

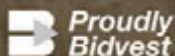


10 VS WEST HAM UNITED

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3:00PM. SUNDERLAND AFC OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME £3.



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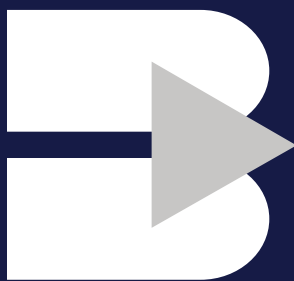
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Today's special cover features the seven Sunderland players who gave their lives in the First World War that we focus on in today's programme as part of the Premier League's 'Football Remembers' project. Albert Milton is in the centre, then clockwise from 12 is: James Chalmers, Jack Huggins, Alex Barrie, Sandy McAllister, Leigh Richmond Roose and Thomas Rowlandson.

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Plus today find your pull-out poster of Seb Larsson's superb free-kick against Everton



SUNDERLAND AFC

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Sunderland SR5 1SU
Telephone: 0871 911 1200
www.safc.com

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Commercial Director: Gary Hutchinson
Director: Per Magnus Andersson

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Goalkeeping Coach: Andy Beasley
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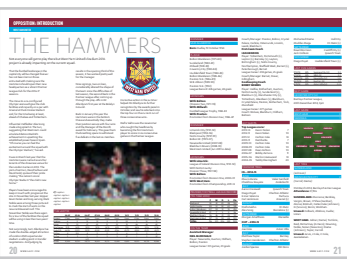
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HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT: Sir Bob Murray CBE

SUNDERLAND AFC HONOURS

Top-flight champions: 1892, 1893, 1895, 1902, 1913 & 1936
'Championship' winners: 1976, 1996, 1999, 2005 & 2007.
'League One' winners: 1988
Top-flight runners' up: 1894, 1898, 1901, 1923 & 1935
'Championship' runners up: 1964 & 1980. Also promoted 1990.
FA Cup winners: 1937 & 1973
FA Cup finalists: 1913 & 1992.
League Cup finalists: 1985 & 2014

With the changing names of the leagues in 1992 and 2004 we refer to the levels of the leagues by their current names, for example Sunderland won the equivalent of what is now called 'The Championship' in 1976 when back then it was called The Second Division.



WELCOME

This afternoon's match brings West Ham United to the Stadium of Light. Under former Sunderland centre-back Sam Allardyce the Hammers are enjoying a tremendous season and are currently occupying one of the Champions League places, so Sunderland should be used to that by now having faced sides playing in this season's Champions League in each of the last three games.

Some 84 years to the day of last weekend's trip to Anfield Sunderland also met Liverpool with the next home game bringing a 6-1 win over West Ham.

That sort of goal fest may be very unlikely, but a home win this afternoon would certainly boost the Christmas spirits on Wearside ahead of next week's trip to Newcastle.

FOOTBALL REMEMBERS

Tomorrow brings to a close 'Football Remembers Week' a collaborative project involving The Premier League, the Football League, the FA and The British Council.

'Football Remembers' commemorates the centenary of the beginning of The Great War and our cover today honours the seven Sunderland players who gave their lives in that terrible conflict: Alex Barrie, James Chalmers, Jack Huggins, Albert Milton, Sandy McCallister, L.R. Roose and Thomas Rowlandson.

Today's profile spot has been given over to 'Football Remembers' which begins on page 34.

SUNDERLAND AFC TO UNVEIL TRIBUTE TO WAR HEROES

At noon today Sunderland AFC unveiled a memorial to its players killed in action in the First and Second World Wars.

The memorial, situated outside the Stadium of Light's West Stand, honours the seven SAFC players killed in World War One, along with Percy Saunders, who was killed in action during the Second World War. Timed to coincide with the 100 year anniversary of the start of The Great War, the memorial also pays tribute to all those killed in the line of duty.

The memorial was unveiled in a special dedication ceremony. Two former military chaplains joined the club chaplain, Father Marc Lynden-Smith, and members of the Armed Forces to formally dedicate the monument.

Sunderland AFC chairman Ellis Short said: "Through the creation of this memorial we pay tribute not only to our former players who lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars, but to all the brave men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving their country. It also provides a place where we can remember all members of the Sunderland family who are no longer with us."

The memorial sits within a specially created seated area, alongside the existing Fans' Statue.


WEST STAND CHRISTMAS CAROLS

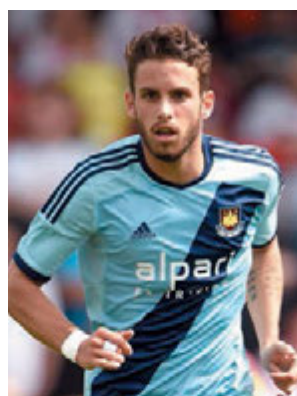
From 12.30 today the Salvation Army Brass Band will be playing a selection of Christmas Carols outside the West Stand. So far

this season it's been 'Ding-dong Merrily on High' for the Hammers, but hopefully it'll be more a case of 'Joy to the World' rather than 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter' if The Lads can keep Andy Carroll quiet and come out on top today.

GUESS THE GATE

Around 43,000 are expected at the match today, including 1,900 visiting fans. Thank you for your support.

 Gus Poyet's son Diego is part of the West Ham squad



LIKE FATHER LIKE SON

Gus Poyet's son Diego is a midfielder with West Ham. Having just returned from a loan to Huddersfield the 19-year-old England youth international would love to play today, but if he does it might be wise to remind him it's not a good idea to upset your dad, especially just before Christmas!

MAKE MINE A MIMMS

Welcome to West Ham goalkeeping coach Bobby Mimms, who 28 years ago today made his Sunderland debut at Barnsley.

STRATTON'S SCORCHER

Could you list in date order, starting with the earliest, when Chelsea, Liverpool and West Ham won the FA Cup for the first time? Find the answer on page 82. Stratton is Red & White's crossword compiler. You'll find the crossword on 42 and the solution on page 82.



100 FOR ADAM

Should he play today Adam Johnson will be making his 100th appearance for the club. Johnson has scored 17 goals so far in his Sunderland career, a better ratio than at any of his previous clubs.

GOALS INDEX

The current squad have 10 career goals to their names against West Ham, including one for the on-loan Danny Graham (above).

FLETCHER ●●●●
JOHNSON ●●●●●
GOMEZ ●●●●●
GRAHAM ●●●●●
LARSSON ●●●●●
O'SHEA ●●●●●

SMARTPHONE RED AND WHITE

The full edition of your match programme compatible with Apple, Android and Windows 8 platforms is now available. To get your copy of Red & White on your phone go to www.pocketmags.com or use the PocketMags App. Each edition will cost you £2.49.

GREATNESS AWAITS

Once the final whistle sounds today the countdown to next week's derby starts to race. From

5pm this afternoon there will be 188 and a half hours until the first ball is kicked at St. James'. Having won the last three derbies The Lads have the opportunity to write their names into the record books, because not even 'The Team Of All The Talents', Charlie Buchan's men of 1913 or Raich Carter and co in the Thirties ever beat the Magpies four times in a row.

AWAY FANS ROUTE HOME

Thank you to all of the fans in the visitors' section who have travelled to the North East to support their team. We hope you enjoy your day on Wearside - apart from the result of course - and wish you a safe journey home. If travelling by car: to get from the stadium back on to the A19 (which leads onto the A1 via the A690) you need to:

Turn left coming out of the stadium at the roundabout by the Colliery Inn, just past the miners' lamp you'll see outside the Sunderland ticket office. Travel along this road, which is Keir Hardie Way.

Go straight on at all traffic lights until you reach the A19. You'll pass a big petrol station and shop on your right before reaching the A19.



REF WATCH

Name: Phil Dowd

Age: 51

Top-flight debut: Fulham 2-0 Everton, 8.12.01

First SAFC game: Everton 2-1 Sunderland, 18.1.03

Most recent SAFC game: Crystal Palace 1-3 Sunderland, 3.11.14

Total SAFC games refereed: 35

Most recent game: Burnley 1-1 Newcastle United, Barclays Premier League, 2.12.14

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

up to 12th December	HOME					AWAY				
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A
1 CHELSEA	15	7	0	0	18 3	4	3	1	16	10 +21
2 MAN CITY	15	5	1	1	12 5	5	2	1	20	9 +18
3 MAN UTD	15	6	1	1	16 6	2	3	2	10	11 +9
4 WEST HAM	15	5	1	2	12 7	3	2	2	14	11 +8
5 SOUTHAMPTON	15	5	1	2	18 6	3	1	3	7	6 +13
6 ARSENAL	15	3	3	1	12 8	3	2	3	12	10 +6
7 NEWCASTLE	15	4	2	1	10 8	2	3	3	7	10 -1
8 SWANSEA	15	5	2	1	13 5	1	2	4	7	12 +3
9 LIVERPOOL	15	3	3	2	7 6	3	0	4	12	13 0
10 TOTTENHAM	15	3	1	4	9 9	3	2	2	9	12 -3
11 ASTON VILLA	15	2	2	3	6 10	3	2	3	4	9 -9
12 EVERTON	15	2	3	2	13 13	2	3	3	11	10 +1
13 STOKE	15	3	1	3	9 9	2	2	4	8	11 -3
14 SUNDERLAND	15	1	5	2	8 11	1	4	2	5	12 -10
15 C PALACE	15	2	1	4	8 10	1	4	3	10	13 -5
16 WEST BROM	15	1	3	4	11 13	2	2	3	3	7 -6
17 QPR	15	4	2	2	14 10	0	0	7	2	17 -11
18 HULL	15	1	3	3	8 10	1	4	3	7	11 -6
19 BURNLEY	15	1	4	3	6 11	1	2	4	4	13 -14
20 LEICESTER	15	1	4	2	11 12	1	0	7	4	14 -11

ALSO PLAYING TODAY

Burnley v Southampton
Chelsea v Hull City
Crystal Palace v Stoke City
Leicester City v Manchester City
WBA v Aston Villa
Arsenal v Newcastle United (5.30)

Middlesbrough v Derby County
Burton Albion v Hartlepool Utd.

Manchester United v Liverpool (Sun)
Swansea City v Tottenham Hotspur (Sun)
Everton v QPR (Mon)

GOALS ARE THE PRIORITY

In modern football the easiest way to find the back of the net is to buy players. At this moment in time that is not possible as the transfer window is not open and we have a lot of games to play so for the moment we need to find a way of scoring more goals ourselves. That means working with the players, showing them different options so strikers can take advantage of situations we can create.

Confidence comes from goals. We won a couple of games by scoring three goals and also scored three in the cup win at Birmingham. It's more than a coincidence as it shows that if you can score one or two, more can follow. We've been working hard on this. There are different ways to score goals. Our way needs special players around the box so it is good to have Ricky Alvarez fit again and also we hope to have Emanuele Giaccherini available again next week. Players of this quality can help to open teams up and I'm really looking forward to them being able to participate fully.

I can assure everybody reading the programme that we don't play for draws. We didn't play for a draw against Chelsea and we didn't against Liverpool at Anfield. We play the game in a way that we feel gives us more chances of winning and in both of those matches I thought we were very close to winning - it was nearly perfect.

We have to maintain a level of playing against a top team today because West Ham are fourth and we are not talking about just playing two or three games, we have played 15 so they are so high because of what they have been doing and they deserve to be where they are. They'll present us with a different challenge but we need to believe in what we do.

I'd like to welcome Sam Allardyce and everyone from West Ham to Sunderland today. Sam and his goalkeeping coach Bobby Mimms both played for Sunderland and even though it is a long time ago it is always nice to come back to a former club.

My son Diego is with West Ham of course. I don't know if he will be involved but if he was it would be the first time we have ever been in opposition. I just want to win the game and it doesn't matter if my son is in the opposing side. Naturally because he is there West Ham's result is always one of the first I check, so I can see how they've done and if he played. For the rest of the games I wish West Ham well except when they play against us.

We are going into the next four games to the end of the year with the intention of winning as many of them as we can. Of course the main task is to win the next one, so three points today is our aim. We must focus strongly on this although I know for many supporters the biggest game of the season is the next one. We'll concentrate on next week's trip to Newcastle after today's match is played and we know that as well as providing three valuable points if we can win today, it would also be a timely boost ahead of the derby.

I know how important the derby is to supporters. They've been great for me so far and it would be fantastic if we could get the three points next week. The only thing I can say about next week's game is let's make sure it is a nice party day with no crazy things goings on. Remember it is a football game and let's enjoy being part of it with a great competitive spirit but no problems.

I've experienced two North East derbies now and I've learned that you need to live here to know what they're like. You need to live it to know it and it is

fantastic. Of course I've enjoyed them so far because we've been winning and we'd love to produce another special day for everyone.

Talking about special games, we now know about the game we have to play in the FA Cup. I always want the smallest team at home but in Leeds United we certainly do not have the smallest team. Having not played them in the FA Cup since the final in 1973 is going to make it special. It is much tougher than I would like to have at this moment in time but I am really looking forward to it. Leeds will bring a lot of supporters and I had a great relationship with those fans from when I was at Elland Road. The away fans helped us a lot when I was there so I know the backing they will give to the Leeds players when they come here. It will be a nice atmosphere at the Stadium of Light because I know our supporters won't want to let anyone get the better of them.

Our support has been terrific and we're expecting another crowd of over 40,000 today which I thank you for. This is the last home game before Christmas, so in wishing you all the best I hope that by the time we are here again on Boxing Day we have done all we can on the pitch to make it a happy one.



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FROM THE TOP

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Stadium of Light today to every Sunderland supporter. We also welcome our visitors West Ham, whose directors, players, staff and supporters have made the long journey north for today's game.

My last programme notes were written immediately after the heavy defeat to Southampton. That was a unique result and since then we have become a team that is difficult to beat. With the exception of the Manchester City game, where we encountered a team at the very top of their

game, we have remained unbeaten and that gives us a great platform to build on in the coming weeks and months.

The festive period is very busy in football. The frequency of games in such a short space of time provides a significant challenge to

teams. It also provides a challenge for supporters. Christmas is an expensive time and that makes it all the more incredible to see our attendances increasing, both here at the Stadium of Light and at away games. Every time I see a sold out away end or a loud, vibrant and passionate big home crowd I feel tremendous pride in our club; thank you for the amazing support you give us.

We announced this week that Connor Wickham has signed a new contract. I would like to congratulate Connor - he is a young player with a lot of potential and we are delighted to have agreed a long-term deal with him.

You will have noticed that today's match programme features commemorations of the Sunderland players who died while fighting in the Great War. This coincides with the unveiling today of a memorial at the stadium, dedicated to our players who were killed in both World Wars.

As we commemorate 100 years since the commencement of the First World War it is only right that we formally recognise those who sacrificed so much. The memorial also provides a focal point for us to remember all those from the Sunderland family who are no longer with us and is a fitting tribute.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas. I hope you enjoy the festivities and let's hope for a result today to make the celebrations all the more special.

ELLIS SHORT

“ AS WE COMMEMORATE 100 YEARS SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR IT IS ONLY RIGHT THAT WE FORMALLY RECOGNISE THOSE WHO SACRIFICED SO MUCH ”

✎ Connor Wickham has signed a new contract



PANTILIMON HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THE REST

Black Cats goalkeeper **Costel Pantilimon** has kept three clean sheets in his last four games for the club, against tough opposition and he is hoping to continue his rich vein of form this afternoon against a high-flying West Ham United side.

Shut outs against Leicester City, Chelsea and Liverpool over the past few weeks have seen the club's defensive performances praised. Anthony Reveillere has come in at left-back following injury to Patrick van Aanholt, while Santiago Vergini is becoming a fans' favourite for his efforts at right-back.

With the experience of John O'Shea and Wes Brown in the heart of the back-line, Pantilimon has praised the back-four in front of him: "I think it's important not just for me, but for the team to try and keep clean sheets as it shows good teamwork. I hope

that I can improve all the time and keep on helping the team.


"It's important. Everybody in this team is important. Everybody knows what his job is on the pitch and that is good for the team. It is important that we are a great group like we are. We try to be a good group and get the results together."

West Ham come to the Stadium of Light in fine form, winning their last three Barclays Premier League games, sitting fourth in the table. An impressive victory at home to Swansea City last Sunday saw Andy Carroll get on

the scoresheet twice. At 6ft 8ins, Pantilimon is ready for the aerial threat that The Hammers possess in their ranks.

"I prepare for every game, watching the opponent," he added. "It is normal to watch the opponent and the way they play, their style and how they will be in the games. Of course we study the opponent but it is our game and its important how we play and how we react to everything in the game.

"We know that West Ham are a strong team. They are a good team and in a great position at

 Costel has kept four clean sheets in his last five games, including one for Romania





this moment with good results. For us though, it's important to have a strong mentality and to win these games is very important for us and hopefully we can get the result today.

"To be honest I'm not surprised by West Ham this season and the results that they have picked up. They have very good players and I think that they are doing really well right now. They are in a good moment but it's important for us to respect the opponent but at the same time, know that we are a great group of players at a great club and we need to win games."

Famously John Terry once thought Kenwyne Jones at Sunderland was the best he'd seen in the air - wonder what he made of trying to challenge Pantilimon?

After a tough run of three games against last season's top three, Pantilimon is looking forward to another game on home soil being backed by home support that has impressed him, even before he joined the club from Manchester City in the summer.

"I played at the Stadium of Light last season and I know it is a great stadium with fans singing so it is good to have them on my side now and it is good to be a part of it," he said.

This afternoon's game is already the third game for the Black Cats in December, in a month that will see the team play six top-flight games. With the games coming thick and fast, it is something that the 27-year-old Romanian is looking forward to, with an opportunity for the team to pick up more points before the New Year.

"I prefer that there are a lot of games at this time of year," he confessed. "I like to play like that and we need to make sure that we do our best in every game."

Today's clash against The Hammers is the final home match before Christmas, with the hotly anticipated Tyne-Wear derby falling just four days before 25th December. And with the excitement and adrenaline already building up throughout the region, Pantilimon admits that he knows all about it, now that he lives in the North East: "I have found out all about the derby and the two teams by living here. I understand what it means for everybody in these games and people talk about it all the time. Of course it is a big game but first of all we have to look at today's game against West Ham and hope to get a good result today."

NEW DEAL FOR CONNOR

Connor Wickham has signed a new four-year deal with the club, until 2019. An ever-present so far this season in the Barclays Premier League, Wickham scored in the last home game against Manchester City.

It was, of course, City who Connor bagged two against late last season to spark the 'Greatest Escape' which led to Sunderland still being in the top-flight. Another goal in the win at Chelsea, plus two and the winning of a penalty in the big win over Cardiff contributed to Wickham being named Barclays Premier League Player of the Month at the business end of the season - an accolade he marked with the assist for Seb Larsson's winner at Old Trafford as Sunderland defied the odds.

Now 21, Wickham is moving towards what should be the best years of his career. Having debuted for Ipswich as a 16-year-old it is easy for people to forget that Connor is still so young and like any good player is still learning.

"He keeps learning, he is able to adapt to different positions up front and he is enjoying our philosophy of play so I'm really looking forward to keep working with him for the benefit of our club," noted Gus Poyet, who commented: "I think it was very important to tie down a young English centre forward as there are not many around, this shows clearly the way this football club wants to progress. I'm delighted that Connor has committed his future to us for the next few years. After his contribution at the end of last year, he continued to improve his football and become an important part of our team."



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CAPTAIN'S COLUMN

There are no easy games in the Barclays Premier League and today will be no different against a tough West Ham United side that is doing incredibly well this season.

People looked at our last three games against big teams as being a difficult run, but this is a game that will be another tough test. Only the top two teams have scored more goals than West Ham this season so that tells you all you need to know. They will be coming here with a game plan to attack and get the goals to keep their form going.

West Ham will be full of confidence coming into the match after three straight wins so we must make sure that we start the game strongly, staying organised. Not only have they had a good run of late, they have produced the results on the road all season too.

We have kept clean sheets against good Chelsea and Liverpool sides over the last fortnight and we need to build on that this afternoon.

The lads all say that we want the Stadium of Light to be a place that teams fear coming to and that will always be the aim. We have been backed by unbelievable support all season and the noise when the teams walk out of the tunnel is what sticks in players' minds when they come up here, as well as



Jozy Altidore gets between Alberto Moreno and Kolo Toure at Anfield

the atmosphere throughout the game. We need to build on our decent home results now and keep picking up the points that will make the difference.

Sam Allardyce will have his side organised and looking to come at us from the kick-off. They have a decent squad with strength, height and pace in all positions so we need to be ready at the back for them looking to attack us from the off. I watched their game against Swansea last weekend and they had the better of the possession, which is not an easy thing to do against Swansea. West Ham created plenty of chances and could have scored more on another day too.

