

TURF

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAM BURNLEY FOOTBALL CLUB



VERSUS
**STOKE CITY
WOMEN**

24TH MARCH 2024
2PM KO



uphold



The FA Women's
National League



X



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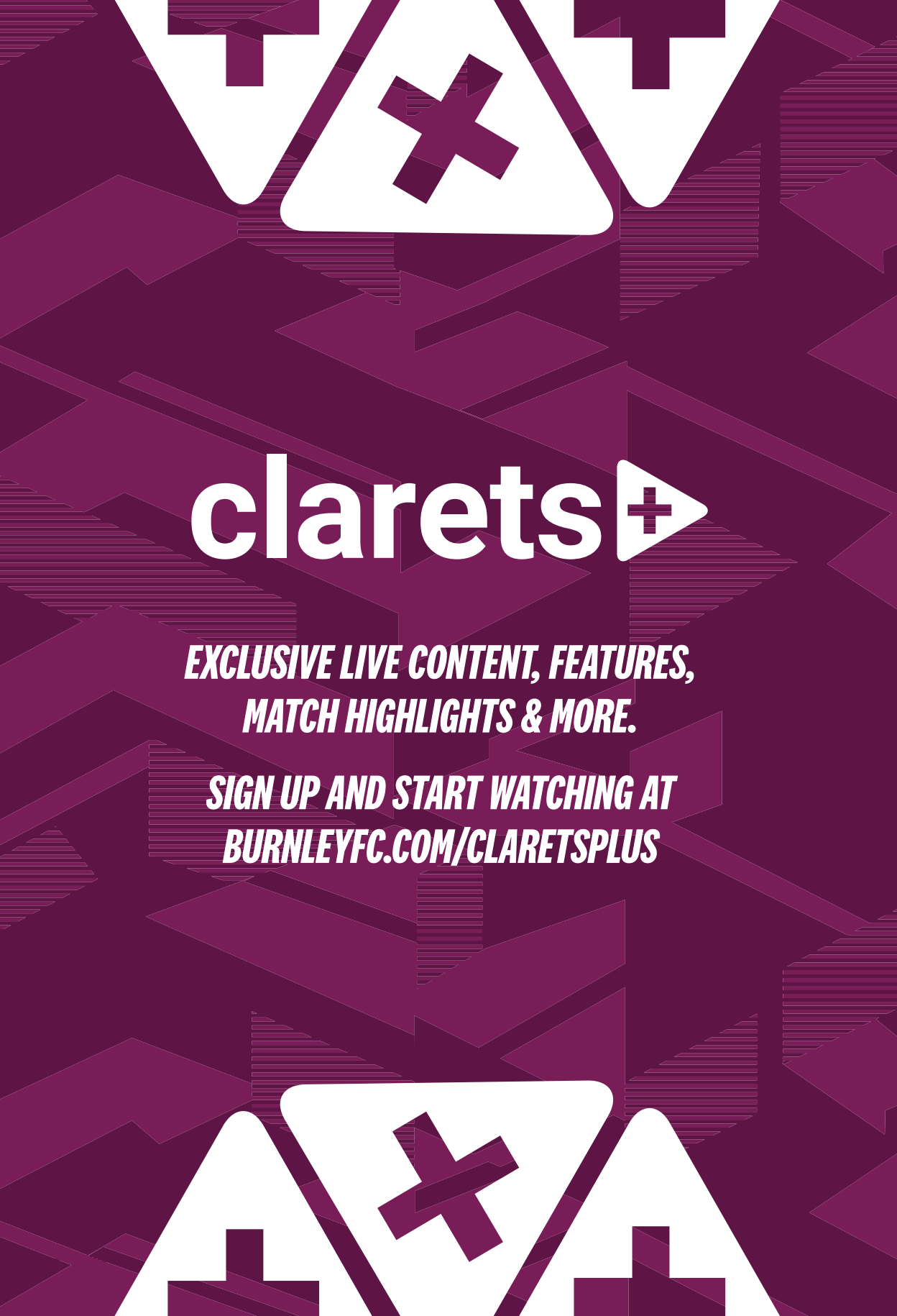
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TURF

Photography: Kevin Hayden
and Sharon Latham

INSIDE TURF



The background is a dark purple field filled with a complex pattern of lighter purple geometric shapes, including triangles and polygons, some with horizontal line textures. At the top and bottom center, there are white triangular shapes containing a dark purple cross, which are stylized versions of the Burnley Football Club crest.

clarets▶

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HEAD OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LOLA OGUNBOTE

Good afternoon and welcome back to the County Ground for today's match against Stoke City.

