



**OUR YEAR**  
**2017 / 2018**

# OUR YEAR AS A COMMITTEE

Welcome to the fourth annual review of the Proud Lilywhites.

Once again it has been brilliant to be a Spurs fan, and as always we've been right at the heart of it.

Spending a season away from home was always going to be different, but we wanted to use it as an opportunity to include more members given the increased capacity at Wembley.

It's hard to believe that we are four years old, and one of the longest running LGBT+ Supporters groups in the UK (and possibly the world).

We have continued to be a prominent voice ensuring our members can be safe and secure at Spurs games and be a visible presence for the club's LGBT+ fan base.

We have also continued to reach out across the Spurs fan network and made new friends at Punjabi Spurs and the THST.

As always we'll continue ensure that educating, informing and campaigning on LGBT+ issues as the heart of what we do.

## Our year in numbers:

- nearly **5000** Twitter followers – and additional 1000 since last year
- **779** Facebook 'likes' (+79)
- **3** media appearances
- **8** panel appearances
- **1** Rainbow Laces after party with Proud Baggies!
- **1** joint 1<sup>st</sup> team photo with our flag
- **1** film by 90min.com – our goodbye to White Hart Lane
- **1** nomination for the Fans for Diversity awards
- **1** Rainbow Laces ident for Sky Sports!
- More than **250,000** impressions on our statement on the signing of Serge Aurier

Most importantly, the group is nothing without its members, so thank you for all your support and involvement 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 too.

***Come on you Spurs!***  
Chris and Simon, Co-Chairs



# FROM OUR PATRON

Once again it's been an honour to be the Patron of the Proud Lilywhites, and as we reflect on the past year there has been much to rejoice in many areas, but as always, still lots to do as we look ahead.

It was great to be able to watch live, both the men's and women's team this season, both impressing me greatly with typical Spurs' performances! A solid start for the women in their Super League debut will I'm sure, give a good foundation from which to build. Increased support from the FA into women's and girl's football, along with firmer stipulations around professionalism on Women's Super League Clubs, will make the women's game an irresistible area for investment, and I'm excited to see how Spurs 'Ladies' will develop over the next few seasons.

The men's team were once again a joy to watch, and a third successive season in the Champions League is testament to a much needed development in consistency. Looking ahead to the summer, I of course wish all 12 Spurs' players the best of luck on the field at the World Cup. I also hope however, that all our supporters, regardless of who they are and how they identify, can travel safely, find solidarity amongst the Russian LGBT+ community, and that both FIFA and the Organising Committee make sure any acts of homophobia are addressed with firmness and authority.

Two success stories of note have to be the new LGBT+ Co-Ordinator role at the Spurs Foundation and the Rainbow Laces campaign in association with Stonewall. The latter felt bigger than ever this year, and it was fantastic to see our leading players don their rainbow laces, along with Lloris and Schillaci sporting their rainbow captain's armbands.



I was also pleased to see the coming together of both Spurs teams and the Proud Lilywhites at Hotspur Way; showing solidarity in support of this campaign that continues to fight for genuine inclusion within football is incredibly important.

The new LGBT+ Co-Ordinator role at the THFC Foundation, leading on outreach and support within the LGBT+ community, and education around best practice for employers is a promising development, especially as the role will not only work closely with ourselves, but also Tottenham Hotspurs FC.

This, alongside the continuation of great work by the likes of Pride in Football, Kick It Out and Stonewall, really has the potential to change the game. Let us not forget however that the end goal is to not need any of this activity, and we will continue to strive to change attitudes, to create an environment where we're all accepted for who we are, within the sport we all love.



# MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

This year was my first year as a member of Proud Lilywhites and with the help and support of the group I attended more matches this season than I ever have before! The work that the group does to make football more inclusive and a safe space for LGBT+ supporters really has made a difference to my matchday experience - from pre-match meet ups, to regular emails and group discussions about match day events.

There have been incidents of homophobia I have experienced in football throughout my life which has made me nervous and cautious with attending big matches, but the steps put in place by the group really have helped me feel confident that any issues would be dealt with appropriately and timely, and that more LGBT+ supporters are being accepted and equally treated in football.

I myself received homophobic abuse during a match day this season but with the Text Message set up to report this, it was swiftly dealt with. I feel that as a whole both Tottenham Hotspur and the Premier League are helping fans feel more included and protected on matchdays, but this is mostly down to the hard work that the Proud Lilywhites have done to put these actions in place and get the ball rolling.

My confidence in visiting football matches is growing all the time, and I'm very thankful to be part of such a wonderful fan group. #COYS #ProudLilywhites

**Lee Johnson**



At the end of last year I joined the Proud Lilywhites. I wanted to be part of a group which would allow me to meet up with fellow Spurs supporters who had the same passion and love for the same team.

