OUR YEAR
2014/2015

OUR YEAR AS A COMMITTEE

Welcome to the first annual review of the Proud Lilywhites. Since our EGM last March we are pleased to announce that we have reached a milestone in terms of membership with our 150th member. This is exactly double the number of members we had last year. We hope you will agree that this is a tremendous achievement in our inaugural season of activities.

Throughout the season we have worked collaboratively as a committee and have been first and foremost a group leading the way with an inclusive and truly diverse approach. Paramount has been the importance of gender parity and that's why we are proud to be the first LGBT fan group to have Co-Chairs of different genders. We want to make this a continuing priority and have a much more open and lexible way of working, encouraging a range of diverse people to join in our activities. We know we need to work harder in responding to the needs of Trans supporters.

At the beginning of the season we surveyed our members to find out what they wanted us to do. This in turn formed our plans for the year. We planned to be a prominent voice campaigning for safe, secure and visible presence for the club's LGBT fan base. We also wanted the Proud Lilywhites to be a place for friendships to foster and socialise. And finally, we wanted to work in alliance with the club, the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation and other partners to educate, inform and campaign on LGBT issues.

We are proud to have more than 2400 Twitter followers; 470 Facebook 'likes', have featured in four full length articles in national newspapers and on television. Above all our flag flies proudly at White Hart Lane; a real and visible presence of our strength and solidarity with the club and its supporters.

We have played a core role in the growth of *#PrideinFootball*, the alliance of LGBT fan groups in the UK and the club's Executive Director, Donna Maria-Cullen gave the key note address at the national conference.

Most importantly the group is nothing without its members, so thank you for your support over the past year. If you haven't had the chance to make it to an event yet then we hope that by reading our review it will inspire you to come along to one of our events next season.

So sit back and read about our pioneering approach and spread the word:

Come on you Spurs!

Chris and Darryl, Co-Chairs

"It has been a real honour to be Patron of the Proud Lilywhites for the past season. To be involved with the mighty Spurs has been a real thrill, but when Chris and Darryl invited me to join the team, it was the chance to be a part of positive change which grabbed my attention. This was something I couldn't pass up because any form of discrimination is unacceptable, and everyone has the right to enjoy football, or any sport in whichever capacity they choose. The work the Proud Lilywhites do is fundamental in this fight as a champion of inclusion and diversity, and I'm extremely proud to be part of the pursuit of such an important goal."

M. Richardson-Walsh

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

2 APPEARANCE ON TV

NATIONAL NEWS ARTICLES

4 PLAYERS WEARING RAINBOW LACES

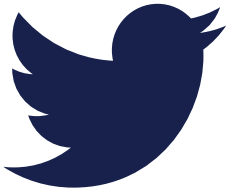
4 SPURS WEBSITE ARTICLES (FORMATION, LAUNCH, FARE, SEASON OF ACTION)

150 MEMBERS

70 ATTENDEES AT OUR FIRST EVENT

2,000 PROUD LILYWHITES SWEETS DISTRIBUTED BEFORE THE NLD

{ 5 SPURS PROGRAMME FEATURES (LAUNCH, FARE, MEMBERSHIP, SEASON OF ACTION) }



70,000 SOCIAL MEDIA REACH PER RT OR ORIGINATED TWEET FROM SPURS OFFICIAL (MORE THAN 5 SO FAR)

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING

OUR YEAR WITH SPURS

As one of only three official Tottenham Hotspur Supporters Associations, it's important to maintain a strong and productive relationship with the Club. We have worked with the Club all season and they have been supportive of all our work, from flying our flag White Hart Lane, to building our social media presence to campaigning around the Brighton game to giving us a venue for our FARE Q&A event: "Challenging discrimination, promoting diversity".

Our panel members included Troy Townsend, Education and Development Manager, Kick It Out (and Andros's dad!); Jo Tongue, Exec Producer of 606 on 5Live; Patron Helen Richardson-Walsh and our Darryl Telles.

Working so closely with the Club is important for us in terms of where we sit in the Spurs football family—we are a legitimate and important member and the Club's endorsement, whether it's by featuring us in the programme on the website, or working with us to further the pioneering nature of Spurs as a leader in this field.

We have also worked with the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation in delivering anti-discrimination training to their Foundation degree students who will be the sports coaches of the future.

Our flag on Match of The Day

See overleaf: degree students at the end of our workshop →

FANS FOR DIVERSITY
FOOTBALL V HOMOPHOBIA
FOOTBALL FOR EVERY
FOOTBALL V HOMOPHOBIA
FOOTBALL FOR EVERYONE

OUR DAY AT THE THFC SUPPORTERS' CLUB AWARDS 14/15 BY CLIFF GRUNDY

Sarah and I were the two lucky ones drawn to represent the Proud Lilywhites at the Annual Supporters Club Awards at the Spurs Training Centre on May 15th.

On meeting up with Sarah and the other Supporters Club members - about 60 of us in total - at the centre we were immediately impressed not only with the amazing facilities available, but by the worldwide breadth of Supports Clubs - India/Thailand/Russia/USA/ Malaysia.