Everybody has already started talking about the derby game at Newcastle next weekend but we can't look that far ahead

just yet. The focus has to be purely on today's game and on West Ham United. The games are coming thick and fast at this time of year, which is good for us. It gives us an opportunity to get points on the board in a short space of time and hopefully climb the table in what is one of the tightest top-flights that there has been for a few years. One win can shoot you up the table a few places and that can be a huge boost going forward - nobody wants to be near the bottom at Christmas as the table starts to take shape going into the second half of the season.

This is the final home game before Christmas so I would like to wish everybody all the best for the festive period and hope that you all have a great time.

Enjoy the game,

JOHN O'SHEA



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ROWELL**

TODAY'S MASCOTS



Name: Faye
Age: 7

Hobbies: Gymnastics,
singing, dancing
and cooking

Favourite player:
Adam Johnson



Name: Richard
Age: 8

Hobbies: Football
and watching football

Favourite player:
Connor Wickham



Name: Jay
Age: 6

Hobbies: Playing
football and going
swimming

Favourite players:
Adam Johnson and
Steven Fletcher

MAN OF THE MATCH

The Man of the Match at the Sunderland AFC v Manchester City fixture was Seb Larsson. He was presented with his award by Matt Forth and Keith Grimes of TGT Holidays Ltd.

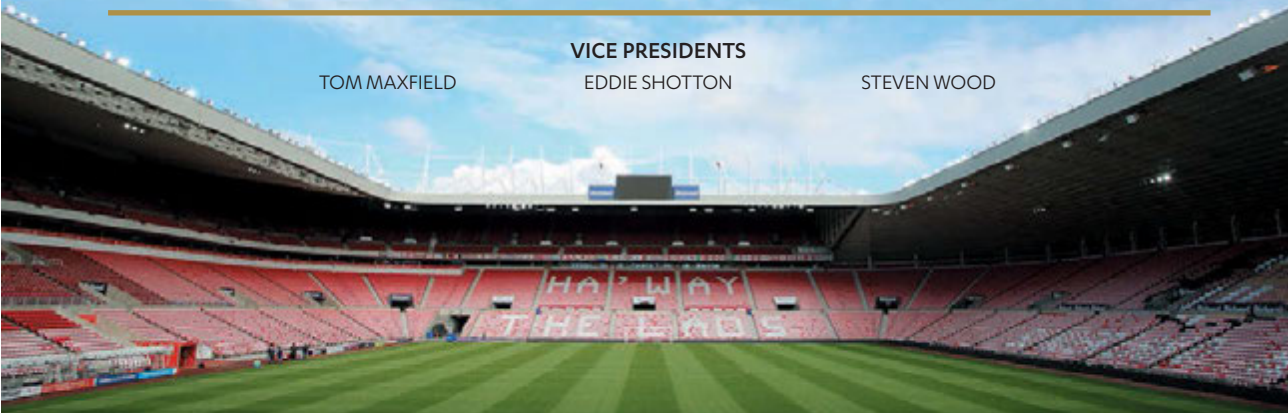


VICE PRESIDENTS

TOM MAXFIELD

EDDIE SHOTTON

STEVEN WOOD



SAFC 10-GAME SEASON CARD NOW ON SALE

There are just two weeks remaining for supporters to snap up a special season card for the final 10 home games of the Black Cats 2014-15 Barclays Premier League campaign.

Starting with the popular Boxing Day fixture against Hull City, the 10-game season card includes showpiece games such as Liverpool and the hotly-anticipated Wear-Tyne derby.

A 10-game season card affords supporters significant savings on buying individual match tickets. Adults 10 game season cards are priced from £230 and fans aged under 22 can secure theirs for just £140. Supporters aged over 65 will pay £175 for the 10 games.

Young fans under the age of 16 will pay just £60 for 10 games, a saving of over 40 per cent on the cost of buying tickets for individual matches - equating to four free games. A special Family Zone package is also available for only £240 (includes one adult and one junior under 16).

The 10-game card is available to buy now online at www.safc.com, by phone 0871 911 1973, or in-person at the Stadium of Light ticket office. Award-winning matchday hospitality is also available for the final 10 games of the season, with a range of options for all tastes and budgets. Prices range from just £450 per person in the Black Cats Bar. For more information call 0871 911 1555 or email hospitality@safc.com.

NO SMOKING - Please note that in line with government regulations the Stadium of Light is a completely smoke free zone in all areas. Please do not smoke anywhere in the stadium including the corporate areas, the concourse and the toilets. Thank you for your co-operation.



RACISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AT SUNDERLAND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. PLEASE CONTACT ANY STEWARD TO VOICE ANY CONCERNS. OR TELEPHONE THE CLUB ON 0871 911 1973.

10-GAME SEASON CARD PRICES, 2014-15		
AREA	CATEGORY	PRICE
Concession Areas	Under 16s	£60
	Under 22s	£140
	Over 65s	£175
	Adult	£230
Family Zone (where available)	1 Adult & 1 Junior Under 16	£240
West / East Stand & Premier Concourse Wings	Under 16s	£60
	Under 22s	£140
	Over 65s	£175
	Adult	£265
Strongbow North Stand Lower	Adult	£230
West & East Stand & Premier Concourse Centre	Adult	£295
Wheelchair User	Prevailing prices above	Prevailing prices above
Personal Assistant	Free of charge	Free of charge
Black Cats Bar	Adult	£450

LEEDS IN CUP

Monday's cup draw provided Sunderland with a home tie for the 10th time in the last 12 cup draws. Being drawn at home to Leeds United will inevitably set people reminiscing about the day that led to the building of the statue of Bob Stokoe outside the stadium.

Sunderland though also met Leeds in the FA Cup in 1967. In those far off days before penalty shoot-outs the Fifth Round tie went to two replays before Sunderland were beaten at Hull in the most controversial circumstances with two of the team sent-off. Bobby Kerr would captain Sunderland to the cup triumph in '73 but had broken his leg in the '67 tie during an era when Sunderland v Leeds fixtures were fierce clashes.

Just as it's four decades since the clubs met in the cup there were



four decades between the 1967 meeting and the previous tie in 1926-27, when Leeds won a Third Round tie by the odd goal in five at Elland Road.

The most recent cup clash between the clubs came in 1993-94 in the League Cup. In a two-legged Second Round tie The Lads won home and away against Leeds who were a division higher than Sunderland at the time, which - like the '73 final - should serve as a reminder that league status is no guarantee of cup progress. The only other League Cup tie saw Leeds win 2-0 at Roker Park in 1967-68.

There was one other cup tie between Sunderland and Leeds. This was when Sunderland met the forerunners of Leeds United - Leeds City - in 1910 when a goal from George Holley was enough to provide the iconic scoreline of Sunderland 1 Leeds 0.



'SUPER KEV' WITH A DEGREE OF SUCCESS

Club legend Kevin Phillips returned to the Stadium of Light last week.

Phillips received an Honorary Fellowship from the University of Sunderland in recognition of his outstanding 20-year career as a

footballer, as well as his standing as a role model for young people. The former Black Cats striker was joined by around 1,000 students who also received awards at the Stadium of Light last Thursday and Friday.

👉 'Superkev'
back at the
Stadium of Light

COMPLIMENTARY BUS TRAVEL FOR DERBY DAY

Supporters are reminded that a complimentary bus service is available to all Sunderland fans travelling to St James' Park for the Tyne-Wear derby.

The buses, which depart from the Stadium of Light, will take fans directly to and from St James' Park, affording the quickest and safest travel option for those attending the game.

With the fixture taking place only four days before Christmas, public transport across the region is expected to be exceptionally busy and there will be no special Metro services operating. To avoid any delays or issues in getting to the game, fans are strongly advised to take advantage of the free bus service provided by Sunderland AFC.

Fans with a valid match ticket should contact the SAFC ticket office to claim their free coach pass and exact timings will be confirmed via safc.com in due course. The East Stand concourse at the Stadium of Light will be open for the comfort of supporters from 10am on the day of the game. Catering services will be available, along with toilet facilities, until the buses depart.



UNDER-18s AND UNDER-21s IN CUP ACTION

The club's Under-18s and Under-21s are both in cup action this week with tickets available for both games.

The Under-18s side kick-off their FA Youth Cup campaign against Fleetwood Town on Tuesday (16th Dec) evening at Eppleton Colliery Welfare Ground, 7pm kick-off.

Entry to the game, priced at £3 for adults and £1 for over 65s and under 16s, is available via cash sales on the day of the game. There will be no advanced sale of tickets and, due to competition rules, there is no free entry for season card holders.

Meanwhile, the Under-21s return to the Stadium of Light for a second time in as many weeks as part of the Premier League's International Cup. Robbie Stockdale's men faced Villareal in the first group match last Wednesday and will take on Celtic this coming Thursday (18th Dec), 7pm kick-off.

Season card holders can enter the game for free, on production of their valid 2014-15 season card, while general admission is priced at £3 for adults and £1 for over 65s and under 16s. There will be no advanced sale of tickets and entry for the game will be through turnstiles 1-8 and 17-24 in the West Stand. Doors will open at 6pm for the game.



The best things are enjoyed together

Barclays Ticket Tuesday

As a Thank you to the people who champion the true spirit of the game, we're giving away up to 150 pairs of tickets every Tuesday. Who will you take along?

Visit youarefootball.barclays.co.uk to win a pair of Barclays Premier League tickets to watch your team.



WHAT'S ON

NUFC SCREENING AT SOL

Sunday 21st December

Enjoy the excitement and emotion of one of the biggest matches of the season at the Stadium of Light this December.

The hotly anticipated derby match against Newcastle United is a must see for any Black Cats fan. Those unable to make the trip to St James' Park can watch the match in one of the stadium's suites and bars with a great range of packages available throughout the stadium.

1st floor suites £7.50pp

Quinn's Sports Bar/Montgomery Suite/
Business Lounge

Package includes:
Drink on arrival, breakfast roll

Premier suites £16.50pp

James Herriot Suite/Heineken Lounge

Package includes:
Drink on arrival, full English breakfast,
allocated seating



Executive Boxes £27.50pp

Package includes:
Drink on arrival, full English breakfast,
private box with balcony

Doors open at 9am, 1.30pm kick-off and
close at 4pm. Former players will be
there to give their predictions on the
match.

Tickets for the NUFC screening are
limited and must be booked in advance
by calling 0871 911 1555 or emailing
conf&banq@safc.com.

Standard tickets are also available to
purchase from Stadium of Light Ticket
Office. More details are also available at
www.safc.com.



FOO FIGHTERS AT THE SOL

Monday 25th May

The Stadium of Light is set to be wowed by Grammy Award-winning rock band Foo Fighters this May.

Concert-goers can guarantee they don't miss out on this must-see rock concert, by taking advantage of the stadium's brand new concert hospitality concept.

The Stadium of Light's famous hospitality offering has been revamped and will include a host of American themed packages, including an outdoor BBQ with views across the city.

For more information about Foo Fighters at the Sol and hospitality packages please visit www.safccconcerts.com.

POST-CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT

Saturday 17th January - £19.95pp

There's no need to miss out on your Christmas party if your calendar is overflowing this festive season, as the Stadium of Light banishes the January blues with its post-Christmas party night, including live entertainment and an indulgent three-course meal.

To book your seat please call 0871 911 1555 or email conf&banq@safc.com.



THE HAMMERS

Not everyone will get to play there but West Ham United's Stadium 2016 project is already impacting on the current squad.

That the football landscape in the capital city will be changed forever has not been lost on those entrusted with making sure the Hammers should open their new headquarters as a vibrant Barclays Premier League club for the 2016-17 season.

The move to a re-configured Olympic arena will give the club facilities and capacity on a par with Arsenal at the Emirates Stadium and, for the time being at least, ahead of Chelsea and Tottenham.

Influential midfielder Alex Song made a big splash in The Sun, suggesting that West Ham could emulate Atletico Madrid's achievement in upsetting the established power base in Spain. "Of course you can feel the excitement around the squad with the Olympic Stadium," he said.

It was in March last year that the Hammers were named as anchor tenants of the showcase venue for the London Games in 2012. The joint-chairmen, David Sullivan and David Gold, spoke of their pride making "the nation's iconic Olympic Stadium" the club's new home."

Players have been encouraged to keep in touch with progress at the site. In November last year skipper Kevin Nolan and long-serving Mark Noble were among those pictured to mark the start of work on the new cantilevered roof. This November Noble was there again for a tour of the facilities the squad will be using in less than two years' time.

Not surprisingly, Sam Allardyce has made the double-edged attraction of London AND a spectacular stadium a selling point in transfer negotiations. And judging by

results in the opening third of this season, it has worked pretty well for the manager.

Nine signings, two on loan, considerably altered the shape of the team since the difficulties of last season, the second back in the Barclays Premier League after coming up through the play-offs in Allardyce's first year at the Boleyn Ground.

Back in January this year the Hammers were in the bottom three and essentially they made their position secure with four wins and the Manager of the Month award for February. This gave them the breathing space to withstand five defeats in the last six matches.



Corrective action in the summer helped Allardyce to further recognition by the awards panel in October and saw his side back into the top four on the current run of three consecutive wins.

Diafra Sakho was the newcomer who caught the headlines by becoming the first Hammers player to score in six consecutive games in the Premier League.



📅 Christmas Carroll? Andy scored twice last week

THE LAST 10										
	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
Division	C'ship	Prem	Prem	Prem	Prem	Prem	Prem	C'ship	Prem	Prem
Position	6	9	15	10	9	17	20	3	10	13
Points	73	55	41	49	51	35	33	86	46	40
Wins/Losses	21/15	16/15	12/21	13/15	14/15	8/19	7/19	24/8	12/16	11/20
Goals F/A	66/56	52/55	35/59	42/40	42/45	47/66	43/70	81/48	45/53	40/51
FA Cup	4	RU	4	3	5	3	6	3	3	3
FL Cup	3	3	3	5	3	3	SF	1	3	SF
Europe	-	-	UCI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Av Att	27,403	33,743	34,719	34,601	33,701	33,683	33,492	30,923	34,720	33,986

MANAGER

SAM ALLARDYCE

Born: Dudley 19th October 1954

PLAYER

Bolton Wanderers (1971-80)

Sunderland (1980-81)

Millwall (1981-83)

Coventry City (1983-84)

Huddersfield Town (1984-85)

Bolton Wanderers (1985-86)

Preston N.E. (1986-89)

W.B. Albion (1989-90)

Preston N.E. (1992)

League record: 445 games, 28 goals

HONOURS

With Bolton:

Division Two, 1977-78

With Millwall:

Football League Trophy, 1982-83

With Preston:

Promotion from Division Four, 1986-87

MANAGER

Limerick City (1991-92)

Blackpool (1994-96)

Notts County (1997-99)

Bolton W. (1999-07),

Newcastle United (2007-08)

Blackburn Rovers (2008-10)

West Ham United (Jun 2011 to date)

HONOURS:

With Limerick:

League of Ireland Division One, 1991-92

With Notts County:

Division Three, 1997-98

With Bolton:

Promotion from Division One, 2000-01

With West Ham:

Promotion from Championship, 2011-12

PREMIER/FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD

(TO 12TH DECEMBER 2014)

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Blackpool	92	41	23	28	146
Notts County	123	51	32	40	185
Bolton Wanderers	307	121	91	95	454
Newcastle United	21	7	5	9	26
Blackburn Rovers	76	26	21	29	99
West Ham United	137	55	34	48	199
TOTAL	756	301	206	249	1,109

ON THE TEAM

Assistant Manager

NEIL McDONALD

Player: Newcastle, Everton, Oldham, Bolton, Preston

League Career: 331 games, 29 goals

Coach/Manager: Preston, Bolton, Crystal Palace, Carlisle, Ostersunds, Lincoln, Leeds, Blackburn

First-team Coach

IAN HENDON

Player: Tottenham, Portsmouth (L), Leyton (L), Barnsley (L), Leyton, Birmingham (L), Notts County, Northampton, Sheffield Wed., Barnet (L), Peterborough, Barnet

League Career: 418 games, 25 goals

Coach/Manager: Barnet, Dover, Gillingham

Goalkeeping Coach

BOBBY MIMMS

Player: Halifax, Rotherham, Everton, Notts County (L), Sunderland (L), Blackburn (L), Manchester City (L), Tottenham, Aberdeen (L), Blackburn, Crystal Palace, Preston, Rotherham, York, Mansfield

League Career: 477 games

Coach: Wolves, Blackburn, Oldham, Bahrain

HOT-SHOTS

Top League scorer

2013-14	Kevin Nolan	7
2012-13	Kevin Nolan	10
2011-12	Carlton Cole	14
2010-11	Demba Ba	7
2009-10	Carlton Cole	10
2008-09	Carlton Cole	10
2007-08	Dean Ashton	10
2006-07	Bobby Zamora	11
2005-06	Marlon Harewood	14
2004-05	Teddy Sheringham	20

TRANSFER TRAIL

IN – 2014-15

JUNE

Mauro Zarate	Velez Sarsfield
Cheikhou Kouyate	Anderlecht

JULY

Aaron Cresswell	Ipswich Town
Diego Poyet	Charlton Athletic
Enner Valencia	Pachuca
Carl Jenkinson	Arsenal (L)

AUGUST

Diandra Sakho	FC Metz
Alex Song	Barcelona (L)

SEPTEMBER

Morgan Amalfitano	Marseille
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OUT – 2014-15

JUNE

Joe Cole	Aston Villa
----------	-------------

JULY

Matthew Taylor	Burnley
Stephen Henderson	Charlton Athletic

AUGUST

Jordan Spence	MK Dons
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Mohamed Diamo

Modibo Maiga

Hull City

FC Metz (L)

SEPTEMBER

Ravel Morrison

Cardiff City (L)

Jack Collison

Ipswich Town

NOVEMBER

Diego Poyet

Huddersfield Town (L)

LAST FIVE GAMES

7/12/14	BPL	Swansea City (H)	3-1
2/12/14	BPL	WBA (A)	2-1
29/11/14	BPL	Newcastle (H)	1-0
22/11/14	BPL	Everton (A)	1-2
8/11/14	BPL	Aston Villa (H)	0-0

NEXT GAME

LEICESTER CITY (H)

Barclays Premier League,
20th December 2014, 3pm

LAST GAME

WEST HAM

3

SWANSEA

1



LAST TIME

SUNDERLAND

1

(Johnson)

MANCHESTER CITY

2

(Carroll, Diamo)

31st March 2014, Barclays Premier League
Attendance: 37,396

SUNDERLAND: Mannone; Bardsley, Vergini, Brown, O'Shea (Gardner), Alonso; Bridcutt, Cattermole (Johnson), Ki (Scocco); Borini, Wickham.

Unused: Colback, Altidore, Cuellar, Ustari.

WEST HAM: Adrian; Demel, Tomkins, Reid, McCartney (Armero); Downing, Noble, Nolan (Nocerino), Diamo (Johnson), Taylor; Carroll.

Unused: Jarvis, J Cole, C Cole, Jaaskelainen.

