

UNITY

THE FOOTBALL UNITES, RACISM DIVIDES NEWSLETTER 2013

INSIDE: WELCOME
U-MIX OPENS ITS DOORS

MINDS OVER FOOTBALL

THE ARTHUR WHARTON
HERITAGE PROJECT

POSITIVE FUTURES

SOUND KICKERS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FOOTBALL -
A SHARED SENSE OF BELONGING?

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP
2012 POLAND & UKRAINE

**RESOURCES AND
INFORMATION**



FURD
U-Mix Centre
17 Asline Road
Sheffield S24UJ
Tel: 2589601/2587787
enquiries@furd.org
www.furd.org



WELCOME

to the 2013 edition of 'Unity', FURD's newsletter

'Football Unites Racism Divides' is a youth and social inclusion project and charity based in Sheffield which works locally, nationally and internationally to combat racism and increase understanding between different communities.

It has been a year of exciting developments for FURD with two big changes. Howard Holmes has stepped down as the project coordinator after fifteen years of service. Mehrun Ahmed and Simon Hyacinth stepped up to the role of managing the organisation and continue with Howard's legacy. After over a decade of tirelessly working to get a new base for FURD, we have recently moved to our new home the 'U-Mix' Centre, a purpose built state of the art youth facility. Read about the U-Mix Centre further in this newsletter.

This past year has seen the v24 /24 youth volunteering scheme fully underway, working with the most disadvantaged young people to equip them with the skills to go back into education, employment and training. The v24/24 programme is nearing completion with a number of positive outcomes that have come about, which includes two participants on the programme becoming youth trustees with FURD.

We have worked closely with a professional film maker to produce a short film promoting FURD's work; this was funded by the Media Trust as part of the 'Untold Stories' series. It can be viewed at www.youtube.com/furdengland.

Finally FURD has been successful in gaining grant funding from Children In Need to continue with FURD's coaching programme, and another exciting development is the Digital Media Centre, based at the U-Mix Centre, that works with young people to develop their music and film making skills.



Paul Blomfield MP with FURD Joint Coordinators
Simon Hyacinth and Mehrun Ahmed

U-MIX

CENTRE OFFICIALLY OPENS ITS DOORS



Well over 10 years ago FURD became involved in what was then called the Porter Project, this evolved over the years and in 2012 the project became a reality with the development of the U-Mix Centre on Asline Road. FURD relocated from the Stables to the U-Mix Centre in August 2012, and have taken on the management of the building, on behalf of Sheffield City Council. The Centre came about after lots of hard work and dedication from FURD staff and a number of partner organisations. Funding was gained through the government's My Place initiative through the Big Lottery, The Football Foundation and Sheffield City Council. This enabled building work to begin in 2011, with the building being completed in June 2012.

FURD are very excited to be managing the U-Mix centre as it brings so many opportunities to the local and wider community. U-Mix has the ability to offer a wide range of facilities which include, a Digital Media Centre, a Training and Performance Room, Positive Activities Room, a fully working Kitchen with seating area, a corporate style Meeting Room, our Resources Library, a Dance Studio with a spring loaded floor, a Fitness Suite, a Recording Studio, and our new 3G pitches with changing rooms.

FURD have started to deliver a number of exciting programmes from U-Mix and work is currently under way to develop more. Our current sessions include youth clubs, junior football, Minds Over Football, and Zumba as well as yoga and Karate. In addition to this our Unity League and Music Workshops will be starting very soon, a number of partner organisations are also running a variety of programmes ranging from girls only sessions, to confidence courses for adults. U-Mix is a youth and community venue and FURD are working hard to ensure that the range of activities on offer here at U-Mix meets the needs of the communities it serves, in addition the venue and its facilities are also available for hire at very competitive prices, money raised from the hire of U-Mix and its facilities goes towards the running costs, and back into the community through our delivery programmes.

If you are interested in getting involved in what's going on here at U-Mix, or if you are interested in volunteering, or running activities from the centre, then there are a number of ways you can contact us.

Call in to see us, phone us on 0114 2589601
or email info@u-mix-centre.org.

A website is currently under development
- www.u-mix-centre.org.

Meanwhile, follow us at twitter.com/UMixSheffield
or facebook.com/pages/U-Mix-Centre-Sheffield/455325404520171.

www.u-mix-centre.org



U-mix

MINDS OVER FOOTBALL

'Minds Over Football' is specifically targeted at people who have or who are currently experiencing mental health issues. The initiative has been running for a number of years through Activity Sheffield at both Goals and Concorde. The sessions are open access and offer adults an opportunity to have a go at football, develop their skills and meet new people.

