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Please consider the environment before printing.
A very good evening to all our supporters who will be following us from home for this evening’s Premier League fixture against Brighton, which is our first at King Power Stadium since the restart.

We hope that all of you are keeping well, staying safe and looking after one another during these strange and testing times. It’s been a challenge for everyone and we know that there are members of our Leicester City family who have suffered over the last few months.

Our hearts go out to the families who have lost loved ones and we also give our thanks to the National Health Service, who continue to do such a wonderful job in the most difficult of situations.

This evening will be our first fixture at King Power Stadium without you and I know this will be tough for both supporters and players, who share a special connection here at Leicester City. However, having seen your messages to the team ahead of the restart, they know that their fans are behind them now more than ever.

We’ve been working hard during the lockdown to maintain our levels for the final few games of the season and I have been delighted with the condition in which the players have returned to training.

On Saturday, we got our first experience of what it was like to play in an empty stadium and I was pleased with the focus and intensity with which we approached the game – something that I think showed with a good performance.

We were disappointed to concede a late equaliser to draw 1-1, but we can be encouraged by the chances we created, by our fitness and by the way we started on the front foot, particularly in the second half.

Our job now is to build on those positive elements and show more of our quality tonight against Brighton, who enjoyed an excellent win over Arsenal at the weekend so will arrive at King Power Stadium high on confidence.

I’d like to welcome to Graham Potter, his players and staff to King Power Stadium this evening. They’re a team with quality in their ranks and who are made even more dangerous due to the fact that they have Premier League survival to focus on too.

Thankfully, we have our own goals and targets to fight for, which will make for a competitive fixture but one that I know our players are looking forward to taking on in order to give our wonderful supporters something to cheer about at home.

We’re determined to take another step on our journey, and even though it’s not possible for you to be here in person tonight, we know that you’re with us every step of the way. We all share a connection and the players will be giving absolutely everything to put in a performance for you because of all you’ve given to them.

I understand it may be difficult not to be here, but I want to say thank you for staying at home for these final few games and helping to allow the season to be finished safely.

Finally, I’d like to offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Stuart Birtwistle, who sadly passed away recently. He was a much-loved member of our medical team and will be deeply missed by his friends and colleagues.

We hope you enjoy the game.

Brendan Rodgers
Everything Is Possible
“Even though it’s not possible for you to be here in person tonight, we know that you’re with us every step of the way”
GOOD EVENING

I couldn’t have imagined, when we beat Aston Villa on Matchday 29, that 15 weeks would pass before King Power Stadium hosted its next Premier League match. It’s been a long time and it’s not quite the experience we’re used to, but it’s good to have football back.

So much has happened during that period. It’s been a difficult time for people all over the world, adjusting to life without some of the personal interactions we may have taken for granted in the past and, for many, coping with real hardship and loss. My thoughts are with all those affected by the events of recent months. It feels like the world is taking its first recovery steps, but we must never forget the sacrifices people have made for us to get to this point, nor the heroic efforts of key workers all over the world.

Such times have also brought out the best in so many and I’ve been so proud of how our fans have moved to directly support our community recovery efforts. The money you have raised through the donation of ticket rebates and purchasing our Then Now Again replica shirts will be used by the Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha Foundation to directly support those affected by the challenges of recent months.

Clearly we would rather be playing matches with fans in the stadium. You’re such a big part of what makes matchdays special and have been for generations, whether that’s at King Power Stadium, at Filbert Street, at away grounds around the country, around Europe and the world. Such a sustained period of games without fans is unprecedented and will take some time to get used to, but I know the players are driven to succeed in your absence and make sure that, when you return, you’re taking your place at the side of a team you’re proud of, as part of the biggest occasions.

Football’s return would not have been possible without key contributions from a number of people and I must take this opportunity to thank the staff from multiple departments at the Club that have worked relentlessly towards the restart in recent weeks. There are too many people to name, but the management of logistics and protocols at both the training ground and the stadium has been substantial. It’s taken a big team effort to get the team back on the pitch and there is still plenty of work to be done.

Supporters will have a big part to play in that, through following the games at home. It will be different for you all not experiencing the games together, but it’s important that our fans continue to follow the appropriate guidance for the season to be completed. The Club will be working hard to recreate parts of the matchday experience for you to enjoy from home, including a supporter pack that will have been received by all Season Ticket Holders and Members today. It can’t replace having you here, but it’s a small gesture so you all know we’re thinking of you and to help you recreate a little of King Power Stadium in your own homes.

Thank you for your support. It remains as important to us now as it always has.

Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha
FULLY FOCUSED

Following a lengthy break from football, the Premier League is back and one person just as delighted as any member of the Blue Army is midfielder Youri Tielemans.

The Belgian international, who arrived at Leicester City from AS Monaco in 2019, was part of the starting line-up as the Foxes resumed the league campaign against Watford at Vicarage Road on Saturday afternoon.

Despite admitting that factors around the game are very different, the 23-year-old also confessed that ‘nothing is normal’ during these unprecedented times and insists that he is simply appreciative of the fact that he and his Leicester City team-mates have the opportunity to continue an impressive season to date.

In the build-up to the first behind-closed-doors Premier League fixture to be hosted at King Power Stadium, with Brighton & Hove Albion the visitors; Youri spoke exclusively to CITY Matchday Magazine...
Delivering a big thank you to all you everyday heroes!

THANK YOU
Youri, taking a look back at your first league game since the season resumed, how do you reflect on the performance against Watford?

It was the first game back in the competition, so it was always going to be a bit different. Even though we had a friendly match against Aston Villa and a couple of games amongst the squad, where we tried to put ourselves in the situation where we had no fans, it was still strange.

For us, going back to football – and even for the fans, who could watch it on television – it’s something.

