

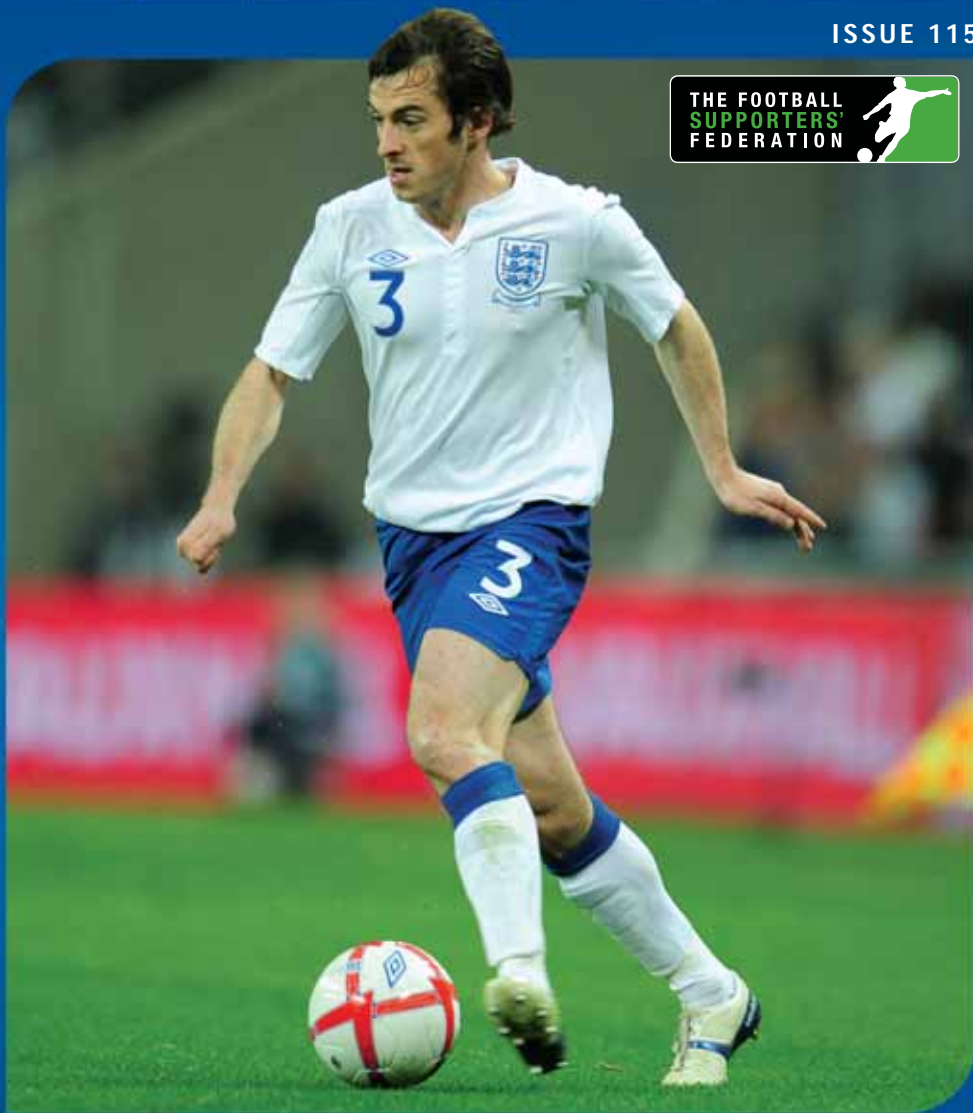


Free Lions

THE ENGLAND FANZINE FROM THE FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' FEDERATION

ISSUE 115

THE FOOTBALL
SUPPORTERS'
FEDERATION



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ENGLAND v SWITZERLAND
4TH JUNE 2011



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WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF **FREE LIONS 115**

...the **free** England fanzine produced and distributed by the **Football Supporters' Federation (FSF)** as part of our **Fans' Embassy** service.

PAGE 3

England v Switzerland Wembley Stadium, London

Saturday, 4th June 2011
Kick-off 4.45pm

England will play in **WHITE**



Next Game England v Holland

Wembley Stadium, London
Wednesday, 10th August 2011
Kick-off 8.00pm



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KT1 3PB

And welcome back to Wembley, for the serious business of Euro 2012 qualification. Our last competitive game here saw us drop points against Montenegro; there's no more room for any slip-ups, we need a solid victory.

This edition of Free Lions contains all the usual features, and in addition we have a look forward to our next away game, in Bulgaria in September. And in case the prospect of a long close season fills you with dread, we also have a feature on this summer's Euro 2011 Under-21s tournament in Denmark.