OPPOSITION: PEN PICS

THE WEST HAM UNITED SQUAD

ADRIAN (G)

6

Born: Seville 3.1.87

Clubs: Real Betis B (2006-12), Real Betis (2012-13), West Ham United (2013-)

2014-15 League: 15 apps

MORGAN AMALFITANO (M)

Born: Nice 20.3.85

International: France

Clubs: Sedan (2003-08), Lorient (2008-11), Marseille (2011-14), WB Albion (loan, 2013-14), West Ham United (2014-)

2014-15 League: 8(2) apps, 2 goals

REECE BURKE (CB)

Born: Newham 2.9.96

Club: West Ham United (2014-)

2014-15 Cup: 1 app

ANDY CARROLL (F)

8

Born: Gateshead 6.1.89

International: England

Clubs: Newcastle United (2006-11), Preston NE (loan, 2007), Liverpool (2011-), West Ham United (loan, 2012-13; signed, Jun. 2013-)

2014-15 League: 4(1) apps, 2 goals

CARLTON COLE (F)

Born: Croydon 12.10.83

International: England

Clubs: Chelsea (2000-06), Wolves (loan, 2002), Charlton Athletic (loan, 2003-04), Aston Villa (loan, 2004-05), West Ham United (2006-)

2014-15 League: 4(6) apps, 2 goals

JAMES COLLINS (CB)

1

Born: Newport 23.8.83

International: Wales

Clubs: Cardiff City (2000-05), West Ham United (2005-09), Aston Villa (2009-12), West Ham United (2012-)

2014-15 League: 7(3) apps

AARON CRESSWELL (D)

9

Born: Liverpool 15.12.89

Clubs: Tranmere Rovers (2008-11), Ipswich Town (2011-14), West Ham United (2014-)

2014-15 League: 15 apps, 1 goal

GUY DEMEL (FB)

Born: Orsay 13.6.81

International: Ivory Coast

Clubs: Nimes Olympique (1999-00), Arsenal (2000-01), Borussia Dortmund (2001-05), SV Hamburg (2005-11), West Ham United (2011-)

2014-15 League: 3(1) apps; **Cup:** 1 app



STEWART DOWNING (M)**11****Born:** Middlesbrough 22.7.84**International:** England**Clubs:** Middlesbrough (2001-09), Sunderland (loan, 2003), Aston Villa (2009-11), Liverpool (2011-13), West Ham United (2013-)**2014-15 League:** 14 apps, 2 goals; **Cup:** 1 app**JUSSI JAASKELAINEN (G)****Born:** Mikkeli 19.4.75**International:** Finland**Clubs:** MP (1992-95), VPS (1996-97), Bolton Wanderers (1997-12), West Ham United (2012-)**2014-15 Cup:** 1 app**MATTHEW JARVIS (M)****Born:** Middlesbrough 22.5.86**International:** England**Clubs:** Gillingham (2003-07), Wolves (2007-12), West Ham United (2012-)**2014-15 League:** 1(2) apps**CARL JENKINSON (FB)****10****Born:** Harlow 8.2.92**International:** England**Clubs:** Charlton Athletic (2009-11), Welling United (loan, 2010), Eastbourne Borough (loan, 2010), Arsenal (2011-), West Ham United (loan, 2014)**2014-15 League:** 9(3) apps**CHEIKHOU KOUYATE (M)****5****Born:** Dakar 21.12.89**International:** Senegal**Clubs:** FC Brussels (2007-08), Anderlecht (2008-14), Kortrijk (loan, 2008-09), West Ham United (2014-)**2014-15 League:** 10(1) apps**ELLIOT LEE (M)****Born:** Durham 16.12.94**Clubs:** West Ham United (2012-), Colchester United (loan, 2013), Southend United (loan, 2014)**SEBASTIAN LLETGET (M)****Born:** San Francisco 3.9.92**International:** USA Under-23**Clubs:** Santa Clara Sporting SC, West Ham United (2010-)**RAVEL MORRISON (M)****Born:** Wythenshawe 2.2.93**International:** England Under-21**Clubs:** Manchester United (2010-12), West Ham United (2012-), Birmingham City (loan, 2012-13), QPR (loan, 2014), Cardiff City (loan, 2014)**2014-15 League:** 1 sub (West Ham), 1(6) apps (Cardiff); **Cup:** 1 app (West Ham)**MARK NOBLE (M)****Born:** Canning Town 8.5.87**International:** England Under-21**Clubs:** West Ham United (2004-), Hull City (loan, 2006), Ipswich Town (loan, 2006)**2014-15 League:** 11 apps, 1 goal; **Cup:** 1 sub**KEVIN NOLAN****4****Born:** Liverpool 24.6.82**International:** England Under-21**Clubs:** Bolton Wanderers (2000-09), Newcastle United (2009-11), West Ham United (2011-)**2014-15 League:** 4(7) apps, 1 goal**JOEY O'BRIEN (D)****Born:** Dublin 17.2.86**International:** Republic of Ireland**Clubs:** Bolton Wanderers (2004-11), Sheffield Wednesday (loans, 2004 & 2011), West Ham United (2011-)**2014-15 League:** 3(1) apps**DAN POTTS (FB)****Born:** Romford 13.4.94**Club:** West Ham (2011-), Colchester United (loan, 2012), Portsmouth (loan, 2013)**2014-15 Cup:** 1 app**DIEGO POYET (M)****Born:** Zaragoza 8.4.95**Club:** Charlton Athletic (2014-)**2014-15 League:** 1(1) apps (West Ham), 2 apps (Huddersfield);**Cup:** 1 app (West Ham)**WINSTON REID (CB)****2****Born:** North Shore 3.7.88**International:** New Zealand**Clubs:** SUB Sonderborg, FC Midtjylland (2005-10), West Ham United (2010-)**2014-15 League:** 14 apps, 1 goal; **Cup:** 1 app**DIAFRA SAKHO (F)****12****Born:** Guediawaye 24.12.89**International:** Senegal**Clubs:** FC Metz (2009-14), Boulogne (loan, 2012), West Ham United (2014-)**2014-15 League:** 7(2) apps, 7 goals;**Cup:** 1 app, 1 goal**ALEX SONG (M)****7****Born:** Douala 9.9.87**International:** Cameroon**Clubs:** Bastia (2004-06), Arsenal (2005-12), Charlton Athletic (loan, 2007), Barcelona (2012-), West Ham United (loan, 2014)**2014-15 League:** 8(1) apps**JAMES TOMKINS (CB)****3****Born:** Basildon 29.3.89**International:** England U21**Clubs:** West Ham United (2006-), Derby County (loan, 2008)**2014-15 League:** 10(1) apps, 1 goal**ENNER VALENCIA (F)****Born:** San Lorenzo 4.11.89**International:** Ecuador**Clubs:** Emelec (2010-13), Pachuca (2014), West Ham United (2014-)**2014-15 League:** 9(3) apps, 3 goals; **Cup:** 1 app**RICARDO VAZ TE (F)****Born:** Lisbon 1.10.86**International:** Portugal Under-23**Clubs:** Bolton Wanderers (2004-10), Hull City (loan, 2007), Panionios (2010), Hibernian (2011), Barnsley (2011-12), West Ham United (2012-)**2014-15 League:** 3(1) apps; **Cup:** 1 app**MAURO ZARATE (F)****Born:** Haedo 18.3.87**Clubs:** Velez Sarsfield (2004-07), Al-Sadd (2007-09), Birmingham City (loan, 2008), Lazio (loan, 2008-13), Inter Milan (loan, 2011-12), Velez Sarsfield (2013-14), West Ham United (2014-)**2014-15 League:** 5(2) apps, 2 goals; **Cup:** 1 sub*Appearance details up to and including Friday 12th December*



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Good Call

DON'T I KNOW YOU?

Notice a particularly warm handshake after the match? **Dominic Gold** examines where the paths to today's two squads have crossed.

Despite both players not starting for their respective teams last week in the Barclays Premier League, both Steven Fletcher and Matt Jarvis will hope to be involved this afternoon and have the chance to reminisce about their time together at Wolverhampton Wanderers between 2010 and 2012.

Born in Middlesbrough in 1986, Jarvis started footballing life on the books of Millwall before moving to Gillingham as a trainee. Debuting in a 3-1 loss at home to Sunderland (Stewart Downing on target for the Black Cats), Jarvis went on to make over a century of appearances for the Gills before making the move to Molineux in the summer of 2007 for an undisclosed fee.

Helping Wolves to promotion in 2008-09, Jarvis made his Barclays Premier League debut against the Hammers in August 2009 and would go on to score three league goals as Mick McCarthy's men narrowly avoided relegation, ending the season in 15th place after a final day success against Sunderland.

After tasting top-flight relegation that same campaign, Fletcher made the move from Burnley to Wolves in the summer of 2010 with the aim of bolstering a shot shy side, and the Scottish international certainly managed that, notching 12 times in his maiden season, including a strike in a 3-1 success at the Stadium of Light in May 2011.

The threat of relegation was never far away however, and despite surviving in 2010-11, the

SAFC	Opposition	Club Connection	Dates	Country Connection	Dates
Patrick VAN AANHOLT	Andy CARROLL	Newcastle United	2010		
	Kevin NOLAN	Newcastle United	2010		
Wes BROWN	Carlton COLE			England	2009-
	Ravel MORRISON	Manchester Utd	2010-11		
Lee CATTERMOLLE	Stewart DOWNING	Middlesbrough	2005-08		
	Andy CARROLL			England U21s	2009-10
	Mark NOBLE			England U21s	2007-09
Sebastian COATES	Andy CARROLL	Liverpool	2011-13		
	Stewart DOWNING	Liverpool	2011-13		
Steven FLETCHER	Matt JARVIS	Wolves	2010-12		
Adam JOHNSON	Stewart DOWNING	Middlesbrough	2004-09	England	2012-
	Andy CARROLL			England	2010-
	Mark NOBLE			England U21s	2007-09
Billy JONES	Morgan AMALFITANO	WBA	2013-14		
Sebastian LARSSON	Alex SONG	Arsenal	2006-07		
	Mauro ZARATE	Birmingham City	2008		
Vito MANNONE	Carl JENKINSON	Arsenal	2011-13		
	Alex SONG	Arsenal	2006-12		
John O'SHEA	Joey O'BRIEN			R. of Ireland	2006-
	Ravel MORRISON	Manchester Utd	2010-11		
Jack RODWELL	Stewart DOWNING			England	2012-
	Andy CARROLL			England U21s	2009-10
Connor WICKHAM	Andy CARROLL			England U21s	2010

* Sam Allardyce and Stewart Downing are former Sunderland players.



following campaign would be a step too far. Former Sunderland manager McCarthy departed following a 5-1 demolition derby defeat against West Brom in February, and despite a combined 20 goals from Fletcher and Jarvis (again the Black Cats amongst the victims), relegation was sealed following a goalless draw at the Stadium of Light in April 2012.

Clearly the stars of a relegated side, Fletcher and Jarvis made moves to remain at the top level, and go head-to-head today as regulars in the Barclays Premier League.

 Fletcher and Matt Jarvis are opponents today but were team-mates at Molineux



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VIEW FROM AFAR

Andy Greeves talks to a former member of Sunderland's matchday opposition. Today, ex-Hammers hero **Tony Cottee** recalls his excellent goal scoring record against the Black Cats.

"Sunderland fans won't thank me for mentioning this, but I only managed to score four goals in a match twice during my career and one of those games was against the Black Cats," comments Tony Cottee.

The former striker is referencing a Full Members Cup game for Everton against Sunderland at Goodison Park on 22nd January 1991, when he got all four Toffees goals in a 4-1 win. He had a very good record against the Black Cats during his playing career, with eight goals in ten appearances against them overall.

"I treasure the three goals I got for Leicester over the two legs in the League Cup semi-final against Sunderland," adds Cottee. "We went to the Stadium of Light for the first-leg (26th January 1999) and I got two goals with my left foot, which was great as a right-footer! Gavin McCann got a goal back for Sunderland on the

 *Tony Cottee was a great goal-scorer... as Sunderland found to their cost*

night. At Filbert Street in the second-leg (17th February 1999) Quinny (Niall Quinn) put the visitors one up in that game, only for me to get the equaliser and send us to Wembley with a 3-2 aggregate win."

Cottee played 184 league games for Everton between 1988 and 1994, scoring 72 times and got 27 goals in 85 league appearances for Leicester City between 1997 and 2000. He also spent spells at Selangor, Birmingham City (loan), Norwich City, Barnet and Millwall during his 19-year-long professional career.

It is the two spells the striker spent at his beloved boyhood club West Ham United that Cottee is perhaps best remembered for. He netted an impressive 145 times in 355 appearances between 1982-88 and 1994-96.

"Being born in the East End, I was only ever going to be brought up a

West Ham fan," smiles Cottee. "Playing for the club I supported as a kid meant so much to me and I'm very lucky to have such a great relationship with the supporters there.

"My visit to Sunderland was actually as a West Ham fan. Travelling up there, I was thinking 'what's this Roker Roar all about'. You quickly found out as a visiting supporter or player that's for sure!"

On the field, one of the earliest appearances of Cottee's career came as West Ham beat Sunderland 1-0 at Roker Park on 19th November 1983. Two seasons later, he was part of a team that made West Ham history finishing third in the old Division One (now Barclays Premier League) - the club's best ever league finish.

"There's barely a week goes by without someone mentioning that 1985-86 season to me," comments Cottee. "It was a very special season, although it's probably tinged with a little bit of regret too as we probably should have gone on to win the title. I'm going to redeem myself with the Sunderland fans for mentioning my goals against them earlier by also adding that we beat Newcastle 8-1 (21st April 1986) that season!"

Cottee, who won seven caps for England during his career before hanging up his boots in 2001, is currently in his 13th year working for Sky Sports and is a regular on Gillette Soccer Saturday and Gillette Soccer Special.

"I absolutely love being part of those shows and I get as much banter with the other ex-pros and presenters as I did during my playing days for sure," he adds.



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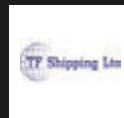
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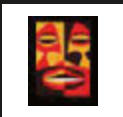
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Players and squad numbers correct at time of going to print



CLUB CONNECTIONS

Mike Gibson, Barry Jackson (See Stats Story) and Rob Mason are the authors of the definitive record book on SAFC's history: 'Sunderland: the Complete Record' available in club stores and online.



TOP SCORER

David Halliday scored 11 goals against the Hammers during his career. All of these goals came in his last five appearances against them.

David Halliday was a prolific goalscorer for the Lads, scoring 11 times against today's opponents West Ham

12th Feb 1927	League	H	2-3	2
1st Sep 1927	League	A	4-2	2
2nd Jan 1928	League	H	3-2	2
15th Dec 1928	League	A	3-3	2
27th Apr 1929	League	H	4-1	3

DID YOU KNOW?

Kevin Phillips became the first post-WW2 Sunderland player to score thirty top-flight league goals when he netted against the Hammers in the last home game of 1999-2000 season. The previous time this feat was achieved was in the last league Championship winning season, 1935-36, when Raich Carter and Bobby Gurney each scored 31 League goals.

Stewart Downing excelled for Sunderland, just as he is doing now for West Ham

RECORD VS WEST HAM

	Home						Away					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
League	38	20	7	11	66	44	38	9	13	16	46	73
FA Cup	2	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	3	3
L. Cup	4	1	1	2	6	7	2	0	0	2	2	4
Total	44	21	9	14	73	53	42	10	13	19	51	80

If Sunderland avoid defeat today it will be their 50th undefeated league game against West Ham.

PLAYED FOR BOTH

There have been 36 players that have played for both clubs. The most recent is Stewart Downing who was signed by the Hammers from Liverpool in August 2013. The former England winger had previously made seven appearances for the Black Cats towards the end of 2003 whilst on loan from Middlesbrough; netting three times.



SUNDERLAND PLAYERS BORN IN EAST LONDON

Seven players have played for Sunderland that were born in East London; Sunderland's record League goal scorer Charlie Buchan, Sunderland's oldest living player Ivor Broadis (above), England midfielder Kieran Richardson, post-WW2 stalwart left-back Arthur Hudgell, 1920s centre-half Archibald Jackson and loan players Justin Hoyte and Paul A. Williams.



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19th October 1968

WEST HAM VS

SUNDERLAND

Until the same weekend this season this was the last time Sunderland had equalled their record defeat. On this occasion Sunderland were well and truly hammered with Geoff Hurst doubling the hat-trick he'd scored in the World Cup final two years earlier. During this era West Ham's programmes were distinctively pocket sized and amongst the best in the country for the time.

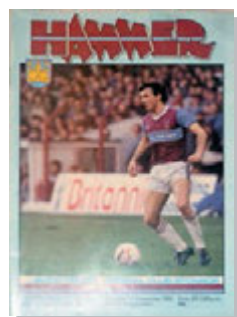


5th March 1977

SUNDERLAND VS

WEST HAM

This time it was The Iron's turn to get hammered as Sunderland made it 16 goals in three games by winning 6-0. The late Mel Holden was the cover star and scored twice, as did a young lad by the name of Gary Rowell who scored his first brace for the club. Bobby Kerr and Bob Lee also scored on a day when I gave up trying to get my wife to come to every game, "It was a bit one sided" was her verdict.



17th November 1984

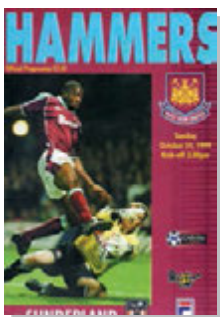
WEST HAM VS

SUNDERLAND

Paul Allen graced the cover of 'Hammer' on a day when a goal from Tony Cottee was enough to give the home side victory. Sunderland went into the game in the top half of the table but dropped to 12th with the defeat and continued to slide to relegation, never being as high in the league again that term. There was progress in the League Cup though with Wembley reached for the first time.

GOT YOU COVERED

Rob Mason recalls a selection of programme covers against today's visitors.



24th October 1999

WEST HAM VS

SUNDERLAND

Kevin Phillips gave Peter Reid's third-placed Sunderland a half-time lead at the Boleyn Ground, only for Trevor Sinclair to level things up after the break for Harry Redknapp's side, who had just returned from a long midweek European trip in the UEFA Cup that they'd qualified for by Intertoto Cup success at the start of the campaign.



6th May 2000

SUNDERLAND VS

WEST HAM

'Superkev's' goal at West Ham had been his 13th of the season. In scoring the only goal of the return fixture he hit his 30th Premier League goal of the season. Red & White Review included a quartet of photo's of people likely to loom large in the game. West Ham's Paolo Di Canio was featured, 'Superkev' and Alex Rae were two of the Sunderland players, and the third? Milton Nunez.



29th March 2008

SUNDERLAND VS

WEST HAM

Danny Collins was the full face that adorned this particular cover on an afternoon when a spectacular volley from Andy Reid five minutes into injury time sealed a dramatic 2-1 victory. It was Reid's first goal for the club on an afternoon when West Ham's George McCartney made his first return to the Stadium of Light.

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the weatherall files

Doug Weatherall first watched Sunderland in 1941. From 1956 to 1996 he reported extensively on north east football. Beginning with The Sunderland Echo as a 16-year-old, Doug went on to become an influential writer with the Daily Herald and later the Daily Mail until he retired from full time work from around 2000. He also broadcast regularly on radio and television.

📍 Doug with Sunderland's first three Wembley captains, left to right: Barry Venison, Doug, Raich Carter and Bobby Kerr.



Yes, I've featured Bryan 'Pop' Robson before, but I make no apology for discussing him again. New readers, young and old, keep joining us, anyway, and Pop served both West Ham United and Sunderland so well he doesn't deserve to be shelved. Another good reason for my writing about him? He's been a friend for more than 50 years.

We first met at his home in Prudhoe on Tyne. As a sports reporter, I wanted to know as much about the 19-year-old as possible since he would make his League debut for Newcastle United at Charlton Athletic the following night.

On such occasions a reporter is delighted when "newsy" facts emerge from an interview. And I soon had a good angle with which to start my piece. I established that Pop was born near Roker Park, then the home of Sunderland, and, as a kid, he would pop in there when the gates were opened after half-times to see Wearside heroes like... Stan Anderson.

Well, by now, the former Sunderland captain and right-half was the very skipper who would play behind the right-wing debutant at The Valley. And in Pop's autograph book was the signature of... Stan Anderson. Reporters love lines like that.

Stan and Bryan loved the postscript on 1st September 1964 when the kid scored Newcastle's lone-goal winner.

I was to see Bryan score many more goals in a marvellous career. By the time he was helping Newcastle to win the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup in 1969 he was their main striker alongside big centre-forward Wyn Davies. Some of his goals on European nights like those against Real Zaragoza and Sporting Lisbon had to be seen to be believed.

He was such a fabulously clean striker of the ball that Newcastle goalkeeper Willie McFaul reckoned he might have managed even more goals if he hadn't been. "Often mishits or slices turn out to be goals because 'keepers can't anticipate them,'" Willie explained.

Sadly, Bryan's Newcastle career ended sourly. He'd asked for a transfer because he believed - correctly in my opinion - that he had been unfairly singled out by manager Joe Harvey after the

📍 Pop Robson, one of the classiest goal-scorers the game has seen



club's exit from the UEFA Cup, beaten on penalties by Pecsí Dozsa.

After 97 goals in 244 appearances for the Magpies he was off to West Ham in February 1971. The £120,000 fee was a record for both clubs.

Again he scored on debut and was the Hammers' top scorer in two of his three seasons with them. He was their Hammer of the Year when they were sixth in the top division in 1972-73 as he was the top scorer in the First Division.

To the delight of Roker-born Bryan, Sunderland, of course, beat Leeds United to win the FA Cup that season.

Only 14 months later he joined Sunderland for £145,000. No surprise to me that he was their top scorer in his first season with 21 League and Cup goals. He notched 15 as Sunderland won promotion as champions the next season.


Back he went to West Ham in 1976. Still adored by their fans, he was runner-up to Alan Devonshire as Hammer of the Year in the 1978-79 season. Yet in June '79 he returned to Sunderland, again shooting them to the top division.