For the first game back, I thought the performance of the team was okay. If we’d not played a few games before that, it could have been different. I think our fitness level is where we want it to be. We’re strong fitness-wise and we know that we’ll improve physically. The technical part of our game was good as well, but we know we need to get back to where we were as a team; breaking teams up and playing a bit faster. We knew that Watford played very narrow, with compact lines, so it was difficult to play against them. At the end of the day, we didn’t win, but I think a point was okay. Now, we have to move on and win the next game.

One of the main talking points regarding the restart to the season is playing in grounds without fans. How did you find it?

I have to speak personally for this, because I know other players may feel different. For me, the main time you really feel the difference is when you’re warming up. That’s when I usually feel the atmosphere coming through and know the game is coming up soon. Afterwards, when you’re in the game, and again this is just my take on it, you forget about everything else and just try to play your game and give everything you can. I still know that people are watching the game; whether it be the few in the stadium or people at home, so you still give everything you have for the team and the Club.

How are you finding the general changes that are being made to the game as a result of COVID-19?

Adapting to them is all we can do and ensuring that we do what we’re told to do, to keep it as safe as possible. If this is the way we have to do it to continue and play football, we’ll do it. We have to accept everything and move on.

What was the experience of staying at home like for you?

It was okay for me. I had my family around me and we made a new routine. I didn’t find it hard, because I was surrounded by people I love and that was very important for me. I can imagine how tough it has been for people who live alone or who have been working from home with kids. That must be very difficult. I would be
working for one or two hours a day, and for the rest of the time I would try and enjoy all the time I had with my family.

**Are you feeling good in terms of your fitness?**
Yeah, I feel very good. We’ve been back at the training ground since the middle of May. I’ve tried to keep myself well and sharp, so that I’m ready to go again. It was difficult because at the time we didn’t know when we’d be starting again, but as with everything, we just needed to adapt and accept the situation for what it is.

**What was it about football that you personally missed the most?**
The competition! Being competitive is what I love to do. The competition and being back with the guys, playing football; they’re the things I missed the most during lockdown.

**How grateful are you that the team has the opportunity to continue what’s been a fantastic season to date?**
I’m very grateful for that as, for example, the Belgian competition stopped altogether. We as players need to accept any decision made. The Premier League has done everything they could to enable us to restart and we know that they will do everything for the players to make it as safe as possible. Yes, there are no fans and there are rules in place, but we as players have to adapt to the situation.

**Have you prepared for playing at King Power Stadium with no supporters?**
Yes, we played two games there where the squad was split in two. The manager did it to enable us to be aware of how things are going to be. It was a good test for us to know how it’s going to be moving forward.

**Do you feel there are still elements of playing of Filbert Way that give you home advantage?**
Yes of course. Just being at your stadium, you feel like it is home. Even though there are no fans, you know everything about the stadium. You know the dressing room, you have your kind of routine... you know you’re at home. Again, for me on the pitch, you focus on the game and do everything you can regardless of where you’re playing.

**Finally, a word on Brighton & Hove Albion, who enjoyed a great result against Arsenal at the weekend. What kind of test are you expecting from the Seagulls?**
I think they will be a tough team to play against. They try and play good football like us. I remember the game there; they had some moments where they were very good. They try to keep the ball as much as they can, but we were really effective in our play there. I think it’s going to be a similar game, so we’ll have to be aware of how they play and concentrate on playing our game to the best of our ability.
THANK YOU
TO OUR PARTNERS

THAI
Smooth as silk

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Sansiri

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TELCOMS

BPK International Hospital
www.bangkokhospital.com
In our game
There’s always room for passion.
There’s room for rivalry.
There’s room for emotion.

But there is no room for racism.

If you see it, report it.

Download the Kick It Out app,
or tell a police officer or
steward in the stadium.

No room for racism
Leicester City’s first home game following the resumption of the Premier League season will see the Foxes entertain Brighton & Hove Albion; a team that has gained plenty of praise for their attractive style of football thus far this term.

Under new head coach, Graham Potter, the Seagulls have shown confidence in possession and have created plenty of opportunities on goal. However, it has been their inability to convert chances that has seen the Sussex outfit flirt with the drop zone this season. Heading into the start of the campaign re-start, Brighton had gone 240 minutes without scoring a Premier League goal.

Despite that stat, Brighton are a team possessing plenty of threat going forward, with the vision and passing ability of Pascal Grob and the lethal finishing that players like Neal Maupay and the ever-dangerous Glenn Murray are capable of.

The fixture between the Foxes and the Seagulls on the south coast took place back in November, when Ayoze Pérez’s 64th-minute opener accompanied Jamie Vardy’s converted penalty in the 82nd minute to deliver a 2-0 victory to the visitors.
Having taken an unconventional route into management for an English coach, the reputation that Brighton head coach Graham Potter forged in his initial role in management, with Swedish outfit Östersund, lifted him to prominence and opened up opportunities to return to the United Kingdom.

With Östersund, Graham instilled a mentality within the squad that transferred to results on the pitch. Having graduated from the Open University with a degree in social sciences and, later, a master’s in leadership and emotional intelligence at Leeds Metropolitan University; Potter has blended his academic education with his coaching philosophy. The results were evident for all to see.

In his eight years in Sweden, Graham – a former professional left-back – guided Östersund to two successive promotions before, in 2015, leading the club to the Swedish top flight. After winning the Swedish Cup in 2017, Graham’s side entered the UEFA Europa League, where they historically reached the group stages and defeated Arsenal 2-1 at Emirates Stadium.

Following the recognition received for Östersund’s European exploits, Potter was appointed manager of Championship Swansea City, shortly after relegation from the Premier League. In challenging circumstances, Graham galvanised Swansea and had the side play entertaining football in the process.