FURD is proud to announce that on Thursdays, Minds Over Football sessions are now being delivered at the U-Mix Centre. The session runs from 11.30am to 12.30pm and regularly attracts over 20 participants, with a total membership of over 50 people. To enable relationships to be developed between FURD staff and participants, the sessions were first run by Activity Sheffield with support from FURD. Now, FURD has now taken on full responsibility for delivering the sessions, although close links with Activity Sheffield will be maintained, as they continue to deliver 'Minds Over Football' at Concorde sports centre.

Every quarter, FURD holds a tournament to promote community cohesion by inviting teams from the local community, including refugees and asylum-seekers, to compete with 'Minds Over Football' participants in a safe and friendly environment.



RESOURCES...

One of the benefits of the move to the U-Mix Centre is that FURD's Resources and Information Centre now has its own dedicated and more accessible space. The Centre aims to promote FURD's work and provide educational resources about sport, equality and community relations in both physical and virtual formats. Its services include:

- **Website** – www.furd.org - providing information about FURD's work and about racism in football and associated topics
- **Enquiry service** – if you can't find out what you need from our website, get in touch and we'll try to help
- **Lending library** open to the public including films, books, magazines and research. Search the catalogue on our website or ask us for advice. FURD held its first film festival in October 2012 to help promote some of the hidden gems in our library
- **Free anti-racist materials** such as posters, stickers and magazines whenever possible
- **News about FURD**: Join our e-mail list at www.furd.org and click on the 'subscribe' link. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/furdday or tell us what you think on our Facebook page at 'Football Unites, Racism Divides'. Watch FURD-related films at www.youtube.com/furdengland
- **The Arthur Wharton Archive** which is collating material such as artwork produced as part of the Arthur Wharton Heritage Project along with historical material uncovered by the research element of the Wharton project
- **Exhibitions which can be borrowed by other organisations:**
Refugee Footballers in Britain, Arthur Wharton, South African Footballers in Britain, 1001 Muslim Inventions, World War 1 and 2 Commonwealth Victoria Cross holders, Pioneers, Past Masters and Future Challenges, History of Black Footballers



Poet Jackie Kay
MBE performing
in the FURD library

Any questions?

Ask Ruth Johnson, FURD Resources and Information Worker

THE ARTHUR WHARTON HERITAGE PROJECT

poetry workshop



The Arthur Wharton Heritage Project has been made possible through a £117,600 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and a donation from the Professional Footballers' Association.



The story of Arthur Wharton, the world's first black professional footballer and first man to be officially clocked at 10 seconds dead – even time – for the 100 yards, is being explored and celebrated through FURD's Arthur Wharton Heritage Project (AWHP).

Since 2011, a team of FURD staff and specialist workers have been working with schools and youth groups in South Yorkshire, using art, poetry and drama. The results have been stunning, and it has proved the relevance of Arthur's story to young people today.

A documentary film, 'The Arthur Wharton Story', directed by Jenson Grant and starring Johnny Pitts ('Raw' and 'Escape from Scorpion Island') was premiered as part of FURD's Black History Month/One Game One Community Action Week programme on 28th October 2012 in front of a packed house at the Void Cinema, Sheffield. The film, together with footage shot by young film-maker Rory Gault of the work in schools, will be available by summer 2013 as part of a comprehensive teacher's pack.

Meanwhile a team of researchers have been busy piecing together the missing fragments of Arthur's story, with each researcher selecting a particular area of Arthur's life to delve into.

Howard Holmes

The granddaughter of Arthur Wharton, the world's first black professional footballer, has travelled to Accra, West Africa to meet her relatives in Ghana and FURD'S Arthur Wharton Heritage Project manager, Lisa Sultanti had the privilege of accompanying Sheila Leeson, her daughter Dorothy, Shaun Campbell of the Arthur Wharton foundation and the BBC on this journey...

The trip was an absolute success and FURD was able to establish links in order to share the story of Arthur's accomplishments with government bodies, footballing authorities like the Ghana FA, young people and all of Ghana.

The days were absolutely packed of activities. On arrival, we were whisked off to visit the British High Commissioner at his residence. Mr Peter Jones was delighted to meet us and was in agreement that the story should have an international focus.

After a rested night, we went to meet the chief of GA and the minister of Information. The chief had whole heartedly welcomed us to Accra and blessed the intention of our trip. A gentleman, in his early 90's, also of great sporting prowess spoke of how important it was for the youth of Ghana to be involved in sport.