His fine career was to take him as a player, coach or manager with Carlisle, Chelsea, Hartlepool, Manchester United and Leeds as well as Sunderland where he was chief scout. Now in his 70th year, he can be proud of all he achieved - and the memories he gave us.

FOOTBALL REMEMBERS

BY ROB MASON





Today's game comes at the end of **'Football Remembers Week'**, a period covering 6th to 14th December in a collaboration between The Premier League, The FA, the Football League and the British Council. The aim of 'Football Remembers Week' is to engage football fans in what took place on Christmas Day in Flanders, Belgium, 100 years ago this year, the first Christmas of The Great War.

All players taking part in games in the Barclays Premier League, Sky Bet Championship and FA Cup since last weekend have posed together as a group photograph as a mark of respect to those who played in the famous 1914 Christmas Truce match. These photo's, entitled, 'A Moment in History', will be uploaded to a special website www.FootballRemembers.com

Your group photos of any match at any level can be uploaded to the same site via social media using the hashtag #FootballRemembers with the aim of the site functioning as a moment of record of football in 2014. 'Football Remembers Week' will also see the unveiling of the UK's first memorial to the Christmas Truce at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire.

FOOTBALL REMEMBERS

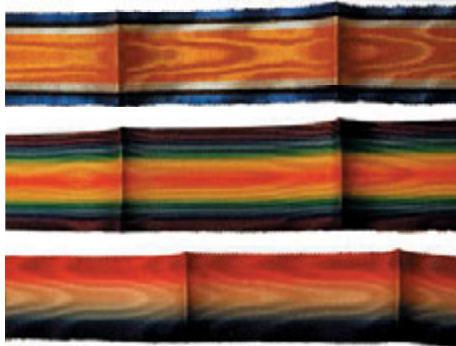



The First World War was a conflict that when Britain declared war on 4th August many people thought it would be over by Christmas. This was one of the reasons the football season continued right to the end of the 1914-15 season even though the football authorities came in for vehement criticism for allowing the game to continue.

Players were contracted to their clubs so, unless they were registered with the Territorial Army as reservists, they couldn't join up until their contracts ended. Sunderland's still record league goalscorer Charlie Buchan for example, in his autobiography first published in 1955, recalled: "I wanted to join up but, when the league decided that the competition should run until the


following April I was reminded that I had a contract to carry out. There was little interest in the league programme and the Sunderland players found it hard to concentrate on the game. Every weekday we went through military training, with broomsticks instead of rifles, from an Army instructor, preparing for the day when we could do our bit."

Buchan's contract ended in April 1915 - having scored a hat trick on the last day of the season to finish as top scorer - and he duly enlisted as a Private in the Grenadier Guards. Buchan was to see action at the Somme, Cambrai and Passchendaele, three of the major battles of The Great War. He rose to the rank of sergeant and was awarded the



 First World War ribbons

Military Medal for bravery. In September 1918 following a commission to the Officers' Cadet School at Catterick Camp, Charlie was posted at Hylton Castle as a temporary second lieutenant with the Sherwood Foresters who were based there, and from where he returned to France just as the war ended.

 Charlie Buchan scored for Sunderland in a 5-2 win at Newcastle on the day the Christmas Truce game was played in No-Man's Land - and later joined up and won the Military Medal for bravery

100 years ago yesterday Buchan was on the mark in a 2-1 home win over Burnley in front of an estimated crowd of just 2,000, the lowest ever in Roker Park's 99-year history. The war by now was uppermost in everyone's thoughts. The first battle of Ypres had begun in October, while in three days time it will be 100 years since Hartlepool became the first place in Britain to come under bombardment from the German First Sea Fleet.

In 2014 when people think about the First World War it is images of trench warfare that are most commonly conjured up. A relatively small percentage of the army actually served in the trenches, which were the front lines and the most dangerous place for infantrymen. While trenches had been used in previous wars the Great War was the war when trench warfare became something that largely





stayed the same, with little movement. From September 1914 until August 1918 for men in many of the trenches it was a matter of holding what they had and not giving an inch. In other trenches, the situation was temporary until a push over 'No-Man's Land' - the murderous space between the trenches - where advances would try to push forward.

By the end of November 1914 there was a continuous line of trenches covering around 400 miles from Switzerland to the North Sea. Conditions in the trenches could vary, some collapsing after heavy rains. Around Ypres the ground was reportedly particularly boggy.

The German trenches could be as little as 30 yards away, a dangerous distance for a modern day goalkeeper facing a shot on a football pitch, let alone someone sticking their head above the parapet with the risk of being shot and killed by a bullet. Life in these trenches was abysmal. Soldiers tended to be in the front line for four days at a time - if they survived - then be moved back to a back up support line for four

days then have four days rest, although this could vary enormously depending upon circumstances.

Quite apart from the dangers posed by the enemy, many died as a result of disease from the often flooded, rat and lice infested squalor of trench warfare. Indeed Sandy McAllister, one of seven Sunderland players to die in the war, did so from Bright's Disease in 1918. McAllister had played for The Lads in the final crucial 'Test Match' of 1897 and later had missed just one game in the first four seasons at Roker Park. His title-winning medal of 1902 is on display in the Stadium of Light foyer.

The men in the trenches on both sides of No Man's Land were not people who had any reason to fight each other apart from the fact that the leaders of their respective countries had gone to war. Some of the men were footballers, others came from every walk of life and many of you, like me, will have relatives who fought in the war.

Friends not foes for a day, as men from both sides of the divide, share a chat on the day of the Christmas truce

An image from the famous Christmas Truce game

So it was that when on Christmas Day in 1914 a truce broke out. In the previous couple of days hymns had been heard from both British and German lines, men returning to the front had even reportedly tied small conifer trees to the parapets. On Christmas Day itself, astonishingly men from both sides of the great divide stepped into No-Man's Land not as foes but as friends. The fact that after exchanging gifts and handshakes they buried their dead, sang hymns and then played a game of football is perhaps the finest example in the history of the world's most popular game of its power to be a shining light of goodwill and peace. Reportedly the Germans won the match 3-2, full-time coming when the ball burst upon striking barbed wire.

Tragically the war would not end until 1918 with over 16 million people killed and over 20 million wounded. Even more tragically it was not the war to end all wars that people hoped it would be. This week as 'Football Remembers' it is to be hoped that leaders across the world do so, and work to bring people together rather than setting them against each other.



FOOTBALL REMEMBERS





Last month an Under-12 team from Sunderland and every other Barclays Premier League club travelled to Ypres to play in a commemorative tournament and as a new generation to learn about the First World War and those the planet pledged to never forget.

"The educational day was amazing," explains Sunderland Academy Under-12 coach Stuart Brightwell. "We visited a British Cemetery where Jimmy Speirs is buried. He captained Bradford in the 1911 FA Cup Final [Speirs scored the only goal of the final when Bradford beat Newcastle in a replay]. We also learnt about the role of football in the world war."

"We then visited a German cemetery which was breathtaking. We also visited a recruitment stand where some of the players got to handle equipment and weaponry and dress up in uniform. We visited Tyne Cot which is the biggest war cemetery in the world and that was incredible to see with 12,000 soldiers buried there and 38 000 names of the missing soldiers on the wall."

Seven Sunderland players died during World War One. One of

 Sunderland Under-12s on their trip to Ypres

 A Sunderland youngster experiences his education day



Since May the Football Remembers project has been actively encouraging young people to learn this lesson of history. Over 30,000 schools received an education pack which included resources to enable children to learn about the 1914 Christmas Day truce, as well as football's role in recruitment and morale during the First World War. Football Remembers also features legacy projects that ensure that young people will continue to learn about the First World War for decades to come. The programme will continue through to 2018 highlighting the involvement of footballers and football.



them was Jack Huggins who was featured in the most recent Legion of Light. A debut scorer against Manchester United in 1906, Huggins was killed at the battle of Ypres on 25th April 1915, just five days after setting foot on the continent as part of the 8th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry. Stuart Brightwell and the Sunderland squad went to visit the grave of Private Huggins: "We laid a poppy cross and said a few words," reveals Brightwell.

"Overall the lads behaved impeccably and thoroughly enjoyed the trip and learnt a lot,"

he adds. They also performed with distinction on the pitch, finishing fourth out of the 20 Premier League clubs. Brightwell's boys achieved the following results to qualify for the semi-final as group winners:

*Sunderland 5-0 Leicester City
Sunderland 2-1 Tottenham
Sunderland 6-1 Swansea
Sunderland 2-2 Manchester City*

"We played Liverpool in the semi-final, we lost 4-0 but we went for it late on and they caught us short at the back with three late goals," reports Stuart who adds,

✎ *The gravestone of former Sunderland player Jack Huggins (pictured on today's programme cover) was visited by the Sunderland Under-12s and staff who laid a poppy cross and said a few words*

✎ *Sunderland's Under-12s on their trip to Belgium*



"We then lost 3-1 to West Brom for 3rd/4th place play-off." Great credit then for doing so well and while disappointment was experienced in the latter stages the joy of the tournament was that now in 2014 people can play and work together. A far cry from the experience of Jack Huggins and millions like him whose lives were lost in the most appalling circumstances a century ago.



✎ *Sunderland representatives on the educational trip*



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MEMORIAL UNVEILED TODAY

Opening today around the site of the Fans' statue outside the main West Stand of the Stadium of Light is a memorial to the players of Sunderland AFC who gave their lives in the World Wars.

The memorial sits within a specially created seated area, alongside the existing Fans' Statue - a stunning bronze installation dedicated to Sunderland fans past, present and future. As well as paying tribute to those players lost in the World Wars, the area will also be used by fans as a focal point to remember lost loved ones.

Situated outside the Stadium of Light's West Stand, the memorial honours the seven SAFC players killed in World War One: Alexander Barrie, James Chalmers, Jack Huggins, Sandy McAllister, Albert Milton, Leigh Richmond Roose and Thomas Rowlandson, along with Percy Saunders, who was killed in action during the Second World War. The memorial also pays tribute to all those killed in the line of duty.

The memorial was unveiled in a special dedication ceremony at the stadium, prior to today's game against West Ham United. Two former military chaplains joined the club chaplain, Father Marc Lynden-Smith, and

members of the Armed Forces to formally dedicate the monument.

The wording at the memorial comes from the fourth stanza of Laurence Binyon's poem, 'For the Fallen' first published in The Times on 21st September 1914.

*They shall not grow old, as we
that are left grow old:*

*Age shall not weary them, nor
the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun
and in the morning*

We will remember them.

Dedicated to the Sunderland players who died in the World Wars and to all those who selflessly gave their lives.

1914-18

Alexander Barrie
James Chalmers
Jack Huggins
Sandy McAllister
Albert Milton
Leigh Richmond Roose
Thomas Rowlandson

1939-45

Percy Saunders

**As we welcome our friends
from West Ham this
afternoon we also remember
the West Ham players who
died during World War One:**

William Kennedy, Frank Cannon,
Fred Griffiths, Arthur Stallard
and William Jones.

Many activities are taking place to bring home the world of football's honouring of those who served. Last Tuesday Dan Jarvis, the Labour MP for Barnsley and a former Major in the British Army, was the host at a reception in the House of Commons where there were a number of presentations by young people involved in 'Football Remembers' in order to raise the profile of 'Football Remembers' amongst Parliamentarians.

Yesterday HRH the Duke of Cambridge officially unveiled The Christmas Truce Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum while yesterday, today and tomorrow the Christmas Truce International Tournament in Ypres, Belgium, sees two Under-12 teams from each of the Premier League, German Bundesliga, Belgian Pro League, French Ligue 1, and one each from Scotland and Austria, participating in an Under-12 tournament taking place on a 3G pitch that the Premier League has donated to the city of Ypres. Furthermore, to honour the sacrifices of Commonwealth soldiers there is also a community tournament made up of Under-16 male and Under-18 female players from Premier League Kicks projects at home and abroad, including four Indian players from a Premier League project in Kolkata. There is a full educational and cultural programme over the weekend; including visits to war graves and memorials, designed to highlight peace and reconciliation.

Meanwhile, this coming Monday sees the release of the charity single 'All Together Now'. The Farm's song about the Truce and the First World War, has been re-recorded and features a backing choir of 60 Under-12 footballers: 38 from Premier League clubs and 22 from German Bundesliga clubs. The boys sing in both English and German and appear in the video in club shirts. Notable musicians, singers and celebrities also appear on the single/video, which will be in aid of the Red Cross and the Shorcliffe Trust.

This Wednesday, 17th December, will see the staging of a match between the British Army FA and the German Army at Aldershot Town FC. Called 'The Game of Truce' the match will be attended by the chairman of The FA Greg Dyke and Nick Carter, Chief of the General Staff. All proceeds from the game will go to The Royal British Legion and the German Army's equivalent charity.

Next Friday, 19th December, The National Football Museum in Manchester opens a new exhibition, 'The Greater Game - Football and the First World War', while at Stratford the Royal Shakespeare Company are currently performing a play called 'The Christmas Truce.'

On Christmas Day itself www.FootballRemembers.com will show every photo uploaded from the 'A Moment in History' project, while a number of players will have their own messages relayed through the site.

HALF-TIME

Would you like to be in Red&White? Then please send your request to be in Half-Time to redandwhite@safc.com or to Red and White, Stadium of Light, Sunderland SR5 1SU.

Please note that in order to comply with FA Safeguarding rules we do not include surnames of children if the item is accompanied by a photograph. Please submit requests at least a week before the fixture.

RED & WHITE CROSSWORD

by Stratton



ACROSS

- 1 West Ham beat 1860 _____ to win 1965 European Cup-Winners' Cup (ECWC) (6)
- 4 Third continent to host World Cup (4)
- 7 Style of interior furnishings (5)
- 8 Series of steps (5)
- 9 US athlete who won four gold medals at Berlin Olympics, 1936 (5,5)
- 11 This team beat West Ham in 1976 ECWC Final (10)
- 14 Wife (slang) - of North American origin (5)
- 15 Code word for letter R (5)
- 17 First name of England boss, 2001-06 (4)
- 18 _____ Lawrence, Middlesbrough manager, 1991-1994 (6)

DOWN

- 1 Crazy (3)
- 2 Position very suitable for person in it (5)
- 3 Get at wine with this (9)
- 5 _____ de France, where France won 1998 World Cup (5)
- 6 Deprive of liberty (6)
- 8 Like stadiums after tobacco ban (5-4)
- 10 State of central US (6)
- 12 40-all in tennis (5)
- 13 Consisting of people like us (5)
- 16 Number of goals SAFC scored in 1973 FA Cup Final (3)

Find the solution on page 82.

BIRTHDAYS MESSAGES

Happy 16th birthday to **Harry Tull**, love from Mum, Dad and Jack.



Double happy birthdays to **Thomas Howe** who is 17 and **Michael Howe** who is 47, love from Tracey, James and Nicole.



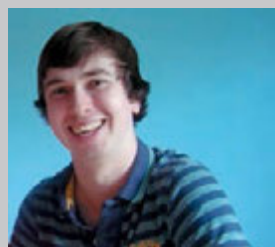
Happy 21st birthday to **Kelly-Leigh Cooper**, 17 years a season ticket holder!

Happy birthday to **John Meates**, John is visiting the Stadium of Light for the first time today, John is a West Ham fan in the Montgomery Suite.

Happy 50th birthday to **Tony D**, from all of your family and friends.



Happy birthday to **Paul Hurworth** who turned 40 on the day after the last home game. Paul, who has been a season ticket holder since the days of Roker Park, travels to games from Whitby along with Jonny, Mic, Ann, Nat, Luke and Daisy, who all send their best wishes.



Happy 21st birthday to **Jonathan Oliver** from uncle Stephen and all your friends and family.



Happy 60th birthday to **Dave Atkin**, celebrating today with his family in the Montgomery suite.



Happy birthday to **Claire Davidson**, love from all at the Hebburn branch x



CHRISTMAS BOOT AMNESTY FOR AFRICA

Sunderland AFC is asking people of all ages to donate their unwanted football boots this festive period with a special 'boot amnesty' over the coming weeks, with all boots donated being offered to youngsters in Africa.

In partnership with Symbion Power, all boots collected will be shipped to Africa and distributed to underprivileged children across the continent.

Sunderland AFC's chief executive, Margaret Byrne, said: "This Christmas, people of all ages will receive new boots as gifts and instead of letting their old boots collect dust, they could be put to good use and offered to those less fortunate than ourselves.

"We have a strong relationship with the continent of Africa and have seen first-hand some of the struggles the local communities

face. Football is hugely popular but in terms of facilities and equipment these communities have very little. The North East is famous for its generosity and we would like as many people as possible to join in our initiative and share some festive joy by donating their unwanted football boots."

Everybody that donates a pair of boots could be eligible to receive a complimentary pair of tickets to a forthcoming match at the Stadium of Light. To qualify for the match tickets, people donating their boots are asked to place them in a bag along with their name and contact details and the club will contact them.

*Collection units for donations will be located in the reception of Black Cats House and in the Stadium of Light ticket office. Boots must be clean and in good condition

SUPPORTER SERVICES

WITH SUNDERLAND AFC SUPPORTER LIAISON OFFICER CHRIS WATERS



Welcome to all Sunderland and West Ham United supporters for today's game. I would also like to wish all supporters attending the derby game at St James' Park next week a safe journey and hope you all enjoy the game.

The club is providing complimentary coaches for all supporters who have purchased a ticket for the derby game on request, as well as supporting all official branches that are travelling to the game. The coaches were the safest and quickest way to get to the away fixture last season and the club will continue to provide this service free of charge for all supporters that wish to use the coaches.

In the run up to the derby and following supporter feedback I received surrounding the game last season, I have been liaising with Sunderland supporter groups, the Football Supporters' Federation and Northumbria Police on a regular basis ahead of the game this season to discuss the planned routes for Sunderland supporters to get to the game on 21st December.

The Football Supporters' Federation launched 'A Derby To Be Proud Of' campaign ahead of the St James' Park derby in 2013-14 and continue to work with supporter groups from Sunderland and Newcastle United. The campaign is set up to celebrate the importance of the North East derby, along with maintaining the white hot atmosphere during the game without any violence between the sets of supporters.

This week I attended an event hosted by the Football Supporters' Federation as part of the 'A Derby To Be Proud Of' campaign as Sunderland and Newcastle United supporters were joined by former players, including Kevin Ball, looking ahead to the fixture on Sunday 21st December.

The event will be repeated ahead of the derby at the Stadium of Light and if you would be interested in attending or getting involved in the campaign going forward, please feel free to contact me or the Football Supporters' Federation about this.

For any further feedback, ideas, suggestions and improvements regarding the Stadium of Light matchday experience, please do not hesitate to contact me directly chris.waters@safc.com.





NAME THE SAFC STAR?

Can you use this series of clues to help identify this week's SAFC star? How many clues did you need? Did you beat your friends?

1. MADE HIS DEBUT AGAINST CRYSTAL PALACE.
2. JOINED SUNDERLAND AS A FREE AGENT.
3. IS FRENCH.
4. CAN PLAY AT LEFT OR RIGHT-BACK.
4. WEARS THE NUMBER 15 SHIRT.



WIN THE CHANCE TO BE AN SAFC MASCOT

Junior Black Cats, Sunderland AFC's official supporters' club for fans aged under 16, is free to join. As a member you will automatically be entered into a competition to win the chance to lead out the team as a matchday mascot*.

Not only that, you will also receive:

- ▶ Your own membership card
- ▶ A colouring book (ages 0-3)**
- ▶ The Junior Black Cats Magazine (ages 4-11)**
- ▶ Legion of Light (ages 12-16)**
- ▶ The opportunity to attend a Christmas party
- ▶ A Christmas card from the players
- ▶ The opportunity to attend other SAFC events
- ▶ Emails from Samson
- ▶ A section on safc.com with competitions, puzzles and downloads

Sign up for FREE at safc.com/juniorblackcats
Call 0191 551 5157 or email
juniorblackcats@safc.com

*Mascots are chosen at random from the Junior Black Cats database
– age restrictions apply
**UK and Ireland only

JUNIOR BLACK CATS

OPPO-QUIZ-ITON

Why not test your knowledge on this week's opposition? How many questions did you get right? You can test your friends too!

1. WHERE DO WEST HAM PLAY?
2. WHAT IS THEIR NICKNAME?
3. WHAT COLOUR DO THEY PLAY IN?
4. CAN YOU WORK OUT WHICH PLAYER'S NAME WE HAVE MIXED UP?
DANY RROLALC
5. WHO ARE THEIR LOCAL RIVALS?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY....