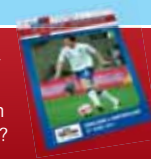
It's a time of transition here at Free Lions, in more ways than one. As we've warned before, there's a question mark hanging over the production of future editions of our little organ at home games. We're confident of our ability to keep producing Free Lions for away games, as part of our Fans' Embassy service, but unless we succeed in finding new sponsorship, then there won't be an edition for the home friendly in August.

Cover Story

The departure of Wayne Bridge from international football left a vacancy as cover for Ashley Cole at left back, and **Leighton Baines** has seized the opportunity with solid performances in his first four appearances. All his caps so far have been won in friendlies – maybe the time has come for his competitive England senior debut?

We have made some new friends however: a big thank you to our mates at the brilliant new football magazine **The Blizzard** for their support for this edition of Free Lions.

And a warm welcome to a new face at our favourite local hotel, the **Wembley Plaza**. For years now the staff there have been a big help in the logistics of Free Lions distribution, and they now have a new leader in the well-travelled shape of Andrew Brett. We're looking forward to as good a relationship with Andrew as we've had with our old mate there, Jack Nicholas, so welcome to Andrew. And as you can see from the picture here, Andrew may be the manager, but he's not above personally sorting out the hotel's deliveries of fresh fish...



IT WASN'T ME

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THANK YOU

We are grateful to the FAOPL for images; copy-

right of the cover photo belongs to them. As ever, this fanzine has been a team effort. This edition was edited by Kevin Miles, and thanks are due to Phil Rowley, Brian McNally, Michael Brunskill, Peter Daykin, Dave Rose, Helen Nicolaou, John Stanley, Anne-Marie Mockridge, Jamie Craig, DB, Andy Wilkinson, Lawrence Canning, Paul Palmer and Kevin Gibson.



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WE NEED THREE POINTS

BY BRIAN MCNALLY OF THE SUNDAY MIRROR

ANY fears England may have had about a dour, methodical Switzerland side being a problem in European Championship qualifying were surely dispelled in September's 3-1 cruise in Basel.

Fabio Capello's side headed for St Jakob Park in an anxious state of mind as they struggled to shake off the aftermath of the World Cup, injuries to Rio Ferdinand, John Terry and Frank Lampard, and yet more scandal surrounding Wayne Rooney's troubled private life.

On paper at least, it had the potential to be a banana skin, against a competent, well-drilled outfit that had beaten the eventual winners Spain in South Africa.

But England, well aware the knives were being sharpened if they failed in their big test, rose to the challenge to win in a canter with arguably their best performance of 2010.

The victory went a little way to repairing Capello's badly-dented reputation with fans still not in a forgiving mood after the World Cup flop, but, just as importantly, it bought the under-fire Italian some much-needed breathing space.

Joe Hart and Adam Johnson were the stars as they showed their England credentials as future main-stays of the side, while Rooney answered the critics with a measured display capped with a vital opening goal.

It had been a gamble for Capello to play Rooney after the media spotlight glared on him in the build up to the game, but it was a gamble that paid off handsomely. Rooney showed absolutely no signs of nerves or inhibition and looked a far more positive performer than the lacklustre figure who was so bitterly disappointing at the World Cup.

The side that earned England a vitally important three points in what had been forecast as their most difficult trip was:

Hart, Glen Johnson, Jagielka, Lescott, Ashley Cole, Walcott (Adam Johnson 13), Gerrard, Barry, Milner, Defoe (Bent 70), Rooney (Wright-Phillips 79). Subs Not Used: Foster, Gibbs, Cahill, Carrick.

The Swiss side was: Benaglio, Lichtsteiner, Grichting, Von Bergen, Ziegler, Margairaz (Shaqiri 46), Inler, Schwegler (Costanzo 83), Degen (Streller 64), Derdiyok, Frei. Subs Not Used: Wolfli, Affolter, Padalino, Fernandes.

Rooney settled England's early apprehension by slamming home a Glen Johnson cross with just ten minutes on the clock. The perfect start!

An injury to Theo Walcott only three minutes later threatened to disrupt England, however it was to prove almost a blessing in disguise as Adam Johnson came on to turn in a memorable display as England comfortably dominated possession.



And any hopes the home fans had of a Swiss comeback were effectively killed off when Stephan Lichtsteiner got his marching orders on 65 minutes.

Five minutes later the inventive Johnson doubled the Three Lions' lead. The Manchester City forward picked up an exquisite Steven Gerrard pass, calmly rounded Swiss keeper Diego Benaglio and rolled the ball into an empty net.

But England were kept on their toes when home substitute Xherdan Shaqiri fired home an unstoppable drive that gave Hart no chance with still some 19 minutes remaining.

That could have been a nervy spell for England but Darren Bent's first senior goal for England eventually steadied the ship with two minutes to play.

A morale-boosting victory continued the perfect start to England's Euro 2012 qualifying campaign - even though a toothless Wembley display against unbeaten Montenegro later cost them two unlikely dropped points.