Following the dismissal of Chris Hughton as Brighton manager, Potter was approached to bring the traits that had received plaudits in Sweden and Wales to the south coast of England. Appointed Brighton head coach in 2019, Graham’s Seagulls have been one of the division’s most attractive sides to watch this term.

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**THE GAFFER**

**GRAHAM POTTER**

**BORN**
20 May, 1975 in Solihull

**PLAYING CAREER**
- Birmingham City
- Wycombe Wanderers (loan)
- Stoke City
- Southampton
- West Bromwich Albion
- Northampton Town (loan)
- Reading (loan)
- York City
- Boston United
- Shrewsbury Town (loan)
- Macclesfield Town

**INTERNATIONAL**
- England Under-21 (1 cap)

**COACHING CAREER**
- Östersund
- Swansea City
- Brighton & Hove Albion

**COACHING HONOURS**
- Division 1 Norra (2012)
- Division 2 Norrland (2011)
- Svenska Cupen (2016/17)

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Graham was named Manager of the Year at the Swedish Football Awards in two consecutive years: 2016 and 2017.
After scoring 37 goals in 85 league appearances for Brentford, Brighton & Hove Albion moved quickly to secure the services of French forward Neal Maupay in 2019.

Despite goals being hard to come by for Albion this season, Maupay’s eight Premier League strikes have illustrated how important a signing the French Under-21 international has been.

Versatile, Neal is capable of providing a threat both on the flanks or playing off the main striker. Possessing plenty of pace and confident running at opponents, Maupay’s strength also enables him to hold his own against top-flight defenders.

2019/20 PL STATS

24 APPS
9 GOALS
5 SUB APPS
2 ASSISTS
With excellent vision and passing ability to match, Pascal Groß is a man capable of pulling the strings for Brighton & Hove Albion in the heart of midfield. Since making the move to the Amex Stadium in 2017, Pascal has been a key player for Brighton, making his debut in the Seagulls' first-ever Premier League season and immediately earning a reputation as one of the bargain signings of the campaign, as Albion maintained their top-flight status.

Continuing to establish himself as one of the top English central defenders, Lewis Dunk continues to showcase his talents in the heart of Brighton & Hove Albion’s defence. Born in Brighton, the 28-year-old and current Seagulls captain is a player that leads by example. Uncompromising, Lewis’ ability to read the game inside the Brighton box is complimented by his ability in the opponents’ box, which has seen him this season score against Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool.

Dynamic, full of pace and capable of confusing defenders, Belgian winger Leandro Trossard has been a first-team regular for Brighton this term, with three league goals to his name thus far. Becoming Graham Potter’s second Brighton signing ahead of the start of the campaign, the former Genk man has impressed wherever he’s played. Spending spells on loan, in 2015/16 Leandro scored eight league goals in 30 appearances for OH Leuven.
2019/20 PL Stats
Top Scorers

Jamie Vardy (Leicester) 19 goals
Neal Maupay (Brighton) 9 goals

Top Assists

Harvey Barnes (Leicester) 6 assists
Pascal Groß (Brighton) 4 assists

PASSING ACCURACY

82% 55% Average Possession
81% 54% Average Possession

Goals Scored

Leicester 59 goals per match
Brighton 34 goals per match

Goals Conceded

29 goals per match
41 goals per match
1.4 goals per match

Aerial Battles Won

510 battles won
573 battles won

All Time Stats
Leading Scorers in This Fixture

Jamie Vardy (Leicester) 4 goals
Pascal Groß (Brighton) 2 goals

Head to Head

Potter Smith
John Gregory
Kurt Nogan
Bradley Johnson
Ashley Barnes
Leonardo Ulloa

34 games

Leicester 15
Draws 6
Brighton 13

Head to Head Goals Tally

75 goals

Leicester 39
Brighton 36
Few players have endeared themselves to supporters of both Leicester City and Brighton & Hove Albion quite like Anthony Knockaert.

During his time at both clubs, Knockaert became something of a hero for his skill, goals, passion and the personality he showed both on and off the pitch. Anthony signed for Nigel Pearson’s Leicester City from French outfit Guingamp and went on to form an integral part of the team that emerged title winners of the Championship in 2013/14. Making his debut at the start of the 2012/13 season, it was in the league trip to Huddersfield Town that Knockaert truly introduced himself to the Foxes faithful, scoring two sensational goals to guide City to a 2-0 victory in West Yorkshire. The heartbreak suffered at the end of the season, following the Play-Off semi-final defeat to Watford, saw Knockaert at the centre of events; his missed penalty leading to the counter-attack which saw Troy Deeney snatch victory in the dying seconds of the game.

However, it was the way Anthony came back the following record-breaking season that encapsulated the player and person. Scoring several goals as City reached the Premier League, including a memorable return to Vicarage Road, Anthony would later find appearances hard to come by due to the form of Riyad Mahrez.

Following a spell in Belgium, Knockaert returned to England with Championship Brighton & Hove Albion in January 2016. Under Chris Hughton, Knockaert established himself as the Championship Player of the Year in 2016/17 and was integral as Albion reached the Premier League as runners-up in his first full season.

Whilst still a Brighton & Hove Albion player currently, Knockaert is playing his football on loan to Fulham in the Championship.
CITY ON THE SOFA

Putting the Blue Army at the heart of the action like never before

LIVE and FREE from 5pm

Available to watch live on our official Facebook, Twitter and YouTube channels.

Featuring special guests
Gerry Taggart, Tony Cottee and Steve Walsh
A new fan feature in CITY Matchday Magazine, View From The Sofa follows Foxes supporters as they watch the remaining games of the 2019/20 Premier League season from home.