Bex, her team, and the players were all disappointed by last week's game at the Potters' Emerys Stadium being called off due to a waterlogged pitch.

This setback, following another postponement at Halifax, required adaptability from the group. I've been truly proud of their perseverance and focus throughout.

Off the field, our commitment to engaging with the local community remains steadfast. Recently, we visited three local primary schools in one morning to celebrate International Women's Day, and also participated in a Show Racism the Red Card event at Turf Moor.

Additionally, I had the pleasure

of attending Burnley FC in the Community's Under-11 Girls tournament with Mikayla Wildgoose.

Witnessing numerous girls representing clubs across the northwest was inspiring, highlighting the growing development of the game at grassroots level for female players.

Another exciting initiative is the launch of our women's football educational player pathway, in collaboration with Burnley College.

This bespoke programme will establish an Academy side below our first team, catering to players aged 16 to 21.

Trials are scheduled during half term on Tuesday, April 9th, and Wednesday, April 10th. For further details on the programme and how you or your child can participate,

please refer to the article later in today's programme or visit the Club website.

Turning back to today's match, I extend a warm welcome to the players, staff, and officials of Stoke City. It's been a significant year for them, appointing a full-time head coach for the first time and enhancing their setup. We anticipate a formidable challenge from them.

April promises to be a hectic month, with rescheduled fixtures midweek and preparations intensifying for our match against Liverpool Feds at Turf Moor on Sunday 21st April.

With your exceptional support throughout the season, the possibilities are endless.

I hope you enjoy the game, and let's go Clarets!

Lola



REBECCA SAWIUK



Hey everyone and welcome back!

I would like to start by extending a warm welcome to the Stoke team today, a club I have fond memories of representing when I was 21 and at the start of my own coaching journey.

We're looking forward to playing in front of a home crowd for the first time in more than a month this afternoon.

Since that game against Newcastle United we've played at Derby County and West Bromwich Albion and had further trips to Halifax and Stoke City called off.

Playing at the Hawthorns was a good experience and all of the players and staff enjoyed it. The day marked International Women's Day and it was fantastic to showcase our possession-based brand to the fans in a stunning stadium!

We had over 75% possession on the day and just didn't use the ball well enough. I will be looking for us to be better with the ball today.

Aimee Kelly scored her 10th goal of the campaign and she's a big personality within the group, as well as being an important player on the pitch.

I was really pleased for her and thought Millie Ravening and Emma Siddall were both excellent too – they couldn't have given any more for the team.

It's always a great experience when you play at home – you have more familiarity with your surroundings and we are backed by you, our vocal supporters. We play our best football here.

That's reflected in our results at the County Ground, and we're confident that we can

put in a big Burnley Women performance this afternoon.

It's been a positive training week in the build-up, with a chance to reset having ultimately not had a fixture last week.

Stoke are a team that have invested heavily in the project this year and they'll want to finish as high up the table as they possibly can. They've developed as the season's progressed, and we know they've got plenty of pace in the front line.

I look forward to hearing your support from the touchline today, and hope you enjoy the game.

Best wishes

Rebecca



ALETHEA PAUL *CAPTAIN*

Good evening,

Thanks for keeping up to date with today's league match against Stoke City – whether that be in person at the County Ground or via social media.

We've had to endure another mini break since our last fixture, which saw us draw with West Bromwich Albion.

Unfortunately I wasn't able to play at the Hawthorns, which would have been a good warm-up for next month's game against Liverpool Feds at Turf Moor.

However, I was there in support of the girls and although we weren't quite able to get what would have been a deserved winning goal, I was pleased with their attitude and desire.

I haven't had the opportunity to write a set of programme notes since the Newcastle United game, despite that being six weeks ago!

Of course the result was disappointing but, on a personal level, it felt great to be back out on the pitch for the first time since December.

To play the best part of 90 minutes was a positive step in the right direction too, with that in mind I must thank our physio Eve for all her hard work, as well as the wider staff team and my team-mates for their continued support.

Since then I've been managing my ankle issue and running on the grass. Fingers crossed I can pull on the Claret and Blue in the not-too-distant future.

Off the pitch I had the privilege of attending an event with the Club's official charity, Burnley FC in the Community.