But the big plus for Capello last year in Switzerland was the emer-

gence of Johnson with an eye-catching, enterprising display and the bonus of his second qualifying goal in two games.

The lesson from the Basel victory was that while Switzerland can clutter the central areas of the pitch with their dogged, well-organised resistance, they are vulnerable to the pace and direct attacking that both Johnson and Walcott can offer England.

If both are fully fit then I believe Capello's game plan will be to try and open the Swiss up from the flanks using Johnson and Walcott, with both James Milner and Ashley Young excellent deputies.

My central midfield partnership would be FWA Player of the Year Scott Parker and Frank Lampard, after taking on board all Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger's protestations about how tired the impressive Jack Wilshere is.

And my back four in the absence of Ashley Cole and with the return of Rio Ferdinand after losing the captaincy to John Terry, would be: Glenn Johnson, Ferdinand, Terry and Leighton Baines.

If there is a worry, for me it is in the striking department with Rooney suspended and Andy Carroll not being risked because of injury.

But Bent did the business in Basel and has had an excellent second half of the season since moving from Sunderland to Aston Villa. He is now starting to look like an international player and his reading of the game from the penalty spot in is as good as that of any English striker in the game.

The difficulty is finding the right partner for Bent. My preference would have been Spurs' Jermain Defoe ahead of Peter Crouch.

Fulham boss Mark Hughes has expressed concerns about Bobby Zamora's fitness and it looks as if his role will be coming off the substitutes' bench.

Hart looks certain again to keep goal against the Swiss after a sound game in Basel and taking into consideration the inexperience of the other two keepers. He certainly looks to have the ability to make the England keeper's jersey his own.

So this is how I would like England to line up at Wembley:
Hart; G. Johnson, Ferdinand, Terry, Baines; Walcott, Parker, Lampard, A. Johnson; Defoe, Bent.

>> ENGLANDS 26-MAN SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS

Scott Carson (West Brom)
Joe Hart (Man City)
Robert Green (West Ham)

DEFENDERS

Leighton Baines (Everton)
Gary Cahill (Bolton)
Ashley Cole (Chelsea)
Rio Ferdinand (Man Utd)
Phil Jagielka (Everton)
Glen Johnson (Liverpool)
Joleon Lescott (Man City)
John Terry (Chelsea)
Kyle Walker (Tottenham)

MIDFIELDERS

Gareth Barry (Man City)
Michael Carrick (Man Utd)
Stewart Downing (Aston Villa)
Adam Johnson (Man City)
Frank Lampard (Chelsea)
James Milner (Man City)
Scott Parker (West Ham)
Theo Walcott (Arsenal)
Jack Wilshere (Arsenal)
Ashley Young (Aston Villa)

FORWARDS

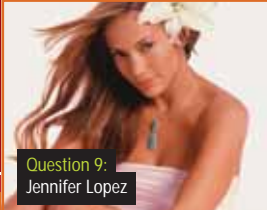
Darren Bent (Aston Villa)
Peter Crouch (Tottenham)
Bobby Zamora (Fulham)

>> THE MCNALLY VERDICT

The Swiss are no mugs as they showed against World Champions Spain last year. But England's confidence will be high after the Basel display and I take Capello's side to take another giant step towards the 2012 Euro Finals in Ukraine and Poland with a two-goal win.



SCOUSE PHIL'S FREE LIONS SWITZERLAND MUSIC QUIZ



Question 9:
Jennifer Lopez

WHAT could be more appropriate for a game against Switzerland than a music quiz in which the questions, or the answers, or sometimes even both, contain some reference to things Swiss? You're right, nothing could: so here it is.

1 In which Swiss city on the shores of Lake Geneva is there a famous jazz festival held each year?

2 Which Swiss duo had a Number Eight hit in 1986 with "Captain of my Heart"?

3 Which Swiss style of singing is defined as 'to sing by making a series of very fast changes between the natural voice and a much higher voice'?

4 The brilliantly named band, Swiss Cheese Vapour, brought out a single in 1998. Was it called Iron Masters, Iron Fillings or Iron Train?

5 Deep Purple's "Smoke on the Water" is about a fire at a concert on the shores of Lake Geneva but who sings lead vocals on this song: Ozzy Osbourne, Richie Blackmore or Ian Gillan?

6 This Swiss heavy metal band, sounding like a purple flower, had albums such as Metal Rendezvous and Hardware, and are a favourite band of ex-Swiss international Stephane Henchoz. What are they called?

7 Celine Dion represented Switzer-

land in the 1988 Eurovision Song Contest (and won), but which country is she from?

8 Which of the four official languages of Switzerland was mentioned in a top ten hit in 2008 for Girls Aloud?

9 Jennifer Lopez is currently at Number Three in the Swiss chart with "On the Floor", but which American rapper, whose stage name is a type of dog, also features on this track?