The Proud Lilywhites were one of the few that represented a non-geographical group - but we seemed to be the centre of attention - well we do have the best flag!

We were all interviewed for Spurs TV, Sarah and I made sure our voices were heard and proudly represented and individual Club photos were also taken before we headed into a screening room to 'watch films from supporters' clubs around the world.

To our great surprise Ledley King was welcomed into the room. A legend in our presence! Ledley talked though this new role, and happily took questions from the audience.

Following this the lottery was drawn for some amazing prizes - including the selection of who would present the Player of the Year and Goal of the Season awards. The day got even better for me when I won what I think was the best prize - a 2015 shirt signed by the whole team! I received my award from Ledley (I can call him Ledley now!) and couldn't have been more thrilled.

The day culminated as the awards for Player and Goal of the Season were presented - to Harry Kane and Erik Lamela respectively. They both arrived from training to collect their awards and the room went mad! Both players posed with us all for photos and couldn't have been more available and friendly. The Club took a big group photo and our flag was front and centre.

It was a brilliant day - thanks to the Proud Lilywhites team, the amazing Spurs staff and of course to the Spurs team for making everlasting memories!

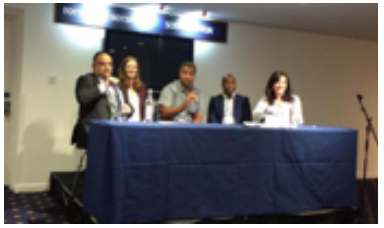
OUR YEAR OF RAISING AWARENESS

In our start of season survey, our members told us that campaigning was important; and it is. We have done lots this season, here's a flavour of it:

We marched at Pride

We lobbied for our players to wear Rainbow Laces and 4 of them did. Harry Kane, Erik Lamela, Brad Friedel and Federico Fazio

We received some funding from FARE to run a Question Time style Q&A as part of the FARE 'football people' fortnight of Action



We issued an important statement ahead of our Capital One Cup game against Brighton: and our work with the club and police worked out with not one arrest or incident of homophobic chanting.

During the Football V Homophobia month of action and as part of the Kick it Out Season of Action we ran a hat-trick of events: a pub quiz and 5-a-side game against the Gay Gooners, refereed by Steffen Freund (see overleaf), and a stall on the day of the of the North London Derby (see overleaf) promoting the work of Football v Homophobia, Kick it Out and Proud Lilywhites. The first two Proud Lilywhites won convincingly and the third we left for the boys to seal the deal!

5-a-side game against the Gay Gooners, refereed by Steffen Freund

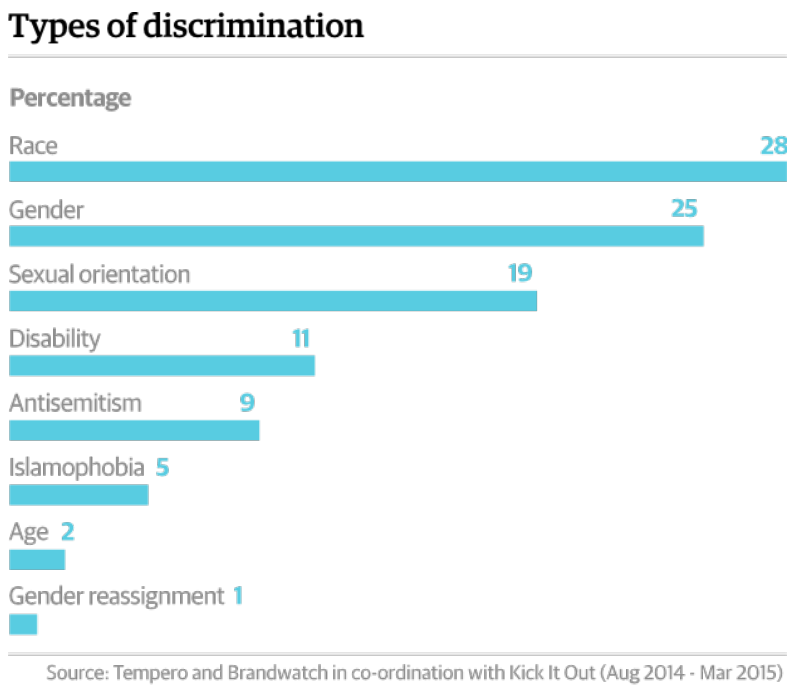
A stall on the day of the of the North London Derby

OUR YEAR OF RAISING AWARENESS - CONT'D

We took part in the Fans for Diversity discussion "a woman's place is at the match"

We attended the FSF 'share the wealth' lobby to speak out for fair shares of the TV revenue money

We spoke out against football related hate crime on social media in conjunction with Kick It Out and appeared on the BBC and Sky Sports news talking about findings from the Kick It Out investigation into discrimination on social media.