Happy 8th birthday to Thomas, love from mum, dad, Emily and James.



Happy 9th birthday Joseph! - lots of love from dad, mam and Cate and the rest of the family.



Happy 13th birthday Liam, love from mam, Lee & Lucie. Enjoy the match today, Ha'way The Lads.



Happy 9th birthday to Charlie with lots of love from all your family.



Happy 10th birthday Kaenan lots of love mam, dad & Leila x



JUNIOR BLACK CATS' MASCOT

LUKE

Age: 8

Hobbies: Football, computers and bike riding

Favourite players: Steven Fletcher, Wes Brown and Adam Johnson



RED AND WHITE BARMY

www.comicfootball.com

Later...





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www.plus.google.com/+SunderlandAFC



www.safc.com/SAFSee



www.instagram.com/sunderlandafcofficial

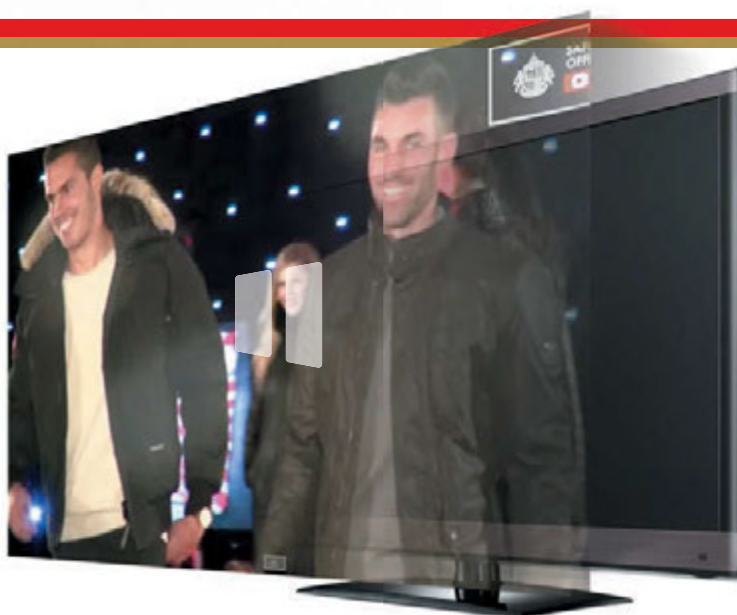


www.youtube.com/sunderlandafc

FASHION STRIKES

Highlights of the players strutting their stuff on the catwalk in aid of the club's official charity, Foundation of Light.

Head to www.youtube.com/sunderlandafc to watch the video



PAIR OF 10-GAME SEASON CARDS UP FOR GRABS

As a special Christmas treat we're giving Sunderland fans the chance to win a pair of 10-game season cards!

The season cards include the Boxing Day fixture against Steve Bruce's Hull City, the first home game of 2015 against Liverpool and the hotly-anticipated Wear-Tyne derby!

Wondering how to take up this opportunity? It couldn't be any easier... all you need to do is head over to the club's official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sunderlandafc give it a like and then fill in your details to be entered into the draw.



Caught On Camera



👉 Niall Quinn congratulates Catts on his Player of the Year award

👉 Big thumbs up during a festive tour of the SoL



👉 Brooke and her family fly the red and white flag



👉 'Super Kev' picks up another cap at the graduation ceremonies



👉 Players meet young fans at the Junior Black Cats Christmas Party

SAFC TWITTER- SPHERE

Join the conversation using
#SAFC #HawayTheLads #RedAndWhiteArmy

MORE FROM SAFC.COM



Boxer Ricky Hatton talks about the SoL atmosphere
Super Kev picks up his honorary fellowship
Ticket details for all festive fixtures

Tony Jeffries @Tony_Jeffries

Finally found somewhere to watch the match in Vegas!
#SAFC #BigScreen

Stephen Armour @armour_armour

Can't believe I've won two tickets for the match all thanks to
@SunderlandAFC #FollowerFreebie #safc #hawaythelads

Neil Philip Thornton @NeilPhilipThor1

Brilliant result for the Under-21s **@SunderlandAFC**
@premierleague Cup so soon after a tough league match on Monday **#safc** great prospects!

Dave McGee @DMG7676

Today's match is definitely a double socker
#freezing #safc

Kate McCarthy @Kate_Mc1

Loved seeing Santa at the **@SunderlandAFC**
Junior Black Cat's Christmas party!



FOO FIGHTERS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

MONDAY 25 MAY 2015, SUNDERLAND, STADIUM OF LIGHT

CONCERT HOSPITALITY

Enjoy one of the biggest rock events the North East has ever staged, from the relaxed comfort of the Stadium of Light's fantastic hospitality suites.

Brand new American-themed hospitality packages for this summer's must see show.

GOLD PACKAGE

The informal GOLD PACKAGE option offers concert goers:

- Red carpet entry
- Reserved prime concert seat
- Reception drink on arrival - cocktails and bottled beers
- A range of American-style sharing food/tapas (equivalent to a buffet)
- Private bar facilities
- Access to post-show bar with music

£175 per person + VAT.

PLATINUM SUITES PACKAGES

Enjoy the show in true American style with hospitality in one of the stadium's fantastic platinum suites.

- Red carpet entry
- Reserved premium concert seat
- Professional photographer to provide group shots of your party
- Specially crafted Champagne cocktails from mixologist on arrival
- Grazing tapas and sizzling platters (equivalent to three-course menu)
- Table service bar facilities and host service
- Access to post-show bar with music

£235 per person + VAT (please note, tables of 10 or less will be grouped together).

VIP PRIVATE PLATINUM BOXES

Rock the night away from the comfort of your own private balcony with our VIP PRIVATE PLATINUM BOX package.

- Red carpet entry
- Exclusive seat on the balcony
- Professional photographer to provide group shots of your party
- Champagne cocktails and tapas canapés on arrival
- Menu of grazing/sizzling platters (equivalent to three-course menu)
- Table service bar facilities and host service
- Mini bar stocked on request (additional cost)
- Two bottles of table wine to accompany menu
- Access to post-show bar with music

£285 per person + VAT (minimum of 10 guests).

DIAMOND VIP SUMMER BBQ PARTY

The DIAMOND VIP SUMMER BBQ PARTY, hosted in the stadium's Riverview Brasserie and James Herriot Suite, featuring stylish garden party balconies, provides concert-goers with the perfect pre-party atmosphere.

- Red carpet entry
- Exclusive high level seat
- Professional photographer to provide group shots of your party
- Specially crafted Champagne cocktails from mixologist and Pimms on arrival
- Complimentary pre-show beers/house wine and soft drinks
- Pre-concert feast

> Starter-style snacks/tapas/bowl food

> Specialist BBQ food including steaks, fish and chicken served with salads, breads, potatoes and a range of accompaniments

> Canapé desserts

- Exclusive outdoor balcony garden, with table service bar facilities and host service
- Cloakroom facilities
- Post-show food snacks including corn on the cob, chilli dogs and tacos
- Access to post-show bar with music

£325 per person + VAT (please note, tables of 10 or less will be grouped together).

**TO BOOK OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE
CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR CONCERT TEAM
TEL: 0871 911 1555**

OR EMAIL: FOOSHOSPITALITY@SAFC.COM

**FULL DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.SAFCCONCERTS.COM FOLLOW US ON
TWITTER @STADIUMOFLIGHT**

#FoosAtSol





FOUNDATION OF LIGHT

THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET

Charity Registration Number: 1089333

FASHION STRIKES INTO THOUSANDS

Foundation of Light's annual fundraising extravaganza, Fashion Strikes, in partnership with Intu Metrocentre, raised nearly £36,000 to help fund the charity's life-changing work across the North East last month.

Members of Sunderland AFC's squad took to the catwalk at the sold out event which this year took on a carnival theme 'All the Fun of the Fair.'

Guests were welcomed by fire breathers, stilt walkers and contortionists, given ice cream by ice cream parlour Lickety Split and entertained by North East funk, jazz and soul band Nick Pride and the Pimptones, before taking their seats in the Stadium of Light's Montgomery Suite for an evening of glitz, glamour, high fashion and live entertainment.

Midfielder Adam Johnson, who was taking part in the show for the third year running, said: "Everybody really enjoyed the night and it was great to play a part once again.

"Foundation of Light is a fantastic charity and I've seen first-hand the great work carried out in our region so the money raised at the fashion show will continue to make a huge difference in our region."

SAFC's star turns and models wore clothes and accessories



courtesy of principle partner Intu Metrocentre, the evening also included a special children's fashion show featuring youngsters who have participated in Foundation of Light's ground-breaking programmes.

Gateshead-based Bidvest 3663, who also act as SAFC's principal partner for food and catering supplies, brought their expertise

SAFC's Cabral with course participant Jack Barker

and fine dining to the extravaganza which returned to the Stadium of Light for the seventh year in a row.

Throughout the evening, guests enjoyed fundraising games provided by entertainment sponsor Grosvenor Casino Sunderland.

Lesley Spuhler, Chief Executive at Foundation of Light, said: "Fashion Strikes is one of Foundation of Light's most popular fundraising events and, with the support of the club, players and sponsors, this year has been our biggest and best yet.

"A huge thank you to everyone involved in making this event possible, the proceeds from which will have a real impact on local communities."



SAFC midfielder Emanuele Giaccherini



WINNING NUMBER FROM SAFC VS MAN CITY WAS **5597**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:



Meet Mr Fix-It



Ron is the Mr Fix-It behind every matchday at the Stadium of Light. As Sunderland's mechanical engineer for the last 17 years, he's a vital part of the team that keeps the ground safe for 40,000 fans. There isn't a nook or cranny that he doesn't know, always going the extra mile to solve problems any time, anywhere.

Thank you Ron, you are the true spirit of the game.

Who would you thank?  Barclays Football  @BarclaysFooty



FOUNDATION OF LIGHT

THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET

Charity Registration Number: 1089333




GRADUATION TIME FOR FAMILIES


The Stadium of Light welcomed over 1,000 families from across the North East to a special ceremony to celebrate their achievements.

Learners from primary schools throughout Sunderland, South Tyneside and County Durham, have all participated in Foundation of Light's Family Learning course which helps children and adults learn together while promoting the importance of healthy and positive lifestyles.

Michael Colclough, Assistant Head of Lifelong Learning, said: "I'd like to offer our congratulations to every child, parent and grandparent who have completed a course and attended our Family Learning Graduations this week. It's truly heart-warming to see so many happy faces celebrating their hard work and achievements together."

Family Learning is an award-winning programme which uses

 Mum Linzi with her daughter Madison and family friends, Olivia and Aiden

 Coylton FC Under-13 team

the power of football to engage thousands of families each year in activities that inspire learning and achievement, develop and build new skills, and improve relationships within the family.

Linzi, who graduated with her daughter Madison, said: "The course was brilliant, we both really enjoyed it. It was great to spend time with Madison in school and to learn how the kids learn."

Family Learning programmes are FREE to schools across Sunderland, South Tyneside and County Durham. For details, including how to get their schools involved, Head Teachers are advised to contact matthew.hill@safc.com or call 0191 551 5067.

Family Learning is supported by Sunderland City Council FACL, South Tyneside Council ACL, and in County Durham by Durham City Council Adult Learning and Skills, Caterpillar, Cestria Community Housing, Derwentside Homes and livin.

A MATCHDAY EXPERIENCE FOR COYLTON FC

Foundation of Light would like to welcome Coylton FC to the Stadium of Light. The group of Under-13s from South Ayrshire have today returned for another Matchday Experience.

Foundation of Light's Matchday Experience is ideal for developing football skills, motivating players or just enjoying a new and exciting football experience.

Before sitting today to watch the Black Cats in action, Coylton FC received a tour of the Stadium of Light, and a coaching session with Foundation coaches. Foundation of Light would like to thank Jim Kerr and the team for their continued support.

Prices start from just £30 per child, places are limited and prompt booking is advised. For further details, or to book, contact brett.mcgoldrick@safc.com or call 0191 551 5389.



IN ASSOCIATION WITH:





LOOKING FOR THE LADS

NYRON NOSWORTHY

Club historian **Rob Mason** searches for players from the past...

Within the last decade Nyron Nosworthy achieved cult hero status at Sunderland. 'Nugsy' is still playing having recently signed for Blackpool and found himself back at the Academy of Light last month when his first appearance for the Tangerines came in a friendly with Sunderland's Under-21 side, as Blackpool boss Lee Clark ran the rule over his options as he looks to arrest the slide of his new club.

"It felt kind of strange but it was nice to be back," said Nosworthy of his first return to the club. "I heard the shout we were playing Sunderland and so straight away I was looking forward to it so I could come and

see who I could see. It's nice to see things have changed and progressed for the better which is good."

In the three years since he moved on Nyron played over 50 games for Watford and finished last season on loan to Bristol City under Steve Cotterill. He's also played 13 times for his father's country, Jamaica, since making his debut five months after leaving Sunderland.

Without a club since the end of last season, Nyron has joined the ranks of players being tried out by the Tangerines and explains: "I've signed for Blackpool until January and

Nyron, in Blackpool kit, back at the Academy of Light last month

hopefully beyond. They've given me the chance to play football. Joining them all happened very quickly. I came back from Jamaica on the Thursday morning, travelled up to Blackpool that night, trained with them for the first time on the Friday and was on the bench on the Saturday. The match at Sunderland was my first game and I was playing right-back so I was rolling back the days."

Nosworthy made his debut four days after appearing at Sunderland, helping Blackpool to a point at Rotherham and last Saturday made his home debut, helping Clark's side to a 1-0 home win over Birmingham City, the club who had dismissed Clark earlier in the campaign.

'Nugsy' notes: "I'm playing for Lee Clark, so imagine that, another North East player. He's been great with me in helping me to get back and enjoy my football."

Times have been tough at Blackpool since their trip to the Barclays Premier League was brought to a halt in 2011. Nyron experienced some tough times himself during his spell in the North East, not least playing 30 games in his first season when The Lads broke their own unwanted record of fewest points in a campaign, just 15 - half as many as second bottom West Brom.

Nonetheless 'Nugsy' reflects: "I've only got good memories of Sunderland. Even in my first season when things didn't go well, for me I could sense the history of the club and I believed it was the start of something great. It was all enjoyable and everyone at Sunderland makes you feel so welcome. To be fair the facilities at Sunderland are there to bring the best out of you and Sunderland did that for me. Regardless of which managers came in I was just dedicated to the job and doing the best I could."

Nosworthy's debut provided a window into the future of a player capable of the sublime and the cor blimey. Newly-promoted Sunderland had added modestly to the squad returning to the top-flight just two years after going down with a record low 19 points. Nyron had arrived on a free from a Gillingham side just relegated from the league Sunderland had won.

NYRON NOSWORTHY

NOW AGED: 34

AT SUNDERLAND: 13th June 2005 - 10th January 2012, although he'd been on loan to Watford from 28th October - 8th January before making the move permanent. His final Sunderland appearance came in January 2010.

GAMES / GOALS: 113+12/ 0

OTHER CLUBS:


Gillingham, Sheffield United (loan), Watford, Bristol City (loan), currently Blackpool.

INTERNATIONAL:

Jamaica






 *Nosworthy at the peak of his career*

Sunderland won 13 and drew three of the first 16 games Nyron played in central defence, his performances as the Championship was won being so impressive that he was named jointly with Whitehead as North East Player of the Year (the same award Lee Cattermole has just won).

The fans had long since taken to a player who was big, strong, determined and played with his heart on his sleeve. No-one - including Nyron - ever thought he was the most gifted player around but for getting stuck in and never giving up Nyron couldn't be faulted. Nyron Nosworthy isn't the easiest name to work into a chant but the Red and White Army rose to the challenge. The early rendition of 'Come On Nyron' to the tune of Gary Glitter's 'Do You Want to be in My Gang' took off, but it was when Amy Winehouse's 'Rehab' was reworked that 'Nugsy' had a chant befitting his cult hero status. The film of him singing in the dressing room after the title was won with a 5-0 win at Luton typified his spirit, as did the photo's of him, shirtless celebrating with the fans who had taken over three quarters of Kennilworth Road.

"I'm not going to sing any songs," says Nyron when asked for a message for supporters, quickly adding, "but there's that song everyone sang when we got promoted. I still hear and I thank them for that. Those memories are probably the best I have in my career. The fans were brilliant to me everywhere I went when I was here. I couldn't even go into Morrisons without people singing 'They tried to take the ball off Nyron but he said no, no, no!'"

 *Mikael Mandron tries to take the ball off Nyron...*



Intended to be back up to former Liverpool right-back Stephen Wright, Nosworthy suddenly found himself called upon as a first day sub after Wright was injured. His first touch wasn't one as he let a simple cross-field ball go under his foot and out for a throw-in. It was an inauspicious start but moments later Nyron extricated himself from a tight situation with consummate coolness.

"I think it was more nerves," smiles Nyron when reminded of the first moment of his debut: "In terms of playing out of difficult situations I'm quite a relaxed individual so it's swings and roundabouts. Throughout my career I've always been told to concentrate because when I concentrate and keep things simple you get the best out of me. The fans at Sunderland are football people and they gave me a hard time to begin with but they wanted me to do well and wanted the club to do well. Once they saw my capabilities they were unbelievable."

Despite enduring the hardest of seasons with 29 defeats in 38 games the side refused to throw in the towel. Consistently losing can dishearten any team at any level but despite being punch drunk on defeat they were never beaten by more than three goals. Characters such as Steve Caldwell, Danny Collins, Gary Breen, Kelvin Davis and Dean Whitehead stood alongside Nosworthy in working their socks off. They were simply a team who lacked the requisite quality but were above criticism when it came to commitment.

"We would never give up and it comes down to pride. You don't

want to be known or laughed at as a player or team who didn't give it your best," he adds. "It is self-preservation and pride in yourself and hope that everyone sees that. I think it carried on into the next season. Where I'm from if things aren't going well the least you can do is to work hard and if you do that things will work out for you."

That following season saw Nyron enjoy being part of a side who bounced straight back in an exciting era as Niall Quinn took over the club and soon appointed Roy Keane as manager. Nosworthy blossomed when Keane switched him from right-back to centre-back and partnered him with the up and coming young Jonny Evans on loan from Manchester United. Nyron had previously been reluctant to switch from his right-back berth, but Keane simply pinned up a team sheet with Nyron at centre-back and left him to get on with it!

Nyron remembers: "When I first came Mick McCarthy played me at centre-half in a game at the Academy. I had an absolute nightmare and he was just shouting at me. I was pretty upset because I couldn't get into the swing of it and I thought that's not for me, I'll stay at full-back. Keane just put me there and I think it was just the right time and what can I say it just happened.

"I thought I'm in the team, I'm going to stick with it and that's what happened. I thrived on it and just pushed as hard as I could because I wanted to achieve something in my career."



WIN A HOLIDAY OF A LIFETIME FOR FOUR PEOPLE TO TANZANIA!



FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO ENTER VISIT SAFC.COM/TANZANIAHOLIDAY

Terms & conditions apply



BY NIAL HICKMAN, DAILY EXPRESS

WHO GETS YOUR VOTE?

Christmas - that special time of the year, when the family sits down under the tree, surrounded by festive greetings as they settle beside a roaring log fire... to watch BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

In the Hickman household of years gone by it was the precursor to today's reality TV game shows. A sort of sporting version of 'I'm a Celebrity,' 'X Factor' and 'Pop Idol' all rolled into one.

Even now, years after it should have lost its sell by date, it is still an award of great significance. Several years ago the world heavyweight boxer Lennox Lewis was told he was in the running for the award, but showed little interest in it, having grown up in Canada, but was then advised that this was... the big one. Lewis duly collected the top prize, but was still confused as to how and why the BBC had cornered the market in sporting awards, on the basis the corporation actually televised so little sport.

Onto that subject later - a glance at previous winners would suggest we are an athletics-mad nation. Athletics easily outguns all other sports in the pantheon of victors as there have been 17, ever since Chris Chataway pipped the first sub-four minute miler Roger Bannister to the trophy in 1954. He has been followed by 16 other athletics heroes and heroines over the next 60 years, most recently Dame Kelly Holmes.

Football and cricket, the nation's winter and summer games, fare pretty well as football has provided us with five winners over the years, starting off with Bobby Moore in 1966 (Geoff Hurst was third that year) and the World Cup winning skipper has been followed by Paul Gascoigne (1990), Michael Owen (1998), David Beckham (2001) and Ryan Giggs (2009).