10 Schlager is a popular type of music in German speaking parts of Switzerland, but what does Schlager mean: Love songs, Drinking songs or Alpine songs?

Answers on page 15

COMING UP NEXT THE FREE LIONS BULGARIA PREVIEW

>> GETTING TO SOFIA



England's next away fixture is the European Championships qualifier against Bulgaria on Friday, 2nd September 2011, and as always the Football Supporters' Federation will be providing our Fans' Embassy service as back-up for England fans travelling to the game.

For those who want to plan ahead, the usual Free Lions travel information will be available on the website at www.fsf.org.uk very soon. As a little taster though, here's a very brief introduction to the match venue in Sofia, and how to get there...

The easiest route into Sofia is to fly direct into its newly redeveloped airport. There are direct scheduled flights to Sofia from the UK operated by British Airways and Bulgaria Air (from Heathrow), by easyJet (from Gatwick and Manchester) and by Wizzair (from Luton).

The two budget airlines use Sofia's Terminal One, while Air Bulgaria and British Airways both use the new Terminal Two, opened in 2006.

There are indirect flights available too via most of the main European hubs, such as Paris, Amsterdam and Frankfurt. Bulgaria also has three other international airports at Plovdiv, Varna and Bourgas, and it's worth checking out the prices of package holidays at the Black Sea resorts, and making a day trip

there, as a bargain holiday could end up cheaper than a scheduled flight at peak times.

Bulgaria is a member of the EU, and so UK passport holders don't need a visa to enter the country and stay up to 90 days. (If you stay any more than 90 days, then you'll either be missing the Holland friendly in August, or the home qualifier against Wales on 6th September.)

For lots more detailed information about the Bulgaria trip – and indeed for all England's away games – see the Free Lions section of the Football Supporters' Federation's website at www.fsf.org.uk. See also page 15 of this edition of Free Lions for details of organised trips to forthcoming matches.

>> THE STADIUM



The venue for the game is the Vassil Levski stadium, the Bulgarian national stadium with a capacity of some 43,500 seats, located in the centre of Sofia.

Rated by FIFA and UEFA as a four star venue, the ground was subject to complete reconstruction and re-opened in its current form in 2002, with the first international match held there being the Euro 2004 qualifier between Bulgaria and Croatia in November of that year.

The biggest attendance recorded at the rebuilt ground was 42,200 for the March 2004 UEFA Cup game between Levski Sofia and Liverpool.

Some 4,000 of the seats enjoy the cover of a roof; the stadium is a multi-purpose venue, which is another way of saying that a full athletics track separates the stands from the pitch.

Somewhat confusingly, the Vassil Levski stadium is NOT home to the club side that shares its name, Levski Sofia: both the ground and the club take their name from a nineteenth century national hero.

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EURO 2011

THE UNDER-21s IN DENMARK

Many England fans dread the prospect of an odd-numbered year, with no World Cup or European Championships for us to enjoy (assuming, that is, that we've qualified for them in the first place). This year though, those of us who are prepared to think beyond the men's senior team are actually spoilt for choice.

In the last edition of Free Lions, we brought you our guide to the Women's World Cup being held in Germany in late June and early July. Here we offer our Free Lions preview of the Under-21s' European Championships, which kick off next weekend in Denmark...

>> GETTING THERE

Copenhagen is one of Europe's biggest transport hubs with all major airlines flying there, but once you're there you still have to get to the actual venues which could be a hike depending on where you are heading.



Alternatively, a small number of airlines fly direct to two of the venues including Ryanair who fly to Aarhus, and SAS who fly to both Aalborg and Aarhus. If you fly in to either of these airports it's a little easier and quicker to get to other venues by train or bus than from Copenhagen.

>> THE MATCHES



Final Venue: Aarhus

Eight countries will take part in the Euro 2011 tournament in Denmark, and the group stage consists of two groups of four teams, who all play each other once. The top two teams from each group then go through to the knock-out semi-finals, winners of which will then meet in the final in Aarhus on 25th June.

England have been drawn in Group B – based in the cities of Viborg and Herning, along with the Czech Republic, Spain and Ukraine.

We play Spain in Herning on 12th June; Ukraine in the same venue on 15th June; and then the Czech Republic in Viborg on 19th June.

The group winners will play the runners-up of Group A (contested by Belarus, Denmark, Iceland and Switzerland) in the first semi-final

on 22nd June in Viborg, while the runners-up play Group A's winners later that same evening in Herning.

The final is to be played on the evening of 25th June in Aarhus.

It's worth noting too that the tournament serves as the qualifying process to determine the 3 European entrants to the London 2012 Olympic football tournament. If England, who already have a place in the Olympic tournament reach the semi-finals of Euro 2011, then the other three semi-finalists become the three Olympic competitors. If England however fail to reach the semi-finals, then there will be a play-off between the two losing semi-finalists, earlier in the day of the final, to determine which becomes the third team to compete in 2012.

