

South African Footballers in Britain



by
Ruth Johnson,
Howard Holmes
and Phil Vasili

(Football Unites, Racism Divides)

South African Footballers in Britain

Contents	Page number
Chapter 1: Introduction	4
Chapter 2: Arthur Wharton	6
Chapter 3: Tours between South Africa and the UK, 1897-1958	9
Chapter 4: The Basuto tourists, 1899	11
Chapter 5: Football migration 1899-1939	
5.1. Introduction	13
5.2. Wilfred Waller, 1899	15
5.3. Alex Bell, 1902	16
5.4. Liverpool between the wars	
5.4.1. Gordon Hodgson, 1925	17
5.4.2. Berry Niewenhuys, 1933	18
Chapter 6: A post-war influx: 1945-1959	
6.1. Introduction	19
6.2. Charlton Athletic, 1945-1959	21
6.2.1. John Hewie, 1949, including Interview	23
6.2.2. Stuart Leary, 1950	25
6.2.3. Eddie Firmani, 1950, including Interview	26
6.3. Bill Perry, 1949 and Eddie Stuart, 1951	28
6.4. Arthur Lightening, 1956	29
Chapter 7: The Black pioneers	
7.1. Steve Mokone, 1956	30
7.2. David Julius, Darius Dhlomo and Gerry Francis, 1956	34
7.3. Albert Johanneson, 1961	36
Chapter 8: In the shadow of apartheid: 1960-1990	
8.1. Introduction	38
8.2. Colin Viljoen, 1967	40
8.3. South Africans in the USA:	42
8.3.1. Kaizer Motaung, 1968	42
8.3.2. Pule Ntsoelengoe, 1973	43
8.3.3. Jomo Sono, 1977	44
8.4. The apartheid exiles: Brian, Ed and Mark Stein, 1977	45
8.5. British players and managers in South Africa, 1960s-70s	47
Chapter 9: After apartheid: 1990-2009	
9.1. Introduction	49
9.2. Lucas Radebe, 1994, including interview	51
9.3. Quinton Fortune, 1999	56
9.4. Aaron Mokoena, 2005	58
9.5. Benni McCarthy, 2006	59
9.6. Steven Pienaar, 2007	62
9.7. Charlton's 21 st century South African links	63
9.8. Racism and anti-racism in British football	64
9.9. Feeder clubs and academies	68

Bibliography	70
Appendix 1: Timeline of South African football and emigration	74
Appendix 2: List of South African-born footballers in English League history	81

1. Introduction

This research paper was prepared as the basis for the exhibition 'Offside! Kick Out Ignorance – Football Unites, Racism Divides' which opened at the District Six Museum Homecoming Centre, Buitenkant Street, Cape Town, in June 2010.

It traces the pattern of South African footballers' migration to Britain from 1899 to 2009, setting the players' experiences against the changing attitudes towards race and migration in both countries and the post-colonial relationship between the countries. It shows that we need to continue to be vigilant against racism in the present and future.

In the 21st century professional football, like many other industries, has become globalised and we're used to seeing players plying their trade in foreign countries. We tend to think of this as a recent phenomenon, but in fact players have been moving country to pursue their careers almost as long as there has been professional football.

Some of the earliest footballers to emigrate were South African, with players being signed by English clubs in the late 19th and early 20th century, over half a century before South African football went professional.

The world's first non-white professional footballer was an African - Arthur Wharton, who was born in the Gold Coast (now Ghana) and played in England from 1886.

This paper looks at Wharton and then at some of the South African footballers who've played in Britain from 1899 right up to the present day. It attempts to answer such questions as:

Why were English clubs signing South Africans long before buying foreign players became commonplace?

Why were all the early emigrant South African footballers white? Where were the black players?

What effects have colonialism and apartheid had on the development of football in South Africa?

How have the experiences of black and white South African footballers abroad differed?

The story is told in part by looking at some of the South African players who became stars in their time, including:

Wilfrid Waller, the first South African to play for a professional club, turning out for Tottenham Hotspur in 1899.

Joseph Twaji, of Oriental FC, captain of the 1899 Orange Free State all-Black UK tour team of 1899.

Gordon Hodgson, who joined Liverpool in England in 1925 and is still one of their all-time top goal scorers. He played for both England and South Africa.

Steve Mokone, who became the first black South African to play abroad professionally in 1956. He played in England, Wales, Holland, France and Italy.

Pule 'Ace' Ntsoelengoe, considered one of South Africa's best ever players, who played for the Kaizer Chiefs in South Africa and various North American Soccer League clubs in the 1970s.

Steven Pienaar, a present day star who developed through the 'feeder club' system.

2. Arthur Wharton by Phil Vasili

The rapid development of Association Football in England in the second half of the 1880s coincided with the rising sporting trajectory of West African Arthur Wharton, the world's first Black professional footballer.

Wharton was born at Jamestown, Accra, Gold Coast – Ghana – on 28th October 1865. His father, the Rev. Henry Wharton, a Wesleyan missionary from Grenada, West Indies, was the progeny of a freeborn African-Grenadian woman and a Scottish merchant. Arthur's mother, Annie Florence Grant, was the daughter of a Scottish trader John C. Grant and Ama Egyiriba, a Fante royal. The Grant family were influential in Gold Coast politics and business.

The young Wharton was sent to Britain for elementary schooling in 1875, attending Dr Cheyne's Burlington Road School, Fulham, West London. This is probably where he first played competitive sport. It is quite likely that the sporting skills he learnt in West London became diffused amongst members of his extended family and the wider community when he returned to the Gold Coast four years later.

He came back to Britain in 1882, enrolling at Shoal Hill College, Cannock, a Wesleyan Methodist institution. After its closure in 1884 he moved north to Darlington, studying at Cleveland College from 1884 to 1887.

Wharton was uncharacteristic of professional footballers in ways other than just his ethnic and social background: by the time he'd signed for Preston North End in August 1886, two years before the Football League started, he was national amateur sprint champion. At the A.A.A. championships at Stamford Bridge in July 1886, he became the first athlete to record 10 seconds - even time - in both heats and finals of the 100 yards. This time was later ratified as the first official world record for the distance. A song was composed about his success at the A.A.A. championships by his trainer Manny Harbron. Sadly, no copy has survived.

In 1888 he became a professional runner, winning the unofficial 'world championship' at the Queen's Ground in Sheffield in 1888.

His sporting abilities made a great impression in the North of England. He officially turned professional in football in 1889. His clubs included Darlington, Preston North End, Rotherham Town, Sheffield United, Stalybridge Rovers, Ashton North End and Stockport County. A goalkeeper noted for his 'prodigious punch', he also played outfield. In addition Arthur played professional cricket in the Yorkshire League.

Extrovert and proud, a letter writer to the *Sheffield Telegraph and Independent*, recalled - half a century after the event - some of his unorthodox gymnastics:

"In a match between Rotherham and [Sheffield] Wednesday at Olive Grove I saw Wharton jump, take hold of the cross bar, catch the ball between his legs, and cause three onrushing forwards - Billy Ingham, Clinks Mumford and Micky Bennett - to fall into the net. I have never seen a similar save since and I have

been watching football for over fifty years”.

Sportswriters in northern England pushed Wharton’s case for what proved to be an elusive England cap. Unfortunately, the merits of a footballer are rarely universally recognised. Wharton had a vociferous, racist critic in the ‘Whispers’ column of the most popular national sports papers of the day, the *Athletic Journal*:

“Good judges say that if Wharton keeps goal for the [Preston] North End in their English Cup tie the odds will be considerably lengthened against them. I am of the same opinion....Is the darkie’s pate too thick for it to dawn upon him that between the posts is no place for a skylark? By some it’s called coolness - bosh!”

Whatever doubts Wharton’s use of suspense, imagination and unpredictability on the field of play may have raised about his intellectual abilities, he was a confident, acrobatic athlete grounded in his blackness. The following incidents are examples of what *Whispers* may have felt were the actions of an (uppity) *thick darkie*: at an athletics meeting Wharton overheard one competitor boasting to another *we can beat a blooming nigger anytime*. The ‘nigger’ offered to box them if they preferred. Both hastily declined; at another athletics meeting, at Middlesbrough in 1885, he felt he’d won his race. On being awarded second prize, a salad bowl, he smashed it in front of the organising committee telling them to make a new one out of the bits; and at a ball throwing competition his two longest throws beat all the other competitors, Wharton demanding first and second prize!

The profile that emerges from public records, newspaper match reports, letters, interviews, football club records, gossip and reminiscences is of a talented man, who knew his value, exploiting his abilities to earn a living. There seems little doubt that Wharton sold his physical skills for money even where this was deemed illegal: one of his clubs, Preston, unashamedly paid their players and was instrumental in forcing through the legal acceptance of professionalism in 1885; accepting a ‘prize’ at an athletics meeting could mean the equivalent reward of nearly two months wages.

Being a sportsman and taking prizes all too willingly offered by sports promoters, club chairman, agents and the like, while being the act of a rational man, did not increase the value of Arthur to Britain’s colonial bureaucrats. His national recognition and education were not enough to secure him a place in the Gold Coast Colonial Administration to which he applied in 1893. His status as A.A.A. Champion is unofficially listed as being ‘inappropriate’ for a colonial civil servant. The posts for which he’d applied - government clerk or inspector - were paid at £250 p.a. and ‘entirely in the hands of natives.’ The wages would not have been much better than his earnings as a sportsman in Britain, though the assumption is their buying power would have been greater. The point about his application is that it seems monetary reward was less important to Wharton than the status, nature and location of the work: his return to the Gold Coast would not have been as a sporting celebrity. His achievements merited no mention in the Euro-African ‘Men of Affairs’ publication.

Wharton played professionally until at least 1901-2, with 6 games for Stockport County. He also earned his living as a publican in Sheffield and Rotherham – where he married a local woman, Emma Lister – also investing as a shareholder in his former club, Rotherham Town.

The last twenty or so years of his life he worked as a haulage hand, mostly at Yorkshire Main colliery in Edlington, Doncaster, South Yorkshire. In this small, close-knit mining community he died in December 1930 and was buried in a pauper's grave in Edlington cemetery, unmarked for sixty seven years. On 8 May 1997, after a successful campaign to raise money for his gravestone by Sheffield-based Football Unites, Racism Divides, a ceremony to finally lay a physical memorial to Arthur's achievements was held at Edlington attended by the direct descendents of Arthur's two children with Martha, his wife Emma's sister.

3. Tours between South Africa and the UK

South African footballers occupy an important place in the history and development of the game in the UK. The first team from Africa to visit Britain was organised by the Orange Free State FA, a team of Basuto players docking at Southampton in the autumn of 1899.

This was two years after the Corinthians, a side comprised of elite amateur UK players, toured South Africa in 1897. They toured again in 1903 and 1907 when they played a South Africa representative team, although this match is not considered a full international.

The first official tour of South Africa by an English FA team, including professionals and amateurs, was not until 1910. It was only the second tour outside the British Isles by the then notoriously parochial and xenophobic FA. By now, eight years after the Second South Africa War, the ethnic division in sport was noticeable with Africans and those of British descent preferring Association Football, those of Dutch origin Rugby. It could be argued that during this tour the first full international was played between England and South Africa, on 29 June 1910. It ended in a 3-0 win for England in Durban. Two more South Africa v England games, in Johannesburg and Cape Town respectively, saw further 6-2 and 6-3 defeats for the hosts.

The enthusiasm of British teams to tour South Africa and entertain South African teams in the UK was not just a consequence of cultural and political ties and connections. The quality of South African football was comparatively good, testified by South African Wilfred Waller's employment at one of the founder members of the Football League, First Division Bolton Wanderers, in 1899.

The First World War interrupted the growing UK-South Africa link and it was not for another 10 years that a second FA team arrived in a country enjoying its freshly-won Dominion status as the Union of South Africa. Again, three matches between the tourists and a South Africa XI were played in the same cities as 1910 with the same outcome.

In 1924 the first official tour of the UK by a South Africa representative team took place. Playing 22 matches against club and national sides, the tourists won 13 and lost 9, scoring a remarkable 73 goals with 44 against. They narrowly lost 3-2 to an amateur England team at Tottenham, but famous victories included a 2-1 win over Ireland, a 3-2 defeat of Everton and a 5-2 thrashing of Liverpool. The visit confirmed to many British clubs the feeling that had been generated by the FA tours going in the opposite direction: South African players were good enough to play in the Football League. During the 1920s a steady stream of these football migrants sailed north to employment at English clubs, most notably Liverpool, Huddersfield Town (and later, after the Second World War, Charlton). However, this sentiment did not extend to Black South African footballers who were consistently marginalised and overlooked, both by British clubs and their own FA.

Perhaps the touring team to have the greatest influence during this inter-war period was Scottish club Motherwell whose short-passing game inspired

many local South African teams to readjust their style which until then had tended to replicate the English long ball game.

Several British club sides, including Charlton, Blackpool and Wolverhampton Wanderers, toured South Africa before the FIFA boycott put a stop to this trend in 1964. Steve Mokone and Denis Foreman have both spoken of how seeing Wolves play in the late 1940s and 1950s inspired them to want to play in England, which they both eventually did.

South Africa toured Britain in 1953 and 1958; the FA sending teams in 1929, '39 and '56. It was in 1939 that England suffered their first defeat, 1-0 in Johannesburg against the Southern Transvaal.

Charlton manager Jimmy Seed, captain of the England XI on the 1929 FA tour of South Africa, was keen on bringing (white) SA talent to his south east London club because they fitted in culturally and were 'unspoilt' by money (an odd comment since British football still had the maximum wage!). So many South African footballers were employed in Britain after the Second World War, compensating for the talent shortage felt by many clubs, that the Scottish FA asked Seed to manage a South Africa team that played Scotland at Hampden Park in 1956.

During the 1950s, though one or two Black South African footballers were finally being scouted by European clubs and allowed exit visas, the South African government's policy of Apartheid was causing many within and outside its borders to take counter action, leading to a sporting boycott. Shamefully, the British football authorities were very slow in breaking links with the apartheid regime. Indeed, Englishman Sir Stanley Rous, president of FIFA 1961-74, made such a fundamental error of underestimating the anger of African football with the apartheid structure of South African football that he was ousted by FIFA delegates in 1974.

Some unofficial tours to South Africa occurred in the 1970s and 1980s, during the boycott era. More about them later.

4. The 1899 Basuto Tourists by Phil Vasili

The first African Association Football team that visited Britain, in September 1899, was the Basuto tourists – known in the UK as the ‘Kaffirs’ - from what is now Lesotho. Never before had an African squad played outside the continent, even if we include white South Africans.

The Basutos’ trip to Britain was organised by the Orange Free State Football Association (OFSFA), controlled by administrators of British origin. The captain of the team was Joseph Twaji of Oriental FC.

The primary reason for the tour may have been in raising funds for OFSFA who, it seems, were determined that the team’s novelty value would pay its way and more. Thirty six games had been arranged against the best teams of England and Scotland.

The (Southampton) *Football Echo and Sports Gazette* informed its readers of the ‘Kaffirs’ arrival – ‘up come Eleven Little Nigger Boys from Savage South Africa’ - via a cartoon situated centrally on its front page, featuring a sturdy but shaken John Bull reminding readers of Kipling’s description of Britain’s Black colonies as the ‘White Man’s Burden’. The *Athletic News* followed in similar vein. Like the cartoon in the *Football Echo and Sports Gazette* it was placed so readers could not miss it. Instead of a group of Africans it had an individual, in football kit but wearing only one boot, holding a spear and tomahawk with a ring through his nose and feathers in his hair, kicking a ball. Underneath is the caption: ‘Jeeohsmiffikato the crack Kaffir centre forward thirsting for gore and goals.’ (18th September 1899).

Wearing orange shirts with dark blue collars and shorts, they kicked-off in North East England on 5th September, against First Division Newcastle United at St. James’s Park. There was much pre- and post-match publicity, with the language used in describing the physical characteristics of the visitors hinting at, and subtly exploiting, the European obsession with the (comparatively unrepressed) sexuality of the African:

“The visitors [are] a fine lot of men...reputed to possess remarkable staying powers. [They are] clever at the game....Some of them remarkably good looking, and of an intelligent cast of features” (Newcastle Evening Chronicle 2 September 1899; Sporting Man (Newcastle) 5, 6 September 1899). A large crowd of 6,000 assembled with “a sprinkling of the fair sex.” Some inquisitive folk had even gone to the Central Railway Station to welcome them.

Other North-East opponents were Sunderland – Big Boys of the region having won the First Division three times in the 1890s - to whom the Basutos lost 5-3 and Middlesbrough, who won 7-3. In all three games the Black footballers were treated patronisingly, as overgrown children:

‘They are a very heavy lot and caused a great deal of amusement’ (v Newcastle United); *‘the delightful darkey returned to the centre line as proud as the proverbial dog’* (v Sunderland); *‘From a corner just on the interval, the Kaffirs amidst loud laughter were permitted to score’* (v Middlesbrough).

Without irony it also reported that ‘the darkeys played a very gentlemanly game, and it says much for their good temper - which must have been sorely tried - that they did not utilise their obvious strength of body and cranium.’ (African Review 9 September, vol.xx no355; Sporting Man (Newcastle) 7 September 1899; *ibid*, 8 September respectively).

The final statistics for the tour were: played 36, won 0, drawn 1, lost 35 with 235 goals conceded.

Football, politics and war

The various quotes illustrate confused attitudes towards the tourists. They were big and strong, handsome yet excruciatingly naive and honest. However, while it would have been simple, literally, to portray the Basutos as freak-show footballers for the amusement and entertainment of the Master Race, matters became complicated by the unfolding tragedy of the political and military crisis in Southern Africa, which descended into the Boer War in October 1899.

A feature of the political debate in the UK surrounding the crisis was the allegiance of the Black - or ‘Kaffir’ and ‘Bantu’ as they were often disparagingly labelled – populations in South Africa. With whom the Basutos would side was a live question in British newspapers.

Not unexpectedly, but certainly unenviably, they found themselves on a tour organised by administrators of British descent in a country at war with the Afrikaans-speaking government and population of the Orange Free State. British newspapers, aware of the vast mineral resources at stake in South Africa, argued ‘Boer spies’ were inciting the Basutos to rise up against Natal. This added political dimension to the tour created a dilemma for many UK journalists and editors who were now not so quick to report the African footballers with crude and demeaning language and imagery: the Basutos may well be needed as allies of Great Britain.