Cricketing victors started with Jim Laker in 1956 after he took 19 wickets in an Ashes test, still a feat which has never been repeated. And yes, Ian Botham did win it in 1981, the year of 'Botham's Ashes.' All together though cricket has provided us with only four winners.

Joint second with football and their five winners are Formula One racing and boxing. Both sports can claim double winners as Damon Hill collected the gong twice, once for not even winning the drivers' title, and 'Our 'enry,' Henry Cooper was also a two-time successor, although he never held a world crown in his long and illustrious career.

Cycling and figure skating have enjoyed four and three successes respectively, while surprisingly,

rugby has only had one winner in all the 60 years, Jonny Wilkinson in 2003, the year England won the World Cup 'Down Under' with his dramatic drop kick.

Strange that royalty seems to have done better than rugby. Princess Anne in 1971 and Zara Phillips in 2006 both collected the prestigious award and yet I'm struggling to understand why. Both were adept at their sport, eventing, but to suggest they were worthy of the top prize is absurd. Maybe it was just a thin year, after all, another Canadian, Greg Rusedski won for coming runner-up at the US Open.

Back to the BBC. I watched a programme last week which celebrated BBC2's televising of some of the most iconic moments in sport. Sad to say, almost all are now gone from our terrestrial screens.

Isn't it faintly embarrassing now when the action is shown and 'Pictures kindly supplied by Sky Sports' appear on almost every slice of action. It is to the BBCs shame that sport is now hardly ever on their airwaves... apart from the BBC Sports Personality of the Year.

This year's trophy will go to either Rory McIlroy or Lewis Hamilton and regardless of whether the winner comes from the fairways or Formula One, I'll be voting for Carl Froch. I was lucky enough to be there with 80,000 others at Wembley stadium in May when he knocked out George Groves with the 'Punch of the Century,' so my X is going there. And yours?

BBC Sports Personality of the Year is on Sunday, 14th December.

 Ryan Giggs is one of five footballers to be named BBC Sports Personality of the Year





THEY LED THE LADS

KEN KNIGHTON

Rob Mason remembers the men who managed Sunderland.



📍 Ken Knighton
with record
signing Stan
Cummins

Ken Knighton's best moment as Sunderland manager came against West Ham. His class of 1980 clinched promotion by beating the Hammers just two days after the London side had triumphed over Arsenal in the FA Cup Final at Wembley.

It was the climax of Knighton's first season in charge. He'd become Sunderland's youngest manager since Robert Campbell in the 19th century when he'd taken over at the age of 35, the same age as Wes Brown and Anthony Reveillere are now.

Following an unbeaten pre-season tour of Switzerland, Knighton's stint in charge of Sunderland commenced with a goalless draw at Chelsea followed by back-to-back home wins that got the 1979-80 season off to a good start. Up and down form saw the side 12th in mid-November before they got into gear, the board backing Knighton as the cash was splashed, the club record being broken in November and then December as Stan Cummins and then Claudio Marangoni were brought in.

Diminutive winger Cummins delivered with 12 goals in 26 games, including scoring home and away to Newcastle, four in a match against Burnley and then in the all important promotion clincher against West Ham. These days there's a strong South American influence on Wearside but for Argentinian Marangoni, arriving a year after his country became World Champions for the first time, life in England proved difficult and barely a year after his debut he returned to Argentina as Sunderland cut their losses.

Nonetheless under Ken's guidance promotion seeking Sunderland timed their run as well as top scorer Pop Robson - a man with strong West Ham connections - would time his, Robson averaged exactly a goal for each two of his 40 games. Eighth at the beginning of March when held to a goalless home draw with Leicester, who would pip runners up Sunderland to the title by a point, The Lads briefly topped the table in April before going into the do or die decider with The Hammers in fourth place.

Born in Kexborough near Barnsley, Knighton had looked like going down the pit before joining Wolves for who he debuted at Anfield on 13th February 1964, seven days before he turned 20. As an old fashioned wing-half who occasionally turned out at right-back or on the wing, Knighton made 359 league appearances in a career that took him to Oldham, Preston, Blackburn, Hull and Sheffield Wednesday.

It was at Hillsborough that he hung up his boots when offered a position as youth coach by Owls manager Len Ashurst. He remained with Wednesday until coming to Roker Park initially as a coach in July 1978.

Following the departure of Jimmy Adamson and initial caretaker Dave Merrington, the popular Billy Elliott took charge as caretaker 36 years ago today until the end of the season. Taking Sunderland to within a whisker of promotion in a run that included the legendary Gary Rowell hat-trick in a 4-1 win at Newcastle, Elliott was surprisingly



➔ Knighton shows off another record purchase, Claudio Marangoni

passed over for the top job with coach Ken propelled into the hot-seat.

It's always hard for a coach to step up and Knighton, who was known as something of a disciplinarian, failed to impress hard man full-back Joe Bolton upon his appointment. Talking to me for the book 'Sunderland Cult Heroes' Bolton remembered: "Ken Knighton walked in and I said something like, 'Aye okay Ken' and he said, 'It's boss now.' He was a right champagne Charlie."

The man who had just appointed Knighton was chairman Keith Collings. Now deceased, Mr. Collings gave his last interview to Legion of Light in 2007 during which he said of Knighton: "He was a bit of a sharp character. I got on alright with Ken and he got us promotion."

Following instant promotion Knighton's appointment was looking like a good one, especially when after beating Everton 3-1 at home (with new signing Sam Allardyce making his debut) and Manchester City 4-0 away Sunderland topped the embryonic top-flight.

It was to be a tough season though and by the end of it Knighton was gone. There were bright spots during the campaign but they

were few and far between and gradually the side slid down the table. More pertinently Ken's supportive chairman Keith Collings had been replaced by Tom Cowie and the motor magnate eventually put the brakes on.

"I don't think there's any doubt that Tom Cowie and Ken Knighton didn't get on," remarked Keith Collings in that 2007 Legion interview. "We didn't have the experience to deal with someone like Tom Cowie," admitted Knighton's assistant manager Frank Clark when interviewed in Red & White earlier this year.

Like any successful businessman Cowie wanted value for money. The turn of the year saw investment in Ian Bowyer (father of the current Blackburn boss) and Tom Ritchie. Bowyer failed to hit the heights he'd had under Brian Clough at Forest but it was Ritchie whose signing Knighton probably had most cause to regret. Signed from Bristol City, Ritchie had always been one of those opposing forwards who caused Sunderland problems but having moved north he couldn't hit the proverbial barn door! He failed to score in the 11 games he had under Knighton - then promptly scored a hat-trick in the first game after Knighton was sacked.

The death knell of Knighton's reign had come after a third successive defeat that left the team tottering sixth from bottom. Mick Docherty took over as caretaker and kept Sunderland up, helped by a final day victory at Liverpool.

Knighton meanwhile surfaced in a scouting role for Manchester United before becoming manager of Orient in October 1981. He was to remain at Brisbane Road until his dismissal in May 1983, later managing non-league Dagenham Town and Trowbridge Town.

By 1984 though the thrills of a lap of honour before a capacity crowd at Roker Park when promotion was won must have seemed a lifetime away as he accepted a job with Plessey Communications to create not a football team, but a sales team. Now retired Ken Knighton is 70 and living in the Bristol area.

KEN KNIGHTON

MANAGERIAL SPELL

7th June 1979 - 13th April 1981

RECORD

P	W	D	L
94	35	24	35

SAFC ACHIEVEMENTS

Won promotion in his only full season.

SIGNINGS INCLUDED

Chris Turner, Barry Dunn, John Hawley, Stan Cummins, Claudio Marangoni, Joe Hinnigan, Sam Allardyce, Ian Bowyer and Tom Ritchie.

PLAYING CAREER

Barnsley Schools, Mexborough Rovers, Wath Wanderers, Wolves, Oldham Ath., Preston N.E., Blackburn Rovers, Hull City, Sheffield Wed. Selected for FA XI tour to New Zealand 1969.

CONNECTION TO TODAY'S VISITORS

West Ham were beaten on the night Knighton's side won promotion in 1980 while his signings included current Hammers' boss Sam Allardyce.



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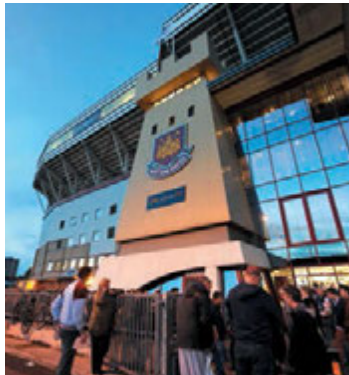
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BARNES STORMING

Sunderland don't go to West Ham until late March but it's one of the London games I always look forward to.

The journey from King's Cross to the East End embraces the matchday atmosphere; the rattling Hammersmith and City or District line underground journey, overground through Bow and Plaistow; the walk down the multi-cultural Green Street past the eponymous 'Ken's Café' and then the badge sellers stationed outside the Boleyn Ground with its mock castle turrets on the exterior of the Main Stand.



Once inside I'm always tempted to sneak into the old fashioned freight lift to ride up to the fourth floor where the Press Box is housed. Once there the low stand on the far side which used to be home to the 'chicken run' affords you a view north across the rooftops of London.

The journey to West Ham's Boleyn Ground is one to savour

It's an experience not to be enjoyed for much longer as the much talked about move from the Boleyn Ground to the Olympic Stadium is now imminent. With that in mind I will be inducing Benno to leave earlier from the North East so we have time to savour the journey, but more importantly time to take brunch at 'Ken's'. We've not done so for some seasons but this journey will feel like a pilgrimage and we must pay homage with a plate of Ken's sausages, bacon and eggs, toast and mug of tea, being watched from the walls by the peeling posters of West Ham greats. Trevor Brooking and Bobby Moore have seen finer days than their fading pictures suggest but they are all part of the fabric of the West Ham United experience.

Tottenham are moving; Chelsea is a polar opposite and Arsenal has the Emirates. Another chapter in football history will disappear when the Hammers move to modernity.

Join BBC Newcastle's modernists, Marco and Prydey to relive today's match on Monday from 5.30 in 'Total Sport'.



The first great West Ham Moore - Billy, once of Sunderland

“TOTTENHAM ARE MOVING; CHELSEA IS A POLAR OPPOSITE AND ARSENAL HAS THE EMIRATES. ANOTHER CHAPTER IN FOOTBALL HISTORY WILL DISAPPEAR WHEN THE HAMMERS MOVE TO MODERNITY”

THE FIXTURE TIME FORGOT

Everyone remembers the famous games but here **Harry Barrett** recalls a 'forgotten fixture'...

SUNDERLAND	0
WEST HAM UTD	0

Saturday 25th August 1923

Parishioners were planning the 1,250th anniversary of St Peter's foundation in Monkwearmouth. Meanwhile, West Ham celebrated their first ever top-flight fixture with a pilgrimage to Roker.

Billy Moore, former Sunderland player, and main man for the Hammers, was warmly welcomed. An ever-present in their promotion team, also beaten in Wembley's first FA Cup Final, Bill's promptings gave Sunderland debutant Reg Wilkinson a torrid afternoon.

A £1,000 summer signing from Norwich, Wilkinson was the only newcomer to a Sunderland XI, runners-up to league champions Liverpool the previous term.

Consequently much was expected of Bob Kyle's team. But on a chilly afternoon it was the visitors who looked the more dangerous, showing, "greater dash and enthusiasm than the homesters," according to a local scribe.

Sunderland's best opportunity came in the first period. Attacking the Fulwell End, Poole and Marshall created a good opportunity for Buchan. But the skipper missed his kick, complaining Hammers defender Tresarden had held him back. The match report

prosaically suggested Charlie had been "interfered with."

That was that. The 35,000 crowd, entertained by the Tramways Band before kick-off, rejoiced the following Saturday with a 1-0 win at Upton Park.

By then Reg Wilkinson had been dropped and at the end of the season joined Brighton. Still playing for Norwich Electricity Board at the age of 47, he sadly died after collapsing in a local game in his native Norfolk.

Billy Moore blossomed, and on retirement became trainer serving the Hammers until 1960, by which time another Moore legend was an established first-teamer at Upton Park.

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THE LEARNING CURVE

Referee Mike Jones was handing out the cards last weekend but unfortunately for Wolverhampton Wanderers, they were of the red variety rather than the Christmas variety.

After seeing two players sent-off during the second-half their 2-1 home defeat to Bournemouth, talk among the Wolves fans at Molineux is likely to be about how they are going to arrest a run of five straight defeats - yet for Sunderland fans Danny Graham's first goal of the season may be of more interest.

Graham had put his side ahead with a deft header in his third game on loan, having already gone close the week before when he hit the bar at Brentford with the game still 0-0. The match ended with a convincing 4-0 win for the Bees though, and Wolves will be hoping to get back on track today when they face Sheffield Wednesday, for whom Keiren Westwood has been a regular starter.

Another member of the goalkeepers union, Joel Dixon, has been in fine form of late and that has led to Boston United extending his loan until the 5th January. Dennis Greene's side are yet to lose since Dixon arrived, and have progressed to the First Round proper of the FA Trophy after a reunion with Workington - where Joel had played last season.

Boston beat the Reds 2-1, and were then back in Conference North action last week when they drew at home to Brackley Town to stay on the coat tails of the play-off pack. Sunderland's other loaned out goalkeeper Jordan Pickford might also be thinking about breaking into the play-off places again now that his Bradford City side are turning their form back around following a sticky patch, their last league game ending in a 3-1 win against a Leyton Orient team that included recent signing Andrea Dossena playing at left-back.

 *Danny Graham scored for Wolves last weekend*



The terms of Pickford's deal meant he sat out last Saturday's FA Cup win against Dartford, meaning Ben Williams came into the side - Williams having joined the Bantams this summer from Hibernian, where he was a team mate of Duncan Watmore during the winger's loan towards the end of the season.

El Hadji Ba's loan at Bastia remains on hold while he receives treatment for an injury back in England, meaning he missed out on the recent clash away at Valentin Roberge's Stade de Reims side. The home side won the game 2-1 and while Roberge was an unused substitute he was drafted back in for their following match against high-flying Lyon.

Manager Jean-Luc Vasseur tested out a five-man defence, with Roberge utilised right in the centre, only for a late goal to scupper any hopes of a point against a home side that had Steed Malbranque on the bench.

While the tactic seemed to have worked to a degree however, Roberge was left out again when Reims reverted to their regular flat back-four last Sunday, although with Les Rouges et Blancs (Red and Whites, aptly) suffering an unexpected 3-2 defeat against current Coupe de France holders EA Guingamp, he will no doubt be hoping he is given more chances to impress in the coming weeks.

UNDER-21s

SUNDERLAND	0
VILLAREAL	0

Stadium of Light
Wednesday 10th December
Premier League International Cup

This is a separate competition to the tournament Sunderland beat Manchester City in last week.

In this development competition the Lads also entertain Celtic next Thursday and visit Everton although the date for the trip to Goodison is not yet fixed

Spanish side Villarreal, known as the Yellow Submarine, provided quality opposition.

Playing as an overage player Vito Mannone earned his clean sheet with three top class saves as the visitors sailed up to the Sunderland danger area.

Vito vetoed a 40th minute close range torpedo from Jorge Mendez that looked a goal all the way when it left the striker's boot.

Fresh from his hat trick at Manchester City, Mikael Mandron forces the Yellow Submarine's 'keeper to dive

Two minutes later Mannone made a spectacular one handed flying save to tip Nahuel Leiva's 30 yarder round the post.

In the 64th minute another full length dive saw the 'keeper get his fingertips to an exquisite curling shot from the edge of the box by sub Alfonso Pedraza who had surfaced at half time.

In between the first two of Mannone's hat-trick of special saves, Martin Smith had robbed Alex Garcia in the centre circle and fed Mikael Mandron whose shot brought a good save out of former Barcelona B 'keeper Miguel Banuz.

Late on both Carl Lawson and Mikael Mandron found the net only to be flagged offside.

SUNDERLAND: Mannone, Cartwright, Beadling, McNamee, T. Robson (Ferguson 87), Oliver, Watmore (Gooch 26), Smith (Greenwood 74), Agnew, Lawson, Mandron. **Unused:** Stryjek, Sukar, E. Robson, Blinco.
Att. 458

MANCHESTER CITY	2
SUNDERLAND	4

Spotland (Rochdale FC)
Friday 5th December
Premier League Cup

A year and three days after his hat trick away to Arsenal at this level, Mikael Mandron notched three away to Manchester City.

Mandron struck in the 43rd, 62nd and 66th minutes.

Sinan Bytyqi had given City a 23rd minute lead.

Olivier Ntcham restored the advantage for Patrick Viera's side five minutes into the second half.

After Mandron turned the game around Duncan Watmore completed a spell of three goals in 10 minutes for Robbie Stockdale's team with the goal of the game in the 72nd minute.

City included Jose Angel Tasende who had been on the bench for the first team game between the clubs 48 hours earlier.

SUNDERLAND: Stryjek, Cartwright, McNamee, Beadling, Ferguson, Oliver (Smith 88), Watmore (Gooch 82), Agnew, Honeyman (Lawson 68), Mavrias, Mandron. **Unused:** Purvis, Sukar.

DERBY NEXT

Following their success away to Manchester City Sunderland have been drawn away to Derby County in the next round of the Premier League Cup. No date has yet been fixed for tie.

EVERTON	3
SUNDERLAND	2

Goodison Park
Monday 1st December.

In Sunderland U21s first appearance live on TV they played superbly but somehow lost a game in which they would have been full value for a victory.

Sunderland had 21 attempts on goal to Everton's nine.



Aroune Kone gave the home side a 32nd minute lead.

Sunderland were denied what TV showed to be a clear penalty on the stroke of half time, play being waved on when Duncan Watmore was wiped out by the already cautioned Browning.

Skipper Liam Agnew equalised in the 56th minute, his deflected shot looping into the net.

Brian Oveido restored Everton's lead with a well taken 65th minute effort.

Sunderland equalised again three minutes later with a quality goal. Tom McNamee played the ball up to Mikael Mandron who held it up well and found Connor Oliver. He sprayed the ball to the right where George Honeyman delivered a low cross which invited Carl Lawson to finish from close range.

Seven minutes later Mikael Mandron hit the bar.

Using the maximum permitted three overage players plus an over-age 'keeper, Everton completed the set of goals from overage outfield players with an 88th minute winner from Conor McCleny, right back Gethin Jones claiming his second assist.

On his first U21 appearance of the season, Tom Beadling went

UNDER-21s FIXTURES (HOME FIXTURES LISTED IN BOLD)				
DATE	OPPOSITION	VENUE	F-A/ K-O	SCORERS/VENUE
Tues 19th Aug	Liverpool	H	0-1	-
Tues 26th Aug	Manchester City	A	1-1	Watmore
Mon 15th Sept	Manchester United	A	0-4	-
Mon 22nd Sept	Tottenham Hotspur	H	2-1	Ferguson, Smith
Mon 29th Sept	West Ham United	A	0-2	-
Mon 20th Oct	Leicester City	H	1-0	Agnew (p)
Mon 27th Oct	Southampton	A	1-1	Watmore
Mon 3rd Nov	Fulham	H	4-0	Watmore 2, Mandron, Lawson
Mon 1st Dec	Everton	A	2-3	Agnew, Lawson
Fri 5th Dec	Manchester City (PLC)	A	4-2	Mandron (3) Watmore
Wed 10th Dec	Villareal (PLIC)	H	0-0	-
Sun 14th Dec	Chelsea	A	1pm	NEW VENUE Cobham Training Ground
Thur 18th Dec	Celtic (PLIC)	H	7pm	Stadium of Light
Mon 12th Jan	Liverpool	A	7pm	Liverpool Academy
Mon 19th Jan	Norwich City	H	1pm	Academy of Light - NEW DATE
Mon 26th Jan	Manchester City	H	7pm	Eppleton Colliery Welfare Ground
Mon 9th Feb	Tottenham Hotspur	A	12noon	Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre
Mon 23rd Feb	Manchester United	H	7pm	Stadium of Light
Mon 9th Mar	West Ham United	H	7pm	Eppleton Colliery Welfare Ground
Mon 16th Mar	Leicester City	A	7pm	King Power Stadium
Mon 6th Apr	Southampton	H	1pm	Academy of Light
Sat 18th Apr	Fulham	A	3.00pm	Motspur Park
Mon 4th May	Everton	H	7pm	Eppleton Colliery Welfare Ground
Mon 11th May	Chelsea	H	7pm	Stadium of Light
Wed 13th May	Norwich City	A	1pm	Colney Training Centre - NEW DATE
TBA	Everton (PLIC)	A		

precisely close to what would have been a third equaliser in the closing stages.