>> TIPS FOR TRAVELLERS

Currency: The currency is the Danish Kroner (DKK). Coins come in denominations of 50øre (copper), 1, 2, and 5 Krone (silver with a hole in the middle) and 10 and 20 Krone (brass). Notes are in denominations of 1,000, 500, 200, 100 and 50.

Dialling Code: +45

Time difference: One hour ahead of the UK

Electricity: 220V/50Hz - plugs are round 2-pin

Emergency Numbers: Dial 112 for all emergencies

>> THE GEOGRAPHY



All four Danish host cities – Aarhus, Aalborg, Herning and Viborg – are situated in the Jutland peninsula to the north of Denmark.

Aarhus: Aarhus's population of 310,500 makes it Denmark's second largest city, and its stadium is the largest of the four venues, with a capacity of 18,935 – which explains why it's hosting the final on 25th June. Home to club side AGF Aarhus, the stadium was built in 1920 but extensively renovated by 2001, and has an athletics track between the stands and the pitch.

Aalborg: As the home of club side Aalborg BK, the Aalborg stadium hosted three Champions League group stage matches in the 2008-2009 season. As Denmark's third largest city, with a population of 198,000, Aalborg's ground is also known as the Energi Nord Arena, and has a capacity of 11,500.

Herning: The smallest host city, with a population of only 86,000. The Herning stadium is the home of FC Midtjylland, and despite its capacity of only 11,800 has hosted full senior internationals since it was built in 2004.

Viborg: The smallest stadium is in Viborg, where the home of Danish second division side Viborg FF holds just 10,005 spectators. Another modern ground, opened in 2003, the Viborg stadium serves a town with a population of 94,000 people.



>> THE SEND-OFF

Before the team fly out to Denmark, they will play a warm-up fixture against Norway tomorrow (5th June, 3pm kick-off) at St. Mary's

Stadium, Southampton. Tickets are £10, £5 for kids, available from the Southampton club ticket office or by phoning **0800 2800 050**.

>> THE SQUAD

Stuart Pearce has selected the following 23 players to make up the final squad for the tournament, after having to rule out Arsenal's Jack Wilshere and Liverpool's Andy Carroll. There are still three players left in the squad who have won caps for the senior team: Kieran Gibbs, Danny Welbeck and Jordan Henderson.

GOALKEEPERS

Frankie Fielding (Derby County), Jason Steele (Middlesbrough), Alex McCarthy (Reading)

DEFENDERS

Ryan Bertrand (Chelsea), Kieran Gibbs (Arsenal), Phil Jones (Blackburn Rovers), Michael Mancienne (Chelsea), James Tomkins (West Ham), Chris Smalling (Manchester United), Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur)

MIDFIELDERS

Marc Albrighton (Aston Villa), Tom Cleverley (Manchester United), Jack Cork (Chelsea), Jordan Henderson (Sunderland), Henri Lansbury (Arsenal), Fabrice Muamba (Bolton Wanderers), Jack Rodwell (Everton), Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur), Scott Sinclair (Swansea City)

FORWARDS

Nathan Delfouneso (Aston Villa), Daniel Sturridge (Chelsea), Danny Welbeck (Manchester United), Connor Wickham (Ipswich Town)



FSF Fans' Parliament 2011

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- Fan Activism

Afternoon Session

- TV Contracts & Scheduling
- Safe Standing
- Refereeing

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or call: 0330 44 000 44

THE FSF FOOTBALL WRITERS AWARDS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CULT ZEROS

PAGE 11



Funny man: MOTD 2's Kevin Day



The Football Supporters' Federation has re-launched and re-branded its Football Writers Awards, in association with Cult Zeros, which this year will see the best of the professional and amateur football writing world honoured in a ceremony in central London on the 9th July.

The event will round off a big weekend for the FSF, following hot on the heels of Fans' Parliament 2011 which is being held at Imperial College earlier that day.

The competition for recognition was incredibly fierce, as more than 250 nominations had to be whittled

down to shortlists of six across six different categories.

THE AWARD CATEGORIES ARE:

- Fans' Newspaper of the Year
- Football Writer of the Year
- Football Website of the Year
- Football Blogger of the Year
- Fanzine of the Year
- Photographer of the Year.

An FSF panel will sit to decide four of the awards, while the gongs for Newspaper and Website of the Year are open to a public fans' vote. The winners will be announced at our glitzy awards event on the evening at The Tabernacle in Notting Hill.

The awards will be part of an FSF comedy panel show featuring, among others, stand-up, comic writer and Match of the Day 2's **Kevin Day** (pictured above), The Guardian football weekly podcast's

mainstay **Barry Glendenning**, and infamous ranting manager and former Chelsea, Leyton Orient, Gillingham and Millwall player **John Sitton**. All in all, it promises to be a cracking evening's entertainment.