Thus during this early ‘War Scare’ period in the autumn of 1899 the Afrikaans became light-skinned savages, a redefinition that contributed to the justification of their imprisonment in Concentration Camps, the Basutos becoming more ‘civilised’.

The Boys from Basuto, bombarded by goals, succumbed to the propaganda barrage. In their fixture with Aston Villa gate receipts went to a Boer War fund. Hopefully the Basutos would have gone back to South Africa better footballers, though with the war raging there was probably little opportunity for them to apply the knowledge they had gained from their experience of playing the best teams in Britain. What they would have made of the public and private minds of their hosts may have confused them more than the superior football displayed by their opponents.

5.1. Football migration 1899-1939: introduction

For most of the twentieth century, football in South Africa was immensely popular - and relatively well organised compared to many other parts of the world - after being introduced by White British settlers in the mid-19th century.

South African footballers began journeying to England, where professional football was legalised in 1885, as early as 1899, long before foreign players became a common sight in Europe. Professional football didn't begin in South Africa until 1959.

After its introduction the game quickly gained popularity among all ethnic groups, but especially among urban people of colour. Initially there were teams of mixed ethnicity but gradually the imposed separation of ethnic groups reflected itself in football.

The white population had the money and power to ensure it had the best facilities, such as grass pitches, whilst back and Asian players often had nothing but scrubland or waste ground to play on, with bare feet and makeshift balls.

Colonial ties and a shared passion for football between South Africa and the UK led to British teams touring South Africa, and vice-versa, providing opportunities for cheap talent-spotting by British clubs who would not have to pay transfer fees. Convention and prejudice meant most of these touring teams played only white South African teams. Thus, this unique opportunity for a lucky few South Africans to make a living from what was a passion - but still only a hobby - was available only to whites.

Although Britain was a fortnight's boat journey away from South Africa, the cultural gap for these early (white) football migrants was not as big as the geographical one, as many of them were the sons or grandsons of British settlers.

These early overseas players were not universally welcomed, with an insular mentality being displayed by some in the football establishment in England:

"I feel the idea of bringing 'foreigners' to play in league football is repulsive to the clubs, offensive to British players and a terrible confession of weakness in the management of clubs".

-the words of Football League vice-president Charles Edward Sutcliffe in 1930, who campaigned against allowing foreign players into the country, fearing they'd be taking jobs from English players. But this was not enough to stop the trickle of South African players entering the English game.

In 1931, the English Football Association introduced a two year residency rule brought in to deter clubs from employing foreign players. This restriction remained until 1978 when it was overturned by European Union legislation.

The 1931 rule effectively caused British clubs to look to its colonies for talent, thereby getting around prohibition on 'foreign' players. In this 47 year period,

as a consequence, many of the non-UK born footballers playing in Britain were from South Africa, alongside a few who'd arrived before the rule came in, or who'd come as refugees or prisoners of war, had British ancestry, or met the two-year residency requirement.

Colonial relationships have been, and still are, an important feature of patterns of migration in football, and can be seen in countries including France and Spain where clubs have frequently turned to their former colonies in Africa and South America for cheap football imports. Immigration rules may be more relaxed than between countries without such historical ties.

5.2. Wilfred Waller

The first South African known to have pursued his football career abroad was Wilfred Waller, born in 1877, a goalkeeper who played for several clubs in England from 1899.

Waller was spotted while on tour in England with his South African club side. He made his debut for Tottenham Hotspur, then playing in the Southern League, against Brighton on 21st January 1899. Later that year, having moved to Richmond Association, he was selected for the English Football Association XI for their tour to Germany and Austria. Winning all four of their matches by wide margins, he was one of six amateur players in the fourteen-man squad.

Following this success, Waller was snapped up by Bolton Wanderers in the professional league, becoming their first foreign player in 1900. However, he made only six league appearances for Bolton. Waller also played outside the league for Southampton, Corinthians and Watford.

By 1907 he had returned to South Africa where he played for a Springboks side against his former club Corinthians who were on one of their frequent tours of South Africa.

5.3. Alex Bell

The second South African to play professionally in England had great success.

Alex Bell, also known as Alec, or Sandy, was born in Cape Town in 1882.

British ancestry

Like many of the early football migrants, he had British ancestry. Having Scottish parents enabled him to play for Scotland, which he did once, helping them to a 4-1 victory away to Northern Ireland in 1912.

Initially a centre forward, he played for several teams in Ayr in Scotland, after his family had returned to Scotland. Manchester United spotted him playing for Ayr Parkhouse and signed him for £700 in 1903. (Coincidentally, just a few seasons later Black Briton, Edward Tull, became Parkhouse's first Black signing.)

Over the next ten years, Bell played 278 League games for United, settling as a left half after initially covering for injury in that position. He helped them win promotion to the first division in 1906, and their first League Championship title in 1908.

In 1909, he became the first South African to play in the English FA Cup final, helping Manchester United to beat Bristol City 1-0 in the final. United won the League again in 1911.

Bell joined Blackburn in 1913 but played only a few games before the outbreak of the First World War.

He went on to be a trainer for Coventry and Manchester City before his premature death in 1934.

5.4.1. Liverpool between the wars: Gordon Hodgson

After the First World War had caused the suspension of the Football League in England league from 1915 to 1919, 24 white South African players signed for English League clubs in the inter-war years, seven of these for Liverpool.

The biggest star of all was Gordon Hodgson. Born in Johannesburg in 1904 to English parents, he played for Pretoria and Transvaal FC in South Africa. He joined Liverpool in 1925 after being spotted by the club while visiting England with the touring South Africa 'national' team in 1924. Hodgson made his presence felt by scoring twice in South Africa's 5-2 win over Liverpool.

Scoring 233 goals in 358 First Division matches - including 17 hat-tricks - he created a club record that stood until Roger Hunt broke it in the 1960s. He moved to Aston Villa in 1936 and ended his career at Leeds United.

Hodgson played one international match for South Africa in 1924, also playing three times for England, scoring against Wales in 1930.

In common with a number of other South African footballers who were sporting all-rounders, he also played first-class cricket, representing Lancashire 56 times.

After the Second World War, Hodgson became manager of Port Vale, but died of cancer in 1951, aged just 47.

Joining Liverpool at the same time as Hodgson were fellow South Africans **Arthur Riley**, a goalkeeper, and **James Gray**. Soon to follow in their footsteps were left winger **Lance Carr**, **Dick Kemp** and **Harman Van Der Berg**.

Shortly after the Second World War, **Robert Priday** joined Liverpool, helping them win the Championship in 1947.

5.4.2. Berry Nieuwenhuys

Aside from Hodgson, the most successful of Liverpool's South African discoveries was Berry Nieuwenhuys. Born in 1911 in Kroonstad, after school he initially worked on the mines in the Transvaal and played football for Boksberg then Germiston Callies. He joined Liverpool in 1933 after being recommended, along with Lance Carr, by Arthur Riley's father.

'Nivvy', as he became known by Liverpool fans who couldn't pronounce his name, was a right winger with explosive pace, trickery and a thunderous shot. He played 260 games for the Reds, scoring 79 times. His career was interrupted by the Second World War, during which he served in the Royal Air Force. He resumed his career with Liverpool after the war, helping them win the Championship in 1947. Some people rated him even more highly than Stanley Matthews.

He returned to South Africa in 1948 where he became an assistant golf professional and football coach, and also scouted for a number of English clubs.

6.1. A post-war influx: 1945-1959: introduction

Between 1946 and 1959, over fifty South African born players played in the English Football League. All but two of them (**Steve Mokone** and **Gerry Francis**) were white.

The Second World War from 1939-1945 caused the suspension of professional football in England as the country concentrated on the war effort.

The post-war period was marked by labour shortages, which extended to professional football, caused by the high number of young male casualties of the war and the huge task of rebuilding the country. In response, the government brought in the British Nationality Act in 1948, which actively encouraged Commonwealth citizens, particularly from the Caribbean, to move to the UK to help fill the labour shortage.

In South Africa, Apartheid ('separateness') became official government policy in 1948 when the National Party, headed by D.F. Malan, was elected on this platform in an election in which the black majority of the population was not allowed to vote. Although in practice, separate development for different races had been in place ever since the Dutch and British had arrived, this was now enshrined in law. Social engineering projects followed, such as the Group Areas Act of 1950 which allocated different areas for different ethnic groups to live in, causing the destruction of long established communities.

Football, along with every other aspect of South African life, was organised along separate lines with different ethnic groups playing in different leagues. There were separate White, Indian, African and Coloured Football Associations.

However, football was a passion shared by South Africans across the racial divides and because of this it established an important role in the anti-apartheid campaigns. There were unofficial bodies attempting to organise non-segregated sport – such as the Inter Racial Soccer Board which organised representative matches from 1946.

During the 1950s there was a struggle for control of football by several administrative bodies representing different ethnic and political interests. The (White) South African Football Association (SAFA) was the official governing body, accepted into FIFA in 1952. SAFA changed its name in 1956 to the Football Association of South Africa (FASA).

Opposed to FASA was the South African Soccer Federation (SASF), formed in 1951 to represent the non-white football associations. The same man, Albert Luthuli, was president of both the SASF and the African National Congress.

In 1955, the SASF asserted its claim to be the official administrative body of South African football and called for the expulsion of SAFA, or FASA, from FIFA. The resulting inquiry by FIFA led to FASA removing the whites-only clause from its constitution. In 1958, FIFA concluded that the FASA was racist but at that time did not ban them or recognise the SASF.

The Confederation Africaine de Football (CAF) was formed in 1957, with FASA one of the five founding members. However, it was expelled within a year for refusing to send an inter-racial team to the first CAF Cup.

In 1958, the South African Sports Association (SASA) was formed to promote non-racial sport, and lobbied international federations to withdraw support of white South African affiliates.

Professional football, for white players only, was introduced in 1959, with the formation of the National Football League (NFL), consisting originally of 12 teams, none of which are still in existence.

Against this volatile political background, a stream of white South African players went to play in England in this period, and the first few black South Africans began to make a name for themselves from 1956. The experiences of white and black players abroad were very different, as we will see.

6.2. Charlton Athletic in the 1940s and 1950s

Of the 52 South Africans playing in England from 1945 to 1959, no less than 11 of them played for one team, first division Charlton Athletic.

The man behind Charlton's interest in South African players was manager Jimmy Seed. He went to South Africa on tour as England captain in 1929, where he met George Brunton, a footballer, and Frank Bonniwell, a talent scout. On becoming Charlton manager in 1933, he enlisted their help in identifying players with the potential to succeed in England. Seed was even invited by the Scottish FA to select a South African XI which played Scotland at Ibrox, Glasgow, in 1955-6. (Scotland won 2-1).

Football Association rules still restricted where foreign players could be brought in from, but players from Commonwealth countries such as South Africa were legally able to work here.

Jimmy Seed said he turned to South Africa as the war had left Britain short of talented young players, and established British players were expensive to buy. There were no transfer fees to pay to South African clubs as they were not yet fully professional. He could take them to Charlton, he said,

"just for their boat fare".

In explaining why he chose so many South Africans Seed argued that the yield of footballers out of the pit villages of his native Northeast England had

"apparently dried up, and we were forced to look elsewhere".

In reply to the charge that he was overlooking indigenous Black African talent, the Charlton manager argued that he would sign players from anywhere

"irrespective of what country he comes from, provided...the player's character satisfied me that he is of the good club type". (in E. Andrews and A Mackay *Sports Report no2* (London 1954) pp 163-4).

Seed liked South Africa and White South Africans. His time there in 1929 made a lasting impression. He and the Charlton chairman even contemplated selling The Valley stadium in London and relocating the club to Johannesburg.

"I was all for the scheme as I knew South Africa well and I liked the country and its climate". Additionally *"South African footballers are unspoilt by money"*

and he appreciated their commitment, obedience, loyalty and sportsmanship.

Yet, Seed did not recruit from the South African equivalent of his beloved Northeast pit villages, the townships and mining compounds. He signed over 13 White South Africans because he felt they could be trusted to fit into the changing-room culture at Charlton. White South Africans were 'one of us' while their black countrymen were not. Ironically it was in 1956-7 that the first two black South Africans, Steve Mokone and Gerry Francis, came to Britain to

play professionally just at the time Seed stated in his autobiography *The Jimmy Seed Story* that he was becoming frustrated with his South African searches.

The first of Charlton's signings were **Dudley Forbes**, from Cape Town, and **Syd O'Linn**, from Oudtschoorn, who both signed in December 1947. **O'Linn** also played cricket for South Africa. Seed went back to South Africa twice in 1949 to sign players. On his second trip of the year, which he made to secure the services of 21-year-old **John Hewie**, he went to see a sixteen-year-old schoolboy, **Stuart Leary**, play for Clyde in Cape Town, having heard about him from Syd O'Linn. Playing alongside Leary that day was another sixteen year old, **Eddie Firmani**, and between the two of them, they scored seven goals. Hours later, Leary and Firmani had both agreed to join Charlton. These three players, recruited at the same time, all found great success.

Once the apartheid system was dismantled, Charlton once again established links with South Africa, signing Mark Fish and Shaun Bartlett in 2000. The club's community scheme also began working in townships around Johannesburg and Cape Town. See Chapter 9.7 for more details.

6.2.1. John Hewie

John Hewie, a defender, was born in 1927 and became a Charlton regular for 15 years, making 495 first team appearances after signing in 1949. Some of Charlton's South African players arrived in pairs (Forbes and O'Linn, Firmani and Leary), but Hewie made the two-week boat journey alone and recalls that his shyness meant he didn't speak to anyone for a fortnight on board. He spent two seasons in Charlton's second and third teams.

"Anything that moved, I'd kick it", he said; "I was wild, rushing about. Raw and crude".

He got his chance in the first team when the first choice was injured in August 1951, and stayed in the team for the next 15 years. His style and height made him a formidable opponent and won him many admirers. Hewie featured in one of the most remarkable games in English football history, when in 1957, Charlton beat Huddersfield 7-6 after being reduced to ten men by injury after 15 minutes, and being 5-1 down at half-time. Johnny Summers scored five second half goals and Huddersfield became the only team to have scored six goals away in a league game and still lost!

British ancestry

Hewie's father was Scottish, and Hewie won 19 Scotland caps from 1956, playing in the 1958 World Cup finals in Sweden. This made him the first South African to play in the World Cup.

Racism

Hewie remembers being abused in a match at Bury.

"Someone shouted, 'Get back to South Africa you black bastard.' I thought it was a strange thing for someone to be shouting. It was even stranger because I'm not black".

After retiring in 1966, Hewie returned to South Africa to coach his former club Arcadia Shepherds, and went on to be a car salesman and garage owner, before returned to England to retire in 1994.

John was kind enough to answer some questions for us by telephone recently.

It seems remarkable that so many South Africans were good enough to play at a high professional level when football was still an amateur pastime in South Africa. Why do you think that was?

Well football was quite well organised even back then. We had the Currie Cup competition every year between teams representing the provinces. Also the Springboks national side used to tour places like Australia and England. We had to pretty much teach ourselves how to play though!

Did you get paid at all for playing in South Africa?

Not at all, it was entirely voluntary. I earned my living as an apprentice pattern-maker. In England I earned £8.50 a week as a footballer. I eventually got up to £20 a week. It was enough to live on but I'm glad they've taken the ceiling off wages now, we were underpaid back then as entertainers.

Which team did you support, and who were your favourite players?

I didn't really have any favourites, I was just interested in playing as a hobby rather than watching others.

How much did you know about British football back then?

I knew nothing about it! (Hewie grew up partly during the 2nd World War which caused the suspension of professional football in England for six years so this may be a factor!)

What differences did you notice in football when you went to England?

The main difference was in fitness and dedication – it was much faster in England as players had more time to train.

Did you have any problems getting clearance to play in England?

No, Jimmy Seed, the Charlton manager, sorted everything out for me. I used to go back to South Africa on the boat every two years because if you broke a stay of two years in Britain you didn't have to do National Service.

Football seems to have an image as a 'black sport'; a 'sport of the townships'. Does this fit with your experiences?

I think it's become that. The main South African sport was rugby; soccer came next. In my era, whites and blacks couldn't play football with or against each other. The crowds were mixed, though. Actually, we had really good support from black fans from the townships. The stadiums were full – I don't know how many they held, probably a few thousand. The stands were segregated though, probably three quarters of the ground would be reserved for whites and the other quarter for blacks. Not many white fans watched black teams though, because the townships weren't really a good place to go for whites.

How do you feel about the World Cup being held in South Africa?

I think it's great. I think it'll be a big success because people are determined to make it a success, and they've already got some nice stadiums. My family in Pretoria are looking forward to it - they'll have a great time!

Do you have a view on the trend for European clubs to set up 'academies' in Africa to develop young players?

I think that'll be good, it'll help the players a lot, because at the moment I don't think there's enough European-level coaching expertise in Africa.

6.2.2. Stuart Leary

Stuart Leary fulfilled his early promise and became a record goalscorer for Charlton, scoring 153 goals in 376 League games between 1950 and 1962, staying with them despite their relegation in 1957.

He is still considered by many to be one of Charlton's greatest ever players, and went on to captain the club.

He also played first class cricket for Kent for twenty years.

International issues

He did National Service for Britain in the Royal Air Force, and represented England Under-23s against Italy. He was expected to go on to be a full international, but the FA brought in a rule that either a player or his father had to be born in England for the player to qualify to play for England, which ruled Leary out.

Leary moved to Queens Park Rangers in 1962 where he played until 1966. He returned to South Africa to become a cricket coach after his football career.

In August 1988, his body was discovered on Table Mountain. A plaque now marks the spot.

6.2.3. Eddie Firmani

Eddie Firmani joined Charlton Athletic along with Stuart Leary from Clyde in Cape Town in 1950 at the age of 16. By the age of 19, he was establishing himself as a prolific goalscorer in the Charlton first team.

National identity

He was called up for two years' National Service in the Royal Air Force in 1953. He said later, 'I shall always be grateful to the RAF; after those two years I never again felt a stranger in England. I now felt as English as the next man'.