SUNDERLAND: Stryjek, Cartwright, McNamee, Beadling, T. Robson, Oliver (Smith 75), Watmore (Gooch 75), Honeyman, Agnew, Lawson (Greenwood 75), Mandron. **Unused subs:** Purvis, Ferguson

BARCLAYS U-21s PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE												
UP TO 12/12/14	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd U21	8	2	0	1	9	3	2	2	1	6	5	14
Southampton U21	8	2	2	1	6	5	2	0	1	7	5	14
Manchester City U21	9	2	2	0	9	4	2	0	3	10	13	14
Chelsea U21	7	2	2	0	8	5	1	1	1	3	2	12
Everton U21	7	3	0	1	9	6	1	0	2	5	6	12
Tottenham U21	8	4	0	1	9	6	0	0	3	3	7	12
Fulham U21	8	2	1	1	6	6	1	2	1	5	7	12
SUNDERLAND U21	9	3	0	1	7	2	0	2	3	4	11	11
Liverpool U21	7	1	1	2	7	9	2	0	1	7	3	10
Norwich City U21	8	3	0	0	9	1	0	0	5	2	15	9
Leicester City U21	7	1	1	1	7	5	1	0	3	5	11	7
West Ham United U21	8	1	0	3	4	8	0	2	2	3	5	5

UNDER-21s ROLL CALL				
UP TO 12/12/14		STARTS	SUBS	GOALS
Liam	Agnew	11	0	2
Tom	Beadling	3	0	0
Jordan	Blinco	0	1	0
	Cabral	3	0	0
Andrew	Cartwright	11	0	0
Joel	Dixon	3	0	0
David	Ferguson	9	1	1
Danny	Graham	1	0	0
Rees	Greenwood	3	6	0
Lynden	Gooch	3	4	0
Scott	Harrison	1	0	0
George	Honeyman	2	2	0
Carl	Lawson	9	2	2
Mikael	Mandron	5	1	4
Vito	Mannone	1	0	0
Charis	Mavrias	3	0	0
Tom	McNamee	11	0	0
Connor	Oliver	8	1	0
Costel	Pantilimon	1	0	0
Daniel	Pybus	0	1	0
Ethan	Robson	0	2	0
Tommy	Robson	9	0	0
Martin	Smith	7	4	1
Jass	Sukar	0	1	0
Max	Stryjek	6	0	0
Duncan	Watmore	11	0	5

UNDER-18s



Andrew Nelson

THE YOUNG ONES

ANDREW NELSON

POSITION: Striker

DATE OF BIRTH:
16th September 1997

BIRTHPLACE: Newton Aycliffe

HOW DID YOU JOIN SUNDERLAND? I first had a trial at Sunderland when I was six and signed on after I turned seven. I had just been playing for a Sunday league team before that.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE STRENGTHS OF YOUR GAME? I am quite quick and I am quite strong - I like to get at players and take them on. I play as a lone striker at the moment, so I have to work hard too.

WHICH AREAS OF YOUR GAME ARE YOU MOST TRYING TO

FAVOURITES

TV PROGRAMME:

I don't watch much TV to be honest.

FILM:

I really liked Maze Runner, and The Equalizer too.

ACTOR: Russell Crowe was good in Gladiator, and I like Scarlett Johansson.

COMPUTER GAME: I play FIFA and Grand Theft Auto.

MUSIC: I listen to a lot, but it depends on what mood I am in. It is Hip-Hop mainly but I listen to all kinds.

FOOD: I couldn't live without chicken nuggets!

HOLIDAY DESTINATION: I went to Spain with a friend and his family for two weeks of sunshine; it was unbelievable.

IMPROVE AT THE MOMENT?

My finishing can be a bit on and off at times so I am looking at that, and my hold up play too, so the rest of the team can get up the pitch.

WHO DO YOU WATCH CLOSEST TO TRY AND LEARN FROM?

I used to watch Thierry Henry when he was at Arsenal and I have started looking at Sergio Aguero a lot. I was at the Stadium of Light for the Manchester City game and you can't help but admire him.

UNDER-18s DEBUT:

Wolverhampton Wanderers (H), 5th October 2013. Lost 1-0, came on as a 70th minute substitute.

UNDER-18s APPEARANCES AND GOALS:

22 starts + 11 substitute appearances, 6 goals

**Sunderland played a League Cup Second Round, first-leg tie against Bury on the day Andrew was born, winning 2-1 at the Stadium of Light.*

UNDER-18s FIXTURES (HOME FIXTURES LISTED IN **BOLD**)

DAY	DATE	OPPOSITION	VEN	F-A	SCORERS
Sat	16th Aug	Newcastle United	H	2-1	Greenwood, Ellison
Sat	23rd Aug	Manchester City	A	0-2	-
Sat	30th Aug	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	2-2	Greenwood, Blinco
Sat	20th Sep	Derby County	H	0-2	-
Sat	27th Sep	Everton	A	1-3	Nelson
Sat	4th Oct	Middlesbrough	A	2-3	Casey, E. Robson
Sat	11th Oct	Bolton Wanderers	H	2-0	Blinco, Molyneux
Sat	18th Oct	Manchester United	A	2-0	Blinco, E. Robson
Sat	25th Oct	Liverpool	H	2-1	Nelson, Wright
Sat	1st Nov	Stoke City	A	3-1	Blinco, E. Robson, Wright
Tues	18th Nov	Blackburn Rovers	A	4-4	E. Robson 2 (1p), Blinco, Ledger
Sat	22 Nov	Manchester City	H	0-1	-
Sat	29th Nov	Newcastle United	A	1-1	J. Robson
Sat	6th Dec	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	1-2	Nelson
Tues	16th Dec	Fleetwood Town FAYC R3	H	7pm	Eppleton CW
Sat	20th Dec	Blackburn Rovers	H	12.30pm	
Sat	10th Jan	Everton	H	12.30pm	
Sat	17th Jan	Derby County	A	1pm	
Sat	24th Jan	Middlesbrough	H	11am	
Sat	31st Jan	Bolton Wanderers	A	12.30pm	
Sat	7th Feb	Manchester United	H	12.30pm	
Sat	14th Feb	Liverpool	A	1pm	
Sat	21st Feb	Stoke City	H	1pm	

*Fixtures subject to change

UNDER-18s ROLL CALL (COMPETITIVE GAMES ONLY)

UP TO 12.12.14		STARTS	SUBS	GOALS
Jordan	Blinco	14	0	5
Peter	Burke	1	0	0
Dan	Casey	10	1	1
Ross	Colquhoun	12	0	0
Ryan	Ellison	5	3	1
Avis	Ganiyu	0	3	0
Rees	Greenwood	7	0	2
Denver	Hume	11	1	0
Michael	Ledger	13	0	1
David	Lowrie	0	5	0
Dylan	McEvoy	12	1	0
Luke	Molyneux	7	5	1
Andrew	Nelson	12	2	3
Greg	Purvis	8	0	0
Dan	Pybus	11	1	0
Ethan	Robson	10	0	5
Josh	Robson	8	4	1
James	Talbot	5	0	0
Dan	Wright	8	2	2



AN ENGLISHMAN IN FLORIDA

Prior to last Saturday's game at Wolverhampton, where he came on as an early substitute, Dan Wright had been on England duty with John Peacock's Under-17s squad in America. The Three Lions were in Sarasota, Florida, to take part in a Nike International Tournament with games taking place at the Premier Sports Campus at Lakewood Ranch.

England started on Friday 28th November with a 3-1 defeat to hosts the United States of America. Wright came on in place of Everton's James Yates for the final ten minutes with the game already lost, but there was some consolation when he got his first

👉 Dan Wright scored for England against the USA and made two assists vs Brazil

international goal with a side footed finish in added time.

Wright then played the full match in England's next game on the Sunday, where they came from behind to draw 2-2 against Brazil. He was heavily involved again, playing in Leicester City forward Layton Ndukwu for the first goal of the game and also creating England's last gasp equaliser when he passed to Liverpool's Adam Phillips, who scored a brilliant chip.

The tournament ended on Tuesday 2nd December, and England rounded their participation off with a 2-1 win over Australia, who were managed by former Middlesbrough man Tony Vidmar. Wright again started the game but was brought off at half-time with Peacock making a total of six changes during the game as he looked to give minutes to some of his other squad members.

GREG PURVIS

Greg Purvis has also been on England duty. On Wednesday and Thursday of this week he attended a Goalkeeping Camp at the University of Warwick with coaches Simon Smith, Martin Thomas and Tom Dittmer.

FLEETWOOD MAC

Dylan McEvoy will hope to entertain the headline writers if he can get on the scoresheet against

Fleetwood in the FA Youth Cup on Tuesday. The game takes place at Eppleton CW in Hetton. Kick-off is at 7pm. Admittance is £3 and £1 for over-65s / under-18s. Please note that competition rules do not allow for free admittance for season card holders.

WOLVES	2
SUNDERLAND	1

Compton Park
Saturday 6th December

Neither team were able to really test their opposing goalkeeper in the first-half, despite both sides looking to attack where possible.

The second-half got off to a frantic start however, and Rob Edwards' home team took the lead moments after the restart.

Jesse Devers had been brought on as a substitute following the half time break and scored with a shot from a tight angle.

Dan Wright soon played in Andrew Nelson to equalise, but Sunderland could not hold on for a point and Connor Ronan scored with five minutes to go when he prodded home a Nicursor Carmet cross from close range.

SUNDERLAND: Talbot, Casey, Colquhoun, Ledger, J Robson, McEvoy, E Robson, Pybus (Wright 34), Blinco, Greenwood (Molyneux 78), Nelson.

Unused: Roberts, Ellison, Lowrie

BARCLAYS U18 PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

UP TO 12.12.14	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbrough U18	14	8	0	0	21	9	3	0	3	16	11	33
Everton U18	14	5	1	1	18	12	4	1	2	14	6	29
Manchester City U18	14	3	3	0	10	5	5	0	3	23	11	27
Wolverhampton W. U18	15	3	1	3	9	8	3	3	2	17	15	22
Liverpool U18	15	4	3	1	21	9	1	2	4	14	22	20
Manchester Utd U18	13	3	2	2	5	5	3	0	3	9	10	20
Derby County U18	12	2	3	1	12	11	2	3	1	14	11	18
SUNDERLAND U18	14	3	1	2	8	7	2	2	4	14	16	18
Newcastle United U18	14	3	1	4	18	21	1	2	3	7	10	15
Stoke City U18	14	2	2	3	15	14	1	1	5	2	11	12
Bolton Wanderers U18	14	1	0	6	6	22	1	3	3	5	11	9
Blackburn Rovers U18	13	0	2	4	9	20	1	2	4	8	18	7



SUNDERLAND 1-4 MANCHESTER CITY

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER, BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE, STADIUM OF LIGHT

CATS' TALES



RED & WHITE MATCHFACTS

► City's third goal, scored by Pablo Zabaleta, was the 300th Sunderland have conceded at home in the Premier League.

► The defending champions became the first visiting team to score four at the Stadium of Light since West Brom in November 2012.

► City last scored four on Wearside in March 1989 in a game in what is now the Championship.

► Sunderland lost at home by a three-goal margin for the first time since April 2011 when Fulham won 3-0.

► Sebastian Coates made his Barclays Premier League debut for Sunderland.



When Connor Wickham put Sunderland ahead in the 19th minute there was a thought that maybe, just maybe, Sunderland could make it an incredible five successive 1-0 home wins over Manchester City. Those thoughts didn't last long however as within two minutes Sergio Agüero blasted the visitors level.

Eight minutes later the champions took the lead. Having held the ball for a sustained period of possession, a straight ball found Agüero who turned provider with a perfect instant touch to release Stevan Jovetic who finished clinically.

Sunderland had started brightly. On five minutes Seb Larsson found Will Buckley who pulled the ball back for Jack Rodwell but his effort was blocked by Pablo Zabaleta. It was Larsson again at the heart of the move that created Sunderland's goal. Eschewing an easy ball into space on the right, the Swede's astute reverse pass caught City flat-footed as Wickham opened the scoring.

However, having ran themselves into the ground to hold Chelsea the previous weekend The Lads couldn't restrain Manuel Pellegrini's side who extended their lead nine minutes after the break. Again the goal sprang from sustained ball retention, City eventually released full-back Zabaleta who skilfully dinked the ball home from six yards.

The scoring was completed with 19 minutes left as Agüero's near post run saw him clip the ball in off the post for another top class finish on a night when Sunderland were simply beaten by a better team.

► Ricky Alvarez came off the bench for his first appearance since September.

► City's Dedryck Boyata made his first Barclays Premier League appearance since December 2013.

► 18-year-old Jose Pozo came on for his Barclays Premier League debut while still to debut, 17-year-old Angelino Tasende, was on the visitors' bench.

► City's Eliaquim Mangala missed the match through suspension.

► Former City man Adam Johnson missed the game through injury but there were starts for ex-City players Costel Pantilimon and Jack Rodwell.



LIVERPOOL 0-0 SUNDERLAND

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER, BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE, ANFIELD



RED & WHITE MATCHFACTS

► A ninth draw is the most ever for Sunderland in the first 15 games of a Premier League season.

► A fifth goalless draw equalled the club record of 0-0s for an entire Premier League season. (See Stats Story on page 75 for more details).

► Gus Poyet made five changes, the most he's made between Barclays Premier League games this season.

► Jozy Altidore started a Barclays Premier League game for the first time since last season's visit to Liverpool in March.

► Substitute Ricky Alvarez came on for his away debut.

CATS' TALES



Three goalless draws in the top-flight on Saturday but Match of the Day still managed to put The Lads on last.

The match at Anfield wasn't without talking points with three penalty appeals at the Kop End. Referee Mr. Swarbrick stuck with convention when turning down the visitors' claims when Connor Wickham was firstly held back on the edge of the area by Glen Johnson and then seemingly caught by Martin Skrtel in only the second minute.

Ten minutes before half-time the ref again wasn't interested when Wickham went down after a surging run from the half-way line, while in the second-half Raheem Sterling, playing the last match of his teens, tumbled over as challenges approached. Neither Gus Poyet nor Brendan Rodgers took issue with the officials as the points were shared.

Liam Bridcutt had arguably his best game for Sunderland, in for Lee Cattermole as Poyet shuffled his pack at the end of a week where three Champions League teams had been tackled. Costel Pantilimon, Santiago Vergini, John O'Shea and Anthony Reveillere each completed their third full 90 minutes and played their parts in a second clean sheet out of the three fixtures.

► Sunderland drew for the seventh time in 14 Premier League visits to Anfield.

► Sebastian Coates was ineligible to play against Liverpool, who he is on loan from.

► Will Buckley picked up perhaps the quickest yellow card in Sunderland's history, being booked for a mis-timed tackle almost as soon as play had re-started following his introduction.

► Martin Skrtel made his 200th Barclays Premier League appearance for Liverpool.

► The home side had former Sunderland man Colin Pascoe as right-hand man to Brendan Rodgers, with ex-SAFC men Simon Mignolet and Jordan Henderson in their line-up, but there was no place for Fabio Borini.

TICKET OFFICE NUMBER
0871 911 1973

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COMING UP



NEWCASTLE UTD VS SUNDERLAND

Barclays Premier League, St. James' Park,
Sunday 21st December, Kick-off: 1.30

Christmas shopping. The last weekend before Christmas sees Sunderland head into town looking to pick up three points which would certainly be a great present for those of a Red and White persuasion writes Derek Carter. It's often been said that form goes out of the window in these games and as much as managers may try to get their players to play the match rather than the occasion, the atmosphere makes that virtually impossible. This one could be a particularly intriguing encounter as The Magpies current form will see them start as favourites but in recent times The Wearsiders have defied the odds and left with the bragging rights. Sunderland will come up against a familiar face in Jack Colback who starred in the last derby game at St James Park before his summer move North of the river and how he performs against his former team mates could prove to be pivotal in deciding the result of this. Not one to put your mortgage on.

TICKET INFO: SOLD OUT

SUNDERLAND VS HULL CITY

Barclays Premier League, Stadium of Light,
Friday 26th December, Kick-off: 3.00

Brucie bonus. Sunderland's former manager will be hoping his team continue their good run against The Black Cats having not only beaten them in the Barclays Premier League last season but also on their run through to the FA Cup final. The Tigers have had a difficult time recently which possibly hasn't been helped by being in The Europa League but with a number of ex-Red and White players returning to the SoL they might just have a bit more of an incentive to earn their stripes. The Boxing Day fixture is one of the great occasions in the footballing calendar and seems to have its own special atmosphere. Hull will undoubtedly have a

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- CATEGORY C** fixtures from £25, over 65s from £19, Under 16s from £10 and Under 22s from £16.

All major credit and debit cards accepted (excluding American Express and Diners) booking fee payable.

HOW TO BUY

ONLINE: www.safc.com/tickets

TELEPHONE: 0871 911 1973

IN PERSON: Stadium of Light Ticket Office Mon-Fri
9.00 am to 5.30pm

Matchdays 10am to kick-off.

Non-match Saturdays: 10am to 1pm

BY POST: Sales, PO Box 165, Sunderland SR5 1WF

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Fans are encouraged to take advantage of the **'PRINT AT HOME'** facility, which allows them to book their seats online at www.safc.com and print their match ticket via their home computer. All tickets are sold subject to ground regulations.



Hull City provide this season's Boxing Day in the Barclays Premier League



👉 Steve Bruce's Hull Tigers are the next visitors to the Stadium of Light

good following which will offer them plenty of encouragement but Gus Poyet's men have proved to be a tough nut to crack and apart from a couple of games they've managed to keep things pretty tight.

TICKET INFO: Tickets for this category B game are on sale now.

ASTON VILLA VS

SUNDERLAND

Barclays Premier League, Villa Park,
Sunday 28th December, Kick-off: 3.00

Thick and fast. When it gets to this stage in the Barclays Premier League the matches seem to come along with more regularity than the proverbial two buses at once. This is the time when squads can be stretched to the limit and fatigue may well lead to some shock results. Villa actually started the calendar year with a New Year's Day win at Sunderland so they will be hoping to end it in the same manner. Both teams have had the same problem this season, namely a lack of goals although now that the Midlanders have Christian Benteke up and running again they can certainly expect to improve their situation. With the Black Cats also struggling to find the net with any great regularity the indications are that this could be a tight low scoring affair but as previously mentioned

strange things can happen as aching legs and tired minds take their toll. The dreaded transfer window opens a couple of days after this match so some players could be playing for their futures.

TICKET INFO: Sunderland AFC have received 2,955 tickets for this fixture.

Season card holders can apply with the following schedule:

5+ loyalty points 09:00am 15/12/14 until 17:00pm

16/12/14 – subject to availability

Season card holders 09:00am 17/12/14 until 17:00pm

18/12/14 – subject to availability

General sale 09:00am 19/12/14 – subject to availability

Adults £31, Over 65/U21, Full time student and armed forces £28, U18's £12 and under 8s £7

MANCHESTER CITY VS

SUNDERLAND

Barclays Premier League, Etihad Stadium,
Thursday 1st January, Kick-off: 3.00

TICKET INFO: SAFC have received 1700 tickets for this fixture

Season card holders can apply with the following schedule:

5+ loyalty points 09:00am 15/12/14 until 17:00pm

16/12/14 – subject to availability

Season card holders 09:00am 17/12/14 until 17:00pm

18/12/14 – subject to availability

General sale 09:00am 19/12/14 – subject to availability

Adults £47, Over 65/U22 £39, Under 18s £31 and U16s £28

Tickets can be purchased in person at SAFC ticket office, via the telephone 0871-911-1973 or via the website at www.safc.com

SUNDERLAND VS

LEEDS UNITED

3rd/4th/5th January, 2015*

Sunderland have been drawn at home to Leeds United in the third round of the FA Cup. The tie is of course a repeat of the 1973 FA Cup final and the first time the clubs have met in the competition since that glorious day at Wembley 41 years ago although there was a League Cup meeting in 1993-94 when Sunderland won both legs 2-1. Ticket details will be included in the Boxing Day programme.

**Date and kick off time to be confirmed.*



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MONTY

On Wednesday I visited Seaham School where a re-enactment of the Christmas Truce from 1914 took place.

It was a fantastic event with representatives of the army, navy and air force there as well as people from Beamish who brought along an old football and football kit for the kids to dress up in. A trench had been constructed and my part was to get in and throw the ball out for the game to start. It was a magnificent event and the kids enjoyed the experience and most importantly learned about why it is so important that we remember all of those who experienced the horrors of World War One and why the Christmas Truce is such a treasured moment when peace broke out through football.