More than 120 primary school children from the local area were at Turf Moor as Show Racism the Red Card hosted a variety of workshops, with the aim of educating them on the subject and empowering them to take action.

It was good to see the kids really

engaged in the topic, and they were able to be creative while learning at the same time.

Back to today's game, and the group are really looking forward to playing in front of a home crowd.

Hearing your support from the touchline really does make a difference on the pitch, so thank you for continuing to give us your all.

We'll do the same as we look to finish the season as strongly as possible.

All the best

Thea



‘WE’RE LOOKING FORWARD TO STOKE TEST’ SAYS EMBLEY

Leah Embley says she and her Burnley team-mates are looking forward to taking on Stoke City following two recent fixture postponements.

The Clarets were held to a 1-1 scoreline by West Bromwich Albion at the Hawthorns two weeks ago, with Aimee Kelly on target in the second half.

Burnley were then due to play Halifax at their Skye Direct Stadium on Thursday night and visit Stoke's Emerys Stadium

on Sunday afternoon, but both fixtures were postponed on the day because of a waterlogged pitch.

As such, this afternoon's home game gives Rebecca Sawiuk's team an opportunity to gain a valuable three points in their bid to finish the campaign strongly.

Reflecting on the Baggies draw, Embley said: "The team are looking forward to getting back on the grass after having a couple of games cancelled – we were



all prepared to play and had done the analysis.

“At West Brom we had a lot of the ball, which we knew we would do, and created enough chances – it’s just taking them that we need to be better at.

“We went behind early and gave ourselves a challenge – we managed to get a goal back but unfortunately couldn’t quite get another.



"The result was disappointing – we feel we should have got three points from that one".

Stoke have climbed the Northern Premier Division of the Women's National League table in recent weeks, winning three of their last four games.

"We've not played Stoke yet this season, but from the analysis we can see that they're quite direct and tough", Embley continued.

"They've also picked up a lot of wins recently so I think it'll be a good game and we'll definitely need to be on it.

"We enjoy being at the County Ground and having our fans behind us, so hopefully some of them can come and support us on Sunday.

"To get a win and get the momentum going again would be brilliant".



BURNLEY WOMEN PRESENT AWARDS AT BFCITC TOURNAMENT

DUO VISIT U11S PLAYERS AT PRAIRIE SPORTS VILLAGE

Defender Mikayla Wildgoose and Head of Women's Football Lola Ogunbote recently visited a Premier League Primary Stars tournament run by Burnley FC in the Community!

The Club's official charity hosted their Under-11 National Girls Football Tournament at Prairie Sports Village, with schools representing football clubs across the northwest taking part.

Additionally, the event aimed to commemorate International Women's Day by promoting female participation in sport.

Ten regional tournaments have been staged at community facilities across the country, with hundreds of young people representing Premier League, EFL and National League clubs.

The National Girls Football Tournament is one of the competition elements of the Premier League Primary Stars programme.

Launched in 2017 and available to

every primary school in England and Wales, Premier League Primary Stars uses the appeal of football to help children to be active and develop essential life skills.

The tournament showcased the talent and dedication of young female footballers, bringing together teams from Manchester United, Manchester City, Preston North End, Accrington Stanley, Burnley, Blackburn Rovers, Foundation 92 and Oldham Athletic.

Wildgoose and Ogunbote were on hand to show their support by taking in the action and distributing the player and team awards.

They also shared their valuable insight and gave the aspiring footballers plenty of encouragement, reinforcing the importance of perseverance and teamwork in achieving success.

One of the students at Water Primary School, who were representing Burnley in the tournament, said: "My favourite part of the day was playing against the other schools and meeting the Burnley players.

"We have learnt a lot off them and it will help us be a better team in the future".

For more information on BFCitC's Premier League Primary Stars programme, please contact lianne.bradford@burnleyfc.com.







LAST TIME OUT

CLARETS HELD AT THE HAWTHORNS

Burnley Women created chances aplenty but were met by a stubborn West Bromwich Albion side on Sunday 10th March, with the match finishing one all.

Phoebe Warner gave the hosts a first-half lead at the Hawthorns before Aimee Kelly scored for the second game running to earn Burnley a point.

Rebecca Sawiuk made two changes from the victory over Derby County, with Georgia Marshall coming into defence and Kelly earning a start with her goal against the Ewes.

The Baggies had the first chance of note on 10 minutes when Simrat Jahman fired narrowly over from range.