OUR YEAR OF FUN

In our start of season survey our members also told us that having fun together and meeting 'Spurs fans like me' was an important part of being a Proud Lilywhite, so we:

Arranged a world-cup get together where we watched our 3 Belgian players and unveiled our flag for the first time:

Hosted a pub quiz as a pre-cursor to the North London Derby. There were 5 teams involved but the real competition was between us and the Gay Gooners—we won by a considerable distance! (50-35)

Went to see Spurs play away at Fiorentina and through our friends at FARE met the local LGBT Sports group BUGS Bologna.

Arranged a pre-Cup Final lunch—if only the players had eaten the chicken soup we did—it may have helped!

Got together with all the other LGBT fan groups and other friends and allies we have made this season to watch the Eurovision song contest at our new favourite pub The Beehive (just off Tottenham High Road)

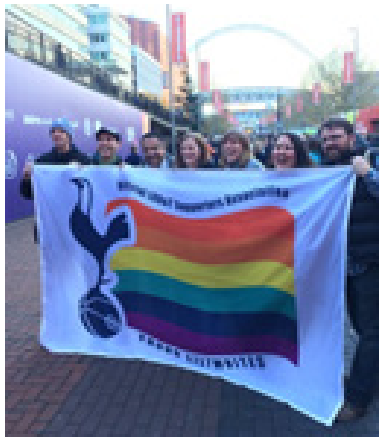
OUR YEAR IN PARTNERSHIP

We took a decision early on in the season that if we worked with other organisations who complimented or could add to our mission we could only be stronger. We have built great alliances with organisations including Football V Homophobia, Kick It Out, the Football Supporters Federation, Women in Football, the PFA.

Working with other organisations is critical for further campaigning and growing alliances and we have been integral in the formation of #PrideinFootball, the alliance of LGBT Fan Groups in the UK.

#PrideinFootball was launched in November 2014 with a trip to watch England play at Wembley for all the fan groups and a conference that was addressed by Tottenham Hotspur's Director, Donna-Maria Cullen. She gave the key note address and made us very proud.

Pride in Football at Wembley



Pride in Football at Wembley

Pride in Football at Wembley

Donna-Maria Cullen addresses the Pride in Football conference

OUR YEAR IN PARTNERSHIP - CONT'D

We also worked closely with FvH for the Fans V Homophobia conference in February 15 where we also met Thomas Hitzslperger. (He liked our sweets!)

We have also supported 'Wonderkid Film' to get together the funding needed to make the film about the inner turmoil of a young unnamed gay footballer as he comes to terms with his own identity. www.youtube.com/watch

And finally, we have a close alliance with our local gay football team the London Romans, who socialise in Wood Green.

OUR YEAR IN THE MEDIA

We also decided that raising the profile of Proud Lilywhites was an important objective. We want the world to know that Spurs is proud of its diverse fan base and that anyone is welcome at White Heart Lane regardless of their sexuality or gender identity. We are also at the forefront of the fight against LGBTphobia in football and wanted to ensure that the voice of LGBT fans is heard.

We have appeared on podcasts, in the press and on TV.

Echoes of Glory Podcasts:

- Shoutout to Mr Latchford
- Proud Lilywhites vs Gay Gooners
- Sleep Well Captain
- Celebrating Women Everywhere

Grassroots to Premier League with Troy Townsend

The Hot Seat profiles on our website:

- Emily Macaulay
- Angela McGloin
- Fraser Connell

Feature in Stonewall campaign

Mention on the Independent Rainbow List

Powerful Partnerships

Guardian: *Gay football fan groups take the lead on equal rights on the terraces and pitch*

Guardian: *Proud Lilywhites and Gay Gooners fly (rainbow) flag for LGBT football fans*

Independent: *Homophobia remains a depressingly persistent feature of football*

Ham and High

Various blogs and online articles:

- haringeyindependent.co.uk
- thefightingcock.co.uk
- tottenhamjournal.co.uk
- dreamdeferred.org.uk
- thepremierleagueowl.com
- london24.com
- hotspurhq.com

When Saturday Comes

Rainbow nation

BRITISH DEFENDER SKILLS CHECKLIST

NEXT YEAR

We have just concluded our end of year survey and the preliminary results will be ready for our new committee and announced before next season.

All in all it has been a great year for Proud Lilywhites and we have no doubt we will continue to go from strength to strength. There is no room for complacency as we continue to strive to make the club the most LGBT friendly football venue in the world. Our work with the Tottenham Hotspur Supporters Trust and the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation will inevitably be an important part in ensuring that we meet this objective.

We will also play a crucial role in building the capacity of LGBT fan groups throughout football by being a leading member of the fledgling alliance *#PrideinFootball*.

If you want to be part of this exciting venture then there are three things you can do:

like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ProudLilywhites

follow us on Twitter @SpursLGBT

become a Proud Lilywhites member (go to 'Join' at www.proudlilywhites.uk) and encourage other LGBT Spurs fans to do the same

donate to our funds enabling us to carry on our work https://proudlilywhites.wordpress.com/home/donations/