Today's game brings West Ham United to Sunderland and it will be a hard match. Andy Carroll is on fire after his performance last week which brought him two goals and will have him full of confidence. He'll be a massive handful in a West Ham team who have done brilliantly so far this season.

Andy will do well to ever score a header as good as one Sam Allardyce one beat me with at Bolton. It was just after Christmas in 1975 and we were both going for promotion. They beat us 2-1 when we were top of the table with Big Sam scoring with an absolutely thunderous header. Looking at his brow now I can see how he scored it! We overlapped a little bit when Sam came to Sunderland a few years later but it's mainly that header I always remember him for.

Last week's draw at Liverpool could quite easily have been a win because the team played well and with a little bit of good fortune could have turned one point into three. We've had nine draws and

Students at Seaham School of Technology donned old football kits from Beamish when they re-enacted the 1914 Christmas Truce on Wednesday



MONTY'S GUEST - JULIO ARCA

It's my pleasure today to welcome Julio Arca as my guest and I've got no doubt about his popularity. The crowd took Julio to their hearts when he came over to Sunderland as a teenager in 2000 and it's fair to say that the feeling was mutual because Julio still is a regular at the match and is still as keen as he was when he scored on his debut against today's opponents West Ham.



It was the first of 23 goals he scored in 177 games and there were some classics amongst them. He scored free kicks against Ipswich and Middlesbrough that were as good as Steven Gerrard's in the Champions League against Basle this week. Probably his best goal though was when as a left back he dribbled three quarters the length of the pitch at Bradford and then delicately chipped the 6'5" keeper, Mark Paston.

Julio also gave great service to Middlesbrough and I know everyone who meets him today will be delighted to do so.

are proving hard to beat so obviously the next step is to try and convert some of those draws into wins which would see us climb the table.

Next week of course we're at Newcastle which is one to look forward to, but first we have to try and do all we can to make sure we go into the derby on the back of a win by trying to get the better of West Ham today.

The next home game isn't until Boxing Day so let me take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families the very best of Christmases. This year spare a thought for the men of a century ago who found themselves grateful for a kick-a-bout in No Man's Land, and remember every one of us should be grateful for the sacrifices they made.

MONTY



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STATS STORY



Sunderland's well merited draw at Anfield last Saturday meant The Lads have finished all square in nine of their 15 games in the Barclays Premier League so far this season.

This equals the previous highest number of draws at this stage, set in 1994-95 in the Championship-equivalent and betters the highest opening sequence in Premier League seasons which was the eight drawn of the first 15 games of 2010-11.

Should the pattern continue Sunderland could challenge their record number of draws in a single season which could lead to a curious symmetry in that the previous highest totals were 20

HIGHEST % DRAW SEQUENCES (LEAGUE GAMES ONLY)					
Season	Draws	Games	%	Start	End
1948-49	7	10	70	26th Mar	7th May
1954-55	10	15	66.7	23rd Oct	5th Feb
1971-72	8	12	66.7	9th Oct	18th Dec
1937-38	11	17	64.7	6th Nov	26th Feb
1910-11	8	13	61.5	24th Sep	17th Dec
1994-95	9	15	60	13th Aug	1st Nov
2014-15	9	15	60	16th Aug	6th Dec
1934-35	11	19	57.9	5th Jan	5th May

years ago in the 1994-95 season already mentioned and 60 years ago in 1954-55, with 18 draws being racked up in both campaigns.

The current sequence mirrors the start of 1994-95 and 1954-55 was

Jozy Altidore in action at Anfield



the last occasion a higher number of draws was recorded in a similar spell, with The Lads finishing level in 10 of 15 mid-season games on their way to a fourth-place finish, just four points behind first-time champions Chelsea.

Five of Sunderland's draws this season have been goalless which has already equalled the previous highest tally in a Premier League season recorded in 2011-12. The home stalemate with then unbeaten Chelsea two weeks ago will no doubt remain in the memory longer than most 0-0s and showed that the absence of the fundamental ingredient of football does not always mean a lack of drama and significance.

45 of Sunderland's 509 Premier League games have finished goalless with the draw at Liverpool being the third 0-0 at Anfield, matching the three at Arsenal and one behind the four stalemates at Villa Park, which is the highest number at an away ground. Sunderland v Blackburn clashes have resulted in the highest number of 0-0s in total (five) while past encounters with Fulham, Aston Villa and Arsenal all include four occasions when the scorers were untroubled.

Three out of Sunderland's first five games in the Premier League finished goalless, including the very first one against Leicester City at Roker in August 1996 which saw Niall Quinn make his debut for The Lads.

The highest number of 0-0s in one season is eight, during 1995-96 when Peter Reid's team won the Championship with a solid defensive foundation that ensured a record 26 clean sheets and recorded the second fewest goals conceded per game in the club's history.

SIGNIFICANT 0-0s IN SUNDERLAND'S RECENT HISTORY			
Season	Opponents	Venue	Notes
2014-15	Chelsea	H	First home point v Chelsea since 0-0 in 2001
2010-11	Manchester Utd	H	Close to beating champions-elect
2009-10	Aston Villa (LC)	H	Brad Guzan saved four pens to knock out The Lads
2008-09	Fulham	A	Kieran Richardson denied a hat-trick by posts, 'keeper and ref
2005-06	Manchester U	A	Fine performance but relegated on the night
2002-03	Liverpool	A	Jurgen Macho's finest hour-and-a-half
1999-00	Arsenal	H	Frustrated the Gunners in the second home Premier game in at SOL

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STAT ATTACK

GOAL METHOD

	Left Foot	Right Foot	Header	Own Goal
SAFC at SoL	1	3	3	1
Opposition at SoL	4	7	0	0
	Left Foot	Right Foot	Header	Own Goal
SAFC Away	2	2	1	0
Opposition Away	2	5	1	4
	Left Foot	Right Foot	Header	Own Goal
SAFC Total	3	5	4	1
Opposition Total	6	12	1	4

GOAL TIMES

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
SAFC at SoL	2	3	0	0	1	2
Opposition at SoL	3	2	1	2	1	2
	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
SAFC Away	1	0	1	0	0	3
Opposition Away	1	1	3	1	3	3
	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
SAFC Total	3	3	1	0	1	5
Opposition Total	4	3	4	3	4	5



✎ Connor Wickham made it three goals in his last two games against Manchester City by scoring against them in the last home game.

END SCORED HOME

	North Stand	South Stand
SAFC SoL Goals	3	5
Opposition SoL Goals	6	5
Total	9	10

END SCORED AWAY

	Home End	Away End
SAFC Away Goals	3	2
Opposition Goals	6	6
Total	9	8

ATTENDANCE STATS

	Attendance
SAFC Home	342,363
Opposition Home	192,792
Total	535,155
Average Home	42,795
Average Away	27,542

SUNDERLAND ROLL CALL 2014-15	2014-15 SEASON				SAFC CAREER				INTERNATIONALS		
	LEAGUE		CUPS		LEAGUE		CUPS		Nation	APPS	GLS
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS			
Jozy Altidore	1 (8)	0	2	1	20 (20)	1	8 (2)	2	USA	76	25
Ricky Alvarez	1 (3)	0	0 (1)	0	1 (3)	0	0 (1)	0	Argentina	8	1
Liam Bridcutt	2 (5)	0	2	0	11 (8)	0	2	0	Scotland	1	0
Wes Brown	11 (1)	0	1	0	55 (2)	1	9	0	England	23	1
Will Buckley	7 (6)	0	1	0	7 (6)	0	1	0			
Lee Cattermole	13 (1)	1	0	0	108 (8)	2	16 (1)	0			
Sebastian Coates	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	Uruguay	16	1
Steven Fletcher	11 (1)	4	0	0	52 (8)	18	6 (2)	0	Scotland	18	1
Emanuele Giaccherini	1 (2)	0	0 (1)	0	17 (10)	4	7 (2)	1	Italy	21	3
Jordi Gomez	6 (7)	1	2	1	6 (7)	1	2	1			
Danny Graham	0	0	0 (1)	0	11 (2)	0	0 (1)	0			
Adam Johnson	10 (2)	1	2	1	73 (10)	14	13 (3)	3	England	12	2
Billy Jones	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0			
Seb Larsson	15	2	1	0	107 (9)	11	18 (3)	2	Sweden	68	6
Mikael Mandron	0	0	0	0	0 (2)	0	0	0			
Vito Mannone	9	0	0	0	37 (1)	0	7	0			
Charis Mavrias	0	0	0	0	1 (3)	0	1 (1)	1	Greece	5	0
Costel Pantilimon	6	0	2	0	6	0	2	0	Romania	20	0
John O'Shea	15	0	2	0	111	3	18	0	Rep of Ire	101	3
Anthony Reveillere	5 (1)	0	0	0	5 (1)	0	0	0	France	20	0
Jack Rodwell	9 (2)	1	1	0	9 (2)	1	1	0	England	3	0
Patrick Van Aanholt	10	0	0 (1)	0	10	0	0 (1)	0	Netherlands	2	0
Santiago Vergini	14	0	2	0	24 (1)	0	5	0	Argentina	3	0
Duncan Watmore	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 (1)	0			
Connor Wickham	14 (1)	2	1	1	32 (26)	8	3 (6)	4			

CAT STATS 2014-2015

* = SOLD OUT

BT / Sky = Live on TV

G = Goalkeeper

RB = Right-back

RWB = Right wing back

LB = Left-back

LWB = Left wing back

CB = Centre back

DM = Defensive midfielder

RM = Right midfield

CM = Centre midfield

AM = Attacking midfield

LM = Left midfield

S = Striker

■ = yellow Card

■ = red card

■ = 1st Sub

■ = 2nd Sub

■ = 3rd Sub

w = withdrawn

Sub = Used Sub

U = Unused Sub

FAC = FA Cup

SQUAD NO. GREEN = goalkeeper

SHADED BLACK = left the club

SHADED GREY = out on loan

Matching colours indicate players substituted and the players who replaced them.

The number indicates the minute of the substitution.

Note: Weekend kick-offs 3.00pm and Midweek 7.45pm unless stated

F / A	DATE	OPPONENTS	H / A	ATTENDANCE (AWAY)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
POS	REFEREE	SCORERS											
2-2	Sat 16th Aug	West Bromwich Albion	A	25,468 (2,700*)	U		LB	U	RB	CM	CM	CM	S
-	N. Swarbrick	CATTERMOLE 5 , Berahino 41p & 74, LARSSON 85											
1-1	Sun 24th Aug	Manchester United	H	43,217 (2,452*)	U	U	LB	79	CB	CM	CM	CM	S
-	M. Atkinson	Mata 16, RODWELL 30											
3-0	Wed 27th Aug	Birmingham City COC R2	A	11,245 (1,997)	G	LB	U	CM	CB	U	CM	U	U
-	D. Bond	GOMEZ 77 , JOHNSON 86 , WICKHAM 87											
0-1	Sat 30th Aug	Queens Park Rangers	A	17,930 (1,772*)	U	U	LB	U	CB	CM	CM	CM	S
14th	B. Madley	Austin 45+1											
2-2	Sat 13th Sept	Tottenham Hotspur	H	40,799 (2,737)	U	U	LB	U	CB	CM	CM	CM	
15th	C. Pawson	Chadli 2, JOHNSON 4 , Eriksen 48, KANE OG 81											
0-0	Sat 20th Sept	Burnley	A	20,076 (4,108*)	U	U	LB	U	CB	CM	RM	CM	
16th	A. Taylor	-											
1-2	Tue 23rd Sept	Stoke City COC R3	H	17,353 (426)	G	RB	46	CM		U	U	CM	
-	M. Dean	ALTIDORE 16 , Muniesa 31 & 77											
0-0	Sat 27th Sept	Swansea City	H	41,325 (527)	U	RB	LB	U		CM	CM	CM	77
15th	C. Foy	-											
3-1	Sat 4th Oct	Stoke City	H	42,713 (385)	U	RB	LB	71	U	CM	CM	71	S
12th	N. Swarbrick	WICKHAM 5 , Adam 15, FLETCHER 23 & 78											
0-8	Sat 18th Oct	Southampton	A	29,615 (2,559*)	U		LB	46	CB	CM	CM	60	S
17th	A. Marriner	Vergini OG 12, Pelle 18 & 68, Cork 37, Bridcutt OG 63, Tadic 77, Wanyama 78, Aanholt OG 86											
0-2	Sat 25th Oct	Arsenal	H	44,449 (2,974*)	U		LB	U	CB	CM	CM	CM	S
17th	K. Friend	Sanchez 30 & 90+2											
3-1	Mon 3rd Nov	Crystal Palace	A	23,212 (2,213)	G		LB	82	33	CM	CM		S
15th	P. Dowd	FLETCHER 31 & 90+3 , Brown OG 55, GOMEZ 78											
1-1	Sun 9th Nov	Everton	H	43,476 (2,909)	G			CM	CB		CM	81	S
14th	L. Mason	LARSSON 66 , Baines 75p											
0-0	Sat 22nd Nov	Leicester City	A	31,825 (3,284*)	G			75	CB	CM	CM	U	S
14th	B. Madley	-											
0-0	Sat 29th Nov	Chelsea	H	45,232 (3,028)	G			U	CB	CM	CM	CM	S
13th	K. Friend	-											
1-4	Wed 3rd Dec	Manchester City	H	41,152 (1,648)	G			U	U	CM	CM	CM	S
14th	C. Pawson	WICKHAM 19 , Aguerro 21 & 71, Jovetic 39 , Zabaleta 54											
0-0	Sat 6th Dec	Liverpool	A	44,716* (1,829*)	G			CM	CB	70	CM	U	U
14th	N. Swarbrick	-											
	Sat 13th Dec	West Ham United	H										
	Sun 21st Dec	Newcastle United	A	SKY TV - 1.30pm ko									
	Fri 26th Dec	Hull City	H										
	Sun 28th Dec	Aston Villa	A										

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE MINUTES PLAYED

540	180	843	278	993	1091	1131	709	863
Costel PANTILIMON	Billy JONES	Patrick VAN AANHOLT	Liam BRIDCUTT	Wes BROWN	Lee CATTERMOLE	Seb LARSSON	Jack RODWELL	Steven FLETCHER

CAT STATS 2014-2015

* = SOLD OUT

BT / Sky = Live on TV

G = Goalkeeper

RB = Right-back

RWB = Right wing back

LB = Left-back

LWB = Left wing back

CB = Centre back

DM = Defensive midfielder

RM = Right midfield

CM = Centre midfield

AM = Attacking midfield

LM = Left midfield

S = Striker

■ = yellow Card

■ = red card

■ = 1st Sub

■ = 2nd Sub

■ = 3rd Sub

w = withdrawn

Sub = Used Sub

U = Unused Sub

FAC = FA Cup

SQUAD NO. GREEN = goalkeeper

SHADED BLACK = left the club

SHADED GREY = out on loan

Matching colours indicate players substituted and the players who replaced them.

The number indicates the minute of the substitution.

Note: Weekend kick-offs 3.00pm and Midweek 7.45pm unless stated

F / A POS	DATE REFEREE	OPPONENTS	H / A	ATTENDANCE (AWAY)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	Thu 1st Jan	Manchester City	A											
	3rd/4th/5th Jan	Leeds United (FACR3)	H	DATE & KICK-OFF TBC										
	Sat 10th Jan	Liverpool	H	BT - 12.45pm ko NEW KICK-OFF TIME										
	Sat 17th Jan	Tottenham Hotspur	A											
	Sat 24th Jan	FA Cup Round 4	--											
	Sat 31st Jan	Burnley	H											
	Sat 7th Feb	Swansea City	A											
	Tue 10th Feb	Queens Park Rangers	H											
	Sat 14th Feb	FA Cup Round 5	--											
	Sat 21st Feb	West Bromwich Albion	H											
	Sat 28th Feb	Manchester United	A											
	Tue 3rd Mar	Hull City	A											
	Sat 7th Mar	FA Cup Round 6	--											
	Sat 14th Mar	Aston Villa	H											
	Sat 21st Mar	West Ham United	A											
	Sat 4th Apr	Newcastle United	H											
	Sat 11th Apr	Crystal Palace	H											
	Sat 18th Apr	Arsenal	A	FA Cup semi-final										
	Sat 25th Apr	Stoke City	A											
	Sat 2nd May	Southampton	H											
	Sat 9th May	Everton	A											
	Sat 16th May	Leicester City	H											
	Sun 24th May	Chelsea	A											
	Sat 30th May	FA Cup Final	Wem											

01/02/1987	24/03/1987	03/07/1988	08/05/1989	13/10/1979	21/03/1988	06/06/1985	11/03/1991	26/03/1987
Costel PANTILIMON	Billy JONES	Patrick VAN AANHOLT	Liam BRIDCUTT	Wes BROWN	Lee CATTERMORE	Seb LARSON	Jack RODWELL	Steven FLETCHER

RED & WHITE



Congratulations to Dianne Dimmock of Sunderland who won the competition in the last issue of Red & White by correctly telling us that the players on the cover of the Little Book of Sunderland scored a combined total of 199 goals for the club.

Dianne's prize is all three of the new books on Sunderland by programme editor Rob Mason: 'The Sunderland Yearbook', 'The Sunderland Annual' and the 'Little Book of Sunderland'. All three of these books are available at all club stores (tel 0871 911 1973). The yearbook is £10, the annual £8 and the Little Book (which is an updated version of a book first published as the DvD Book of Sunderland in 2008) is £7.99.

We value your feedback as we strive to produce the best possible programme for the supporters who won the Barclays Premier League fans award last season. Any feedback is extremely useful. Email redandwhite@safc.com or write to Red and White, Stadium of Light, Sunderland SR5 1SU.



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Contact us by writing to: Red & White, Stadium of Light, Sunderland SR5 1SU or emailing redandwhite@safc.com

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Produced by: Ignition Publications

Printed by: Buxton Press

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STRATTON'S SCORCHER

Answer to the poser in 'Today's Game' at the front of your programme.
West Ham (1964),
Liverpool (1965),
Chelsea (1970)

CROSSWORD ANSWER





the ultimate stage

predator



MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

Phil Dowd

ASSISTANT:

David Bryan

ASSISTANT:

Peter Kirkup

FOURTH OFFICIAL:

Darren Bond



NEXT HOME GAME:



vs HULL CITY

Barclays Premier League,

Stadium of Light,

Friday 26th December

KO 3.00pm

NEXT AWAY GAME:



vs NEWCASTLE UTD

Barclays Premier League

Sunday 21st December

St. James' Park

KO 1.30pm

SUNDERLAND

- 1 Costel **PANTILIMON**
- 2 Billy **JONES**
- 3 Patrick **VAN AANHOLT**
- 4 Liam **BRIDCUTT**
- 5 Wes **BROWN**
- 6 Lee **CATTERMOLE**
- 7 Seb **LARSSON**
- 8 Jack **RODWELL**
- 9 Steven **FLETCHER**
- 10 Connor **WICKHAM**
- 11 Adam **JOHNSON**
- 12 **CABRAL**
- 14 Jordi **GOMEZ**
- 15 Anthony **REVEILLERE**
- 16 John **O'SHEA**
- 17 Jozy **ALTIDORE**
- 18 Charis **MAVRIAS**
- 20 Ricky **ALVAREZ**
- 22 Sebastian **COATES**
- 23 Emanuele **GIACCHERINI**
- 25 Vito **MANNONE**
- 27 Santiago **VERGINI**
- 30 Will **BUCKLEY**
- 34 Tommy **ROBSON**
- 38 Mikael **MANDRON**
- 40 Martin **SMITH**
- 41 Duncan **WATMORE**
- 42 Liam **AGNEW**

WEST HAM UNITED

- 2 Winston **REID**
- 3 Aaron **CRESSWELL**
- 4 Kevin **NOLAN**
- 5 James **TOMKINS**
- 7 Matthew **JARVIS**
- 8 Cheikhou **KOUYATE**
- 9 Andy **CARROLL**
- 10 Mauro **ZARATE**
- 11 Stewart **DOWNING**
- 12 Ricardo **VAZ TE**
- 13 **ADRIAN**
- 15 Diafra **SAKHO**
- 16 Mark **NOBLE**
- 17 Joey **O'BRIEN**
- 18 Carl **JENKINSON**
- 19 James **COLLINS**
- 20 Guy **DEMEL**
- 21 Morgan **AMALFITANO**
- 22 Jussi **JAASKELAINEN**
- 23 Diego **POYET**
- 24 Carlton **COLE**
- 30 Alex **SONG**
- 31 Enner **VALENCIA**
- 32 Reece **BURKE**
- 33 Daniel **POTTS**