Scott Davies, 39, from Solihull, watched Saturday’s 1-1 draw against Watford with his daughter, Amber, from their living room, which was decked out in flags, banners and of course Leicester City away shirts, to cheer on Brendan Rodgers’ side from home.

Complete with their match tickets from the originally scheduled fixture at Vicarage Road, beer drank from LCFC branded glasses and pies tucked into at kick-off to recreate their usual matchday rituals, Scott felt it was a strange but exciting experience.

“It’s very different but we’re just glad to have it back, it’s the first step to getting fans back into the grounds,” he said.

“I like what clubs have been doing to get fans more involved. It was a bit strange listening to the game with no fans there and I opted for the option of not having the crowd noise because I think it sounds a little bit fake.

“You’re never going to get away from the fact that the grounds are empty, I think you’ve got to embrace the current situation and get on with it.

“But it was quite nice to hear [Ben] Chilwell’s goal pinging off the post and the sound of the net swishing, I think that definitely added to the experience a little bit.”

And Scott says he will be trying to replicate the same atmosphere at home for tonight’s game at home to Brighton, which will be the first to go ahead at King Power Stadium without any supporters present.

“We will probably get a pie and a pint in where we can and just try and recreate that matchday build-up we normally have when we go in person,” he explained.

“It’s difficult to do, but the excitement is still there when it’s building up and certainly when the game is on. You get engrossed in it just as much as you do when you’re at the ground.”

If you would like to feature in View From The Sofa, please email: content@lcfc.co.uk

“YOU GET ENGROSSED IN IT JUST AS MUCH AS YOU DO WHEN YOU’RE AT THE GROUND.”
WELCOME

Football is back, but – to paraphrase Star Trek – not as we know it. Without a doubt, these are the strangest circumstances to affect football in my 55 years in and around the game; I’ve never known anything like it. However, the most important thing is people’s safety, so we have to understand, appreciate and respect the reasons why we’re unable to be at King Power Stadium this evening.

The main thing is that football is back and the team has the opportunity to finish what has been a fantastic season to date. As is the case for pretty much every club in the Premier League, there’s something to fight for – whether it’s European football next year or maintaining top-flight status. For us, and the position Brendan and the boys have put us in, it’s the former; not to mention an FA Cup Quarter-Final against Chelsea next up for City. With the amazing talent at Brendan’s disposal and the magnificent staff that have been looking after everybody around the training ground – I’m sure we’ll pick up where we left off.

Of course, this time has been a very difficult one for so many of us. I want to take this opportunity to send the condolences of everybody associated with Leicester City Football Club to the family and friends of the City fans that have passed away since our last home game.

As was the case for many of us, I’m sure; I was saddened to hear of the passing of Willie Thorne last week. Whilst Willie was well-known to so many, he was a Leicester bloke and a massive City supporter, not to mention a top man as well. Our thoughts are with Willie’s family at this difficult time.

Willie’s passing came in the same week as that of our long-serving Club surgeon, Stuart Birtwistle – known better as Birty. Birty was a brilliant surgeon, a fantastic man and a good friend. Sadly, he’d been ill, so Dr Patchett and I went to see him in his back garden a week or so before he passed. Again, our thoughts go to his wife Allie and his family.

Whilst football has taken a break, I’ve been lucky enough to speak to a number of City fans – and it’s been an absolute joy. I’ve really enjoyed finding out so much about our supporters and their love of our Club – and I’ll keep calling supporters until at least one of you says that I was your favourite player from yesteryear! I always seem to be everybody’s second favourite - haha.

Enjoy the game and thank you for your support, wherever you’re watching.

Let’s roll,

Alan ‘The Birch’ Birchenall MBE

The Birch’s pre-match rallying cry to the Blue Army
As Leicester City in the Community continues to engage with the people of Leicestershire using new methods, the Club’s charitable arm is calling on schoolchildren across the region to try out their new Science Stars activities at home!

From bending water using static electricity, to making lava lamps, Leicester City in the Community’s social media channels are the place to find a wealth of innovative science challenges that you can try from home, three times a week.

Each week, a series of science-specific videos will be released to inspire youngsters to try recreating experiments and to engage with science alongside their family.

Presented by STEM Coordinator Dr. Alex Evans, young people can look forward to trying an illusion, experiment or even a science-themed dance across seven days.

Every week will begin with Leicester City in the Community’s Magic Monday, which will include tricks and illusions that use the magic of science.

Wonder Wednesday follows in midweek, featuring simple science experiments that can be created using everyday household items.

Meanwhile, Friday sees the return of SciDance, a fun dance learning experience, that now includes quiz questions to see what participants have learned from each session.

Dr. Alex says it is important to engage with people via virtual means: “During the COVID-19 pandemic, Leicester City in the Community has been committed to continuing our support for schools through new ways.

“That includes regularly producing educational videos for people to engage with at home. Science is such a diverse subject that there is bound to be a little something for everyone.

“All of the activities in these videos are designed to be easy to carry out at home using things that might already be in your house.”

The city of Leicester has made great contributions to the worldwide scientific community throughout history, so Leicester City in the Community feels it is important to keep school science as engaging and accessible as possible.

If you need additional science work resources to help with your grades, you can access some from LCitC’s partners, Primary Science Teaching Trust, by clicking here.
Andy King will call time on one of the most distinguished and decorated Leicester City careers in the Club’s history when his contract expires at the end of this season.

The 31-year-old Wales international – a winner of the League 1, Championship and Premier League titles as a Fox – will depart King Power Stadium after honouring his loan at Championship side Huddersfield Town.

The Club intends to give supporters an opportunity to thank Andy for his contribution when it is safe and possible to do so, hosting an event befitting his 16 years of service.

**Morgan, Fuchs & Jakupović Extend Contracts**

Leicester City Club captain Wes Morgan, Christian Fuchs and Eldin Jakupović have signed one-year contract extensions to keep them at the Football Club until June 2021.