Information on how to get hold of tickets for the event, which will be free, will be announced in due course. Keep your eyes peeled on our website and also our Twitter feed @ the_fsf, if that's your thing, for more details in the coming weeks.

>> MORE INFORMATION

For full details on who has made the final shortlists in each category, and how to cast your vote in the Newspaper of the Year and Website of the Year awards please visit www.fsf.org.uk



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SWISS HISTORY

BY BRIAN MCNALLY OF THE SUNDAY MIRROR

THE last time Switzerland were at Wembley on European duty, Terry Venables was manager of England, Alan Shearer was our centre forward and John Major was the Prime Minister.

It was 1996 when England was the host nation for the tenth staging of the European Football Championship and the anthem that adorned a memorable summer was "Football's Coming Home".

The tournament kicked off on June 8 - a sizzling hot day that was enlivened by a fabulous carnival atmosphere - but the Three Lions display that afternoon didn't quite match the expectation and anticipation that oozed around the famous old stadium.

The Swiss were written off as nation of bankers and cuckoo-clocks by the brasher tabloids as the players were warned, as usual, that "England expects" nothing less than victory.

Well, as so often happens when the opposition are taken for granted, the Swiss hadn't read the script and surprised Venables and Co by earning a surprise 1-1 draw.

It was a game that will be largely remembered for the fact that Shearer - then still a Blackburn Rovers player - broke an incredible scoring drought that stretched back fourteen games to September 1994.

Indeed, there were many critics who felt that Venables had taken a huge risk by keeping faith with the out-of-form Shearer going into that opening game.

The soul-searching over Shearer's inclusion looked all the more ridiculous with hindsight when a few weeks later the England number nine signed for Newcastle United in a world record £15million deal.

And a negative debate about England chances was fanned by massive newspaper coverage of the drunken antics of several squad members on a pre-tourney trip to Honk Kong when Paul Gascoigne's 29th birthday celebrations got way out of hand.

Gazza was pictured slouched in a dentist's chair in a nightclub having tequila enthusiastically poured down his throat by team-mates.

But things went from bad to worse when the Cathay Pacific plane the squad flew back to England in suffered £5,000 worth of damage and two TV screens were smashed - allegedly by players.

The Cathay Pacific affair as it became known had indignant MPs of all parties demanding strong action be taken to rescue the reputation of the nation and Liverpool duo Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman were moved to issue denials that they were responsible for the damage that cabin crew claimed was caused by "drunken England players."



The Great Alan Shearer

The England squad closed ranks over the shameful episode with no individual owning up, but the squad accepting "collective responsibility".

Shearer lifted spirits by shooting England ahead against Switzerland with a drive that deflected off a post following a neat link-up with Gascoigne and Paul Ince.

But England faded alarmingly after the interval and the Swiss stole an unexpected point with a hotly-disputed equaliser from the spot when Stuart Pearce was controversially ruled to have handled.

Venables, whose lack of discipline was criticised following the Hong Kong trip, admitted England

looked short of stamina in the second half.

"We haven't played well in the second half. We were dead on our feet," he conceded.

And with an out-of-touch Gascoigne being substituted in that second-half slump there was no doubt who the critics were gunning for as the newspapers predictably blamed it all on an England hangover.

And the England players didn't help themselves when more reports leaked out of them heading for a night club after the Swiss draw. Both Venables and his assistant Bryan Robson accused the newspapers of making mountains out of molehills.

But it all came right for the Three Lions in the next two games as they blew away both Holland and Scotland with devastating displays to make the quarter finals.

And an unrepentant Gazza and his co-conspirators celebrated his marvellous finish against the Scots with a dentist's chair celebration - pictures of which filled sports pages all over Europe.

A jittery, impotent display against Spain was forgotten after five expert penalties from England and the match-winning save from David Seaman as the Three Lions grabbed a rare shoot-out success to make the semi-finals against old foes Germany.

But after Shearer had scored early in a 1-1 draw, normal service was resumed as Teutonic efficiency from 12 yards won the day and ended England's interest.

Gareth Southgate joined England's gallery of penalty villains that afternoon although to be fair his effort was saved by German keeper Andreas Kopke.

Germany went on to win Euro 96 beating the impressive Czech Republic side with two goals from Oliver Bierhoff in a 2-1 extra-time victory.

It was almost twelve years before Switzerland returned to Wembley for a friendly match in 2008 that marked Fabio Capello's England debut.

This time the game wasn't remembered for an England manager sticking by a Three Lions legend as Venables had done - but Capello controversially leaving out David Beckham for what would have been his 100th cap.

England got the Capello reign off to a winning start with a 2-1 win - and I am pretty sure the Italian will settle for any sort of a win this time around. What we certainly don't need- after three successive international victories over Switzerland- is a repeat of that Euro 96 draw!