Firmani became the first South African to play in Italy in 1955, when he joined Sampdoria for a British record fee of £35,000. He received much higher wages in Italy than he did in England. He went on to score over 100 League goals in both England and Italy, another record. Firmani had an Italian grandfather, making him eligible to play for Italy, which he did 3 times, scoring twice.

He was signed by the giants of Italian football, Internazionale in Milan, in 1959 and helped them to the Cup Final in his first season. From there, he moved to Genoa in Serie B, where they won promotion in the first of his two seasons there.

He returned to Charlton in 1963, before moving to Southend, and back for a third spell at Charlton in 1967, moving from playing to managing the side until 1970. In all, he scored 89 goals in 177 games for Charlton. He also had a spell as assistant manager of Crystal Palace.

Firmani later moved to the United States, where he managed Tampa Bay Rowdies from 1975 to 1977, winning the US Championship in his first season. In 1977, he became manager of New York Cosmos at the time when such greats as Pele, Franz Beckenbauer and Carlos Alberto were all playing for them. He was sacked in June 1979 after disagreements with the club's owners, despite having steered the club to victory in the Soccer Bowl in each of his two seasons there. He went on to manage Philadelphia Fury among other sides and had a second spell at New York Cosmos in the mid-1980s.

The much-travelled Firmani also lived in the Middle East for 6 years before returned to Florida to work for an artificial sports turf company.

Interview

Eddie was kind enough to answer some of our questions by email. Here's what he had to say:

Where are you living nowadays?

Naples, Florida.

Did you know much about British football when you were growing up in Cape Town?

I knew nothing about British football only that Syd O'Linn and Dudley Forbes had signed a contract for Charlton in England.

Did you follow a South African team?

I played for Clyde under 16 and used to admire our first team players hoping one day to be playing in the first team.

Who were your favourite players when you were a child?

I had no favourites. I used to admire the players who played for South Africa and Western Province which is Cape Town.

Do you ever go back to South Africa? If so how has it changed?

I go back home almost every two years to visit my brother in Cape Town. It has changed a lot and not for the good. No further comment.

There is an image of football as being a 'black sport' in South Africa. Do you think this image is justified?

Football is black in South Africa now and not for the good neither.

Did you play football with or against non-white players in South Africa or was it completely segregated at the time?

There were no whites and blacks playing together at that time I lived in South Africa the same as there were no white and black schools - all were separated.

How do you feel about the World Cup finals being held in South Africa?

I think it is only fair for FIFA to spread the game of soccer around the world. I think South Africa is one of the only countries in Africa that can handle a World Cup and even then they will have their problems.

What do you think of South African football now compared to 'in your day'?

It is difficult to judge as you are talking about 60 years ago, when we were playing with leather soccer balls, the war was on and we did not have the same nutrition as players have today, we have bigger and stronger athletes now.

Do you have any comment about the trend for European clubs to set up 'academies' in Africa to try to recruit and develop young players?

I have mixed feelings on club academies in African countries, I feel they should do a better job on their own players first.

6.3. Bill Perry and Eddie Stuart

Bill Perry was another outstanding player of the 1950s, who secured his place in English football history by scoring the winning goal in the 1953 FA Cup final, the so-called 'Matthews Final' in which the great Stanley Matthews spurred Blackpool on to a 4-3 victory over Bolton after being 3-1 down. Perry played 394 times for Blackpool and 3 times for England – he qualified because his father was a British soldier who'd been posted to South Africa.

Even more successful in terms of silverware was **Eddie Stuart**, a defender from Johannesburg who joined Wolverhampton Wanderers in 1951. Over the next 11 years, he helped Wolves to three League Championships, one FA Cup win and European competition.

6.4. Arthur Lightening

Arthur Lightening was a goalkeeper who joined Nottingham Forest in 1956 and went on to play for Coventry and Middlesbrough.

The following article was published in the Northern Echo on Wednesday 25th Sep 2002, and is reproduced here with permission.

WHEN LIGHTENING STRUCK OUT ON HIS OWN

Arthur Lightening, as might be supposed, was a banner simply waiting to be unfurled.

Whilst no quickfire sub-editor was likely to write "Greased Lightening" - nor even "Lightening reflexes" - over an account of his brief and ignominious exploits as Middlesbrough FC's goalkeeper, old Arthur swiftly left his mark, nonetheless.

Dave Dale in South Bank, Teesside, recalls the Daily Mirror headline on Thursday, August 30, 1962 after Boro's 6-1 second division defeat at Newcastle. "Lightening thunder struck," it said, and well it might have done.

The Northern Echo's effort - "Harvey's half time changes produced the thunderbolts" - was longer winded, though on similarly meteorological lines.

Lightening was a South African, signed on the morning of the match for £10,000 from Coventry City after regular Boro goalkeeper Bob Appleby had let in five, home to Huddersfield, in the previous game. Magpies' centre forward Barrie Thomas hit three, Ken Hale two and Dave Hilley his first goal for the club.

Lightening made just 14 more Football League appearances, interrupted by a Quarter Sessions appearance for receiving stolen beer, wine and spirits at his room in the Royal Hotel, Redcar.

Though found guilty, he was given an absolute discharge after the judge described him as "honest, truthful and manly."

Lightening, the court heard, earned £25 a week with an extra fiver for first team appearance money.

In May 1963, he was given permission to attend a family wedding in South Africa, sailed off and never returned. "I thought it strange that he only booked a single ticket," the travel agent told the Echo's investigating reporter.

Lightening - honest, truthful and manly - had bolted.

7.1. Black pioneers: Steve Mokone

Steve 'Kalamazoo' Mokone became the first Black South African footballer to play abroad professionally when he joined Coventry City in the English Third Division (south) in 1956. He went on to play in the Netherlands, France and Italy, and his talent, determination, initiative and self-belief helped to prise open the door that had been shut in the face of talented black players before him.

Mokone was born in Johannesburg in 1932, and showed his footballing talent at an early age. Kalamazoo's father sent him to Ohlange High School in Durban "to make him forget soccer and concentrate on becoming a lawyer". But long before he passed his exams he had become a national superstar with Durban Bush Bucks. Scouts from Newcastle United urged him to move to England, but his father refused. He trained as a teacher, then worked as a clerk in the Pretoria Native Affairs Department, while looking for a teaching post.

Immigration issues

He applied for a passport in 1952, following further interest shown in him by Wolves and Newcastle, but he wasn't finally granted one until 1955, after investigation by the police into his political activities - he had joined the Youth League of the ANC when he was sixteen, when a young Nelson Mandela was a fellow member.

Mokone picked the name Coventry City from an English newspaper column and wrote to ask them for a trial. They invited him over, so he went, although he had to pay his own fare. The emigration authorities also insisted that he paid £100 insurance against returning destitute to South Africa. This fee was paid by Charles Buchan, former captain of England, and editor of the renowned publication 'Charles Buchan's Football Monthly', who heard of his problem funding the trip.

His trial was successful and he turned professional, and though he only played four first team matches for Coventry, scoring once, Mokone made an immediate impression. The Daily Mirror reported that:

"In his league debut against Millwall, he drew an extra 5000 on the gate, was the star of the attack and made Coventry's only goal. Every move he made was cheered".

Different football styles

He found it hard to settle in the English game, finding its emphasis on strength and fitness rather than skill and control difficult to adjust to. He put this down in part to the different physical conditions, with British players having to cope with cold, mud, rain and snow, whereas black South Africans usually played on hard uneven pitches, meaning first touch control was fundamental. He was also a very slight figure, only 5 foot 4 inches tall, compared to most of his new team-mates and opponents, which may also have had a bearing on his style of play differing from that typical in England. He later described British football as 'primitive'.

Mokone also found it difficult to feel welcome in Coventry. Although some of his colleagues were good to them, he never felt accepted as 'one of the lads'. He did not have a very happy relationship with the manager, Harry Warren, and he later cited this as one of his reasons for leaving the club so soon. He was 'impossible to work with' he said, but added that many of his team mates found this too. When he confronted the manager about his low wage and long trial period, his manager apparently replied, 'That's the trouble with you people – you're never satisfied'. The following day, though, Mokone signed a contract. Coventry went 2-0 up on his debut, with Mokone, playing at outside right, setting up both goals, and showing some dazzling dribbling skills. At half-time, instead of praising him, Warren suggested Mokone went and got a job in a circus, as the type of antics he'd displayed had, in his opinion, no place on the football pitch.

Perhaps inevitably, Mokone left Coventry on a free transfer and joined Heracles, of the Dutch Second Division in 1957, three years after semi-professionalism was introduced in the Netherlands. By chance, Heracles' trainer Jan Bijl came across a list of 14 players available on free transfers from British clubs. The club wrote to all of them, despite never having heard of most of the players or even clubs, and Mokone was the only one who replied. He went for a trial, impressed, and signed a season's contract as a semi-professional.

Mokone became an overnight sensation in Almelo, where Heracles is based, scoring regularly and dazzling with his skills, and helping his team win the Second Division Championship. The following season was also successful for Mokone and Heracles, finishing seventh in the First Division, although Mokone was injured for part of the season. They seemed to win when Mokone played and lose when he didn't. He became so popular that a street in Almelo is named after him, as is one of the stands at Heracles' ground. A local paper, the 'Twentsche Courant' wrote of him:

'Mokone is a true negro with frizzy hair which grows just a few millimetres thick on his skull. A broad nose, protruding cheekbones, large sparkling eyes and pearly-white teeth between thick, blue lips. This black football wonder has made thousands of football fans wildly enthusiastic in Twente.'

Back in South Africa he had become a football hero too, with his own fan club, and thousands of fans greeted him at the airport when he visited his homeland in 1958.

After two seasons with Heracles, Mokone tried again to make it in the English league, joining second division Cardiff City in 1959. After a promising start, scoring on his debut against Liverpool, he was dropped after only three games, after a disagreement with them when they made him play with an injury and he performed poorly.

He moved on again after this season, this time to Spain where he joined Barcelona, but because they already had their full quota of foreign players, he was loaned to Marseilles in France. He didn't actually appear for either side, but spent his time in France setting up a business selling football boots. He then returned for his third spell in the English league in 1961, this time with

Barnsley, making just one appearance for their first team. He found it difficult to settle in the area and stayed just two months.

From Barnsley he went to Rhodesia for a year, where he played for Salisbury, coached, and got involved with the Zimbabwe African people's Union (ZAPU), which aimed to oust Ian Smith from power.

In 1962 he joined Torino in Italy, where again he started well. He made a spellbinding first appearance for Torino, scoring all five goals in a 5-2 victory against Verona, Italian soccer writer Beppe Branco writing:

"If Pele of Brazil is the Rolls-Royce of soccer players, Stanley Matthews of England the Mercedes-Benz and Alfredo di Stefano of Argentina and Spain the Cadillac of soccer players, then Kala of South Africa, lithe and lean, is surely the Maserati."

Life after football

His life after his football career continued to be riddled with mystery and contradictions. He moved to Canada, went to Australia to coach, but returned to Canada after six months before moving to the United States. He returned to studying and achieved a doctorate and became an assistant professor of psychiatry. He also became involved in civil rights and anti-Vietnam war movements.

In the late 1970s, three mysterious attacks took place. Firstly, Mokone was assaulted by three unidentified people in a parking lot. Then, his wife's lawyer was attacked, having acid thrown in her face, and soon after, his wife was the victim of a similar attack. This was soon after he had split from his wife and won a bitter battle for custody of their daughter. Mokone was convicted of the two attacks and spent eight years in prison, before being released in 1988.

Mokone always maintained his innocence and believes the CIA and FBI had him under surveillance. He has accused the authorities of beating, torturing and threatening him. His case was supported by many people, including Reverend Desmond Tutu, who he had studied and played football with in South Africa in the 1950s. He wrote to the New York Supreme Court in 1984 describing Mokone as

"a gentle man. He speaks for kindness and compassion among humans".

Dutch writer Tom Egbers investigated the matter, and unearthed letters from the Department for Internal Affairs in South Africa and the American CIA that called for Mokone to be brought to heel. Mokone had been a member of the African National Congress.

Mokone went on to be rehabilitated by the changing political climate to the extent that he became South Africa Tourism's Goodwill Ambassador in New York. He also founded the Kalamazoo South Africa Foundation for Education Through Sport, to help talented young South African sportspeople to find places in further education.

Tom Egbers went on to write a novel based on Mokone's time playing in The Netherlands, *The Black Meteor (De Zwarte Meteeor)*, which was made into a movie in 2000.

7.2. David Julius, Darius Dhlomo and Gerry Francis

Inspired by Steve Mokone's breakthrough, a small number of other black South Africans went to Europe in pursuit of their football dream, with varying degrees of success. At least three players went to Mokone's first club Coventry on trial but didn't make it as professionals. Mokone's friend Gibson 'Danger' Makatelele, who played for Alexandra Rangers and the South Africa 'African' side in 1952, had an unsuccessful trial at Wolves in the late 1950s.

David Julius

Born in 1932, Julius was a midfielder who captained the South African coloured national team in 1952. Julius left South Africa in 1956, about the same time as Steve Mokone, and headed for Portugal, where he was signed by one of the top teams, Sporting Lisbon. He went on to help them win the league championship in 1961-2.

Julius played under the more Portuguese-sounding name David Julio, obtained Portuguese citizenship, and played four times for Portugal in 1960 and 1961, helping them reach the quarter finals of the 1960 European Championship.

Darius Dhlomo

Darius Dhlomo was born in Durban in 1931. He joined Steve Mokone at Dutch side Heracles in 1958 (following several months' delay in obtaining a passport) after starring for Baumannville City Blacks in Durban and the South African black national team.

On the day of his debut for Heracles, he went missing, causing panic among his team-mates and management. Eventually, he emerged from a cupboard wearing his football kit – he'd assumed that being black he wouldn't be allowed to share a changing room with whites.

Dhlomo had a more 'European' style of play than Mokone, which he put down to coming from a different part of South Africa – they had better pitches in Durban than in the Transvaal where Mokone grew up.

A versatile midfielder, he went on to play for Vitesse Arnhem in 1962, then DHC Delft, Enschedese Boys and Tubantia Hengelo, all in Holland.

Known in South Africa as 'Daring Darius', he was a man of many talents, becoming at various times a social worker for the YMCA in South Africa, a professional boxer, a cricketer, tennis player, jazz drummer and blues singer, an anti-apartheid campaigner and a town councillor for the Labour Party in Enschede.

Gerry Francis

Gerry Francis was the second black South African to join a British club, and the first to play in the first division. Born in Johannesburg in 1933 to African and Asian parents, he played for City and Suburban, and went to England in

1956 for trials. He was signed as a professional by Leeds United in 1957, after a period on trial with them as an amateur, becoming their first black player. Like Mokone, but unlike many of the white South Africans of this period, he paid his own way to England, saving up by working as a shoe repairer in Johannesburg.

Francis was a winger, and made 50 appearances for Leeds, mostly between 1959 and 1961, scoring 9 goals, although Leeds were relegated in 1960.

He was transferred to 4th division York City for £4,000 in 1961, where he scored 4 times in 16 games, but that turned out to be his last season in professional football. After retirement, he became a postman, then emigrated to Canada.

Francis recommended his friend Albert Johanneson to Leeds, who went on to star for them in the 1960s.

7.3. Albert Johanneson

Albert Johanneson is remembered by many UK football fans as the first black footballer. Erroneous though this view is – pioneers Arthur Wharton and Andrew Watson predated him by 75 years, and Gerry Francis became the first black South African Leeds United player in 1957 – to a generation of supporters in the UK Albert made a huge impression as a black player on a national stage.

A schoolteacher recommended Albert ‘Hurry Hurry’ Johanneson to Leeds United after seeing him play for Germiston Coloured School and Germiston Colliers in his native South Africa.

Signed on a three-month trial during 1961 at the age of 21, Johanneson soon made his debut in the Leeds first team. He played one game with fellow Black South African winger Gerry Francis for the Elland Road side. His mesmerising skills and speed at outside-left caused panic among defences.

Joint top scorer with 15 goals as Leeds won the Second Division Championship in 1964, he continued to terrorise opposing defenders in the First Division.

In 1965, he became the first black player to appear in an English FA Cup final, as part of the Leeds side that lost 2-1 to Liverpool. The following season he played in Europe for Leeds in the Inter-City Fairs Cup, (later UEFA Cup).

Racism

His skills often led to defenders resorting to foul play to try to stop him, with frequent injuries to the winger as a result. A target for racial abuse, Albert’s confidence was sometimes undermined by the jibes of his opponents. He once complained that an Everton player called him a ‘Black bastard’.

A contributor to a Leeds fans’ website remembers:

“My memories are of a streak of black lightning flying around the pitch at Elland Road in the 60’s....we Leeds fans threw him bananas from the Shed, but we didn’t KNOW it was racist back then, as blacks were far and few between - and even less in football. We thought he liked them, in our ignorance. He would duly pick them up and bring them to the dugout.”

After 200 appearances and 68 goals for Leeds, Johanneson joined 4th division York City on a free transfer in 1970, after losing the competition for the left-wing slot at Leeds to the Scottish international Eddie Gray. He helped York win promotion but played just 26 times for them over two seasons.

The effect of apartheid

Said by some to be a nervous character, this was thought to be the psychological baggage caused by living in a segregated country, then feeling uncomfortable about living and working on an equal footing with whites. For example, he was unsure at first whether he could share the team’s changing facilities – but was stripped and thrown in the team bath as a welcome! When fans asked for his autograph, he called them ‘Sir’.

Despite his achievements on the pitch, some thirty years later Albert Johanneson died a lonely, penniless alcoholic in a Leeds high-rise council flat in September 1995.

His former teammates paid tribute to him following his passing: Scottish winger Peter Lorimer said,

"Albert could be the scourge of defences but he never quite fulfilled his potential. He could still be a joy to watch and to play with"

The legendary Leeds 'enforcer' Norman Hunter recalls

"On his day he could skin any full-back, but he lacked the consistency and it was unfortunate that Albert was around at the same time as Eddie Gray. He was one of Don Revie's most promising signings but when Eddie got a grip of his place on the wing, something had to give and Albert found himself in the reserves."