Morgan has captained the side to the Championship title, the Premier League title and the quarter-finals of the UEFA Champions League, and continues to be an integral figure at the Club both on and off the pitch.

Fuchs, on the other hand, was also a key part of City’s title win and Champions League run, while Jakupović has spent almost three years with the Foxes since his arrival from Hull City in the summer of 2017.

**Foxes Fanstore Reopens With Revised Operating Hours**

Following latest government guidelines regarding the operation of non-essential shops, the Foxes Fanstore at King Power Stadium is now open, but not on matchdays.

Supporters will note changes to opening hours, access and operations within the Foxes Fanstore – measures implemented through on-going consultation with the Safety Advisory Group to safely manage access to the site and prevent large gatherings.

These measures – including the closure of the Foxes Fanstore and Click & Collect services on home matchdays – remain under constant review.

**Important COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Information from Leicester City Council**

Leicester City Council is providing updates on the developing COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic via a regular newsletter available from leicester.gov.uk.

By visiting Leicester City Council’s website and subscribing to the ‘Your Leicester’ newsletter, you can find key information about the effect of COVID-19 on local services.

In addition, important messages are also available on Leicester City Council’s Twitter and Facebook pages.
ACADEMY COACH PEAKE RETIRES AFTER 17 YEARS AT LCFC

This summer, Leicester City’s Lead Professional Development Phase Coach, Trevor Peake, will retire after 17 years of service at the Football Club, concluding a 42-year career in football.

Initially starting out as a scout under Micky Adams in 2003, Peake has been an important figure at the Club’s Academy, helping the likes of Richard Stearman, Andy King, Ben Chilwell, Hamza Choudhury and Harvey Barnes progress through the ranks.

Speaking to LCFC.com last week, Trevor, who leaves the Club with its very best wishes, said: “It’s very much a family at Leicester City. I didn’t have an electric career as a player, but this is certainly the best club I’ve ever been involved with. It’s been incredible.”

YOUR CHANCE TO FEATURE ON LCFC’S DIGITAL CHANNELS!

Leicester City supporters are invited to play their role in the Club’s coverage of the Premier League’s return this summer!

We’re calling on all Foxes fans to send in short video clips of them replicating the iconic goal celebrations performed by Leicester’s players.

Once received, your entries could then be selected by the Club’s Content & Creative Team to be included on Leicester City’s LED boards on matchday, and City’s wider social media coverage of the remaining fixtures.

READ MORE >>

FASCINATING BACKSTORIES & INSIGHTS IN LATEST LCFCQ

Nigeria international Wilfred Ndidi, on-loan defender Ryan Bennett, youngster Luke Thomas and First Team Coach Kolo Touré all star in the latest edition of LCFCQ, the Club’s official quarterly magazine.

Released earlier this year, Issue 11 of LCFCQ can be purchased online and be delivered straight to your door, while subscription packages for future editions are also available.

Also included within 84 pages of exclusive content is a conversation with Head of Fitness & Conditioning Matt Reeves, alongside a nostalgic look back to City’s League Cup triumph in February 2000.

READ MORE >>

LCFC FANS NEEDED TO SHOW SUPPORT TO PLAYERS ON MATCHDAYS

Following the Premier League’s return, Leicester City Season Ticket Holders and Fox Members can now apply to be a part of the matchday experience – albeit virtually!

The league’s broadcast partners are planning to create a ‘fan wall’ for each behind-closed-doors fixture, to be used as part of the broadcast and on the big screens.

READ MORE >>
ADULT SHIRTS | £33
JUNIOR SHIRTS | £23
MINI KIT | £30

ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO

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As Brendan Rodgers’ team return to
King Power Stadium this evening,
there will be something missing.
Something that’s always been here. The
people that truly bring the magic to the
game. Our supporters.

If you can’t be here, we need to find
another way to bring the Blue Army together;
to connect you with each other and with the
players in the stadium. So we asked you.
Through direct supporter consultation
and through the voice of social media, we
listened. We asked what you were looking
forward to about the restart and we asked
you what you would say to the players if you
couldn’t be here to show them your support.
We looked for a message that would speak
for all of you.

Themes emerged: ‘Stay safe’; ‘We’re right
behind you’; ‘Finish what you started’; ‘Keep
making us proud’. You wanted us to know
that you’d still be with us, as you always
have been. And as we know you will be in
the future. That your absence would never
diminish your passion.

WITH YOU THEN, WITH YOU NOW,
WITH YOU AGAIN

A simple message from our fans to our players.
The voice of our Club as we voyage into
uncharted waters. A declaration of solidarity
and togetherness until we meet again. When
the players enter King Power Stadium, they
may not see you, but they will see your voice.
And they will know you are with them.

The mantra will form a central part of the
Club’s supporter engagement activities while
games take place behind closed doors. We
know you still want to make your voices heard
as you follow the games from home and we’ll
give you the platform – increasing our focus
on interactive content and giving you, our
supporters, the chance to be the stars of it.
The stadiums might be empty, but our fans
will still provide the backdrop to the action –
lighting up the digital landscape with sound,
colour and passion – just as you would from
your seats in King Power Stadium.

For more information about how you can
play your part in #ThenNowAgain, please
click here.
WELCOME TO THE WORLD’S FAVOURITE ONLINE BETTING COMPANY
Until the resumption of the Premier League last week, the only competitive behind-closed-doors match in Leicester City’s history took place in January 1985.

Recently, Club Historian John Hutchinson spoke to internationals Ian Wilson and Paul Ramsey. They each played over 300 games for City and they both took part in that strange match in an empty stadium 35 years ago.
The events leading to this behind-closed-doors game began in January 1985, when First Division Leicester City were drawn away against Neil Warnock’s part-time non-league side, Burton Albion.

