise of brothers Danny and Nicky Cowley shows no sign of coming to a halt. The Essex boys guided Lincoln City back into the Football League last season and made history when the club became the first non-league team to reach the FA Cup quarter-finals for 103 years, beating Premier League Burnley along the way.

A year ago, they were teaching PE at a school in Essex and part-time managers of Braintree Town. Before that they were at little Concord Rangers – who aren't even regarded as the biggest club on their Canvey Island home!

If Lincoln are at the top end of League Two this term, the boys will be in big demand higher up the league.



“Art of Football bring out the beauty in the game's most memorable moments” Copago90

“Art of Football capture classic moments in a vibrant, contemporary style” The Guardian

“Art of Football get it. those split-second moments are treasured memories and their artwork captures them in a classy and stylish way” Ball Street

“Art of Football's shirts capture the vibrancy of the game like no other” Dirty Tackle

“Art of Football - where the beautiful game comes to life” Hitesh Ratna, Editor, FourFourTwo

“The Art of Football team create truly unique and authentic content that is designed to emotionally connect real fans to the biggest moments in the game” Adidas UK

[Art-of-football.com](http://Art-of-football.com)





PRO:DIRECT  
SOCCER

# THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM



VIEW THE FULL ADIDAS  
DUST STORM COLLECTION ONLINE



[www.prodirectsoccer.com](http://www.prodirectsoccer.com)