The hosts took the lead four minutes later through Warner, who capitalised on a moment of hesitation in the Burnley defence to tap in from close range.

That sparked the Clarets into life, with Kelly working West Brom 'keeper Anna Miller and Millie Ravening heading a Leah Embley cross just the wrong side of a post.

Embley and Emma Siddall were finding more and more joy down

the right but they couldn't quite create a telling opportunity, and Burnley went into the break behind.

Bella Reidford was introduced at halftime and the Clarets continued to play on the front foot, resulting in an equalising goal with 56 minutes on the clock.

Embley was played in behind on the right once again and got to the byline before crossing for Kelly, who scored her 10th goal of the season with a cute flick from six yards out.

Sawiuk introduced more attacking firepower in Ginny Lackey and Abby Clarke, with the latter creating a chance for fellow substitute Lizzy Hamer to shoot but her effort was comfortably held.

Burnley spent much of the five added minutes in the Baggies half of the field but were unable to find a late winner, meaning they stay 3rd in the table with 30 points from their 14 matches played.



BURNLEY 1 WEST BROMWICH ALBION 1

Burnley: Levell, Marshall, Embley, Amaya (Lackey 62'), Ravening, Prior, Hartley (Reidford 46'), Wilkes, Kelly (Clarke 73'), Siddall, Robinson (Hamer 78')

Unused Subs: Farrell

West Bromwich Albion: Miller 26, Brown 2, Newell 5, Reavill 41, George 3, Loydon 8, Evans 22, Jhamat 27, Warner 20, Rabjohn 10, Cole 24

Subs: Jones 1, Orthodoxu 4, Mahmood 9, Straker 21, Reynolds 23

Goals: Warner 14', Kelly 56'



Principal Partner of Burnley FC

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THIS OR THAT...

EMMA SIDDALL

1. Home or Away?
Home
2. Diving Save or High Claim?
Goal
3. Playing in the sun or playing in the rain?
Sun
4. Lionel Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo?
Lionel Messi
5. Last minute winner or comfortable win?
Last minute winner
6. Tea or Coffee?
Tea
7. Beach Holiday or Adventure Holiday?
Adventure holiday
8. Cats or Dogs?
Dogs
9. Playlists or Podcasts?
Playlists
10. Netflix or Amazon Prime?
Netflix



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INTRODUCING *STOKE CITY*



A women's team representing Stoke City was formed in 2001, starting in the West Midlands League Division 1.

After gaining promotion to the West Midland Premier Division they consolidated their

position and began entering the Staffordshire County Ladies Challenge Cup.

It was in that competition that the Potters won their first ever trophy, beating Stafford Town Ladies to win it in 2007.

That sparked further success as promotion to the Midland Women's Combination was secured in 2009 as the team finished as champions and, four years later, the Potters won a treble.

WOMEN



Stoke have been in the third tier of English football since 2009 and were renamed Stoke City Women at the start of 2021/22, marking the beginning of a new era.

At the start of this season, the Club's owners announced a significant increase in funding for the team meaning they would become semi-professional.

Marie Hourihan took over the

reins as their first full-time head coach at the same time, replacing Lou Roberts who is now Burnley's first team coach.

Prior to stepping into coaching, Hourihan played at the highest



level of domestic women's football with Chelsea, Manchester City and Birmingham City.

She won the Women's Super League and Women's FA Cup and represented Republic of Ireland on 24 occasions.

The Potters have enjoyed a

mixed campaign to date, but one thing that is undeniable is that their games have been entertaining to watch.

Five of their first six league outings had four goals or more, including a 4-0 victory over Huddersfield Town and a 5-3 defeat to Liverpool Feds.

There have been some heavy defeats along the way, including to the league's top two in Newcastle United and Nottingham Forest.

Hourihaan strengthened her squad in the January transfer window with the additions of Evie Smith, who joined on loan from Blackburn Rovers,

and Abbi Jenner, who made a temporary switch from another Championship club in Birmingham City.

Lily Murphy also signed on a dual registration deal from WSL outfit Manchester City.

Because last week's trip to the Emerys Stadium was postponed, Stoke come into this afternoon's game on a high following back-to-back victories.

They firstly beat AFC Fylde away from home, with captain Roisin Kivel opening the scoring in the first half before another new addition, Mia Leath, scored a late winner.