The decision was taken to play the game at Derby County’s Baseball Ground. Leicester City won the tie 6-1 but trouble in the crowd resulted in The FA ordering that the game be replayed behind closed doors at Coventry City’s Highfield Road. Paul Ramsey scored the only goal of that game to secure a 1-0 victory for Leicester City.

Last week, from their respective homes in Scotland and Leicestershire, Scotland international Ian Wilson and Northern Ireland international Paul Ramsey recalled the build-up to the behind-closed-doors game and the strange atmosphere which surrounded it.

“When the draw was made, Burton were a non-league club,” said Ian. “We’d had experience a couple of years before of losing to non-league Harlow Town. We knew how difficult it could be going away from home in an FA Cup tie. There’d been so many banana skins before. It was a favourable draw for us, but obviously one that Burton would be up for and a giant killing was on the cards.”

“When Burton got the draw, and it was their home tie, they were in discussions with Leicester and The FA to try and make the game more attractive to their fans and financially better for them,” continued Ian. “Their idea was to take the tie to a bigger stadium to get a bigger gate.

“However, you always get a tough game. Burton had actually won about six FA cup ties to qualify for this round, so they were on a run. Losing to Harlow Town a couple of years earlier was at the back of our minds. I didn’t play in that one! After that game, the manager Jock Wallace went nuts!”

“UP UNTIL SATURDAY IT WAS THE ONLY GOAL SCORED FOR LEICESTER CITY BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!”

UP UNTIL SATURDAY IT WAS THE ONLY GOAL SCORED FOR LEICESTER CITY BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!
Being a local derby, either the Baseball Ground or Forest's ground would be the best stadium for the tie. It ended up at the Baseball Ground. There was a huge crowd at the game and a fantastic atmosphere.

The atmosphere was also recalled by Paul.

"There was a great atmosphere, especially behind the goal," he said. "It was unbelievable. The fans were all standing and were very vocal. It was so different from nowadays when people sit."

"The pitch wasn't great that day," Ian recalled. "It was all a bit 'iffy' as to whether the game would go ahead. The pitch was frozen and then it softened up and got really heavy, but it was the same for both teams and we got off to a good start in the game."

"We scored first," Paul remembered, referring to Gary Lineker's 16th-minute goal, "and not long afterwards they equalised. Then came the incident with the Burton goalkeeper, who was struck by a missile from the crowd behind the goal. At the time we didn't think there might be a problem. We thought he was play acting. We just wanted to get on with the game. Neil Warnock was their manager. He must have been young then. He came onto the pitch. He was probably thinking he could get something out of this. He thought it was worth complaining. He's always on at referees, even now!"

Ian also held this view.

"The goalkeeper wasn't knocked out," he said. "I don't know what he was struck with. When Neil Warnock came on the pitch, he wanted the goalkeeper to carry on. Then when we scored five more goals, he blamed the defeat on the injury on their goalkeeper. That was the frustrating part of it. It was a difficult one. If it had been an outfield player, it would have been okay."

The atmosphere at game was beginning to turn a little sour.
"It wasn’t a nice game," Paul said. "We weren’t sure what was going to happen next. There was a wee bit of tension there. At the end of the game we had no idea that there would have to be a replay. We’d won 6-1. We just thought ‘Thank God that’s over’. We’d done the business. We were on a bit of a high. The Ind Coope Burton Brewery sponsored both teams and after the game they gave us a barrel of beer. I don’t remember drinking any of it. It probably went into the Directors’ Room! For the next few days there was talk in the papers about Burton making a complaint and wanting a replay.

"The FA made a decision to replay the game," Ian continued. "There had been a wee bit of trouble behind the goal, but personally I don’t think the game should have been replayed. Neil Warnock was really argumentative. He pushed and pushed his case through the press. He probably wanted the tie to be replayed so there would be another payday for them. There was also the chance he could win, but he wouldn’t have wanted a replay behind closed doors. However, The FA ordered the replay to take place 11 days later at Coventry City’s Highfield Road behind closed doors. Playing in an empty stadium was so peculiar to us and so strange. It was surreal.

Paul added: "The replay took place in bad weather. It had been snowy. I think that there was an early kick-off at about 12 o’clock. That experience was surreal. We’d all played for the reserves when it was quiet with no spectators but this was strange. We got there and went onto the pitch and there was no crowd. You could only hear the players and managers shouting. But you buckled down. You kept focused. It was such a contrast from the atmosphere at the Baseball Ground. We won 1-0. I scored the goal. Alan Smith crossed the ball, Gary [Lineker] knocked it on and I ran onto it and just tucked it inside the keeper. It was quite early on, in the first five minutes. By scoring that I set a Club record. Up until Saturday it was the only goal scored for Leicester City behind closed doors! It is also a pub quiz question. I hope somebody beats this record this season!

Ian felt that the replay wasn’t a like a cup tie. “I didn’t have a problem motivating myself,” he insisted.
“The fact that Burton had wanted the game replayed was enough incentive for us. But it didn’t prove to be easy though, with Paul scoring the only goal to win it. Part of the pitch was pretty frozen. With no protection the pitch was pretty solid. Certain areas were softened up and it was quite difficult to play in that match. The pitches are so lovely now but back then, we used to play at the end of the season with only the four corners of the pitch having a bit of grass on.

“Playing in an empty stadium is very strange,” Ian added. “There’s nobody else there. There’s nobody watching. Normally when your team bus turns up, your fans are there but nobody was there to meet us.

“There was TV there because they were looking for an upset, but it wasn’t on Match of the Day the following Saturday. It was just there because it was a newsworthy story. They only showed highlights of the game on the news.