I was raised in a family with no other Tottenham blood so I thought what better way to experience matches than with a group that also shares a common interest.

I came out nearly two years ago and struggled with accepting who I was but with the support of my family, friends and this group I have grown stronger each day.

The LGBT inclusivity makes me feel comfortable and I look forward to experiencing more moments like the ones I have in the past 6 months.

**James Malleson**



# OUR YEAR CAMPAIGNING

Here's just a taster of all the great things we've done this year to raise awareness of LGBT+ Spurs fans.



Pride in London

 Proud Lilywhites  
@SpursLGBT

It's International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia 🏳️‍🌈 We're proud to be part of the #Spurs family, working with @SpursOfficial and @SpursFoundation to ensure #LGBT+ Spurs fans are represented & always feel safe and welcome #COYS #TogetherTHFC #IDAHOBIT18



10:00 AM - 17 May 2018



KIO panel on equality in football at Brighton & Hove

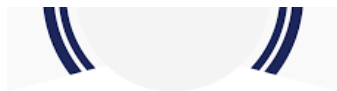
[Shortlisted for Football Supporters Federation Fans for Diversity award](#)



Fare Football People activation at Hotspur Way



# OUR YEAR CAMPAIGNING



**RULE THE ROOST**  
A Tottenham Hotspur Podcast

[Rule the Roost Podcast](#)



Rainbow social media avatars



[BBC Sport - Homophobia in football: How LGBT fans' groups are changing opinions on terraces](#)



[Football 365.com - Proud Lilywhites: Proud of Tottenham, proud of progress](#)



[90min.com: Why football should be for everyone](#)

Our [tweet](#) on the signing of Serge Aurier reached almost 265,000 viewers and the statement almost 24,000 viewers.



A historic photo with both the mens and womens 1<sup>st</sup> team at Hotspur Way for Rainbow Laces.



Giving evidence to the APPG for football



# OUR YEAR CAMPAIGNING



LGBTHM round up in programme



With the Spurs Women's 1st team



On the ticker at Wembley

The new TV Ident for @SkySportsPL channel is fabulous! (Even though I'm in it!) It features @gaygooners @CanalStBlues @LFC\_LGBT @SpursLGBT @Learsenal14 @designbyTBC Thank you @SkySports #ArsenalForEveryone @stonewalluk #RainbowLaces @prideinfootball



12:57 PM - 25 Nov 2017

[Sky Sports Rainbow Laces Ident featuring Proud Lilywhites](#)



# OUR YEAR OF FUN

As well as arranging meet ups before home games we have also been on the road for Champions League games and met with other Spurs fan groups both home and abroad.



With Pride in Football at England



...at the THST Pub Quiz Night



At Wembley for the final game of the season



In Turin & Dortmund

Proud Lilywhites - Annual Report 2016/2017



.... With India Spurs for FvH



...and with our wonderful Patron



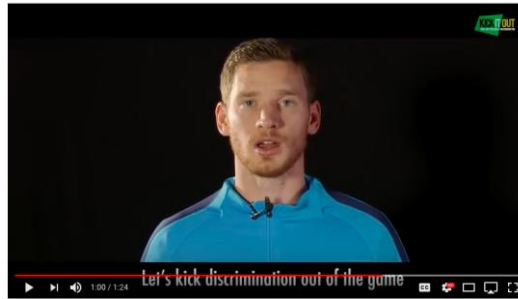


# OUR YEAR IN FOOTBALL

Once again we have continued to enhance our relationships with valued external stakeholders in football. These include Kick It Out, the FA, the Football Supporters Federation and Fans for Diversity. Through out the year we have joined events to discuss not only LGBT+ issues, but also women and BAME people in football.



Kick it Out 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary launch



Jan appears in the KIO anti-LGBT+phobia film.



Kick it Out Raise Your Game Mentoring



Launch of Women in Football WhatIf? Campaign



LGBTHM Reception at the FA



Thanks to @kickitout for inviting us to the important #RYGDebate about the challenges of being a BAME coach (or player) in the UK. Lots to do, but there's a growing movement of will #RYG18



10:45 PM - 19 Feb 2018



# OUR YEAR IN THE COMMUNITY

This year we have also built a relationship with Jackson's Lane Creative and Cultural Hub and are part of a newly formed Haringey LGBT+ Network. We have also created a new connection with Highgate School and the London Academy of Excellence in Tottenham.



Jackson's Lane Broadway Brunch with Spurs Foundation



Highgate School lunchtime event



Stall at LGBTHM Haringey Council event



# NEXT YEAR

As we look ahead to the next season we hope to be able to build on what we have achieved over the past three years.

We are excited about the future of our team, our club and our growing supporters group.