It was then a 2-0 home victory over Derby County for the Potters, with top scorer Heidi Logan adding another to her tally and Saffron Morgan also netting.

Stoke are now just a place behind the Clarets in the league table, but are seven points adrift despite having played a game more.





SQUAD

2023/24

2. MARIA FRANCIS-JONES
3. ALETHEA PAUL ©
4. BRENNA MCPARTLAN
5. GEORGIA MARSHALL
6. MIKAYLA WILDGOOSE
7. LEAH EMBLEY
8. LIZZY HAMER
9. EVIE PRIESTLEY
10. LAURA ELFORD
11. AMAYA
12. RHEMA LORD-MEARS
13. DOM COOPER
14. MILLIE RAVENING
15. LARA MILLER
16. LUCY WALSH
17. GINNY LACKEY
18. HOLLIE KELSH-RIDGE
19. DANIELLE DEEHAN
20. GRACIE PRIOR
22. ISABELLA REIDFORD
23. NAOMI HARTLEY
24. TILLY WILKES
25. AIMEE KELLY
26. LUCY FARRELL (GK)
27. LACHANTE PAUL
28. KIRSTIE LEVELL (GK)
29. ABBY CLARKE
30. EMMA SIDDALL
34. MONIQUE ROBINSON
76. PARIS DALTON



WOMEN'S ACADEMY LAUNCHED WITH BURNLEY COLLEGE

DUAL SPORT AND EDUCATION PATHWAY FOR 16-21-YEAR-OLDS

Burnley Football Club is proud to announce the creation of a new women's football educational player pathway, which will form an Academy side to sit below Rebecca Sawiuk's first team.

The bespoke programme is open to players between the ages of 16 and 21, with the opportunity to gain experience in senior football alongside studying any course at Burnley College.

Players will be able to train with Burnley's senior women's team, who play in the third division of English football, and potentially represent approved partner clubs on a dual registration basis.

The Academy is unique in that players will also benefit from multi-discipline support including strength and conditioning with Fitness Evolution, a national-award winning partner of Burnley College.

Nutrition, recovery, psychology, and health and wellbeing are also facets of the game that students will be immersed in.

The team will play weekly fixtures against other Professional Game Academy (PGA) sides.

Interested players are encouraged to attend trials, which are being held on Tuesday 9th April and Wednesday 10th April from 10am until 2:30pm.

To register your interest, please complete the online form [HERE](#) and a member of the Club's coaching team will be in touch in due course.

In 2023 Burnley college boasted a 99% A Level pass rate and a 100% advanced vocational pass rate for the 20th consecutive year.

They offer a range of exciting courses that will give all learners a strong understanding in their desired field, standing them in good stead for the future.

The football club and the college have a strong partnership that dates back more than 13 years and has been recognised by various organisations for its pioneering approach to sport and fitness education, including Ofsted and the English Football League Trust.

To access an in-depth prospectus for the programme, please visit the Club website.



Pos.	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Newcastle United Ladies	18	16	1	1	60	10	50	49
2	Nottingham Forest Women	16	12	1	3	48	14	34	37
3	Burnley Women	14	9	3	2	31	15	16	30
4	Stoke City Women	15	7	2	6	30	30	0	23
5	West Bromwich Albion WFC	18	7	2	9	27	34	-7	23
6	Liverpool Feds	15	6	4	5	25	30	-5	22
7	Wolverhampton Wanderers Women	13	6	2	5	26	16	10	20
8	Derby County Women	16	6	1	9	31	23	8	19
9	Halifax FC Women	13	4	4	5	20	28	-8	16
10	Stourbridge Ladies	17	4	3	10	24	55	-31	15
11	Huddersfield Town Women	14	2	0	12	14	42	-28	6
12	AFC Fylde Women	15	0	3	12	15	54	-39	3

THE FA WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE FIXTURES



2023/24

AUGUST

20 **A** LIVERPOOL FEDS 3-2

SEPTEMBER

3 **H** WOLVES 1-1
7 **A** AFC FYLDE 0-3
10 **A** HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 1-5
17 **H** NOTTINGHAM FOREST 4-2