The minister of information spoke highly of Arthur's contributions and was keen to have more resources developed to aid the telling of Arthur's story. FURD will be sending on information and resources to the minister and the schools...

Following the meeting of the chief we met Arthur's relatives who were very keen to meet Sheila as they were always interested in the families that left Ghana to settle in other countries. They referred to it as the "returning home" of their "sister."

The next day we embarked on our visit to the boarding school that Arthur attended until the age of 10, Mfantshipim School. The prefect we met stated that the knowledge of Arthur's legacy was inspirational to him and that the boys in the school would thoroughly benefit from knowing that the world's first black footballer attended their school, a school that had other world renowned figures like Kofi Annan.

LISA SULTANTI'S TRIP TO GHANA



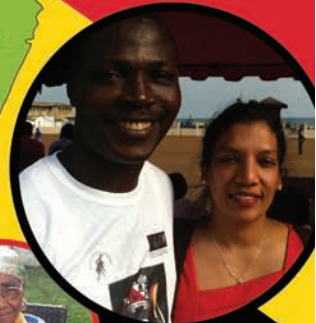
Following the visit to the school we went on to meet Nii Odartey Lamptey, a former Ghanaian professional footballer. During his career he played as a striker from 1990 until 2008 notably for Aston Villa, PSV Eindhoven, Coventry City and the Ghana national football team. Nii Lamptey has built a school of soccer and a school of education where he believes in providing young people with opportunities to progress in life. He was aware of Arthur and spoke frankly about his experiences of racism and why there was a need for more work done by organisations like FURD.

Our final eventful day, 28th October, 2012 was spent in Jamestown in front of the Mantse Palace, a tournament organised by PLAY and the Arthur Wharton Foundation, supported by FURD. The tournament players were local young people who were extremely passionate about the game of football and very appreciative of the event. The 28th October is also the birth date of Arthur and the organisations that we met in Ghana have proposed that this date be the Arthur Wharton's Memorial Day.

For Sheila and her daughter Dorothy, the journey was incredibly amazing and she has already planned her return journey with several other members of her family. For FURD, it was great to know that the last 16 years of dedication to raising awareness about Arthur's contributions to society, was only the beginning...

"The trip to Ghana showed how important it is to continue working with young people to raise awareness about racism and its effects as such a legend's story is only now being told."

(Lisa Sultanti)



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In October 2012, FURD hosted their first ever Film Festival to celebrate Black History Month. The three film festival featured Zanzibar Soccer Queens which was screened at FURD's new home the U-Mix Centre, Africa United which was shown at The Showroom and the Premiere of The Arthur Wharton documentary at The Void. The films are available from our resources library so please call our resource manager Ruth on 0114 2587787 to book them out.



Islamic Exhibition

FURD also showcased an educational Exhibition on the contributions Muslims and Islam have made to British society. The Exhibitions, 1001 Muslim Inventions and the World War 1 & 2 Victoria Cross Recipients highlighted the telling contributions Muslims have made throughout history and tackled various stereotypes such as 'the right to be here in Britain'. The Exhibitions have also been on display at the U-Mix Centre. If you would like to view the exhibition then please contact Asim or Abid on 0114 2589601. The Exhibition which comes with a presentation pack will be available to book for schools and organisations.



Event organisers Abid Rahim and Asim Shazad

A series of displays commemorated the contributions of Muslim explorers, academics and inventors to the fields of medicine, agriculture and astrology as well as the development of an intercontinental system of trade that forms the basis of contemporary commerce.

"Ever since the events of 9/11 and with the continuing war in Afghanistan British Muslims have faced intense scrutiny," explained Abid Rahim, one of the exhibition organisers.

"A question we often face is 'do we have a right to be here?', so we wanted to highlight the positive contributions Muslims have made to our country."

The displays documented the pioneering research into human biology of Ibn al-Nafis and the development of surgical instruments undertaken by al-Zahrawi, alongside the work on optics of Ibn al-Haytham.

The exhibition also detailed the early mapping systems and historical documentation carried out by explorers like al-Idrisi and Ibn Battuta.

A separate display and accompanying short film screening highlighted the often overlooked contribution of Muslim soldiers to the first and second world wars, listing numerous Muslim recipients of the Victoria Cross, the highest military decoration awarded by the British Empire.

"We chose to concentrate on this one specific aspect of a much wider contribution because of the contemporary parallels," continued Abid.