Albert had been especially effective in tandem with the club's skipper, Bobby Collins. As the Scottish schemer put it:

"Albert could fly and I could put the ball on the spot for him. When he was in his stride there weren't many who could catch him."

The Albert Johanneson story is one of a fallen sporting hero whose plight shocked many at Leeds United and around the football world. But many supporters will remember those games when he sparkled, and Norman Hunter is quick to dismiss the theory that he was unable to cope with stick from the opposing defenders.

"He was braver than many people gave him credit for and had the scars on his legs to prove it."

8.1. In the shadow of apartheid:1960-1990: introduction

The period from 1960 to the fall of apartheid in the early 1990s saw a sharp decline in the number of South African footballers in the UK. In the 34 years from 1960 to 1993 only 19 South Africans appeared for English Football League clubs.

This period coincides with the FIFA ban on the Football Association of South Africa and the international boycott of South Africa by the anti-apartheid movement. The boycott was supported by the anti-apartheid movement within South Africa, but it meant players were unable to display their talents to the wider world in international football.

Another major development was the introduction of the first professional leagues in South Africa from 1959, which meant there were more options for home grown players to make a living from the game without being thousands of miles from home. Concern about the extent of emigration by South Africa's leading players was one of the factors leading to the establishment of professional leagues there.

The whites-only National Football League was formed in 1959 with twelve teams. In 1961, the South African Soccer League was established for non-whites, with six teams in the first season, expanding to ten the following season, with another 46 competing in three provincial second division leagues. Although it was a 'professional' league, wages were often too low to live on and players were dependent on other jobs to make ends meet. This in turn limited the amount of time they had for training.

In 1962, apartheid policies led to 34 SASL second division clubs in the Transvaal being banned from playing at municipal grounds, and in 1966 the lack of suitable facilities brought the SASL to an end.

Another attempt was launched with the formation of the mainly black National Professional Soccer League in 1971, which merged with the white National Football League in 1978 to form one multi-racial league. This catapulted football into the vanguard of the anti-apartheid struggle.

There were also changes in Britain that affected the flow of South African footballers to England in this period.

In 1948, the British Nationality Act encouraged Commonwealth citizens to move to the UK, to help fill the post-war labour shortage. This helped facilitate the careers of South African footballers of the period, such as Steve Mokone and Gerry Francis. However, in 1962, amid fears that there was 'too much' immigration, the Commonwealth Immigrants Act was brought in to restrict the entry, in particular, of people of colour. This saw the introduction of an employment voucher scheme and was targeted at non-white immigrants from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. This scheme lasted until 1971.

In 1978, the barriers to foreign players joining English clubs started to come down, but this actually had an adverse effect on South Africans' prospects. The catalyst was European Community legislation stating football

associations in member states could not ban players from other member states, to ensure football operated within the EC's employment laws on free movement for workers.

The Football League, while amending its rules in 1978, decided to go further and allow foreign players in general, not just Europeans, to play in England. Initially, they stipulated a maximum of two foreign players could play in one team, but this quota system was soon eroded. Another early stipulation was that players had to be internationals to be granted a work permit – a big problem for South Africans as their national team was banned by FIFA.

From this time on, then, South Africans would have to compete for the attention of English clubs with players from all over the world.

The years from 1978 to 1985 saw an increase in the numbers of foreign players in English football. This was followed by a decline between 1985 and 1990, when English clubs were banned from European competitions after the Heysel Stadium disaster, and English football had a reputation for hooliganism.

8.2. Colin Viljoen

Colin Viljoen was one of the few South Africans to make it in the English game during this period. Born on 20th June 1948 in Doornfontein, Johannesburg, as the son of a plasterer, his skills were first noticed at the height of apartheid. Rugby was the sport at Athlone Boys High but Colin hated it, having to wait for the school day to end so he could play his favourite sport. He remembers,

“Soccer was not played at Athlone. I think rugby is stupid. I didn’t like it at all. I was born into a very poor family and grew up playing soccer with the black boys. This was during apartheid’s harshest era and this did not make a lot of people happy, but I did not care.”

While playing for amateur club Rangers FC he was selected for Southern Transvaal, where he met English coach Gordon Edleston, who had contacts and connections in the UK.

Work permits and clearance problems

“Edleston thought I had the potential and he knew Ipswich Town manager Bill McGarry,”

said Viljoen, who left South Africa in August 1965, aged just 17, to pursue his dream in England. He was at Ipswich on a one-month trial and did well. Like others before and after him, Colin found it extremely difficult to obtain a work permit. South Africa had been kicked out of the Commonwealth because of apartheid and South African players were banned in 1965. Help came from an unusual source, as he recalls;

“Ipswich’s wealthy owner really wanted me. He got me a job on one of his big country estates pretending I was a gardener, just to keep me in England. In the meantime, I was playing for the Ipswich juniors and after two years, they got me a work permit. After five years I applied for a full British passport and ended up playing for England in 1975.”

He went from strength to strength with the juniors, helping them win the league and two cup competitions. The following year he was signed as a full-time professional by Ipswich.

“From the juniors, I skipped the second team and went straight to the first team. That was quite an achievement for any youngster,”

he added.

His first match for Ipswich was what dreams are made of. As an 18-year-old, he scored a hat trick on his debut against Portsmouth in a 4-2 victory in March 1967.

Eleven more incredible years at Ipswich followed. He played more than 400 games, scoring more than 50 goals for the “Tractor Boys” including Uefa Cup matches against super clubs Real Madrid, Barcelona, AC Milan and Lazio.

Under Bobby Robson, the East Anglian club became one of the country's top teams of the mid 1970s and Viljoen was a major factor in their successes; however Viljoen has insisted that much of the success at Robson's Ipswich was due to his coach, the former Welsh international Cyril Lea.

He won two caps for England, both coming in a four-day spell in May 1975. A goalless draw with Northern Ireland in Belfast was followed by a 2-2 draw with Wales at Wembley, both games in the Home International Championship.

“Playing for England was another highlight. Not too many foreigners have had that honour. The coach was Don Revie and I played alongside fantastic players including Kevin Keegan, Ray Clemence, Alan Ball, Peter Shilton, Colin Bell, Trevor Brooking, Trevor Francis, Emlyn Hughes, Brian Little and Gerry Francis. It was such an honour.”

In 1978, he was transferred from Ipswich to Manchester City for the then considerable sum of £100,000. He spent two years there before moving to Chelsea for £60,000. Viljoen was released by the club at the end of the 1981-82 season and signed for non-league Southall FC, where he played until he retired.

After hanging up his boots, he opened a pub/restaurant in London. In 1990 he returned to South Africa and these days he does private coaching for amateur clubs in and around Alberton, south of Johannesburg.

“I do training for coaches and teachers, offer specialised methods and organise tours for amateur clubs and youngsters to England. I also ran a pension scheme for footballers in England and that is supporting me financially.”

This piece is based on the article ‘Doornfontein boy who made it big in England’ by Mokoena, Kgomotso, which appeared in the Sunday Times of South Africa on 19th July 2009, and is used with permission.

8.3. South Africans in the USA

In the late 1960s and 1970s, South African players' opportunities were curtailed by the international boycott of the country's apartheid regime, the expulsion from FIFA in 1964 and the restrictions on black South Africans' rights to travel abroad. However, a few of the country's biggest stars of the time managed to forge careers in the USA and Canada.

8.3.1. Kaizer Motaung

Kaizer 'Boy-Boy' Motaung was born in Orlando East in Soweto and was already starring as a striker for top side Orlando Pirates by the age of 16.

Motaung became the first South African to play professionally in the USA when he joined Atlanta Chiefs in the recently formed North American Soccer League (NASL) in 1968. The Chiefs were then putting together a team entirely of foreigners and had come to Africa to look for talent. They recruited Motaung after trials in Zambia.

In his first season, Motaung overcame injury and cultural acclimatisation to become top scorer in the league, helping the Chiefs to win the NASL Championship. He was named Rookie of the Year and voted onto the NASL's All Star Team that season and again in 1971.

On his return to South Africa he formed the famous Kaizer Chiefs club in Soweto in 1970, named after himself and his American team. The Chiefs became the most popular team in South Africa, with their dress code of Afros and flares, slogan 'Amakhozi 4 life – love and peace' and emphasis, as Motaung puts it, "that soccer was about comradeship, about friendship, sportsmanship" striking a chord with the nation at this moment in its history.

On the pitch, they became the first black side in South Africa to beat a team from the white leagues, and have won numerous honours. Their finest season was in 1992 when they became African Club of the Year and African Cup Winners Cup (or Mandela Cup) champions.

Motaung is still managing director of the Kaizer Chiefs and has also served on the National Soccer League executive, South African Football Association (SAFA) executive, and was instrumental in forming the Premier Soccer League.

8.3.2. Pule 'Ace' Ntsoelengoe

Ntsoelengoe is known as one of the all-time greats in South Africa, hero-worshipped by many, both black and white, but due to the lack of opportunity to play for his country, is little known outside of his home country and the USA. Ntsoelengoe

“could do things with the ball none of us had ever seen before, score thirty yard screamers, lobs and curlers from tight angles, or waltz through a defense with the ball glued to his foot before strolling it into an empty net”, remembers Tony Karon, a white journalist from Cape Town; “he was the player you wanted to be”.

'Ace' was born in Randfontein, near Johannesburg. He starred for Kaizer Chiefs as an attacking midfielder and moved to America in 1973, but returned to play for the Chiefs during the close seasons.

He spent 11 seasons in the States, playing for the Miami Torros, Denver Dynamos, Minnesota Kicks and Toronto Blizzards in the North American Soccer league (NASL). He became one of the league's all-time leaders in appearances and goals scored, and was voted onto the NASL's All Star line-up in 1979 and 1982. In 2003 he was inducted into the US National Soccer Hall of Fame. Former president of Toronto Blizzard, Clive Toye, remembers:

"I bought him for \$10,000 from Minnesota, where he was a hero. If Ace had been playing in recent years, he would have been as famous as any of the current European stars. He had skill, vision, superb passing ability, scoring ability, confidence to do the unthinkable. A truly great player.

"Off the field he was a very quiet, gentle man. The only time I ever heard him complain was when the apartheid government of South Africa declared his part of the country a separate nation called Bophuthatswana (he was a Tswana) and took away his South African passport. Since no other nation recognized Bophuthatswana, we had to go through contortions to get him documents allowing him to return to Canada to play and travel with the Blizzard."

In 1976 he had a one-off opportunity to shine at international level when South Africa selected its first ever multi-racial national team to play an Argentina "invitation XI". South Africa thrashed the opposition, and Ntsoelengoe was praised to the rafters afterwards by Argentina's manager Oscar Martinez, who described him as

“almost a perfect footballer”.

After his playing career, he returned to South Africa where he worked with the Kaizer Chiefs' youth programme and the South Africa under-23 team.

'Ace' died suddenly in May 2006 of a suspected heart attack. In October 2008, he was posthumously awarded National Order of Ikhamanga (Category II Silver) "for his excellent achievement in the game of football locally and abroad and contributing to the development of the game in South Africa".

8.3.3. Jomo Sono

Ephraim Matsilele 'Jomo' Sono was born in 1955 in Orlando East, Soweto. He was brought up from the age of 8 in poverty by his ailing grandparents after his father died and his mother abandoned him. He spent much of his childhood selling apples and peanuts at football matches and train stations to provide an income for himself and his grandparents.

'Jomo' translates as 'Burning Spear', and he was also nicknamed the 'Black Prince' in South Africa. Sono became a star of the Orlando Pirates, an attacking midfielder known for his flamboyant play. Author Graeme Friedman describes him thus:

"Jomo Sono, who could body swerve as if he were listening to music only he could hear, and then let loose with a targeted shot as bent as a banana".

Sono went to join the likes of Pele and Franz Beckenbauer at New York Cosmos in 1977, when his compatriot Eddie Firmani was in charge there. Firmani remembers,

"Jomo was a very good player but unfortunately for him we had players like Pele, George Chinaglia, Steve Hunt, Dennis Tueart playing in the forward line, all internationals so he did not get to play too often. The worst thing that happened before I got there was Prof. Massei, Pele's manager, said Jomo would be the next Pele. That was a huge statement and must have played on Jomo's mind because he expected to play in every game and did not."

Sono spent six seasons in America, one each at Cosmos, Colorado Caribous and Atlanta Chiefs, then three years at Toronto Blizzard where he teamed up with Ace Ntsoelengoe.

In 1983 he bought Highlands Park of Johannesburg, a top white football club, and renamed it Jomo Cosmos – after himself and New York Cosmos, a significant symbol of the changing power relations in South African soccer and society.

Sono was appointed caretaker coach of Bafana Bafana just before the African Cup of Nations finals in 1998, and he steered them to the final where they lost 2-0 to Egypt. He had a second spell in charge of the national team from 2002 to 2004. He is known as a top talent scout who is credited with discovering many of South Africa's star players including Phil Masinga and Mark Fish.

He was voted South African Footballer of the Century in 2002.

8.4. The apartheid exiles: Brian, Ed and Mark Stein

Had it not been for the political activism of Cape Town resident Isiaih Stein against apartheid in the 1960s, English football might never have enjoyed the talents of his remarkable sons Edwin, Brian and Mark. From a family of nine children Brian recalls:

"My father was always involved in the fight against apartheid. He was in prison at different times and also kept under 24-hour house arrest. Eventually, the time came when we had to get out."

Brian also remembers seeing terrible violence in Cape Town and having to give up his seat to white people on the bus. Eventually, Isiaih decided to migrate with his family to England:

"That was 1967. Mark was just a baby but Edwin and myself were already keen on football, although we knew nothing about the game in England."

Yet, all three brothers went on to play professionally at a time when Black South Africans were a rare sight in the English game.

In August 2009, Brian recalled,

"It was very difficult for my father to get out of South Africa under the Apartheid government. He carried on the struggle once we settled in the UK, as a committee member of the exiled South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SAN-ROC), which helped play a key role in successfully lobbying for the sports boycott".

Racism

While they left the structural racism of South Africa behind, they encountered both personal discrimination and institutional racism in their adopted country, Brian recalling an occasion when he was called an obscene name by a team mate, provoking a fight in the dressing room.

Brian played for Luton Town from 1977 to 1988. After 3 years in France, with MS Caen and Annecy, he returned to Luton in 1991, moving to Barnet the following year. In all he scored 130 times in 427 appearances for Luton. He achieved cult status with Hatters' fans after scoring twice in the momentous 3-2 League Cup final victory over Arsenal at Wembley in 1988. He also played for England once, a 2-0 defeat to France, in 1984.

He returned again to Luton in 2000 and worked as a coach and assistant manager for them until 2007, and has since gone on to work for Grimsby Town as chief scout, before being appointed assistant manager in May 2009.

His older brother Edwin also played for Barnet and tasted a brief but successful spell in management following Barry Fry's departure in March 1992. Edwin's record as caretaker manager was 4 wins, 2 draws and 2 defeats, safely guiding the Bees to promotion to the English third tier, before leaving in the close season to rejoin Fry at Southend United. Edwin's

partnership with Fry saw them work together at Birmingham City and Peterborough United. Edwin became the

The youngest of the three, Mark, also joined Luton in 1984 and played for several clubs in the next few years – Aldershot, QPR, Oxford, Stoke, Chelsea, Stoke again, Bournemouth, Ipswich, before returning to Luton in 2000. He was also in the League Cup winning side of 1988. His biggest move came in October 1993 when Chelsea manager Glenn Hoddle signed him for a £1.5 million transfer fee. Whilst at Stamford Bridge, Mark set a then Premier League record by scoring in seven consecutive matches from December 1993 to February 1994, and is painfully remembered by Sheffield United fans for his last-minute goal which relegated the Blades from the Premiership in 1994.

Remembering his father's struggles against racism in South Africa, Mark hit the headlines in season 2003-4 when he asked for a transfer from Dagenham and Redbridge following alleged racist comments against a fellow Black player by the team manager.

Realising the consequences of taking a stand, Mark commented at the time,

"I still love playing but I don't know if I'll get another club. I sometimes think I might get tarnished, but this is so important to me that I can't worry about the consequences. With something like this I'll put my neck on the line. My Dad was a political activist who fought against racism in South Africa all his life. So why should I have to put up with it here?"

After his playing career came to an end Mark enrolled on a three year university degree course and in June 2009 was head physio at Barnet FC, in Division Two of the Football League.

8.5. British players and managers in South Africa

The apartheid era saw the sporting isolation of South Africa by the international community as an expression of its disgust at the regime. The country was expelled from the Olympics and banned by FIFA in the 1960s and its national sports teams were boycotted.

Despite all this, the new semi-professional whites-only football scene in 1960s and 1970s South Africa attracted nearly a thousand British players and managers, particularly those nearing the end of their careers or attracted by the generous wages on offer during the close-season in Britain.

This number included some of Britain's top stars, including ten members of England's 1966 World Cup-winning squad, undoubtedly boosting the size of the whites-only crowds. Household names who played in South Africa included Tom Finney, Stanley Matthews, George Best, Bobby and Jack Charlton, Bobby Moore, Kevin Keegan and many more.

Stanley Matthews was so taken with the South African football scene that he went back to coach when he retired and formed a youth team in Soweto called 'Stan's Men'. This was during the boycott era so it provoked mixed feelings although he no doubt had good intentions.

Although they weren't breaking any rules, (the FIFA boycott prevented clubs but not individuals from playing in South Africa) their implicit support for the racially segregated football system – they played for whites-only teams in whites-only leagues in stadiums from which non-whites were excluded – probably helped to sustain the system by bringing money into it through the turnstiles.

In 1969 the Daily Mirror reported that there were nearly 150 British players registered with the sixteen First Division clubs in the National Football League – an average of about nine per club. Durban City and Cape Town City were particularly keen recruiters of British players, with several clubs also employing British managers, coaches and scouts.

Tours

Whilst there had been a long tradition of British club sides touring South Africa, this was ended by the FIFA boycott in 1964. However, some 'rebel' figures circumvented this ban by putting together non-FIFA-affiliated teams for the sole purpose of playing in South Africa.

Malcolm Allison, former Manchester City manager, put together a touring squad in 1973. He justified his actions by playing one game against a black team in Soweto, saying this was a way of breaking down racial barriers.