Send your views on England to Brian McNally at b.p.mcnally@talk21.com or follow him on Twitter @mcnallymirror

Year	Score	Comp	Venue
1933	4-0	F	Berne
1938	1-2	F	Zurich
1947	0-1	F	Zurich
1948	6-0	F	Highbury
1952	3-0	F	Zurich
1954	2-0	WC	Berne
1962	3-1	F	Wembley
1963	8-1	F	Basle
1971	3-2	EC	Basle
1971	1-1	EC	Wembley
1975	2-1	F	Basle
1977	0-0	F	Wembley
1980	2-1	WC	Wembley
1981	1-2	WC	Basle
1988	1-0	F	Lausanne
1995	3-1	F	Wembley
1996	1-1	EC	Wembley
1998	1-1	F	Berne
2004	3-0	EC	Portugal
2008	2-1	F	Wembley
2010	3-1	EC	Basle

England's Overall Record

P	W	D	L	F	A
21	14	4	3	50	17

WC = World Cup
EC = European Championship
F = Friendly

FIFA – DRAGGING OUR GAME INTO THE MIRE

A STATEMENT FROM THE FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' FEDERATION



FIFA must be made to listen

The low rumble of alleged corruption and influence-peddling amongst the closed circle of the FIFA executive committee has broken out into open civil war. It's dragging the game that we love through the mud. It's got to stop – NOW!

FIFA takes in billions of pounds, dollars, euros, yen, pesos, rand, francs, reals, roubles, dirham and just about every other currency in the world. Too much of that money is being trousered by corrupt officials rather than benefitting our game. FIFA has lost all authority and credibility as all too many use the organisation as their own personal cash dispenser.

It's clear that FIFA is never going to reform itself. Campaigning journalists such as Andrew Jennings in Britain and Canada's Declan Hill have done great work in exposing the dirty internal workings and the blind eye

turned to corruption. FIFA is the three wise monkeys - It's time for all those who love the game to add their voices for the calls for reform.

Looking back, we can say The Football Association made a big mistake in trying to cosy up to the FIFA big-wigs, calling *The Sunday Times* and BBC's *Panorama programme* "unpatriotic" for exposing FIFA graft. It did them no good. Cuddling up to the corrupt and venal never does.

Their subsequent decision to abstain in the election for the FIFA presidency now appears a wise one, and their call for the elections to be postponed was right, and should have been supported by more than 16 other national associations.

The FA now needs to back calls coming from the Council of Europe and others for a sports anti-corruption agency with real teeth. It can be done. The World Anti-Doping Agency

was set up despite the resistance of the doping cheats. We now need to deal with the financial cheats. Financial doping is as bad as drug doping. It's all cheating.

FIFA is picking OUR pockets. Every pound that isn't spent on the game is theft. It's as simple as that. FIFA's motto *For the game. For the world* has become a sick joke. If you're as outraged as we are you should write to the FA and say so. Write to your MP too and demand action to support an international sports anti-corruption agency.

If we don't do anything FIFA will continue to serve the interests of those who leech off it and nobody else. FIFA should be a force for good in the game. At the moment it's completely the reverse. Now is the time to pour the pressure on. The FSF will be taking the issue to the European Football Fans Congress in Copenhagen in July to spread the word.

TRAVELLING AWAY WITH ENGLAND

TRIPS ON OFFER

England fans support our team away from home in great numbers, and we at Free Lions are proud to be there, wherever the fixtures may take us. Many of us make our own travel arrangements, and of course the Free Lions section of the website at www.fsf.org.uk offers the best source of information and tips for anyone planning their own itinerary.

This page however lists details of organised trips to forthcoming England away games. These aren't paid advertisements: we're listing them as part of our service to fans, and if anyone out there is running a trip they'd like included, email us the details to freelions@fsf.org.uk

Listing something here does NOT imply an endorsement or recommendation of any trip or service offered. Common sense still applies, and we'd always recommend that you check whether the tour operator or whatever is ATOL-bonded. Bookings are at your own risk, but we operate on the basis that we just pass on information, and that as adults you make your own decisions.

The next two away fixtures are Bulgaria in Sofia on 2nd September, and Montenegro in Podgorica on 7th October.