“It’s not easy for the players to play in these circumstances. It really confirms the importance for football of the fans being there. Football loses a lot if there aren’t thousands of fans questioning decisions, shouting for free-kick and reacting to goals, great saves and penalties. It doesn’t half spur the players on when you’ve got fantastic supporters screaming for you to win the game. I’m sure Neil Warnock and Gordon [Milne] (the Leicester City manager) wouldn’t have enjoyed that game at all.

“Hopefully the present day behind-closed-doors matches don’t go on for too long,” said Ian. “I have a friend in Turkey and they are playing their games in empty stadiums as well. Where I played, at Beşiktaş, when Gordon and I were there, they’ve taken photographs of the fans and put them onto cardboard cut outs which they’ve placed on their seats!

Paul agrees about the difference of having a crowd present.

“When there’s no crowd, as a player, you don’t make the same decisions that you would normally make when the crowd is there. It’s a different game without the fans,” he said."
OPEN DAYS

dmu.ac.uk/opendays

PROUD TO BE MORE

SAT 04 JUL
SAT 19 SEPT
SAT 17 OCT
For several seasons, Leicester City Football Club has worked with De Montfort University’s International Centre for Sports History and Culture on various heritage projects. This season, staff and students at the centre will feature players who were pioneers that contributed to the growth and development of the game. Today, Professor Matt Taylor looks at the pioneering career of Hope Powell. For more information about sports history at DMU visit www.dmu.ac.uk/sportshistory

FOOTBALL’S PIONEERS: HOPE POWELL

Hope Powell is a true pioneer of British football. As a player, she was part of the England squad that qualified for the FIFA Women’s World Cup for the first time in 1995. Three years later, she became the first black and the first female manager of any England national team. She coached England for 15 years, steering the team to four European Championship and two World Cup tournaments. Hope also managed the Great Britain team at the 2012 London Olympics.

Powell was born in South London in 1966. Although a talented player from an early age, she was banned from playing for her school team according to FA rules, which prohibited mixed football beyond the age of 11. She then joined Millwall Lionesses, eventually completing 11 seasons over two spells with the South London club. She won her first FA Cup Final with Millwall in 1991, also reaching the final with Friends of Fulham in 1989 and Croydon in 1998. With Powell as captain, Croydon won the league and cup double in 1995/96.

Selected first for England in 1983 at the age of 16, Powell went on to play 66 times for her country and scored 35 goals as an attacking midfielder.

As England manager, Powell inherited a team ‘in fast decline’ and close to being demoted to the ‘B’ level of the women’s game, which would have prevented them qualifying for major tournaments. She then guided England to the European Championship finals in 2001, 2005, 2009 and 2013 and the quarter-finals of the World Cup in 2007 and 2011. The most significant achievement was in 2009 in Finland, when England lost in the final to Germany, one of the powerhouses of the women’s game.

Equally important was Powell’s role in helping to establish an effective structure for elite women’s football, from under-15s to under-23s. She was instrumental to persuading The FA to agree to a central contract scheme that would help players focus on training and playing free from full-time jobs. In her dealings with the authorities, Powell felt she was constantly ‘fighting’ for women’s football: “It was tough. I was female and black. The decision-makers? White. Male. And middle class,” she said.

Over time, Powell’s achievements have been recognised. She was inducted into the National Football Museum Hall of Fame in 2003 and was appointed OBE in 2002 and CBE in 2010. Sacked as England manager in 2013 after a disappointing European Championship campaign, Hope has managed Brighton & Hove Albion women’s team since 2017.
This season, we are tracking club and programme development through 100 years of league and wartime football for Leicester City since the club was reconstituted in June 1919. Today, we review the late 1990s: when the Blue Army almost considered a day out at Wembley to be an annual trip.

Dave Smith @fossilsandfoxes

With four teams to go down, the Foxes were in the drop zone for nearly all of their initial Premier League experience. Cup joy remained elusive, with the third-tier Seagulls toppling City in both legs of their League Cup encounter. This was the first season in which City wore squad numbers on their shirts.

1995/96 Division One: 5th
FA Cup: Round 3
League Cup: Round 3

Another Division One campaign, another play-off final. This time, a place in the season finale was secured thanks to Garry Parker’s strike at the Victoria Ground, before Steve Claridge’s dramatic last-gasp winner at Wembley clinched promotion.

1996/97 Premier League: 9th
FA Cup: Round 5
League Cup: Winners

A 4-2 win at Ewood Park on the closing afternoon meant a top-half finish for Martin O’Neill’s men to cap off a memorable campaign. City’s first major silverware for 33 years was secured in a replay at Hillsborough, courtesy of another Steve Claridge goal.

1997/98 Premier League: 10th
FA Cup: Round 4
League Cup: Round 3
UEFA Cup: Round 1

Another trip to Wembley in the League Cup ended with a last-gasp Tottenham strike that denied City the cup and Rob Ullathorne the man of the match trophy. A week later, City gained a revenge of sorts with a rare win at White Hart Lane en route to another top-half finish.
Following the Foxes for 50 years

EVERY KICK, GOAL, GAME

LIVE

BBC

RADIO LEICESTER

104.9 FM | Digital | bbc.co.uk/radioleicester

@BBCRLLSport
Wednesbury-born Fred Shinton was the only player to score over 50 goals for Leicester Fosse. His 32 league goals in 1909/10 were a Club record which stood until Arthur Chandler surpassed it in 1928.

Fred started his career in local football with Hawthorn Villa in 1900, followed by spells at Moxley White Star, Wednesbury Old Athletic and Hednesford Town, before joining Second Division West Bromwich Albion in April 1905.

His 18 goals helped the Baggies to fourth position in 1906. The following season he was their top scorer with 28 goals in only 30 games. He scored four goals on three occasions and two other hat-tricks.