In 1979, Bobby Charlton put together a squad, including the likes of Bobby Moore, Jack Charlton and Terry Paine, to South Africa. During the tour they played one multiracial team and also played the black side Kaizer Chiefs.

In 1982, former player and Professional Footballers Association chairman Jimmy Hill organised a tour under the pretext of encouraging inter-racial contact through sport. Hill was sold an ugly dummy by South African Breweries (SAB). He accepted their invitation to round-up a 'multi-national' team to play a six match series. John Barnwell was appointed manager. The tour was condemned by the FA, FIFA, the Kaiser Chiefs and Orlando Pirates and rejected by most players in Britain. The Argentinians Osvaldo Ardiles and Mario Kempes were instructed by their clubs to withdraw because of the controversy. After three matches the tour was cancelled, with Hill already conveniently back in Britain for his daughter's wedding. Asked about the Black opposition to them in South Africa, John Barnwell commented

"We don't know what the Black attitude is because we were not here to find that out" (Guardian, 26 July 1982).

He also said that, *"I really wanted the tour to be an honest attempt to bring black and white together"*.

SAB was reported to have spent £75,000 getting what the Azanian Peoples Organisation – AZAPO – labelled 'marauding mercenaries' over to the Republic.

9.1. After apartheid: introduction

As South Africa began to emerge from the apartheid era in the early 1990s, football played a leading role in the moves to restructure the country along non-racial lines.

The African National Congress asked the international community to end its sports boycott of South Africa in 1991.

Four previously disparate organisations merged to form the non-racial South African Football Association in December 1991, and in June 1992 SAFA was accepted back into FIFA and the CAF.

From this point on, South Africa was able to compete in international football, giving top players a higher domestic and international profile with opportunities to play against, and learn from, some of the world's top footballers. South Africa's first match was in July 1992, two years before the country's first democratic elections.

The South Africa team, known affectionately at home as 'Bafana Bafana' ('The Boys'), achieved rapid success, hosting and winning the 1996 African Cup of Nations, reaching the final again in 1998, and qualifying for the 1998 and 2002 World Cup finals.

Many of South Africa's top stars now play in the top leagues in Europe, including England.

In the last two decades of the twentieth century English, football was also reinventing itself in an attempt to lay its demons to rest. 1990 saw the end of the ban on English teams competing in European competitions, and in 1992 the English Premier League was established (though many feel this has created more demons for lower league clubs). Money poured into the elite level of the game, mainly as a result of deals with terrestrial and new satellite television companies to increase the amount of English football broadcast at home and across the world. However, the cost of this reform at the highest level of the game in England has been an impoverishment of many clubs outside the Premier League

In December 1995, a reform to the European transfer system was brought about as a result of the Bosman ruling. This was a ruling made at the European Court of Justice, brought about by a legal challenge by Belgian footballer Jean-Marc Bosman. The court ruled that if a player's contract had ended, his club could not charge a transfer fee for him. To do so would be to hinder the player's freedom to move between member countries of the European Community enshrined in Article 48 of the Treaty of Rome. The Court also ruled that UEFA's policy at the time of limiting the number of foreign players in a team should be overturned as this too violated Article 48. One effect of the Bosman ruling was to push up players' wages, where clubs were saving money by acquiring out-of-contract players on free transfers.

Red tape in the form of quotas for overseas players and work permit requirements continued to affect the flow of footballers from outside the

European Union to the UK, but these requirements have gradually been eased in the last few years. Before the 1999-2000 season, for example, work permits, if granted, were only issued for a year at a time, with renewal being subject to the player having played in 75% of the club's matches, and having played sufficient international football as well. This made for a demanding schedule for players with little settling-in time allowed for.

A general ignorance about African football by many managers and other officials in the UK is also taking time to break down, but it is happening. African Cup of Nations matches are now broadcast on British television. It may be argued that traditionally, British and African football styles of play were very different, and Britain has been slower than some other European countries such as France, Holland and Belgium, to look to Africa as a potential source of talent. The multiracial France side that won the World Cup in 1998 with several players of African origin symbolised the positive effects that this cultural cross-fertilisation can have.

9.2. Lucas Radebe

Lucas – real name Ntuba - Radebe, was born in 1969, the fourth of ten children who grew up in Diepkloof Zone 4, a township on the outskirts of Soweto. As a child, he played barefoot with bandaged feet on stony dirt, with balls made of socks or anything else they could find.

Apartheid

As a teenager in the 1980s, Radebe was involved in the anti-apartheid struggles, taking part in protest marches, school and consumer boycotts, and regularly witnessed serious violence in the area.

In 1987, his parents sent him to study in Bophuthatswana to try to keep him safe and out of trouble. Here he played as a goalkeeper for ICL Birds United, signing as a semi-professional after a year. He didn't play in defence, the position from which he found fame and success, until he was 20, when his team were left short in this position by the retirement of one of their regulars. He played for Bophuthatswana's 'national' team in the Inter-State games, which they won, beating South Africa 1-0 in the final.

Radebe began a teacher training course, but was soon spotted by his idol, Kaizer Chiefs' head scout Ace Ntsoelengoe, and after persuasion by Kaizer Motaung, he signed for the club and gave up teacher training. He made his debut for the Kaizer Chiefs in 1990, and soon established himself in the team that swept to a host of league and cup triumphs in the next two or three seasons. He had returned to live with his family in Zone 4, and once, while driving through the township, Radebe was shot in the back. He narrowly escaped permanent disablement, and the perpetrator and motive were never established.

The South Africa team played its first match since the international ban by FIFA on 7th July 1992, four days after the ban was lifted. Lucas Radebe was in that team, beating Cameroon 1-0, and became a regular in the side.

In 1994, English Premiership club Leeds United's manager Howard Wilkinson had heard about the Mamelodi Sundowns' striker Phil Masinga from a friend in Durban and sent his chief scout, Jeff Sleight, to watch him. Sleight had to travel to Australia to track Masinga down, but saw and recommended Radebe as well as Masinga and both were signed by Leeds, becoming among the first of a post-apartheid exodus of top players from South Africa.

The two players were following a path trodden over thirty years earlier by Leeds United South African legend Albert Johanneson and his colleague Gerry Francis. Although they had planned to meet up with 'Hurry Hurry' the closest they came was when they attended Albert's funeral in 1995.

It took time for Radebe to get a regular first team spot but he persevered and was made captain by new manager George Graham in 1998. He went on to greater success under Graham's successor David O'Leary as the club reached the semi-finals of the European Champions League in 2001.

In negotiating a new contract with Leeds in 1999, Radebe and his agent showed he hadn't forgotten his homeland by persuading Leeds to take two to four young South Africans on trial each year.

South Africa hadn't forgotten him either – he was voted South African Sports Star of the Year for 1998.

Radebe spent 11 seasons with Leeds until his retirement in 2005 and became known for his diplomacy, quiet charisma and inspiration. In the words of team mate Stephen McPhail:

“Lucas’s commitment is forceful and it is brilliant. It’s just great to play with him behind you. He’s always smiling. When he gets booked, he smiles. He loves the game. He just puts love in the air”.

He also became a firm favourite with the fans, some of whom formed the successful Leeds band the Kaiser Chiefs in honour of Radebe and his South African club.

In 1996 he helped South Africa win the African Cup of Nations and the following year was made captain of Bafana Bafana, a position he held during the 1998 and 2002 World Cup finals. He earned 70 international caps between 1992 and 2003.

Club v country

Many African players in Europe have been caught in a ‘tug of war’ between their club and country when international duty has called. The African Cup of Nations takes place every two years in January and February – the middle of the football season in Europe, and some managers have shown their frustration at the length of time they lose their African players for. On the other hand, it can be argued that they should have been aware of this when they signed them.

Radebe tried to please everyone by taking on ambitious schedules, sometimes playing twice for Leeds and once for South Africa in the space of five days, with two eleven hour flights in between. David O’Leary said:

“The trouble about Lucas is he doesn’t want to let anybody down”.

According to Graeme Friedman in his book ‘Madiba’s Boys’, George Graham once vowed never to sign another South African after a clash between Leeds and the South African FA over the services of Radebe.

Racism

Radebe experienced racism in English football. He was once called a ‘South African kaffir’ by an opposing fan at Leicester City, and following the signing of Radebe and Masinga, Leeds received phone calls asking if the club was being taken over by blacks.

Incidents such as these, and being called an ‘ape’ by Galatasaray fans in Turkey, moved Radebe to get involved in the campaign against racism in football. This, along with his work with children in South Africa, resulted in

Radebe receiving the FIFA Fair Play award in 2000. Lucas commented at the time:

"Football has played an important part in uniting races in South Africa, and that is one of the best things I have done."

The ultimate accolade was paid to him by Nelson Mandela, who called him 'Big Tree', during a visit to Leeds in April 2001. Mandela said of Radebe,

"This is my hero".

Lucas Radebe interview with Leon Mann of the BBC, London, 9th July 2009

On Mandela – the man I call 'Madiba'

I remember at school, we would sing Nelson Mandela's name. Even if we didn't know so much about him or what he looked like we were still singing his name in the streets and the schools. This created a lot of problems because of apartheid.

But because of Mandela we eventually had democracy and then things started to change. As black people we were then given some opportunities to go and express ourselves in different careers. Whether that was football or rugby we achieved a lot in a very short period of time.

We were soon hosting great sporting events like the Rugby World Cup in 1995, which we won, and we saw Madiba holding the World Cup high. He had a great influence on sport. Especially Rugby which was a minority sport and for us was known as for the white people – but after that (the World Cup) it changed our whole perspective.

Through sport the whole country was gelling together. There was a lot to be done to heal the wounds of apartheid and it was tough but with an idol and role model such as Madiba – with his influence in raising awareness of the importance of unity and democracy - the country developed and became accepted internationally.

Now people have come together for one goal and created the rainbow nation. It's given us the strength to be able to host bigger events like the football World Cup.

Back in 1996 we hosted the African Nations Cup and that's where you saw black, white and Indians coming together because of the football and that showed how much sport has played a role in our society and the country as a whole.

Where I watched the Rugby World Cup in 1995.....

I was in Leeds when the Rugby World Cup in 1995 took place. I had arrived there in 1994. But I remember watching it on TV. It was unbelievable. In the crowd I could even spot a few black faces! Just seeing that gave me goose bumps – I could see change coming. For that moment, I developed a love of rugby, but more importantly I could see hope.

On lessons learnt.....

For me there's no future without the past. We've always got to reflect on our past to appreciate where we are today. For me I think it's important that we have to tell people the history of our country. It's vital that kids growing up in South Africa know what people have gone through to bring different cultures together. It's only when we realize and understand this process that we can truly move on and be together.

On Albert Johanneson.....

I wasn't aware of Albert when I signed for Leeds to be honest. When he signed for Leeds we were still under apartheid and we never had any access to international football to know anything about football in England or anywhere in the world.

The first time I heard about him was when me and Phil (Masinga) arrived in Leeds and we were told about him. We were told we weren't the first South Africans to play for the team.

The great thing about him was that he was coloured. It really gripped us and we wanted to meet him. But at that time he was unwell and had gone through a lot. And he died a year after we had signed for the club which was really, really sad. We both really wanted to meet him because he was someone who paved the way for us.

On Leeds.....

When we were spotted I was injured all the time so the chief scout couldn't really watch me so much. But they saw Phil Masinga and were very impressed. But after they saw a video of me they invited me over. At that time I didn't really know anything about Leeds – where they were in the league, what kind of city it was – it was like walking into a dark room. But I did know it was a Premiership club and a great opportunity for me. As a sportsman you want to play at the highest level – so it was an incredible opportunity.

I had friends back in South Africa who had tried to play at this level, who were better than me but never got the chance. Brothers who, because of apartheid, could never get such an opportunity because of those barriers. So for us it was a real opportunity to represent them and thank them for paving the way for us. We wanted to make our country proud, our friends happy.

Then coming to England and realizing that Leeds was the most racist city in England! And having come from apartheid!... (Smiles and sighs)

Howard Wilkinson was the manager and he had some experience of apartheid in South Africa and he really had a good idea of where we were coming from. And yes, there were some racist remarks now and then, but we had the character to deal with that. Importantly, because it was me and Phil together we managed to support each other. But at one point I wanted to go back home as I felt I couldn't cope with the weather, training and being a full-time pro.

You know being full-time was very new for us. We never experienced training in the snow before and were used to the South Africa weather, food and culture. It was a massive commitment for us to come so far from home.

But in the end it was worth every single moment of the hard times. I'm what I am today because of the game and I really appreciate Leeds United for giving me that opportunity. We embarked on great projects that helped us look at life from a different perspective.

For us to eventually be able to give back to the community meant a lot and it's doing that which makes you a hero to your people.

9.3. Quinton Fortune

Quinton Fortune was born 21 May 1977 in Cape Town, growing up in the Cape suburb of Kewtown. He is a cousin of the famous Stein brothers, Brian, Mark and Edwin, who all made their mark in English football.

Fortune left South Africa at the age of 14 having attracted the attention of Spurs manager Terry Venables and moved to England where he played for the Tottenham Hotspur junior team, but never made a senior appearance for the club.

After having trouble obtaining a work permit in the UK Fortune moved to Spain, where he played for Atlético Madrid and Real Mallorca.

He made his international debut for South Africa against Kenya in September 1996 aged 19, before going on to make three appearances in the 1998 World Cup in France.

Manchester United purchased him from Atlético Madrid in August 1999 for a reported £1.5 million fee. He made his first appearance for the club on 30 August that year, against Newcastle United.

He was one of United's few genuine successes at the inaugural World Club Championship, scoring two goals in United's final match and fulfilling a lifetime's ambition by playing at the Maracana stadium in Brazil where Pele was once a regular.

Quinton made it into South Africa's World Cup 2002 squad, and scored a last minute equaliser against Paraguay which will rank highly among his proudest moments.

Fortune was initially brought to United as cover for Ryan Giggs, and was thought of primarily as an attacking left-sided midfielder. Quinton, however, proved himself a capable and dedicated performer in a number of positions. It was Fortune's strength as a defender, rather than his qualities as an attacker, that manager Alex Ferguson depended on most, and he was often deployed as a central midfielder or as a left-back. After being used mostly in a squad rotation basis for his career at Manchester United, he was released by the club ahead of the 2006–07 campaign.

After a successful trial, he joined Bolton Wanderers for the 2006–07 season and made the left back position his own for the club's opening games. However, the former United star was injured against Arsenal and appeared for Bolton later only in their cup game against Doncaster Rovers prior to being released.

In September 2008, he trialed with Sheffield United before joining Italian Serie B club Brescia on a one-year contract.

In February 2009, Belgian club Tubize signed Fortune on a free transfer, for whom he made seven appearances.

By August 2009 Fortune had made 53 appearances for South Africa.

With his former agent Colin Gie, Fortune set up a youth football club called FC Fortune back in Cape Town. When he joined Manchester United in 1999, FC Fortune set up an agreement with United to send promising players to England for trials. This agreement lasted until the end of 2000. FC Fortune later became Western Province United.

In August 2009 he joined Doncaster Rovers in the English Championship.

9.4. Aaron Mokoena

Aaron Mokoena, nicknamed 'Mbazo' or 'The Axe', became the youngest player ever to have represented South Africa when he made his international debut at the age of seventeen in 1999 for the 2000 Summer Olympics qualifiers. He went on to replace Lucas Radebe as the captain of the South African side just before the 2002 World Cup. He led the national squad at the African Cup of Nations held in Ghana in January 2008.

Born November 25, 1980, in Johannesburg, Aaron was initially a promising basketball player who then switched to football in his teens. He moved from Jomo Cosmos to Bayer Leverkusen in Germany in 1998 and then to Ajax Amsterdam, before being loaned out to Germinal Beerschot in Belgium, following in the footsteps of fellow South African Owen de Gama, who played for the Antwerp club in the mid-80s, and has since gone on to become a successful club manager.

Following two seasons at Belgian outfit Racing Genk, Mokoena moved to the English Premiership in January 2005, when signed by Blackburn Rovers manager Mark Hughes as part of a three-man midfield in a defensive 4-5-1 formation, a move which saw Blackburn concede fewer goals and move away from relegation danger.

Hughes later reverted to a 4-4-2 formation, which never brought out the best in the player. His less than impressive performances in this formation, coupled with his apparent lack of technical ability, lead to Mokoena being held as a mock heroic figure among some fans. From then on, he found himself used sparingly as a holding midfielder in his favoured 4-5-1 formation as a second-half substitute, charged with protecting leads in games in which Blackburn were winning. At the end of season 2008-9 Mokoena moved to Portsmouth FC.

He had made more than 25 international appearances for South Africa by the time he was 24, and in June 2008 raced ahead of Shaun Bartlett to earn the honour of becoming South Africa's most capped player. By July 2009 Mokoena had made 90 appearances for his country, way ahead of his nearest rivals in caps won.

9.5. Benedict McCarthy

Benni McCarthy was born in 1977 and grew up in a two-roomed council house with his parents and three siblings in Hanover Park in Cape Flats, Cape Town, an area once described as 'apartheid's dumping ground'. At the age of 14, one of McCarthy's friends was killed in a drive-by shooting, moments after they'd been playing football together on a little pitch between the houses.

In the book 'A Beautiful Game' by Tom Watt, McCarthy remembers,

"Everyday life in Hanover Park was all about gangs, drugs and crime. You know, you grow up there and either you stay out of trouble or you join in with all that".

Football was one thing that could help people overcome their differences.

"Street football: people from different neighbourhoods, different gangs, would put down their weapons and play...football could bring people together".

Supporting Manchester United, Benni grew up dreaming of playing football in England. He is now one of Europe's star players. He says his family helped him to concentrate on football as a boy rather than succumbing to the temptations of crime that surrounded him.

"My father, Abraham, was a very good player. Everybody in Cape Town knew about him and maybe, if South Africa hadn't been outside international football when he was playing, he could have done what I've been able to do: break out into the world game...he was a massive influence on me becoming a player. Without him, I would have ended up being another promising young player who got sidetracked and went the wrong way and ended up selling drugs or being a gangster".

At the age of 18, he scored 27 goals in 29 games for Seven Stars in Cape Town, and after two seasons, transferred to Cape Town Spurs. In 1997 Benni was signed by top Dutch side Ajax where he was part of their Championship winning team in his first season. He praised their famous coaching methods, commenting,

"South African players tend to have skill but little discipline. Sometimes they don't know how to combine as a team".

In 1999, he moved to Celta Vigo in Spain for what was then a record transfer fee for a South African.

McCarthy struggled to find his form at Celta Vigo and in 2001 was loaned to FC Porto in Portugal, where he stayed for 2 years, scoring 12 goals in 11 games in his second season. The club couldn't afford to buy him so he returned to Celta Vigo, where he was again unable to maintain a regular first team place. In 2003, Porto raised the funds to buy him.

Benni's form returned and he helped Porto win the UEFA Champions League in 2004, under manager Jose Mourinho.

In 2006 he joined Blackburn Rovers in the English Premier League, and finished his first season as second top scorer in the Premiership.

McCarthy has also become one of South Africa's most capped internationals and leading goalscorers since his debut in 1997 at the age of nineteen. He played and scored in the final stages of both the 1998 and 2002 World Cups in South Africa's first and second appearances at this stage.

Club v country

McCarthy has sometimes been a controversial figure, being somewhat in the firing line in the club versus country tussles that have often dogged the relationships between African players in Europe and their managers. McCarthy withdrew from international football after the 2002 World Cup, having clashed with his manager at Celta Vigo about his frequent absences for international duty, but returned in 2004. He explained,

"The whole pattern was killing my career, that's why I quit international football. African football needs the same calendar as Europe otherwise its best players are going to suffer".

It took the intervention of a government minister to persuade him to return. He withdrew again while at Blackburn, saying,

"You always want to play for your country – it's a massive honour, but your club means a great deal to you. I missed the games for South Africa because I wanted to establish myself at Blackburn. In the future, if they still think I'm the best striker, then I'd be honoured to go back".

In March 2009 he caused controversy again by refusing to play in two friendlies in South Africa due to a hamstring injury, despite being declared fit and cleared to go by his club. Just a few days later, he played a full match for Blackburn. Soon after this, he was left out of the South Africa squad for the Confederations Cup in June 2009.

Racism in Europe

In 2006, McCarthy made a complaint that he'd been racially abused while playing for Blackburn in Poland against Wisla Krakow in the UEFA Cup. After an investigation, his complaint was upheld and Wisla Krakow defender Nikola Mijailovic was banned for 5 UEFA cup matches as a result. UEFA spokesperson William Gaillard remarked,

"It's very courageous on Benni McCarthy's part to denounce the alleged abuse. We've had problems in the past in getting players to bear witness on such issues and we think it is progress when players begin to react and complain."

McCarthy has not forgotten his roots and regularly goes back to Hanover Park to visit old friends.

“But the most important thing: I take it seriously that I’m a role model for kids back in South Africa now who are growing up in the Projects. Kids playing football in the street like I did say, ‘I’m going to be the next Benni McCarthy’. Their parents say to them, ‘Look at what Benni did. He listened to his parents. He went to school.’”

9.6. Steven Pienaar

Steven Pienaar is the shining star of Bafana Bafana's midfield. Currently playing for Everton of the English Premier League, he was instrumental in helping his club to fifth place in the League in 2008/09.

Born in 1982, he grew up in Westbury, a mainly coloured township on the outskirts of Johannesburg with his mother and three sisters. Surrounded by gangs, crime and unemployment, the young Pienaar was no angel. However, a combination of strong family support, religious conviction and football talent helped to steer him away from trouble and danger.

Feeder clubs

Working hard as a member of Johannesburg's School of Excellence, he was signed by Ajax Cape Town, a feeder club of top Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam, in 1999.

A teenage prodigy, he was only 18 when he moved to Europe in 2001 to join Ajax Amsterdam. In 2002, he made his first team debut and became part of their Dutch Championship winning sides of 2002 and 2004. Playing also in the European Champions' League, the boy from the tough Johannesburg township spent five years at Holland's elite Ajax honing and refining his immense talent before, in 2006, joining Borussia Dortmund in the German Bundesliga.

Pienaar didn't settle at Dortmund and joined Everton on loan in 2007, making the move permanent in 2008. By the 2008-9 season, Pienaar was a regular in the Everton side that had its most successful season in a decade, qualifying for the 2009-10 Europa League and reaching the FA Cup final, where they lost 2-1 to Chelsea.

He made his international debut for South Africa in 2002, going on to appear in the 2002 World Cup finals in Japan and Korea and the 2008 African Cup of Nations in Ghana.

Off the pitch, Pienaar is involved with the Dutch charity Kerk en Actie (Church and Action) which works in South Africa. Among his commitments are working to tackle child abuse and other human rights abuses, helping former prisoners to make a fresh start and helping elderly people.

9.7. Charlton's 21st century South African links

Charlton Athletic has rekindled its interest in South African players in the 21st century, with Bafana Bafana stars **Mark Fish** and **Shaun Bartlett** both joining the club within a month of each other in late 2000.

Fish, a defender, played for Charlton until 2005 and won 62 caps for South Africa. He has since retired and returned to South Africa where he is involved in charity work and was an ambassador for the country's successful 2010 World Cup bid.

Striker **Bartlett** played for Charlton until 2006 when he returned to South Africa to join Kaizer Chiefs. Bartlett was until recently South Africa's most capped player. He scored 28 times in 74 appearances for his country, and also captained South Africa from 2001 to 2005.

Charlton Athletic has also been working in South Africa as part of the club's 'Red, White and Black' anti-racist campaign. Charlton's Football in the Community scheme has trained teachers, youth workers and police officers in the Alexandra township in Johannesburg to qualify as FA Level 1 football coaches. These coaches are now passing on their knowledge and skills, often voluntarily, to young people in local schools and youth clubs.

"We can use the strengths we have as a club to promote the name of Charlton Athletic overseas," said Charlton's chief executive Peter Varney on the club's website.

"Those strengths lie principally in our hugely successful community programmes, which we believe we can tailor to suit our specific objectives in target countries.

"For example, our community work in South Africa has received much acclaim from UEFA and our own governing bodies, and has opened the door to potential commercial and other opportunities that we will be pursuing.

"We are also hopeful that several of our agreements will lead to player acquisitions."

He added: *"Alongside all the work being carried out it will be important to develop our international membership scheme, and to promote supporters' groups in the countries in which we have a presence."*

In 2007 the programme began working in Cape Town on a project using football to try to bring together and break down barriers between the townships of Kayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain. Staff have coached hundreds of schoolchildren, as well as educating them about citizenship and the dangers of gun and knife crime, and training local coaches to be able to continue the work in their absence.

9.8. Racism and anti-racism in British football

In the UK, racism, to a greater or lesser extent, has always been a feature of the game. Arthur Wharton, the world's first Black professional footballer encountered it, as did Walter Tull, the first Black outfield player in the First Division. Virtually all players of colour before the Second World War had the epithet 'darkie' prefixed to their name.

The nature of racism has changed as society has changed.

One of the most successful clubs in the second half of the 20th century in Britain was Leeds United. South African winger Albert Johanneson was one of its stars and the first Black player to appear in an FA Cup Final. He once complained to manager Don Revie that the opposing full-back was calling him a 'Black bastard'. 'Well' said the thoughtful, methodical manager; 'call him a white bastard'! This response would be unthinkable now.

The first xenophobic regulation in British football was that passed by the FA in 1931 prohibiting 'alien' or foreign players who had not lived in the UK for more than two years from playing professionally in England. This ban was not lifted until 1978.

The British Nationality Act of 1948 made it easier for Commonwealth footballers to play in Britain. This led to an influx from Africa and the Caribbean, helping to fill the talent shortage. However, the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act had the effect of once more closing the door on migrant footballers, especially players of colour.

The '62 act was not the first piece of legislation that century aimed at restricting access of Black workers to jobs in the UK. There had been the Aliens Acts and Orders passed in 1905, 1914, 1919, 1920 and 1925, all designed – in part or in full - to restrict the free movement of Black labour – usually seamen - in Britain.

Yet, during the 1960s British football witnessed an increasing number of Black British players, the children of Commonwealth citizens who had settled in Britain under the 1948 Nationality Act.

As a consequence of the increasing number of Black players within a wider social context of the racialisation of British politics by right-wing politicians and activists, racist abuse and chants from the terraces became a common feature of the game. In such circumstances, racism within the stadium occurred because it was sanctioned outside. It did not increase *simply* because there was a growing presence of Black footballers.

Organising in response to racism has a long history in Britain. Despite the historical presence of people of colour in the British labour movement of the 19th century such as Chartist leader William Cuffey, political activist Robert Wedderburn and revolutionary William Davidson, there was still a battle to be fought within the Trade Union movement in the 20th century for equality between Black and white workers. In 1951 African-Caribbean workers on Merseyside formed the West Indian Association out of secret meetings they

were forced to hold in work-place toilets and washrooms. In 1953 the Indian Workers Association was created in Coventry. In May 1965 the Asian workforce of Courtauld's Red Scar Mill in Preston went on strike; in April '67 and October 1968, Asians employed at the Coneygre Foundry in Tipton, Staffordshire struck.

This was the wider cultural climate in which players of colour, after 1945, were performing. The English FA turned a blind eye to this abuse of footballers in their place of work.

Despite this lack of protection from the football administrators and, often, their own clubs, players persevered in the game they loved. West Ham centre-forward Clyde Best, who joined the club in the late-60s from Bermuda, experienced a great deal of abuse but won fans over with his dignified demeanour and response. The photograph of John Barnes back-heeling a thrown banana while taking a corner for Liverpool at arch rivals Everton is probably the most iconic representation of the (absurd) nature of racism, the banana suggesting this son of a Jamaican diplomat had arrived in Britain from a rural backwater as a stowaway on a banana boat.

Black Briton Tony Whelan, a native of Manchester, as a player for Rochdale, remembers the shock of being racially abused by a woman old enough to have grandchildren.

These abuses, though reluctantly accepted as part of the price of being a black professional footballer in 1960s and 70s Britain, did have an effect on the psyche of many players. Some recall wanting to be substituted. Paul Canoville, Chelsea's first Black player, was shocked to find that his own fans were booing him! It affected his play and his form. As he warmed up before making his debut as a substitute in 1982, he heard dozens of Chelsea's own fans chanting,

"We don't want the nigger! We don't want the nigger! La la la laaa, la la la laaa!"

He also had bananas thrown at him. Yet, because these and other black players persisted in the face of this hostility – and not always by a small minority - their example has inspired so many others to follow. Many black players, past and present, as well as some white players, have gone on to support the anti-racism campaigns in football, speaking about their experiences and acting as inspiring role models for younger players to emulate.

In January 1981 David Lane, as chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE), called for a meeting with the chairman and secretary of the FA, Sir Harold Thompson and Ted Croker, to discuss, as Lane saw it, the return of noisy, nasty racist abuse and chanting at football grounds, saying 'That used to happen three years ago when Black players first appeared at important matches but since then they've become accepted and applauded'. He complained that fascist groups, such as the National Front and British Movement, were selling their papers and recruiting outside grounds and instigating, organising and encouraging racist abuse of fans and players

inside stadia. What eventually emerged was the 1991 Football Offences Act which outlawed collective racist chanting - but not racist abuse shouted by one person - and football's national anti-racist organisation, *Kick It Out*, founded in 1993 by the CRE and PFA as the 'Let's Kick Racism Out of Football' campaign.

Meanwhile, at grounds, fans were already organising against racism, forming anti-racist organisations. Now, in this first decade of the 21st century, instances of individual abuse based upon colour are much rarer in the professional game in the UK, largely due to the efforts of these local, fan-based initiatives such as *Football Unites, Racism Divides* (Sheffield) and *Show Racism the Red Card* (Newcastle).

In 1999, a handful of anti-racist groups across Europe formed the FARE (Football Against Racism in Europe) network to share ideas and resources in the fight against racism. Ten years later, hundreds of groups are now affiliated to FARE and the network has received funding from UEFA.

The combined efforts of such local, national and international initiatives have managed to exert an influence both on football's governing bodies and the national government. For example, in 2002, UEFA adopted the ten-point plan of action against racism originally developed by Kick It Out in 1993.

In the UK, in 1997 the new Labour government set up a Football Task Force "to tackle the problems of the game", including racism. In 1998, the Task Force submitted its report 'Eliminating Racism from Football' to the Minister for Sport. The report included submissions from a number of anti-racism groups and contained numerous recommendations, many of which have been put into action. One of these was the amending of the Football (Offences and Disorder) Act in 2001 to outlaw racist abuse at a football match by an individual as well as by a group.

Clubs are now working closely with Kick It Out and fans' groups to combat racism and discrimination at the local level. Sheffield United, Bradford, Northampton Town, Charlton Athletic, Millwall, Exeter City, Orient, Leeds United and Leicester City have all been involved for many years in initiatives designed to bring themselves closer to the communities to which they owe their existence, and all clubs take part in the annual 'One Game, One Community' anti-racism Week of Action.

Unfortunately, institutional racism still exists evidenced by the lack of Black managers, coaches and club officials. Despite the proportion of professional players of colour being around 20%, the ethnic composition of the club offices and boardrooms is still predominantly white. Ethnic minorities are still under-represented in the stands as well although there has been some progress over the last few years.

There is no room for complacency – racist abuse is still heard at and around matches occasionally although usually now from one or two individuals rather than large groups. Politically, the far right is gaining confidence in its attempts to portray a respectable image. In May 2009, The British National Party, which doesn't allow non-white people to join, won its first two seats in the

European Parliament and has locally elected councillors in several parts of the country. The party has tried to exploit concerns around immigration, refugees and asylum-seekers and a mistrust of Muslims in the light of terrorist attacks to use minority groups as scapegoats for people's worries.

Football can play a positive role in countering racist arguments by, at the most basic level, providing high profile examples of how people from different countries, races and religions can play and work together to create both success and enjoyment.

9.9. 'Feeder clubs' and academies

The past decade has seen the emergence of a new post-colonial phenomenon - 'feeder clubs', or 'nurseries', and academies established in Africa by European clubs.

In 1999, the Dutch club, Ajax Amsterdam, became the first European club to purchase a South African club with the aim of developing young African players with potential. A new club, Ajax Cape Town, was formed by a merger of two Cape Town clubs, Seven Stars and Cape Town Spurs, each of which had previous links with Ajax. Though the venture has been slow to produce results for Ajax Amsterdam, Steven Pienaar is one of its most successful 'graduates'.

A number of other European clubs have since set up talent-nurturing establishments in South Africa. FC Copenhagen of Denmark set up a 'Soccer School of Excellence' in Port Elizabeth in 2000, which folded in 2005 due to financial difficulties. Bafana Bafana midfielder Elrio van Heerden was one of the players the school helped to develop. Van Heerden went on to play for FC Copenhagen for four years, followed by three seasons at Club Brugge in Belgium. He then signed for Blackburn Rovers in the English Premiership in June 2009.

In September 2007, English Premier League side Tottenham Hotspur established a partnership with Super Sport United in Johannesburg, who previously had a 'co-operation agreement' with Dutch club Feyenoord set up in 2001. Supersport were Premier Soccer League Champions in 2008 and 2009.

The Academy provides accommodation, education and coaching for sixty talented youngsters aged from 13 to 19 recruited from around South Africa. Tottenham's website states:

"The agreement sees the Clubs' Academies working together for mutual benefit...the relationship has seen the introduction of a coach exchange programme, as well as the launch of the Tottenham Hotspur SuperSport Academy.

"Since the launch of the Tottenham Hotspur SuperSport Academy, several players have travelled to London to train with our own Academy as part of their on-going development. Several friendly matches have also taken place between the two Academies with more planned for the future".

In 2008, coaches from the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, local teachers and nine 12-15-year-olds went to Gauteng Province, South Africa on an educational exchange trip. Funding for the trip was provided by the Premier League's International Good Causes Fund and Haringey Council in London. The students attended school in South Africa and the group delivered football coaching sessions in six primary schools. Players and representatives from SuperSport United attended, a 'coaching clinic' was delivered by a Tottenham coach to local teachers and coaches, and balls, bibs and cones were given to the schools by the visitors to ensure the coaching could continue.

The group also visited Tottenham Hotspur House, which is part of the club's charity partnership with SOS Children's Village. The house is funded by players' fines and houses orphaned children in the Rustenbourg area.

In 2009, the Cape United Soccer School of Excellence opened. This venture claims to differ from club-based academies and nurseries in that it specifically aims to prepare talented young players to play professionally in Europe. It uses the facilities of Wynberg Military base in Cape Town and provides a full time live-in experience with a tailored education as well as coaching by experienced coaches. Staff include George Eastham OBE, a member of England's 1966 World Cup winning squad, who also played and managed in South Africa.

Several current and former English Premiership players, including Ian Wright, are supporting the school financially or by acting as mentors to the students. Premiership players to visit the school have included Julio Arco, Danny Collins, Mart Poom and Mamady Sidibe.

These kinds of initiatives have caused concern about they will affect the development of South African football, with many worried that they will lead to the deskilling of the South African leagues if the best players are taken abroad. There are also concerns about what will happen to all the hopeful youngsters who don't make it as professionals, especially if they're taken abroad at an early age then fail to make the grade. The motives of agents who hope to gain large financial rewards from their role in selling and representing players is another concern. Some critics have labelled this systematic export of these 'natural' resources a form of neo-colonial exploitation

Big European clubs setting up initiatives and partnerships in Africa will hope that, by producing one or two stars at African rates for facilities and development, their financial outlay will be repaid by recouping large transfer fees later on. Other motives may include the development of good public relations and marketing opportunities among a potentially huge African fan base. Media friendly justifications are also offered, such as philanthropic action in helping to improve facilities and opportunities in poorer parts of the world.

South Africa is also an importer as well as an exporter of footballers, with most of the Premier Soccer League teams taking up their full allowance of five non-South African nationals. The majority of these are from other African countries. However, in terms of talent, they do not usually compensate for the loss of South Africa's best players to European clubs.

Bibliography

- Africa Soccer Developments (2009), 'About Cape United Soccer School of Excellence' from *Africa Soccer Developments* at <http://www.africasoccerdevelopments.com/index.php?about-cusse,25>
- Alegi, Peter (2004), 'Football and Apartheid Society: The South African Soccer League, 1960-1966'; in Armstrong, Gary and Giulianotti, Richard, (eds), *Football in Africa: Conflict, Conciliation and Community*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Alegi, Peter (2004), *Laduma! Soccer, Politics and Society in South Africa*; University of KwaZulu-Natal Press
- Anderson, Viv (1980), 'My Soccer World', *Shoot! Magazine*, 2nd August
- Armstrong, Gary (2004), 'An interview with Eusebio', in Armstrong, Gary and Giulianotti, Richard, (eds), *Football in Africa: Conflict, Conciliation and Community*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Bale, John (2004), 'Three Geographies of African Footballer Migration: Patterns, Problems and Postcoloniality' in Armstrong, Gary and Giulianotti, Richard, (eds), *Football in Africa: Conflict, Conciliation and Community*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Bell, Jack (2006), 'Ace Ntsoelengoe, 50, African Soccer Star, Dies', *New York Times*, May 11th
- Blaas, Karsten (1999), 'Losing the Race', *When Saturday Comes*, 145, March, p36-7
- Bloomfield, Steve (2009), 'Eastern promise', *Observer*, 1st February
- Canoville, Paul (2008), '*Black and Blue: How Racism, Drugs and Cancer Almost Destroyed Me*', Headline
- Chapman, John (2005), 'Letter from...Belgium', *When Saturday Comes*, January, p40
- Charlton Athletic Community Trust (2009), 'Charlton Athletic Soccer South Africa', from *Charlton Athletic Community Trust* at <http://www.cact.org.uk/item.php?cid=5&id=34>
- District 6 Museum (2008), *History of Football in Cape Town Timeline*
- Duncan, Alan (2003) 'Without prejudice?' *When Saturday Comes*, May, p20-1
- Egbers, Tom, *the Black Meteor or The Search for a Beloved Football Idol: The Story of Steve Mokone*
- FIFA (2008), 'Football in South Africa', from <http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/destination/footballsouthafrica/index.html>

Firmani, Eddie (1959), *Football with the Millionaires*, Stanley Paul

Football Echo and Sports Gazette (1899), 'The Troubles of John Bull', 2nd September, p1

Football Task Force, (1998), *Eliminating Racism From Football: A Report by the Football Task Force submitted to the Minister for Sport on Monday 30 March 1998*.

Football Unites, Racism Divides, 'Albert Johanneson', from *Football Unites, Racism Divides* at <http://www.furd.org/default.asp?intPageID=26>

Foster, Gavin (2004), 'The Kop's Real Rooinek - The Berry Nieuwenhuys story' from *LFCHistory.net*, at http://www.lfchistory.net/redcorner_articles_view.asp?article_id=1245

Frick, Bernd (2009), 'Globalization and Factor Mobility: The Impact of the "Bosman-Ruling" on Player Migration in Professional Soccer' in *Journal of Sports Economics*, 10 (1), Feb, p18

Friedman, Graeme (2001), *Madiba's Boys: The Stories of Lucas Radebe and Mark Fish*, New Africa Books/Comerford and Miller

Gleeson, Mark (2004), 'South Africa take a further step from pariah past', from *Kapweine* at http://www.kapweine.ch/sa/wm_e.asp#titel4

Harris, Nick (2003), *England, Their England*, Pitch Publishing

Hayward, Anthony: *Heroes and Villains: The British Soccer Stars in Apartheid South Africa*: unpublished, 2009

Heys, Mark (2007), 'Bolton Wanderers foreign legion', from *The Football Network.net*, 8th September, at <http://www.thefootballnetwork.net/main/s474/st120544.htm>

Hodgson, Derek, (1978), *The Liverpool Story*; Arthur Baker Ltd

Kane-Berman, John (1980), 'Pretoria ban on multiracial match', *Guardian*, 4th July

Karon, Tony (2006), 'Hamba Kahle, Ace Ntsoelengoe' from *Rootless Cosmopolitan* at <http://tonykaron.com/2006/05/09/hamba-kahle-ace-ntsoelengoe/>

Kingstone, Heidi (2004), 'The Chief looks back in amazement', *Sunday Tribune*, 21st November

Leedsfans.org.uk (2008), 'Albert Johanneson', from *Leedsfans.org.uk* at <http://www.leedsfans.org.uk/leeds/players/207.html>

Leedsfans.org.uk (2008), 'Gerry Francis', from *Leedsfans.org.uk* at <http://www.leedsfans.org.uk/leeds/players/132.html>

- Liverpool Football Club, 'Gordon Hodgson', from *Liverpool Football Club Official Website*, at http://www.liverpoolfc.tv/team/past_players/players/hodgson2/
- Longmore, Andrew (1988), *Viv Anderson*, Heinemann Kingswood
- Miller, Harry (ed) (1969), 'Mirror Sportlight', *Daily Mirror*, 24th July
- Mitchell, Kevin (2009), 'The Lion Kings', *Observer Sport Monthly*, May, p38-49
- MK News (2006), 'Kids spellbound by Stein's magic'; *MK News*, 20th October, at <http://www.mk-news.co.uk/mknews-archive/displayarticle.asp?id=43906>
- Mokoena, Kgomotso (2009), 'Doornfontein boy who made it big in England', *Sunday Times (South Africa)*, 19th July
- Mokone, Steve and Morris, Peter (1957), 'My big day! I had made it – Kalamazoo was 'in''. *Charlie Buchan's Football Monthly*, January
- Morgan, Brad (2009), 'Ace: South Africa's greatest footballer?' from *SouthAfrica.info* at <http://www.southafrica.info/about/sport/greats/ace.htm>
- Morgan, Brad (2008), 'Kaizer Motaung: Mr Kaizer Chiefs', from *SouthAfrica.info* at <http://www.southafrica.info/about/sport/greats/motaung.htm>
- Morrison, Neil (2009), 'British "FA XI" tours', from *Rec.Sport.Soccer Statistics Foundation*, at <http://www.rsssf.com/tables/britishfatours.html>
- My Eyes Have Seen the Glory, 'Spurs v Brighton notes' from *My Eyes Have Seen the Glory*, at <http://www.mehstg.com/brignote.htm>
- Ponting, Ivan (1995), 'Obituary: Albert Johanneson', *Independent*, 2nd October
- Prentice, David (2007), 'Gordon Hodgson stands alone in the Anfield record books'; *Liverpool Echo*, 12th December, at www.liverpoolecho.co.uk
- Rollin, Glenda and Rollin, Jack (eds) (1999), *Rothmans Football Yearbook 1999-2000*, Headline
- Scottish Football Association, 'Alex Bell', from *Scottish Football Association* at http://www.scottishfa.co.uk/football_player_profile.cfm?page=823&playerID=112905&squadID=1
- Seed, Jimmy (1958), *The Jimmy Seed Story*, Sportsmans Book Club
- Shoot! Magazine* (1979), 'Eddie Firmani...', 17th November, p33
- Shoot! Magazine* (1979), 'Firmani's Farewell', 7th July, p5
- Shoot! Magazine* (1981), 'Wembley's foreign stars', 16th May, p18

Simmermacher, Gunter (2001), 'Blame Denied', *When Saturday Comes*, 172, June, p21

South African History Online (2009), 'History of South African Soccer timeline', from *South African History Online* at www.sahistory.org.za

Taylor, Matthew (2000), 'Through the Net', *When Saturday Comes*, 156, Feb, p27-8

Turnbull, John (2008), 'Soccer fields, for King and Atlanta, lent space to move 'beyond Vietnam'', from *The Global Game*, 5 Feb 2008, at www.theglobalgame.com

Vasili, Phil (2000), *Colouring Over the White Line: The History of Black Footballers in Britain*, Mainstream

Vasili, Phil and Law, Peter (2009), *Exodus: A History of African Players in Britain and Europe*, unpublished

Watt, Tom (2009), *'A Beautiful Game: Football Through the Eyes of the World's Greatest Players'*, Abrams

When Saturday Comes (2006), *Diary*, December p8-9

When Saturday Comes (2000), 'Country Matters'; editorial, 157, March, p4

Wikipedia (2009), 'Frank Osborne' from *Wikipedia*, 19th February, at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Osborne_\(footballer\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Osborne_(footballer))

Wikipedia (2008), 'Reg Osborne', from *Wikipedia*, 13th February, at

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reg_Osborne

Wyatt, Ben (2009), 'Kings of the Kop'; *BBC Focus on Africa*, Jan-March, p71-4, at <http://www.exacteditions.com/exact/browse/538/730/4853/2/71/0/>

Appendix 1: Timeline of South African football and emigration

- 1861: Football is introduced to South Africa by Canon George Ogilvie at the Diocesan College in Rondebosch
- 1862 First recorded football matches took place between teams of British military officers and civil servants in Cape Town and Port Elizabeth
- 1879 Pietermaritzburg County Football Club (Whites-only) is established
- 1880 First African football clubs, Ocean Swallows of Umbumbulu and Victorians are established in Natal
- 1882 Natal Football Association (Whites-only) is founded
- 1880s-1890s: Teams from the Dutch and Indian communities begin to emerge
- 1891: A football league is introduced with 4 teams in Cape Town
- 1892: The Whites-only South African Football Association (later known as FASA) is formed
- 1896 Indian football clubs form the Transvaal Indian Football Association
- 1897 The famous English amateur soccer team 'Corinthians' tours South Africa (and again in 1903 and 1906) and plays a South African national team
- 1898 The Orange Free State Bantu Football Club, from what is now Lesotho, tours England, becoming the first South African team to play in Europe, and the first black African team to play outside Africa
- 1900 Goalkeeper Wilfred Waller becomes the first South African to play professional football in England, for Bolton Wanderers
- 1903 The South African Indian Football Association (SAIFA) is founded in Kimberley. It is the first black national football association
- 1906 The All-white South African soccer team tours South America, beating teams representing Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina
- 1907 Zonnebloem College fields a multi-racial team against the Yorkshire Regiment at Green Point Common, Cape Town
- 1908 Alex Bell becomes the first South African to win an English League Championship with Manchester United
- 1910 The Union of South Africa is established
- 1910 A representative English football team tours South Africa
- 1913 Native Land Act limits African land ownership to 'native reserves'

1914 – 18 First World War

1924 A Springbok football team tours Great Britain

1925 Gordon Hodgson joins Liverpool and goes on to become one of their greatest ever goalscorers

1920s Brothers Frank, Reg and Harold Osborne play for English teams. Harold and Frank win England international caps

1931 Motherwell, a Scottish professional side, tours South Africa

1932 The South African African Football Association (SAAFA) is formed and launches the Bakers Cup, the first national tournament for African teams

1933 The South African Bantu Football Association (SABFA) is formed in opposition to SAAFA. SABFA is perceived as a government-sanctioned association

1933 The South African Coloured Football Association (SACFA) is formed

1935 The Transvaal Inter-Race Soccer Board is formed by Africans, Indians, and Coloureds. The Suzman Cup, the first official inter-racial tournament between Africans, Coloureds, and Indians, is established

1936 The Godfrey South African Challenge Cup is established. It is the first national inter-racial competition for Indians, Blacks and Coloureds

1939 Second World War begins

1940 The Inter Race Soccer Board organises games between the various racially divided soccer associations

1945 Second World War ends

1947 Dudley Forbes and Syd O'Linn become the first of 11 South Africans to join Charlton Athletic in England in the 1940s and 1950s

1948 The National Party comes to power and begins officially introducing the policy of apartheid

1950 Group Areas Act dictates where people of each race can live, destroying long established communities

1951 SAAFA (South African African Football Association), SAIFA (South African Indian Football Association) and SACFA (South African Coloured Football Association) form the anti-apartheid South African Soccer Federation (SASF)

1951 Separate Representation of Voters Act. Those designated 'coloured' are removed from the voters' roll

1952 The South African Football Association (SAFA) (representing Whites) is admitted to FIFA (Federation of International Football Associations)

1952 Native (Abolition of Passes and Co-ordination of Documents) Act introduces compulsory reference books – pass books – for all African men over 16

1953 Reservation of Separate Amenities Act

1953 Bill Perry scores the winning goal for Blackpool in the English FA Cup final, beating Bolton 4-3

1955 The SASF asserts its claim to be the official administrative body of South African football and calls for the expulsion of SAFA from FIFA

1955 Eddie Firmani becomes the first South African to play in Italy when he joins Sampdoria from Charlton. He goes on to play for Italy

1956 Minister of the Interior, Eben Donges, announces plans for an apartheid sport policy

1956 The South African Football Association (SAFA) renames itself the Football Association of South Africa (FASA) and, after an inquiry by FIFA, removes the whites-only clause from its constitution

1956 Segregation is introduced on buses

1956 Stephen “Kalamazoo” Mokone and David Julius become the first Black South Africans to sign professional contracts in Europe, with Coventry City and Sporting Lisbon respectively

1957 Confederation Africaine de Football (CAF) is formed, with FASA one of five founding members. FASA is soon expelled for refusing to send an inter-racial team to the first CAF Cup

1957 Gerry Francis becomes the first black South African to play in the English first division, for Leeds

1958 The South African Bantu Football Association (SABFA) affiliates with the Football Association of Southern Africa (FASA)

1958 Darius Dhloomo joins Stephen Mokone at Heracles in the Dutch semi-professional league

1958 FIFA officially recognises FASA as the sole governing body of soccer in South Africa, despite accusing it of racism

1958 The South African Sports Association (SASA) is formed to promote non-racial sport. It lobbies international federations to withdraw support of ‘white’ South African affiliates

1958 Charlton's John Hewie becomes the first South African to play in the World Cup, representing Scotland at the World Cup finals in Sweden through having a Scottish father

1959 The National Football League (NFL) is launched as South Africa's first professional club league, for whites only. It starts with 12 teams, none of which are still going. FASA re-enters CAF

1959 FASA and SABFA reach an agreement which sees the latter accept non-voting associate member status in the 'white' body

1960 The Confederation of African Football (CAF) expels South Africa again

1960 South African women's football starts

1960 Sharpeville massacre. 69 unarmed people are killed in a demonstration against pass books

1960 Cape Town's David Julius plays for Portugal under the name David Julio in the European Championship finals

1961 South Africa leaves the Commonwealth

1961 FIFA suspends the Football Association of South Africa (FASA)

1961 The South African Soccer League is established for black professional footballers. It starts with 6 teams and expands to 10 the following season

1961 SASA (South African Sports Association) launches "Operation Support Only Non-racial Events in Sport" (SONREIS) campaign

1961 SABFA (the South African Bantu Football Association) launches a National Professional Soccer League (NPSL), which shuts down the following year, partly because of a boycott promoted by SONREIS

1962 FASA attempts to lift their suspension from FIFA by inviting Bethuel Morolo (president of SABFA) to attend their annual meeting. This paves the way for inter-racial games where teams remain racially segregated

1962 SASA requests South Africa's expulsion from the International Olympic Committee

1963 FIFA temporary lifts FASA's suspension. FASA announces it will send an all-White team to the 1966 World Cup and an all-Black team to the 1970 World Cup

1963 SASA creates the South African Non-racial Olympic Committee (SANROC)

1964 FASA is suspended from FIFA again

1964 South Africa is excluded from the Tokyo Olympics

- 1965 Leeds United winger Albert "Hurry-Hurry" Johanneson becomes the first black player to play in an English FA Cup final (against Liverpool)
- 1966 The anti-racist SASL (South African Soccer League) folds due to lack of suitable pitches
- 1968 Kaizer Motaung becomes the first South African to play professionally in the USA and is named Rookie of the Year
- 1969 The Apartheid regime cancels a match between white champions Highlands Park and Orlando Pirates in Mbabane, Swaziland. FASA's reputation and international standing is seriously damaged as FIFA had sanctioned the match
- 1970 South Africa is expelled from the Olympic movement after Basil D'Oliveira is excluded from the English touring cricket team
- 1973 FASA introduces a racially based, multi-national tournament to sidestep its expulsion from FIFA
- 1973 A multi-racial South African football team plays Rhodesia. They play in a similar emblem to the Springboks
- 1973 Pule 'Ace' Ntsoelengoe joins the Miami Toros and spends the next 11 seasons playing for various clubs in the (NASL) North American Soccer League
- 1976 Over 600 young people die in the Soweto uprising
- 1976 South Africa's suspension from FIFA is turned into an expulsion
- 1976 The Football Council of South Africa is formed in an attempt to use football as a stabilising force after the Soweto uprisings
- 1977 Jomo Sono goes to the United States to join Pele and Franz Beckenbauer at New York Cosmos
- 1978 The white National Football League (NFL) folds and is swallowed by the National Professional Soccer League (NPSL) to form one professional multiracial league
- 1983 Jomo Sono buys Highlands Park, an historically White club in Pretoria and renames it Jomo Cosmos. This move by Sono signals growing Black power in South African soccer
- 1984 Black South African-born Brian Stein plays for England
- 1985 South Africa National Football Association (SANFA) and SASF hold unity talks which break down after SANFA's unwillingness to commit to an anti-apartheid agenda

1985 National Soccer League (NSL) breaks away from the NPSL amid allegations of mismanagement and corruption. The league adopts non-racial sports and supports the international sports boycott of South Africa

1988 The SASA and the NPSL meet with the banned African National Congress. The ANC, NPSL and SASA issue a joint statement stating that apartheid has to be abandoned before South Africa re-enters the world football arena

1991 Four historically divided and entirely separate bodies unite and found the non-racial South African Football Association (SAFA) in Durban

1992 The South African Football Association (SAFA) is accepted back into FIFA

1992 Domestic soccer is reorganised along non-racial, democratic principles

1992 South Africa is accepted back into the Confederation of African Football. SAFA receives a standing ovation at the CAF congress in Dakar

1992 South Africa re-enters international football by hosting its first fully representative international match at King's Park Stadium, beating Cameroon 1-0

1994 Hours after his presidential inauguration, Nelson Mandela and 80,000 other fans watch South Africa (Bafana Bafana) beat Zambia 2-1 at Ellis Park, Johannesburg

1994 Lucas Radebe and Phil Masinga join Leeds United in England

1996 South Africa hosts, and wins, the African Cup of Nations, beating Tunisia 2-0 in the final

1996 The Premier Soccer League (PSL) is formed

1997 Bafana Bafana qualifies for the World Cup finals for the first time

1998 Bafana Bafana appears in their second African Nations Cup, making it through to the final where they lost 2-0 to Egypt

1998 Bafana Bafana participates for the first time in the FIFA World Cup in France

1999 Ajax Amsterdam and Seven Stars launch Ajax Cape Town joint venture

2002 Bafana Bafana participates for the second time in the FIFA World Cup in Korea and Japan

2003 Pule 'Ace' Ntsoelengoe is inducted into the United States National Soccer Hall of Fame

2004 South Africa is awarded the right to host the 2010 FIFA World Cup

2004 Benni McCarthy wins a UEFA Champions League medal with Portuguese side FC Porto

2007 The South African PSL becomes the richest league in Africa after signing a R1.6-billion broadcast deal with SuperSport International

2009 FIFA Confederations Cup takes place in South Africa

2010 South Africa hosts the first ever World Cup finals to be held in Africa

Appendix 2: South African-born footballers in English League history

This list was compiled by, and reproduced with permission by, Nick Harris. It first appeared in his book 'England, Their England' which was later re-published as 'The Foreign Revolution'.

Players are listed in chronological order of arrival/first appearance. The list includes all players to have featured in at least one first-team match up to July 2009. It does not include players who, while signed, have not actually played.

If a player has represented one of the British nations or is otherwise identifiable as English, Scottish, Welsh or Northern Irish as opposed to simply British, it is specified.

Joined/first played, means the month from which the player was employed by the club and usually refers to the month he signed his contract. In some cases (loans, non-contract deals, instances when it has not been possible to establish precisely when the contract was signed) the month here refers to the player's debut. In many instances, a player leaves one club on loan, plays for another and returns to play for his original club. This is only listed as two separate spells at the original club when the player has severed his ties and then returned.

There are 129 players in the list, or 130 including one born outside South Africa but with South African nationality.

Name	Date of birth	Birthplace	Nationality	Club/s (joined/first played)
Waller, Wilfred	27 Jul 1877	South Africa	SA	Bolton (Mar 1900)
Bell, Alec	1882	Cape Town	Sco	Man Utd (Jan 1903); Blackburn (Jul 1913)
Whitson, Anthony	c. 1880	Cape Town	SA	Newcastle (Feb 1905)
Gibson, Fred	8 Dec 1888	Pilgrim's Rest	SA	Sunderland (May 1909); Coventry (May 1919)
Mackrill, Percy	19 Oct 1894	Wynberg	SA	Coventry (Jul 1919); Halifax (Jul 1921); Torquay (Jul 1925)
Osborne, Frank	14 Oct 1896	Wynberg	Eng	Fulham (Nov 1921); Tottenham (Jan 1924); Southampton (Jun 1931)
Osborne, Reg	23 Jul 1898	Wynberg	Eng	Leicester (Feb 1923)
King, Charlie	18 May 1897	Johannesburg	SA	Southport (May 1923)
Osborne, Harold	2 Apr 1904	Wynberg	SA	Norwich (Sep 1924)
Riley, Arthur	26 Dec 1903	Boksburg	SA	Liverpool (Jul 1925)
Murray, David	1902	Wynberg	SA	Everton (Aug 1925); Bristol C (Oct 1926); Bristol R (1928); Swindon (Jun 1930); Rochdale (Aug 1931)

Hodgson, Gordon	16 Apr 1904	Johannesburg	Eng	Liverpool (Nov 1925); Aston Villa (Jan 1936); Leeds (Mar 1937)
Martin, Sydney	c. 1910	Durban	SA	Gillingham (Jul 1929)
Mandy, Aubrey	c. 1910	Transvaal	SA	Leicester (Oct 1929)
Crawford, Ronald	c. 1910	South Africa	SA	Thames (Jul 1930); Rotherham (Jul 1931)
Richardson, John	1909	Johannesburg	SA	Bristol R (Aug 1930)
Carr, Lance	18 Feb 1910	Johannesburg	SA	Liverpool (Aug 1933); Newport (Oct 1936); Newport (Jul 1938); Bristol R (Aug 1946)
Nieuwenhuys, Berry	5 Nov 1911	Boksburg	SA	Liverpool (Sep 1933)
Bunch, Arthur	30 Sep 1909	Bloemfontein	SA	Aldershot (Jun 1934)
Clarke, Bruce	4 Oct 1910	Johannesburg	SA	Fulham (Jun 1934)
Brown, Lennox	24 Nov 1910	South Africa	SA	Millwall (Nov 1935)
Kemp, Dick	15 Oct 1913	Cape Town	SA	Liverpool (Jul 1936)
Van Den Berg, Herman	21 Mar 1918	Cape Town	SA	Liverpool (Jul 1937)
Wienand, Tolley	1912	East London	SA	Huddersfield (Jul 1937); Hull (Oct 1938)
Lindsay, Denis	1916	Benoni	SA	Huddersfield (Aug 1937)
Woolf, Levi	28 Jan 1916	Johannesburg	SA	Southampton (Sep 1937)
Fish, Kenneth	c. 1915	Cape Town	SA	Port Vale (Nov 1937)
Milligan, Dudley	7 Nov 1916	Johannesburg	N Ire	Chesterfield (Nov 1938); B&B Ath (Aug 1947); Walsall (Oct 1948)
Malan, Norman	23 Nov 1923	Johannesburg	SA	Middlesbrough (Oct 1945); Scunthorpe (Jun 1950); Bradford PA (Jul 1956)
Priday, Bob	29 March 1925	Cape Town	SA	Liverpool (Dec 1945); Blackburn (Mar 1949); Acc Stanley (Dec 1952); Rochdale (Aug 1953)
Strauss, Bill	6 Jan 1916	Transvaal	SA	Plymouth (Jul 1946)
Kelly, Pat	9 Apr 1918	Johannesburg	N Ire	Barnsley (Oct 1946); Crewe (Feb 1952)
Forbes, Dudley	19 Apr 1926	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Dec 1947)
O'Linn, Syd	5 May 1927	Oudtschoorn	SA	Charlton (Dec 1947)
Havenga, Willie	6 Nov 1924	Bloemfontein	SA	Birmingham (Jul 1948); Luton (May 1950); Ipswich (Jan 1952)
Arnison, Joseph	27 Jun 1924	Johannesburg	SA	Luton (Aug 1948)
Uytenbogaardt, Albert	5 March 1930	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Oct 1948)
Nielson, Norman	6 Nov 1928	Johannesburg	SA	Charlton (Jul 1949); Derby (Sep 1951); Bury (May 1954); Hull (Apr 1957)
Williams, Stan	1 May 1919	South Africa	SA	Plymouth (Aug 1949)
Falconer, Andy	27 Jun 1925	South Africa	SA	Blackpool (Sep 1949)

Hewie, John	13 Dec 1927	Pretoria	Sco	Charlton (Oct 1949)
Perry, Bill	10 Sep 1930	Johannesburg	SA	Blackpool (Nov 1949); Southport (Jun 1962)
Firmani, Eddie	7 Aug 1933	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Feb 1950); Charlton (Oct 1963); Southend (Jun 1965); Charlton (Mar 1967)
Leary, Stuart	30 Apr 1933	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Feb 1950); QPR (Dec 1962)
Ackerman, Alf	5 Jan 1929	Pretoria	SA	Hull (Jul 1950); Norwich (Aug 1951); Hull (Oct 1953); Derby (Mar 1955); Carlisle (Nov 1956); Millwall (Jan 1959)
Purdon, Ted	1 March 1930	Johannesburg	SA	Birmingham (Aug 1950); Sunderland (Jan 1954); Workington (Mar 1957); Barrow (Mar 1958); Bristol R (Aug 1960)
Carr, John	10 Jun 1926	Durban	SA	Huddersfield (Oct 1950)
Kloner, Hymie	23 May 1929	Johannesburg	Pol	Birmingham (Nov 1950)
Miller, George	17 Oct 1927	South Africa	SA	Leeds (Nov 1950); Workington (Mar 1952)
Stuart, Eddie	12 May 1931	Johannesburg	SA	Wolves (Jan 1951); Stoke (Jul 1962); Tranmere (Aug 1964); Stockport (Jul 1966)
Davies, Roy	23 Aug 1924	Cape Town	SA	Luton (May 1951)
Kirsten, Ken	28 Oct 1922	South Africa	SA	Aldershot (Aug 1951)
Oelofse, Ralph	12 Nov 1926	Johannesburg	SA	Chelsea (Oct 1951); Watford (Jul 1953)
Stewart, Gordon	7 Aug 1927	Durban	SA	Leeds (Oct 1951)
Chamberlain, Ken	30 Jun 1926	Durban	SA	Charlton (Oct 1951)
Foreman, Denis	1 Feb 1933	Cape Town	SA	Brighton (Mar 1952)
Gerhardt, Hugh	5 May 1933	South Africa	SA	Liverpool (Aug 1952)
Hastie, Ken	6 Sep 1928	Cape Town	SA	Leeds (Aug 1952)
Miller, Graham	25 Aug 1927	South Africa	SA	Workington (Dec 1952)
Firmani, Peter	14 Feb 1936	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Sep 1953)
Oosthuizen, Ron	16 Mar 1936	Sough Africa	SA	Charlton (Sep 1953); Carlisle (Sep 1959)
Tulloch, Roland	15 Jul 1932	South Africa	SA	Hull (Dec 1953)
McEwan, Peter	23 May 1933	Roodepoort	SA	Luton (Feb 1954)
Rudham, Doug	3 May 1926	Johannesburg	SA	Liverpool (Nov 1954)
Hauser, Peter	20 April 1934	Kimberley	SA	Blackpool (Nov 1955); Chester (Aug 1963)
Hewkins, Ken	30 Oct 1929	Pretoria	SA	Fulham (Nov 1955)
Kennon, Sandy	26 Nov 1933	Johannesburg	Zim	Huddersfield (Aug 1956); Norwich (Feb 1959); Colchester (Mar 1965)
Hodge, Eric	3 Apr 1933	Cape Town	SA	Brighton (Oct 1956);

				Aldershot (Jun 1959)
Mokone, Steve	23 Mar 1932	Pretoria	SA	Coventry (Oct 1956); Cardiff (June 1959); Barnsley (Aug 1961)
Peterson, Brian	20 Oct 1936	Durban	SA	Blackpool (Oct 1956)
Horne, Des	12 Dec 1939	Johannesburg	SA	Wolves (Dec 1956); Blackpool (Mar 1961)
Lightening, Arthur	1 Aug 1936	Durban	SA	Nottm For (Dec 1956); Coventry (Nov 1958); Middlesbrough (Aug 1962)
Le Roux, Daniel	25 Nov 1933	Port Shepstone	SA	Arsenal (Feb 1957)
Durandt, Cliff	16 Apr 1940	Johannesburg	SA	Wolves (Jun 1957); Charlton (Mar 1963)
Cubie, Neil	3 Nov 1932	South Africa	SA	Hull (Jul 1957)
Francis, Gerry	6 Dec 1933	Johannesburg	SA	Leeds (Jul 1957); York (Oct 1961)
Kichenbrand, Don	13 Aug 1933	Johannesburg	SA	Sunderland (Mar 1958)
Tennant, Roy	12 Sep 1936	Durban	SA	Workington (Jul 1958)
Hubbard, John	16 Dec 1930	Pretoria	SA	Bury (Apr 1959)
Tocknell, Brian	21 May 1937	Pretoria	SA	Charlton (Jul 1959)
Smethurst, Peter	8 Aug 1940	Durban	SA	Blackpool (Feb 1960)
Johanneson, Albert	12 Mar 1940	Johannesburg	SA	Leeds (Apr 1961); York (Jul 1970)
Viljoen, Colin	20 Jun 1948	Johannesburg	SA	Ipswich (Mar 1967); Man City (Aug 1978); Chelsea (Mar 1980)
Smethurst, Derek	24 Oct 1947	Durban	SA	Chelsea (Dec 1968); Millwall (Sep 1971)
Collins, Mike	27 Jul 1953	Johannesburg	SA	Swindon (Jul 1973)
Vernon, John	2 Mar 1956	South Africa	SA	Stockport (Apr 1975)
Backos, Des	13 Nov 1950	Wynberg	SA	Stoke (Oct 1977)
Stein, Brian	19 Oct 1957	Cape Town	Eng	Luton (Oct 1977); Luton (Jul 1991); Barnet (Aug 1992)
Johnston, Craig	8 Dec 1960	Johannesburg	Aus	Middlesbrough (Feb 1978); Liverpool (Apr 1981)
Parkinson, Andy	5 May 1959	Johannesburg	SA	Newcastle (Mar 1978); Peterborough (Aug 1979)
D'Avray, Mich	19 Feb 1962	Johannesburg	Eng	Ipswich (May 1979); Leicester (Feb 1987)
Grobbelaar, Bruce	6 Oct 1957	Durban	Zim	Crewe (Dec 1979); Liverpool (Mar 1981); Stoke (Mar 1993); Southampton (Aug 1994); Plymouth (Aug 1996); Oldham (Dec 1997); Bury (Sept 1998); Lincoln (Dec 1998)

Nebbeling, Gavin	15 May 1963	Johannesburg	SA	C Palace (Aug 1981); Northampton (Oct 1985); Fulham (Jul 1989); Hereford (Dec 1991); Preston (Jul 1993)
Stein, Edwin	28 Jun 1955	Cape Town	Brit	Barnet (Jul 1982)
Stein, Mark	28 Jan 1966	Cape Town	Eng	Luton (Jan 1984); Aldershot (Jan 1986); QPR (Jun 1988); Oxford (Sep 1989); Stoke (Nov 1991); Chelsea (Oct 1993); Stoke (Aug 1996); Bournemouth (June 1998); Ipswich (Aug 1997); Luton (Jul 2000)
Wegerle, Roy	19 Mar 1964	Johannesburg	USA	Chelsea (Jun 1986); Swindon (Mar 1988); Luton (Jul 1988); QPR (Dec 1989); Blackburn (Mar 1992); Coventry (Mar 1993)
McMillan, Andy	22 Jun 1968	Bloemfontein	SA	York (Oct 1987)
Paskin, John	1 Feb 1962	Cape Town	SA	WBA (Aug 1988); Wolves (Jun 1989); Stockport (Sep 1991); Birmingham (Nov 1991); Shrewsbury (Feb 1992); Wrexham (Feb 1992); Bury (Jul 1994)
Leitch, Grant	31 Oct 1972	South Africa	SA	Blackpool (Aug 1990)
Aspinall, Brendan	22 Jul 1975	Johannesburg	SA	Mansfield (Jul 1994)
Masinga, Phil	28 Jun 1969	Johannesburg	SA	Leeds (Aug 1994)
Radebe, Lucas	12 Apr 1969	Johannesburg	SA	Leeds (Sep 1995)
Stephenson, Ashlyn	6 Jul 1974	South Africa	SA	Darlington (Sep 1995)
Williams, Mark	11 Aug 1966	Johannesburg	SA	Wolves (Sep 1995)
Goodhind, Warren	16 Aug 1977	Johannesburg	SA	Barnet (Jul 1996); Cambridge (Sep 2001); Rochdale (Sep 2005); Oxford (Feb 2006)
Harris, Andy	26 Feb 1977	Springs	Brit	Southend (Jul 1996); Orient (Jul 1999); Chester (Jun 2003)
Tinkler, Eric	30 Jul 1970	Roodepoort	SA	Barnsley (Jul 1997)
Arendse, Andre	27 Jun 1967	Cape Town	SA	Fulham (Aug 1997); Oxford (Jul 1999)
Fish, Mark	14 Mar 1974	Cape Town	SA	Bolton (Sep 1997); Charlton (Nov 2000); Ipswich (Aug 2005)
Dundee, Sean	7 Dec 1972	Durban	SA	Liverpool (Jun 1998)

Arber, Mark	9 Oct 1977	Johannesburg	Brit	Barnet (Sep 1998); Peterborough (Dec 2002); Oldham (Jun 2004); Peterborough (Dec 2004)
O'Brien, Burton	10 Jun 1981	South Africa	Brit	Blackburn (Feb 1999); Sheff Wed (Jul 2005)
Fortune, Quinton	21 May 1977	Cape Town	SA	Man Utd (Aug 1999); Bolton (Jul 2006); Doncaster (Aug 2009)
Hardy, Adam	22 Feb 1983	Uitenhage	SA	Bradford (Sep 2000)
Bartlett, Shaun	31 Oct 1972	Cape Town	SA	Charlton (Dec 2000)
Byrne, Paul	26 Nov 1982	Natal	Brit	Port Vale (Apr 2001)
Greyling, Anton	5 Dec 1977	Pretoria	SA	Torquay (Aug 2001)
Thorrington, John	17 Oct 1979	Johannesburg	USA	Huddersfield (Aug 2001); Grimsby (Mar 2004)
Issa, Pierre	11 Aug 1975	Johannesburg	SA	Watford (Sep 2001)
Roberts, Sean	2 Jan 1983	Johannesburg	SA	Sheff Wed (Oct 2001)
Miller, Justin	16 Dec 1980	Johannesburg	SA	Orient (Sep 2002)
Evans, Paul	28 Dec 1973	Newcastle	SA	Sheff Wed (Mar 2003); Rushden (Oct 2003)
Mabizela, Mbulelo	16 Sep 1980	Pietermaritzbu rg	SA	Tottenham (Aug 2003)
Surman, Andrew	20 Aug 1986	Johannesburg	SA	Southampton (Jul 2004); Walsall(Jan 2005); Bournemouth (Aug 2005); Wolverhampton (Jul 2009)
Mokoena, Aaron	25 Nov 1980	Johannesburg	SA	Blackburn (Jan 2005); Portsmouth (Jul 2009)
Pattison, Matty	27 Oct 1986	Johannesburg	SA	Newcastle (Feb 2006)
McCarthy, Benni	12 Nov 1977	Cape Town	SA	Blackburn (Jul 2006)
Steven Pienaar	17 Mar 1982	Johannesburg	SA	Everton (Jul 2007)
Elrio van Heerden	11 Jul 1983	Port Elizabeth	SA	Blackburn (Jun 2009)

Other players qualified for South Africa but born outside South Africa:

Koumantarakis, George	27 Mar 1974	Athens, Greece	SA	Preston (Jan 2003)
--------------------------	-------------	-------------------	----	-----------------------