"All the faces you see on the news of soldiers killed in Afghanistan are white, but the highest casualty rates are experienced by Afghan and Pakistani forces also fighting the insurgents."

Ben Hastie, Postcode Gazette

FOOTBALL:

A shared sense of belonging?

The FURD research project exploring the role of football in the lives of new arrivals in Sheffield is approaching its conclusion. A final report showing the findings of the three year Big Lottery funded project will be released in mid 2013. The mid-project conference report is still available on the FURD website.

There have been various activities in the past year to promote the research and raise awareness around emerging issues. One such event was organised at Hinde House School with the help of Sheffield Hallam University students who were on a six week placement at FURD.

Emmet tells us about his experience:

"I was given the opportunity to deliver a 1 hour workshop to a group of year 8 students. The thought of working with school children seemed somewhat daunting at first due to my lack of experience, but the skills and confidence I developed at FURD helped me to overcome that."

"The aim of the workshop was to highlight the importance of cultural awareness with a focus on expelling myths surrounding refugees and asylum seekers. What made the workshop so enjoyable was the level of engagement and enthusiasm shown by the pupils."

"I have nothing but complete admiration for the workers at FURD. Their vast knowledge around youth engagement workshops helped me to do something I would normally find challenging. Although my placement has now finished, I find myself in a position where I am continuing to work with FURD in contributing to their excellent community projects."

In addition to the workshop, FURD's Ruth Johnson and Chris Stone have produced a nine panel Refugee Footballers exhibition that explores the lives of a number of professional footballers in Britain who come from refugee backgrounds. It can be hired from FURD or viewed on our website.

From September 2012 to March 2013, a volunteer manager, Tracy Litterick, was employed to engage refugees and asylum-seekers in the project. This has been very successful, with several sessions now running weekly at the U-Mix Centre for participants to play football, use the gym, music room and dance studio and to help them to feel more a part of the community. As a result of this, several refugees and asylum-seekers joined FURD staff and trustees at a civic reception at Sheffield Town Hall with Lord Mayor John Campbell in January 2013. Some participants have also taken part in FURD's awareness-raising work in schools by talking to school pupils about their experiences.

Chris Stone (Lead Researcher)

*All nations tournament
for refugees and
asylum seekers,
September 2012*

*Trying out the Mayoral
Chair in Sheffield
Council Chamber*



Sound KICKERS



Photos from
Tramlines
Music
Festival
2012

“ Sound Kickers has helped me develop as a guitar player, I'd never played a live gig before I came here and the support from people at the project gave me the confidence to do it ”

James Walsh, Guitarist from Thrash Metal band 'Screaming Ace' aged 17

“ Coming to the project has helped me develop personally and musically and as an artist I've met other musicians who've helped me bring the songs and soul I possess that God has given me to life ”

Paris Shay, R & B Singer aged 15

2012 saw the FURD Sound Kickers music project celebrating three years delivery of free weekly music activity for 11-18 year olds.

Young people who attend the project get the opportunity to develop their vocal, instrumental and music technology skills with the support of a team of experienced tutors and volunteers. Friendships have been made and bands formed by young people who have met at the project, from all areas of Sheffield and diverse cultural backgrounds. The Sound Kickers showcase has been a big hit for the past two years at the massive 'Tramlines' music festival with young people performing to big enthusiastic audiences on the main stage in Sheffield's Peace Gardens.

Pro-VERB came to the project as a young MC during its first year and made the transition into a volunteer two years later, Sound Kickers staff signposted him onto Sheffield's Red Tape Central college and FURD supported him as he began his BTEC level 3 national diploma. In September 2012 he graduated with a double star distinction and was awarded the student of the year prize, he is now a gigging MC songwriter and is working on music projects with young people.

Pro-VERB: “coming to the project inspired me to pick up and learn to play the guitar I'd had lying around for two years and guidance from the tutors and support from my peers has been paramount to my current state of artistry”

Mooney Sound Kickers project worker

POSITIVE FUTURES

FURD's Home Office funded Positive Futures (PF) programme has been running since 2005. During this time the programme has worked in a wide variety of ways with several thousand young people 10 to 19 years from very diverse backgrounds, and from around the city.



Positive Futures work to continue with a grant from the PCC!

The scheme has worked with young people aged 10-19 years that are thought to be 'at risk' in terms of being, or becoming, involved in; drug misuse, crime and anti-social behaviour. FURD/PF has provided a number of positive activities for young people to become involved in; which has often led to improved social and inter-personal skills, greater self-confidence, improved behaviour etc. For many young people it has also led to adopting lead roles with regards to running sessions, volunteering and in some cases employment.