The following season (1907/08), both Leicester Fosse and West Bromwich Albion were in contention for promotion, so it was perhaps surprising that the two clubs agreed to exchange strikers. Fred Shinton, having scored 46 goals in 64 league games for the Black Country club, moved to Fosse in November 1907 in part-exchange for Fosse’s less prolific striker, Harry Wilcox.

Fred scored on his Leicester debut and his 10 goals in 24 games secured promotion to the old First Division for the first time in his new club’s history.

Fosse’s stay in the top flight only lasted for one season, but in a struggling side he averaged a goal every two games. The following season, he went on to become the league’s joint top scorer when his 32 league goals in 38 games set a Club record. A highlight that season was a five minute hat-trick against Oldham Athletic in November 1909. This was one of four hat-tricks he scored that season.

At the end of the season, Shinton moved to newly-relegated Bolton Wanderers for a £1,000 fee, having set a Leicester Fosse record by scoring 54 goals in his 85 appearances. Five months later, he was back at Filbert Street for the remainder of the season, scoring a further five goals in 14 matches.

He wasn’t offered a new contract at the end of the season, so he re-joined Wednesbury Old Athletic in June 1911. His league career was over, only one season after being the country’s leading goalscorer.

Ill health was probably a factor in this decline. Team photographs seem to indicate that he was losing weight. In October 1922, when he was suffering from tuberculosis, a benefit match between Leicester City and West Bromwich Albion was arranged for him, his wife and his six children.

Sadly, Fred died six months later, aged only 39.
As home football returns tonight to the lives of our Leicester City family, we’re aware it is not as we know it. There will be one thing important missing...you, our supporters.

You can and do make the difference, and you still can with our Leicester City supporter pack that you will have received this week, so pin up your flag and bang your clapper, wherever you are in the world. You will know that all the players are raring to go to finish this season on a high.

Stay safe and cheer the Foxes on from home.

**Filbert Takes On Vardy**

Our very own Filbert Fox took on super striker Jamie Vardy recently in a virtual penalty shoot-out! Filbert gave as good as he got with some cool finishes but unfortunately for him he couldn’t get the better of the Premier League’s leading goalscorer. To watch all the action from this battle of our favourite Foxes, click the image below.

**TikTok Fun for Filbert**

How do you decide which Leicester City kit to wear? Filbert Fox kept himself busy whilst at home and came up with a fun way to decide which one he prefers by doing a TikTok video on the Club’s official TikTok page. Check it out.

**Tonight’s Digital Mascots**

- **Madison**
  - Favourite Player: James Maddison
  - Score Prediction: City 2 Brighton 1

- **Finn**
  - Favourite Player: Demarai Gray
  - Score Prediction: City 3 Brighton 0

- **Caden**
  - Favourite Player: Hamza Choudhury
  - Score Prediction: City 3 Brighton 1

Filbert’s workbooks weeks 1-10 now available online at LCFC.com >>
GAME CHANGER
A CHANNEL DEDICATED TO THE PREMIER LEAGUE

feel it all
## LCFC.com / 47

### 2019/20 PL 2019/20 FAC 2019/20 CC LCFC CAREER

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### MATCHWEEK 31

**TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2020**
- 18:00 Leicester City v Brighton & H.A.
- 20:15 Tottenham Hotspur v West Ham United

**WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2020**
- 18:00 Manchester United v Sheffield United
- 18:00 Newcastle United v Aston Villa
- 18:00 Norwich City v Everton
- 18:00 Wolves v Bournemouth
- 20:15 Liverpool v Crystal Palace

**THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2020**
- 18:00 Burnley v Watford
- 18:00 Southampton v Arsenal
- 20:15 Chelsea v Manchester City

### PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

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Premier League football returns to King Power Stadium tonight – but you won’t be able to join us for the first of at least five home matches to be behind closed doors this season.

Following Saturday’s 1-1 draw with Watford at Vicarage Road, today’s visit of Brighton & Hove Albion will be unlike any other game staged at Filbert Way before.

In the interests of safety, the Blue Army are asked to show their colours from home and not gather at King Power Stadium or any other stadia for Leicester City’s remaining fixtures.

The clash with the Seagulls will be broadcast live in the UK on Sky Sports Main Event (with crowd noise) and Sky Sports Premier League (ambient noise), starting at 5:30pm.

Meanwhile, City fans can also spend the evening in the company of Gerry Taggart, Steve Walsh and Tony Cottee on LCFC TV, using their smart TVs, tablets, smartphones or laptops.

City On The Sofa is a new-look offering from the Club’s official online TV channel with over an hour of pre-match content tailored for the Blue Army, available on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube from 5pm, and staying on air right up until full-time and beyond.

As usual, the LCFC.com Match Centre will be your hub for rolling news throughout the day, while also housing live - and free - coverage of the game itself courtesy of LCFC Radio.

Former Foxes captain Matt Elliott will be on commentary duties for the clash at King Power Stadium, with the coverage beginning at approximately 5:50pm later tonight.

LCFC.com is also your place for official Foxes news, with pre-match articles and features set to be followed by a full match round-up and reaction from the Foxes camp at full-time.

Two hours after Leicester’s 31st match of 2019/20 is complete, meanwhile, two minutes of highlights will be available on LCFC.com, before full highlights are added at midnight.

The Club’s official social media feeds will give you a behind-the-curtain glimpse of the day’s proceedings, alongside a more relaxed running commentary of the game itself.

Across the @LCFC channels, Foxes supporters will additionally enjoy a virtual recreation of King Power Stadium’s matchday entertainment in the build-up to kick-off at 6pm.

Support your club. Stay safe. Follow at home.

All times BST.

For international broadcast information, please click here.