>> BULGARIA

A **one-night** trip is on offer from Thomson Sport, the "official overseas travel supplier" to **englandfans**. With departures available from Manchester, Birmingham and Heathrow airports, they fly out on the morning of the game, and provide 4-star bed and breakfast accommodation in Sofia on Friday night before return flights on Saturday morning at a price of £495 per person. See www.thomsonsport.com

There is also a **day trip** on offer from Sport Options, flying out from Luton and returning straight after the game. The price inclusive of transfers and taxes is £399 per person: details from www.sportoptions.com

>> MONTENEGRO

A **day trip** is being run by **England Fans Travel**, and flies from Birmingham on the morning of the 7th October direct into Podgorica, and straight back after the game. ATOL protected, the cost is £339 per person. Phone Simon on 07739 100006, email

englandfanstravel@btinternet.com, or visit the website at www.Englandfanstravel.co.uk

One-night trips are being offered by **Thomson Sport**. Departing on Thursday, 6th October with the opportunity to board in Manchester or Luton, they offer half-board accommodation in Budva and coach transfer to the game the following day. Return home is straight after the game. Priced from £475pp, book via their website at www.thomsonsport.com

Two-night trips are being offered by **Sport Options**, who also provide Manchester and Luton departure possibilities. Leaving on Thursday morning and returning on Saturday morning, they offer two nights accommodation in Budva, and coach transfers to and from the airport and the game, priced at £499 per person. Full details are on their website at www.sportoptions.com

Finally, **Steve Olcott** informs us that he's running **coaches** from Dubrovnik to Podgorica on matchday, leaving Dubrovnik mid-morning. He has a coach going via the airport to meet incoming flights, and another coach will be going via Budva, all coaches returning after the game. Details via Steve's website at www.traveltoawaygames.co.uk

Answers

Scouse Phil's Free Lions Football Quiz
 1. Cardiff and Nottingham Forest 3, 1953
 2. AFC Wimbledon 3, 1953
 3. Macedonia Music Quiz
 4. 1923 5. Owen Coyle, Kenny Dalglish, Sir Alex Ferguson, Steve Kean, Alex Mcleish and David Moyes 6. Michael Owen 7. Newcastle, Plymouth, Norwich and Plymouth again 8. Doncaster Rovers 9. Uruguay 10. Chris Woods
 Speak French " 9. Pitbull 10. Love songs
 Gillian 6. Krakus 7. Canada 8. French – "I Don't
 1. Montreux 2. Double 3. Vodeling 4. Iron Train 5. Ian



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SWITZERLAND SQUAD WORDSEARCH

Listed below are the 21 members of the Switzerland squad for today's game. As predictable as a cuckoo-clock, we've hidden their surnames in the grid below. You have our permission to amuse yourself by finding them.

Diego	BENAGLIO	VfL Wolfsburg
Marco	WOELFLI	Young Boys
Johnny	LEONI	FC Zürich
Stephan	LICHTSTEINER	Lazio
Reto	ZIEGLER	Juventus
Steve	VON BERGEN	Cesena
Stéphane	GRICHTLING	Auxerre
Johan	DJOUROU	Arsenal
Philippe	SENDEROS	Fulham
Tranquillo	BARNETTA	Bayer Leverkusen
Valon	BEHRAMI	Fiorentina
Goekhan	INLER	Udinese
Blerim	DZEMAILI	Parma
Gelson	FERNANDES	Chievo
Xavier	MARGAIRAZ	FC Zurich
Pirmin	SCHWEGLER	Eintracht Frankfurt
Xherdan	SHAQIRI	FC Basel
Granit	XHAKA	FC Basel
Eren	DERDIYOK	Bayer Leverkusen
Admir	MEHMEDI	FC Zurich
Innocent	EMEGHARA	Grasshoppers

I R I Q A H S E D N A N R E F
 I L I A M E Z D O H W Y D N A
 D E L T T E S O R E D N E S R
 U Q F Z N U F C M X P H G H A
 O I L G A N E B H F H S D E H
 R M E R J Y K Q W W V A D A G
 U A O I K O Y I D R E D K R E
 O R W C E L Z A R I A G R A M
 J H A H M Y A W T S H Q L I E
 D E F T C E U E D T O O N E F
 L B Y L I C H T S T E I N E R
 E I R I Q A H M B V G N F W A
 O V O N B E R G E N Q R R K C
 N Q S G M E H M E D O W A A A
 I N L E R R E L G E I Z S M B

Scouse Phil's Free Lions Football Quiz (answers on page 15)

- Who were the two beaten semi-finalists in the Championship play-offs this season?
- And which team won the play-off final to be promoted into the Football League from the Blue Square Bet Premier?
- In what year did the famous "Matthews Cup Final" take place?
- And in what year did the famous "White Horse Cup Final" take place, being the first FA Cup Final to be played at Wembley?
- Name the six Scotsmen managing Premier League clubs on the last day of this season.
- Which England player is alleged to have lost £30,000 playing cards during the 2002 World Cup?
- Which English League teams are based furthest North, South, East and West?
- Which Championship team play their home games at The Keepmoat Stadium?
- Which country does Liverpool striker Luis Suarez play for?
- I was born in Swineshead, Lincolnshire in 1959 and played most of my games for QPR, Norwich and Sheffield Wednesday. I also played in Scotland for Rangers, and won 43 England caps between 1985 and 1993. Who am I?



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