'I've been involved in FURD/PF since it started; as a participant, volunteer and now I'm a paid youth worker on the project. PF has helped me a lot. (Adnan Ilyas FURD/PF youth worker).

In addition to providing extra resources to underpin and support much of FURD's core work e.g. football & football coaching sessions, tournaments, youth club sessions and holiday programmes, PF has also enabled the organisation to capacity-build and set up and support a number of teams that play in local leagues.

The FURD/PF programme has meant expanding the range of activities and opportunities we offer young people, e.g. dance, DJ projects and the Sound Kickers music project which has recently been relocated to the U-Mix centre.

'The end of Positive Futures will have a massive impact on FURD; the programme has been of huge benefit to us. It has enabled us to work with some of the most challenging young people in our communities and move them away from negative elements of society to more positive outcomes... it's unfortunate that this funding has now come to an end. The good news is that we have recently received £39K from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to continue and develop this work. The FURD/PF has delivered over the years as well as: developing new opportunities in sport and art; working with new client groups e.g. New Arrivals, Refugees and Asylum Seekers; tackling current 'hot' topics e.g. sexual exploitation.' Simon Hyacinth - FURD Joint Coordinator.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2012

Poland and Ukraine

FURD was invited to take part in the UEFA Respect Diversity strand during the Euro 2012 Championships in Poland and Ukraine. Two teams of volunteers were selected to go out. One team was designated to go to Poland and the other was designated to go to the Ukraine. The two teams consisted of experienced senior staff who had worked abroad before in previous European and World cup tournaments and young people with various skills such as conflict resolution, good communication and good organisation skills.

Prior to going out there was a fair bit of trepidation from the young people and their parents due to the BBC Panorama programme highlighting the danger posed by far right groups operating in Poland and Ukraine. One of our main objectives was to deliver the Streetkick game before the matches took place. Streetkick is an inflatable (5-a-side) mobile football game which is used as a tool to promote and encourage people to play from all backgrounds and nations together. Along with the Streetkick game we were also handing out anti-racist material in several European languages.

"I was part of the Poland team, our first destination was Warsaw. We were going to run the Streetkick for 7 days at the Warsaw fan camp. Our initial visit to the fan camp was not very positive as a majority of the people didn't seem friendly and didn't welcome us at all. However as we got into the second day of Streetkick everyone opened up and communication between everyone in the fan camp started to go well. In the days we were based at Warsaw a number of stereotypes were broken between our team and the eastern European community.

Our second destination was Krakow, we were only based here for four days. All of our expectations of Krakow were exceeded. The city was nothing like what we were expecting. And again the people who attended the Streetkick were very friendly and easy going.

Finally we headed off to Poznan for the final 2 days to our surprise the number of Irish fans here surprised me. The people here were extremely friendly and we were greeted with great hospitality, both at where we were residing and where we were holding the Streetkick activity in the fan camp.

In conclusion the thoughts and perception of Poland that I initially had were completely wrong as I made a number of friends and have a number of pleasant memories in Poland."

Young people that went out to Ukraine had very similar experiences to the Polish team, whilst they felt that people were not overly friendly they didn't come across any obvious forms of racism.

Sajaad Rauf (Youth Support worker)



Members from the team said...

"Warsaw is amazing I wasn't expecting nothing like this at all"

"One of the best experiences of my life, beyond my expectations"

"Nothing to what Panorama had made it out to be, I think they over exaggerated the whole situation"



Football Unites Racism Divides

STREETKICK

GAME

Football Unites Racism Divides (FURD) is a youth and social inclusion project based in Sheffield which works locally, nationally and internationally to combat racism and increase understanding between different communities.

Streetkick is FURD's mobile inflatable football game, you can use it anywhere.

- * Fun days
- * Community festivals
- * Sports days
- * Team building days
- * Diversity training days
- * Potential hotspot areas
- * Football events

**As seen
at 3 Euro
Finals and a
World Cup!**



*++ Two units available for hire from
as little as £193 per unit ++*

Alongside the Streetkick we engage with young people to reduce anti-social behaviour and to start dialogue to promote diversity and equality. Our staff are experienced football coaches, qualified youth workers as well as workers with conflict resolution skills.

For further details contact Football Unites Racism Divides
Tel: 0114 2589601/2587787 Email: adnan@furd.org
Website: www.furd.org