OCTOBER

8 **H** STOURBRIDGE 4-1
11 **H** HALIFAX 2-0
24 **A** NEWCASTLE UNITED 0-0

NOVEMBER

5 **H** WEST BROMWICH ALBION 3-1

JANUARY

7 **A** WOLVES 1-2
14 **H** BIRMINGHAM CITY 1-3
21 **H** AFC FYLDE 6-0
28 **A** NOTTINGHAM FOREST 2-1

FEBRUARY

11 **H** NEWCASTLE UNITED 0-3

MARCH

3 **A** DERBY COUNTY 0-2
10 **A** WEST BROM 1-1
24 **H** STOKE CITY
31 **A** STOURBRIDGE

APRIL

3 **H** AFC FYLDE
7 **H** HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
11 **A** HALIFAX
14 **A** STOKE CITY
21 **H** LIVERPOOL FEDS

MAY

5 **H** DERBY COUNTY

PARIS DALTON

PLAYER INSIGHT

What are your first memories of football?

Being at the local park with my older brother and him just blasting footballs at me! I didn't love that part but loved being around it and watching him play. Eventually I grew to love it too.

Did you have any idols that you looked up to when you were growing up?

The first female footballers I watched were Kelly Smith and Alex Scott. My brother is an Arsenal fan, so he's always wanted me to play for them one day. Watching female athletes play was incredible and made me believe that I could be a professional footballer one day.

Have you always played in your current position, or have you played elsewhere across the pitch?

When I was a kid I played all over – on both the right

and the centre of the midfield and as a striker. I fell in love with central midfield and have stayed there for most of my career.

What's the best game you have seen live?

My favourite game I've been to is Birmingham City Ladies against Manchester City at Wembley in the 2017 FA Cup final. Just being there and seeing the atmosphere was incredible.

If you had to name a stand-out moment from your career so far, what would it be?

It was nice to win back-to-back championships in the US. Also, I scored a free-kick from about 30 yards out to help us win a game 2-1 last season – that was pretty special.





CLUB PARTNERS

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GPS



BARNFIELD
CONSTRUCTION





BURNLEY

HEAD COACH: REBECCA SAWIUK

- 2 MARIA FRANCIS-JONES
- 3 ALETHEA PAUL ©
- 4 BRENNAN MCPARTLAN
- 5 GEORGIA MARSHALL
- 6 MIKAYLA WILDGOOSE
- 7 LEAH EMBLEY
- 8 LIZZY HAMER
- 9 EVIE PRIESTLEY
- 10 LAURA ELFORD
- 11 AMAYA COLEMAN-EVANS
- 12 RHEMA LORD-MEARS
- 13 DOM COOPER
- 14 MILLIE RAVENING
- 15 LARA MILLER
- 16 LUCY WALSH
- 17 GINNY LACKEY
- 18 HOLLIE KELSH-RIDGE
- 19 DANIELLE DEEHAN
- 20 GRACIE PRIOR
- 22 ISABELLA REIDFORD
- 23. NAOMI HARTLEY
- 24. TILLY WILKES
- 25 AIMEE KELLY
- 26 LUCY FARRELL (GK)
- 27 LACHANTE PAUL
- 28 KIRSTIE LEVELL (GK)
- 29 ABBY CLARKE
- 30 EMMA SIDDALL
- 34 MONIQUE ROBINSON
- 74 PARIS DALTON



STOKE CITY WOMEN

HEAD COACH: MARIE HOURIHAN

- 1 GEORGIE FERGUSON (GK)
- 2 SOPHIE THOMPSON
- 3 LUCIA MOLINARI
- 6 MOLLY HOLDER
- 7 HEIDI LOGAN
- 8 ABBY HUNT
- 9 SAFFRON JORDAN
- 10 ALICE HIGGINBOTTOM
- 11 ROISIN KIVEL
- 12 KAYLEIGH MCDONALD
- 16 SOPHIE TUDOR
- 17 SHANNON STAMPS
- 21 ELIZABETH HOBSON
- 23 ELLIE LEEK
- 26 ARABELLA SUTTIE
- 28 MOLLY PHILPOTT
- 29 LAYLA KENNERLEY
- EVIE SMITH
- ABI JENNER
- MIA LEATH

NEXT GAMES

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH
STOURBRIDGE LADIES V BURNLEY WOMEN
WAR MEMORIAL ATHLETIC GROUND, STOURBRIDGE
2PM KO
NORTHERN PREMIER DIVISION
OF THE FA WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY 3RD APRIL
BURNLEY WOMEN V AFC FYLDE WOMEN
LANCASHIRE FA COUNTY GROUND, LEYLAND
7:45PM KO
NORTHERN PREMIER DIVISION
OF THE FA WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE