



TOUR 2016

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MANCHESTER CITY
PRE-SEASON TOUR 2016



THROUGHOUT ITS PROUD HISTORY, OUR FOOTBALL CLUB HAS BUILT A DEEP, LASTING KINSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES IN MANCHESTER AND IN CITIES FURTHER AFIELD.

THE FANS SHOW IT IN THEIR UNWAVERING PASSION FOR THE CLUB; WE SHOW IT THROUGH OUR DEDICATION TO BUILDING, FOR THEM, THE SUCCESSFUL AND SUSTAINABLE FOOTBALL CLUB FOR THE FUTURE. IT IS A RESPONSIBILITY THAT THE CLUB IS HONoured TO SHOULDER.

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All information correct at time of writing

TOUR DESTINATION OVERVIEW

TOURNAMENT	DATE	CITY
Training Camp	4 - 19 July	CFA, Manchester
Friendly	20 - 21 July	Munich, Germany
International Champions Cup	22 - 26 July	Beijing, China
	26 - 29 July	Shenzen, China
Friendly	6 - 7 August	Gothenburg, Sweden

FIXTURES: LOCAL TIMES

DATE	OPPONENT	KICK-OFF	TOURNAMENT	VENUE
Wednesday 20 July	Bayern Munich	20:30 CEST	Friendly	Allianz Arena
Monday 25 July	Manchester United	20:00 CST	International Champions Cup	Birds Nest Stadium
Thursday 28 July	Borussia Dortmund	20:00 CST	International Champions Cup	Longgang Stadium
Sunday 7 August	Arsenal	20:00 CEST	Friendly	Ullevi Stadium



CITY IN GERMANY

MANCHESTER CITY WILL BEGIN THEIR PRE-SEASON PREPARATIONS AGAINST BUNDESLIGA CHAMPIONS, BAYERN MUNICH.

Pep Guardiola's first game in charge will see him return to his former club as the Blues travel to the Allianz Arena on Wednesday 20 July, kick off 7.30pm (GMT).

Bayern will have new manager Carlo Ancelotti at the helm and the friendly is seen as ideal preparation for both clubs as they look to challenge for silverware domestically and in Europe.

The German outfit completed a league and cup double last season and add to City's competitive pre-season schedule.

A successful spell saw Guardiola lift the Bundesliga trophy three times in three years and City chief executive Ferran Soriano is pleased to have been able to secure a valuable pre-season test.

He said: "Playing Bayern Munich is always a great occasion and this match has the added excitement of our new head coach Pep Guardiola returning to play with Manchester City against his former club.

"Bayern will provide fitting opposition as our team continues its pre-season preparations and we will be able to connect with our fans in Germany."

The Bavarians have been a familiar foe in recent seasons, having faced City in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 Champions League, with the last friendly between the two sides coming in summer 2013.

That day, the home side had the edge as a Thomas Muller penalty and one from Mario Mandzukic cancelled out Alvaro Negredo's opener.



CITY IN CHINA

CITY WILL PLAY UNITED AS PART OF ICC CHINA IN JULY 2016 IN THE FIRST EVER MANCHESTER DERBY TO TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The game will take place at the iconic Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing on 25 July as part of the International Champions Cup China, before the Blues play Borussia Dortmund on 28 July in booming technology hub Shenzhen.

City continue to grow their profile in China through a number of initiatives. The Club recently announced a partnership with a China Media Capital-led consortium, which owns a minority shareholding in the Club's parent company, City Football Group.

Omar Berrada, Group Commercial Director of City Football Group, said: "Everyone at Manchester City is delighted to be taking part once again in the ICC and there is a great line-up of matches.

"We are excited to return to China and to the Bird's Nest for what promises to be a memorable tournament.

"I'm sure our fans will create an incredible atmosphere in the Bird's Nest and in Shenzhen and we are looking forward to connecting with them both on and off the pitch.

"We are committed to having a long-term presence in China and to developing football across the country. We know our visit in July will form a big part of our continued growth."

City visited China as part of their pre-season tour in 2012.

Relevant Sports, Catalyst Media Group, and LeSports revealed the planned line-up earlier this summer, along with fans, legends and executives at a launch event at the Bird's Nest.

Patrick Murphy, CEO of Catalyst Media Group said, "This year we will deliver three huge clubs each offering star-power, three modern venues in three first-tier cities, and a three-match

schedule highlighted by a Manchester derby that that will be the talk of the nation and a topic of conversation all around the world.

"Starting from today, with the attendance of legends and executives here in Beijing, our participating clubs are determined to put on a true show for China.

"China's ambition to elevate its status in world football is key for the sport globally. Via the ICC China, top international clubs are committed to contributing, through credible, regular and meaningful engagement in-market."



CITY IN SWEDEN

MANCHESTER CITY WILL COMPLETE THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2016/17 SEASON WITH A FRIENDLY AGAINST PREMIER LEAGUE RIVALS ARSENAL.

The match will take place in Sweden, on Sunday 7 August, at the Ullevi Stadium in what will be the conclusion of Pep Guardiola's first pre-season.

Taking place one week before the start of the new Premier League campaign, City travel to Gothenburg for the first time to take part in the Supermatchen, which returns after a two year break.

The friendly follows the Blues' tour of China and offers Guardiola one last chance to finalise his plans ahead of the new season, when City will once again compete for silverware on four fronts.

This will be the first all-English Supermatchen and City Football Group chief commercial officer, Tom Glick, is pleased the Club have the opportunity to participate in the landmark fixture.

He said: "Everyone at Manchester City is delighted to be taking part in the Supermatchen, which will provide the team with valuable preparation for the season ahead and allow us to further engage with our fans in Sweden.

"This match marks the team's first visit to Gothenburg so we're looking forward to connecting with our local fans both on and off the pitch."

City's last friendly against the Gunners also took place on foreign soil and a repeat result would be a welcome bonus ahead of the new season.

That day, goals from Pablo Zabaleta and Yaya Toure handed City a 2-0 victory in front fans at China's Bird's Nest Stadium.



FACTS AND FIGURES

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP:
1970

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:
1936-37, 1967-68, 2011-12, 2013-14

FOOTBALL LEAGUE RUNNERS-UP:
1903-04, 1920-21, 1976-77, 2012-13, 2014-15

DIVISION ONE CHAMPIONS:
2001-02

DIVISION ONE RUNNERS-UP:
1999-2000

DIVISION TWO CHAMPIONS (ORIGINAL):
1898-99, 1902-03, 1909-10, 1927-28,
1946-47, 1965-66

DIVISION TWO RUNNERS-UP (ORIGINAL):
1895-96, 1950-51, 1988-89

DIVISION TWO PLAY OFF WINNERS:
1998-99

FA CUP WINNERS:
1904, 1934, 1956, 1969, 2011

FA CUP RUNNERS-UP:
1926, 1933, 1955, 1981, 2013

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS:
1970, 1976, 2014, 2016

LEAGUE CUP RUNNERS-UP:
1974

FA CHARITY SHIELD WINNERS:
1937-38, 1968-69, 1972-73, 2011-2012

FULL MEMBERS CUP RUNNERS-UP:
1986

FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS:
1986, 2008

RESERVE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS:
1977-78, 1986-87, 1999-2000

MOST GOALS IN A SEASON:
108 IN DIVISION TWO 1926-27
(42 GAMES) & DIVISION ONE
2001-02 (46 GAMES)

**MOST GOALS IN ALL COMPETITIONS
IN A SEASON:**
156 IN 2013-14

PLAYER IN A SEASON:
38 BY TOMMY JOHNSON
IN DIVISION ONE 1928-29

MOST POINTS (2 FOR A WIN):
62 IN DIVISION TWO 1946-47

MOST POINTS (3 FOR A WIN):
99 IN DIVISION ONE 2001-02

**MOST CAPPED PLAYER WHILE
AT THE CLUB:**
COLIN BELL (ENGLAND) 48

CLUB HISTORY

1875 - 1902

1880 St Mark's Church forms a football team which would later evolve into MCFC.

1884 The first known 'City shirt' is created – in black, with a Maltese-style cross. Some say this is because of the club's strong links with Freemasonry in the 1880s, others believe the white cross proves the link with St Mark's was still strong.

1887 St Mark's team evolves into Ardwick AFC and moves to Hyde Road.

1889 An explosion at the nearby Hyde Road coal mine results in the death of 23 miners – Ardwick and Newton Heath play a friendly match under floodlights in aid of the disaster fund.

1892 The second division of the English Football League is created, with Ardwick AFC as founder members.

1894 Ardwick AFC reforms as Manchester City Football Club, in a bid to represent the whole city.

1899 City finish champions of Division Two, becoming the first team to gain automatic promotion.

1904 The Blues beat Bolton Wanderers in the FA Cup final at Crystal Palace, becoming the first Manchester side to win a major trophy.

1914 TO 1918 WORLD WAR ONE

League football is suspended from 1915-1919, though regional Subsidiary tournaments are still in place with City taking part in the Lancashire division.

1920s

1920 City's Hyde Road ground becomes the first provincial football stadium to be visited by a reigning monarch.

1923 After Hyde Road is destroyed by fire, the club moves to the 85,000 capacity Maine Road.

1926 A topsy-turvy year for the Blues – managerless City become the first Manchester side to play at Wembley (FA Cup runners-up),



record the highest Manchester derby victory (6-1 at Old Trafford) and suffer relegation in the same season.

1928 City promoted as Champions of Division Two and are the Football League's best-supported club.

1930s

1934 After losing the final last year, City beat Portsmouth 2-1 to lift the FA Cup.

1934 A record provincial crowd of 84,569 is recorded at Maine Road when the Blues entertain Stoke City.

1937 Manchester City win the League Championship for the first time.

1939 TO 1945 WORLD WAR TWO

A Wartime League is set up with City playing in the Northern division. Substantial damage to Old Trafford means United are forced to play their home games at Maine Road. However City would never allow United usage of the home team changing room when the two teams met!

1945 - 1950

1947 City are promoted as Champions of Division Two.

1949 The MCFC Official Supporters Club is formed.

1950s

1955 City lose to Newcastle United in the 1955 FA Cup final at Wembley.

1956 The Blues play their second successive FA Cup Final, this time beating Birmingham 3-1 to lift the trophy. Their homecoming parade is the first outside transmission by Granada Television.

1958 The Munich Air Disaster devastates Manchester United's first team squad and also kills several journalists including former City goalkeeper Frank Swift.

1960s

1965 A new club badge is developed in 1965, based around the central part of the City of Manchester coat of arms.

1966 City are promoted as champions of Division Two, under the management team of Joe Mercer and Malcolm Allison.

1968 The Blues defeat Newcastle United on the final day of the season to clinch the League Championship for the second time.

1969 Manchester City beat Leicester City 1-0 at Wembley to win the FA Cup.

1970s

1970 City complete a brilliant European and domestic cup double by winning the European Cup Winners Cup and the League Cup.

1972 The City badge is replaced with the red rose of Lancashire.

1974 City lose the League Cup final to Wolves.

1976 The Blues beat Newcastle United 2-1 at Wembley, with goals from Peter Barnes and a spectacular over-head kick from Dennis Tueart.

1979 The club break the transfer record, signing Steve Daley for £1,450,277. Within two years, the Blues became the first side to sign three individual £1m+ players (Kevin Reeves & Trevor Francis were the other two).

1980s

1981 City reach the 100th FA Cup final against Tottenham Hotspurs. Following a 1-1 draw on the Saturday, a replay was played again at Wembley, regarded as one of the most entertaining Cup finals ever. City were narrowly defeated 3-2 following a famous Ricky Villa goal but for City fans, Steve MacKenzie's 30-yard volley was the better strike.

1986 City play in the inaugural Full Members' Cup final at Wembley before a crowd of 68,000.

1987 A club record 10-1 demolition of Huddersfield Town is recorded at Maine Road.

1989 City are promoted in dramatic style in the last game of the season at Bradford. The highest ever Maine Road derby win is recorded, with City thumping neighbours Manchester United 5-1.

1990s

1992 The FA Premier League is formed, with City v QPR being the first ever live Monday night Sky game.

1994 City say farewell to the much-loved Kippax Stand as legislation forces the closure of terracing at Premier League grounds. In its day 'The Kippax' was the largest standing area in the country.

1995/96 A dramatic season sees City appoint three different managers; Alan Ball, Steve Coppell and Frank Clark as well as significant spells as caretaker for Asa Hartford and Phil Neal.

1997 City unveil a new club badge. This new design features the Latin motto "Superbia in proelio" meaning 'Pride in battle'.

1999 One of the most dramatic games ever played at Wembley sees City promoted after a penalty shoot-out against Gillingham in the Division Two Play-Off.

2000s

2000 City return to the Premier League following back-to-back promotions. A 4-1 victory over Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park to seal promotion is followed by a celebratory pitch invasion by the Blues' enormous travelling support.

2002 Future manager Stuart Pearce captains City as they are promoted back to the Premiership, breaking club records for the most goals scored and most points gained in a season along the way.

2003 It's an emotional farewell to Maine Road as City's home for 80 years stages its last football match, City vs. Southampton on 11th May. The club make the move to the impressive, 48,000 capacity, City of Manchester Stadium.

2007 Sven Goran Eriksson replaces Stuart Pearce as manager, and on 15th December City establish a 'top flight' club record of nine consecutive home league wins at the start of the season.

2008 The Abu Dhabi United Group become the new owners of Manchester City. Former Wales, Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Manchester United star Mark Hughes becomes the new City Manager. The club break the British transfer record for the second time with the £32.5m signing of Robinho from Real Madrid.

2009 Roberto Mancini, former manager of Inter Milan replaces Mark Hughes in December.

2010 The Blues enjoy their best ever Premier League campaign, finishing 5th and qualifying for the Europa League in the process, as well as reaching the League Cup semi-finals.

2011 The long wait for a trophy ends when the Blues beat Stoke 1-0 to lift the FA Cup, and they qualify for the 2011/12 Champions League for the first time too!

2012 City win the League Championship for the first time in 44 years following a thrilling Premier League campaign. A last-gasp Sergio Aguero goal against QPR secures the title in the most dramatic of fashions at a jubilant Etihad Stadium.

2013 New York City FC is announced – the partnership between Manchester City and the New York Yankees.

Manuel Pellegrini, former manager of Malaga joins Manchester City in June.

2014 City complete a domestic double by beating West Ham United 2-0 on the final day of the season to claim their second Premier League title in three years, adding to the League Cup won after a dramatic Wembley comeback against Sunderland in March. The Blues also reach the knockout stages of the Champions League for the first time. Manchester City, in partnership with the owners of Melbourne Storm, acquire Australian side Melbourne Heart in January, which is later renamed Melbourne City.

2015 City seal investment and partnership with J-League soccer club Yokohama F Marinos in a deal designed to create new global opportunities for Japanese soccer talent. City Football Group subsequently launches City Football Japan.

The City Football Academy opens with the intent of securing MCFC's future as one of the world's leading football clubs by investing in the development of young talent.

City Football Group (CFG) announce a partnership with a consortium of high profile Chinese institutional investors led by operating company CMC (China Media Capital) Holdings. Club consults with thousands of fans and as a result, unveils a new club badge that re-introduces the round design of the previous crests.

2016 Pep Guardiola replaces outgoing manager Manuel Pellegrini who lifts the League Cup in his final season in charge of the club.

THE TRANSFORMATION OF MANCHESTER CITY

IN SEPTEMBER 2008, SHEIKH MANSOUR BOUGHT MANCHESTER CITY FC AND OUTLINED HIS VISION OF CREATING A SUSTAINABLE AND SUCCESSFUL FOOTBALL CLUB WITH THE FANS AT ITS HEART.

City completed the signing of Robinho on the same day the takeover was announced which pointed sincere ambition to transform the fortunes of this English institution.

Carlos Tevez, Vincent Kompany and Nigel de Jong soon followed as the club set about propelling itself back into the upper reaches of the Premier League and challenging for silverware once more.

Former Inter coach Roberto Mancini was appointed manager in December 2009 and added David Silva and Yaya Toure to his squad in the summer of 2010.

What followed were seasons that City fans of a certain age could never have dreamed of.

Landmarks came thick and fast, with City qualifying for the UEFA Champions League for the first time in 2010/11 and ending the 35 year

trophy drought with an FA Cup win in the same year after the 1-0 Wembley win over Stoke City.

93:20

But of course no history of Manchester City is complete without the remarkable events of 13 May 2012 - the final day of the Premier League season.

After running down an eight point gap on rivals Manchester United with just six games remaining, City knew that victory over QPR at the Etihad Stadium would guarantee a first ever Premier League title and crown them English champions for the first time in 44 years.

It was all going so well when Pablo Zabaleta gave the Blues the lead on the stroke of half-time but two second-half goals from the visitors turned the match on its head and a stadium which was having a party soon became a home to nerves, panic and desperation.



What followed were 24 agonising minutes when QPR defended for their lives with 10 men packed inside their penalty area, blocking every City shot and, as the game entered its 90th minute, commentators and pundits were already concocting their own epitaphs for City's title race.

Cityitis, Typical City, this could only happen to City, they said, until...

Bosnian striker Edin Dzeko headed the Blues level in the first minute of injury time, a goal that gave City a glimmer of hope but surely it was still too late?

Not so, as Sergio Aguero impossibly stayed on his feet to ride a couple of sliding tackles and with one definitive lash of that exquisite right foot, ended 44 years of hurt for hundreds of thousands of City fans around the globe.

Although the Blues were unable to recapture their title in the following season, City did return to Wembley for an FA Cup final against Wigan, only to fall to a last-gasp Ben Watson header which condemned the Blues to defeat.

That summer, radical changes were made as Mancini was replaced by Manuel Pellegrini and five new stars in the shape of Fernandinho, Jesus Navas, Alvaro Negredo, Stevan Jovetic and Martin Demichelis were brought in.

After a tricky start in which the Blues failed to win away from home until mid-October, City soon found their rhythm and set about smashing a whole host of records.

Pellegrini's side reached the Champions League Round of 16 for the first time in their history, before becoming the fastest club in Premier League history to score 100 competitive goals in all competitions.



City's goalscoring exploits became their most potent weapon as the Blues would go on to net an incredible 102 league goals – the second-highest Premier League tally on record.

That feat also presented another impressive achievement, as it had been the first time a team had boasted three different players (Sergio Agüero, Edin Džeko and Yaya Touré) to score more than 15 league goals.

In March 2014, Pellegrini received his first English trophy, having masterminded a thrilling win in the Capital One Cup final, ensuring his side claimed the trophy for the first time since 1976.

Then in May, although it had looked as though City had surrendered their challenge for the Premier League crown, the Chilean secured the domestic title with a 2-0 victory over West Ham

at the Etihad Stadium. The triumph secured a league and cup double for the Blues – a feat last accomplished in 1970.

Two years on, City lifted the League Cup for a second time in three seasons. Manuel Pellegrini announced his departure from the club as former Barcelona and Bayern Munich manager Pep Guardiola was named as his replacement.

CFA

Off the pitch, City's new youth development and first team training centre – the City Football Academy (CFA) was opened in 2014.

The CFA accommodates not only all playing squads, but also the majority of Manchester based staff in one connected operational base.

It is a global headquarters for those in the wider City Football family, which now includes sister clubs New York City FC, Melbourne City FC and Yokohama F. Marinos.

The project was underpinned by ambitious local recruitment that significantly up-skilled the local community and made a positive economic impact on the surrounding area.

The City Football Academy includes...

- A new Academy for up to 400 young players with classrooms for 200
- On site accommodation for junior and senior players
- 16.5 football pitches, 12 of them dedicated to players aged from 8 to 21
- A state of the art first team building with changing rooms, gym, refectory and injury and rehab centre
- A 7,000 capacity stadium for youth matches
- Staff offices and a dedicated media centre
- A bridge linking the site to the Etihad Stadium and the rest of the Etihad Campus.

CITY FOOTBALL GROUP





MANCHESTER CITY WOMEN

FORMERLY KNOWN AS MANCHESTER CITY LADIES FC, THE CLUB WAS FOUNDED IN 1988 BY CITY IN THE COMMUNITY. IN THE 25 YEARS SINCE THEN, THEIR AFFILIATION WITH THE MEN'S TEAM HAS TAKEN VARIOUS FORMS, CULMINATING IN THE STATEMENT OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH MANCHESTER CITY IN AUGUST 2012.

The Club was granted entry to the FA Women's Super League in April 2013 and subsequently re-launched as Manchester City Women's Football Club in January 2014.

The Club mirrors and benefits from its association with its male equivalent and is structured in all aspects of its operations to take advantage of the resources of the wider organisation – from community programmes, to youth development, scouting, coaching, sports science, digital coverage and first team football operations.

In its inaugural season under Head Coach Nick Cushing, Manchester City Women made history when they clinched their first ever trophy, the FA WSL Continental Cup. In the 2015 campaign the Club finished second place in the FA WSL and with it secured UEFA Women's Champions League football for the 2016 season.



MELBOURNE CITY FC

MELBOURNE CITY FC IS A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB THAT COMPETES IN THE MAJOR AUSTRALIAN DOMESTIC COMPETITION, THE HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE, THE TOP TIER OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL, THE WESTFIELD W-LEAGUE, AND THE FOXTEL NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE.

City Football Group acquired ownership of the club on 22 January 2014, when it was then known as Melbourne Heart FC. The Club was rebranded in June 2014 as Melbourne City FC with new kits and a new badge unveiled, inspired by the heritage and tradition of the city as well as celebrating modern Victorian culture. The central red and white component of the badge ensures that the Club's foundation colours will always be an integral part of its ethos as the club continues to evolve.

Based at La Trobe University, Melbourne City FC's home ground is AAMI Park in Melbourne, Australia. Experienced Head Coach John van't Schip has steered the team to two consecutive Semi-Final berths, with the team finishing the regular season in fifth and fourth respectively. Melbourne City broke records across the board in 2015/16, scoring the most goals in the season, the first team to have three players with 10 or more goals in a season and the first team to score five goals in consecutive games.

The records didn't stop there with Golden Boot winner Bruno Fornaroli setting an all-time record for goals in a season and midfielder Aaron Mooy providing the most assists in a season. The team will compete in the 2016/17 A-League season, which runs from October 2016 to May 2017.

The Club's Women's side also set records in 2015/16, going unbeaten in its inaugural season to take out the Premiership and Championship double. Led by Head Coach Joe Montemurro, Melbourne's Westfield W-League side set a new standard for Women's football in Australia.

The Club prides itself on developing Australia's best young talent and has helped players transition from the Hyundai A-League to Newcastle United, AZ Alkmaar, the Turkish Super Lig and the top leagues in Asia.

Originally founded in 2009, the Club entered Australian soccer's premier league at the start of the 2010-11 campaign, when they triumphed 2-1 in the inaugural Melbourne derby over cross-city rivals Melbourne Victory.



MELBOURNE CITY WOMEN'S FC

MELBOURNE CITY WOMEN'S FC COMMENCED ITS INAUGURAL WESTFIELD W-LEAGUE CAMPAIGN IN OCTOBER 2015, AFTER FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA CONFIRMED THE CLUB'S APPLICATION FOR ENTRY INTO THE WOMEN'S DOMESTIC COMPETITION IN MAY 2015.

The team, led by Head Coach Joe Montemurro, finished the regular season with a 100 per cent record, winning 12 consecutive league matches and clinching the Premier's Plate. The team also claimed the competition's Championship, defeating Sydney FC 4-1 in January's Grand Final, to secure a historic double in the team's first season.

The W-League team is based at Melbourne's City Football Academy where it has access to state-of-the-art facilities and trains on the Club's Elite and Academy Pitches at La Trobe University.

In its inaugural season, Melbourne City FC's W-League team was represented by Australian internationals Lisa De Vanna, Laura Alleway, Steph Catley and Larissa Crummer, Scottish Internationals Kim Little and Jennifer Beattie – who joined on a season loan from Melbourne's sister club Manchester City – and Welsh international Jess Fishlock.



NEW YORK CITY FC

NEW YORK CITY FC IS THE NEWEST PROFESSIONAL SOCCER TEAM IN THE NEW YORK CITY AREA AND THE FIRST MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER (MLS) CLUB TO PLAY WITHIN THE FIVE BOROUGHES.

New York City FC is the newest professional soccer team in the New York City area and the first Major League Soccer (MLS) Club to play within the five boroughs. New York City FC is supported by their majority owner, City Football Group (CFG).

The Club play their home games at Yankee Stadium. The New York Yankees are a minority owner. New York City FC Sporting Director, and former Manchester City and US international midfielder, Claudio Reyna, along with first year Head Coach, Patrick Vieira, have put together a squad with an exciting mix of global super-stars, MLS experience and young up-and-coming talent. International stars David Villa, Frank Lampard and Andrea Pirlo represent the most decorated, international trio in MLS history.

Aside from the numerous domestic league titles between them, it is the first time any team in the league has included three UEFA Champions League winners and two World Cup winners.

New Yorkers embraced their new Club from the very beginning, with approximately 20,000 season ticket holders and an average attendance of over 29,000 in 2015, making it one of the best supported teams in the league.

Ferran Soriano, CEO of both New York City FC and Manchester City FC, said: "New York is a legendary sports town as well as a thriving global city with a rapidly expanding soccer fan-base. We are thrilled to contribute to the energy and growth of New York City soccer. With a large fan base throughout the New York area, prime television rights and distribution, sponsorship commitments, and the Yankees as a US partner, New York City Football Club has everything in place to succeed," said Claudio Reyna, New York City FC Sporting Director.

YOKOHAMA F. MARINOS

**IN MAY 2014 CITY FOOTBALL GROUP
ANNOUNCED AN INVESTMENT AND
PARTNERSHIP WHICH SAW THE
GROUP BECOME A MINORITY
SHAREHOLDER OF THE YOKOHAMA
F. MARINOS (YF MARINOS).**



The deal represented the first significant foreign investment in a J-League soccer club and was designed to create new global opportunities for the YF Marinos and Japanese soccer talent.

The deal also sees CFG collaborate with YF Marinos, exposing them to a world-class soccer infrastructure and network not seen before in the J-League but that has achieved popular acclaim and real success with teams like Manchester City.

"The YF Marinos is an excellent soccer club with a rich history which has grown hand in hand with Nissan. Together we see opportunities that CFG's global soccer infrastructure will bring to the club and the excitement it will bring to the

fans," said Carlos Ghosn, Nissan President and CEO. "This partnership will contribute to the growth of the club, the growth of our shared hometown, Yokohama, as well as Yokosuka and Japanese soccer."

"We're thrilled to be able to play a role in investing and building on the on-going success of YF Marinos," said Ferran Soriano, CEO, City Football Group.

"We are proud to offer a collaborative and integrated approach to the football, marketing, media and commercial development of all the clubs in the City family.

"At the same time, we are proud that each of our clubs is firmly rooted and invested in its local

community as well as connected and engaged with its supporter base. We are very much looking forward to starting our collaboration."

The globally innovative partnership between business and sport provides the four times Asia champions, and three times J-league champions, in-depth knowledge and experience across the CFG global network which consists of Manchester City's senior, youth and women's teams, Melbourne City and New York City Football Club.

In forming this partnership, YF Marinos gained unrivalled access to CFG's training methods, medical care, sport science, team management and coaching know-how, providing a

motivational draw for young Japanese players and placing the club in pole position to support the national team efforts of creating a world-class team for the future.

As a global brand, Nissan stands for innovation to excite their consumer, a brand essence shared by City Football Group. With this shared purpose the two partners will explore further global joint opportunities in the coming months.



MANAGEMENT

JOSEP 'PEP' GUARDIOLA MANAGER



DATE OF BIRTH:
18 JANUARY 1971

PLACE OF BIRTH:
SANTPEDOR, SPAIN

JOINED CITY:
JULY 2016

Josep 'Pep' Guardiola comes to City as one of the most successful coaches of the modern era, and with a reputation for managing sides that play with an entertaining, attacking brand of football.

A five-time La Liga-winning midfielder with Barcelona and Spain international, Pep moved effortlessly into coaching and became the Spanish club's head coach in 2008.

Barca won the Spanish title three years in a row and the Champions League twice in Pep's time at the Nou Camp, when he worked with global superstars including Lionel Messi, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Thierry Henry and Yaya Toure.

He left Barca in 2012, and after deciding to take time away from the game he took over at Bayern Munich. He further enhanced his reputation while in Germany, winning the Bundesliga three times before agreeing to join Manchester City for the start of the 2016-17 season.

DOMENEC TORRENT ASSISTANT MANAGER



DATE OF BIRTH:
14 JULY 1962

PLACE OF BIRTH:
SANTA COLOMA DE FARNERS, SPAIN

JOINED CITY:
JULY 2016

Domenec Torrent has been named as one of four Assistant Coaches. Torrent, the grandson of a former Barcelona player, has worked closely alongside Pep for the past eight years including four years at Barca and a further three at Bayern Munich.

He first joined City's new boss when he took over at Barcelona B in 2008, helping the Catalans' second team to win promotion at the first attempt.

Domenec played as a midfielder at U.E. Olot and managed Palamos and Girona in Spain between 2003 and 2006.

Torrent is one of the Pep's most trusted lieutenants, usually sits next to him on the bench and at Bayern Munich and Barca was the only coach who would also give team-talks.

RODOLFO BORRELL

ASSISTANT MANAGER



DATE OF BIRTH:
14 JULY 1962

PLACE OF BIRTH:
SANTA COLOMA DE FARNERS, SPAIN

JOINED CITY:
JULY 2016

Rodolfo Borrell will also join Pep's backroom staff and has a reputation of nurturing some of football's most precocious talents.

It was Borrell who was Lionel Messi's first coach at Barca and he also helped the development of Cesc Fabregas and Andres Iniesta during his time at the Camp Nou.

He was Technical Director and Head of Coaching for Liverpool FC's Academy after Rafa Benitez brought him to England in 2009.

While on Merseyside, he helped bring through players like Raheem Sterling, Jon Flanagan and Jordan Ibe, but he left the club in 2014 and joined City.

For the past two seasons he has been the Academy Technical Director, looking after the youth teams from U21s down to U9s.

Borrell will now become part of Guardiola's backroom team as an Assistant Coach.

BRIAN KIDD

ASSISTANT MANAGER



DATE OF BIRTH:
29 MAY 1949

PLACE OF BIRTH:
COLLYHURST, ENGLAND

JOINED CITY:
DECEMBER 2009

Having won the European Cup with Manchester United, Brian later moved to Maine Road and racked up 128 appearances, including over 50 goals, with the Blues between 1976 and 1979. A career that also took in stints at Everton, Arsenal and Bolton ended in the United States before he turned his attention to coaching, where his techniques have won many admirers and brought success at many levels.

Brian spent a decade at Old Trafford as youth team boss and assistant manager before moving to Leeds, Sheffield United and, in 2008-09, Portsmouth, where alongside Paul Hart he managed to keep the south coast side in the Premier League.

Kidd, who was born in Collyhurst and always maintained his family home in the Manchester area, was also England coach under former City chief Sven-Goran Eriksson.

After initially taking up a Technical Development role at City in 2009, Kidd became Assistant Manager when Roberto Mancini was appointed in December of that year. As Mancini's assistant, Kidd helped deliver the FA Cup and a first Premier League title to the Etihad Stadium.

The former City player has remained on the coaching staff under Manuel Pellegrini, and experienced even more success as the Blues finished Premier League and Capital One Cup Champions in the 2013-14 season.



THE PLAYERS

GOALKEEPERS

JOE HART
WILLY CABALLERO
ANGUS GUNN
IAN LAWLOR
KJETIL HAUG
BILLY O'BRIEN

DEFENDERS

PABLO ZABALETA
BACARY SAGNA
PABLO MAFFEO
TOSIN ADARABIOYO
KEAN BRYAN
NICOLAS OTAMENDI

VINCENT KOMPANY
ELIAQUIM MANGALA
JASON DENAYER
GAEL CLICHY
ALEKSANDAR KOLAROV
JOSE ANGEL TASENDE
SHAY FACEY
ASHLEY SMITH-BROWN
CHARLIE OLIVER
ELLIS PLUMMER
CAMERON HUMPHREYS

MIDFIELDERS

JESUS NAVAS
RAHEEM STERLING
BRANDON BARKER

ILKAY GUNDOGAN
FABIAN DELPH
FERNANDINHO
FERNANDO REGES
JAMES HORSFIELD
ALEIX GARCIA
KEVIN DE BRUYNE
SAMIR NASRI
DAVID SILVA
YAYA TOURE
BERSANT CELINA
MANU GARCIA
SINAN BYTYQI
OLEKSANDR ZINCHENKO
DENZEIL BOADU

AARON NEMANE
GEORGE GLENDON
BRUNO ZUCULINI

STRIKERS

SERGIO AGUERO
WILFRIED BONY
KELECHI IHEANACHO
NOLITO
DAVID FAUPALA
THIERRY AMBROSE



GOALKEEPERS

JOE HART



DATE OF BIRTH:
19 APRIL 1987

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**SHREWSBURY,
ENGLAND**

Joe moved to City from his home town club Shrewsbury Town in May 2006.

His professional career with the Shrews began in the 2003-04 season, when he played twice in the Football Conference, before he became their first-choice keeper in the 2005-06 campaign.

He was already England U19 keeper when he joined the Blues and made his first team debut on October 14, 2006 against Sheffield United, keeping a clean sheet in a goalless draw.

Joe was loaned out to Tranmere Rovers at the start of January 2007 and was almost immediately selected for England's U21s, making a second half appearance against Spain in a 2-2 draw.

Further experience was gained on loan at Blackpool, and when he returned to City he eventually beat off the challenge of Sweden number one Andreas Isaksson and Kasper Schmeichel to become Sven-Goran Eriksson's first-choice stopper.

He won his first England cap in June 2008 against Trinidad and Tobago, but having started the next season as City's number one he was replaced by Shay Given in January 2009.

Having topped 50 first team appearances for City, Joe spent the summer of 2009 playing for England's U21s in the European Championships in Sweden.

The dramatic penalty shoot-out in the semi-final saw Joe save a couple, and score one - but a yellow card, his second of the tournament, meant that he had to sit out the final.

Around this time his season-long loan to promoted Birmingham City was also confirmed. A resounding success at St Andrews, he was named in the PFA Team of the Year and included in Fabio Capello's England squad for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

He did not play during that ill-fated campaign, but he impressed Roberto Mancini enough in pre-season to get the nod as City's first-choice goalkeeper for the start of 2010-11, helping the Blues end a trophy drought of 35 years by claiming the FA Cup with a 1-0 win over Stoke.

From the first match of that season, when Joe was awarded man of the match in the 0-0 draw with Tottenham, he cemented his reputation as one of the most assured goalkeepers in Europe.

He also became England's undisputed No.1, and earned the first of four Golden Gloves awards (so far) for the Premier League in City's title-winning 2011-12 campaign.

One of the first names on the team sheet for club and country, Joe has gone on to win a second Premier League and two Capital One Cups as well as playing at the World Cup in 2014 and the European Championships two years later.

WILLY CABALLERO



DATE OF BIRTH:
28 SEPTEMBER 1981

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**SANTA ELENA,
ARGENTINA**

Willy Caballero joined City in July 2014, teaming up with manager Manuel Pellegrini again having played for the Chilean at Malaga, where he clocked up 117 league appearances.

A fine shot-stopper, the Argentine had a reputation for his strength in organising the defence in front of him and brought a wealth of La Liga and European experience with him to Etihad Stadium.

Willy began his career in his homeland with Boca Juniors, with whom he won the Argentina Primera Division, Copa Libertadores and Intercontinental Cup in 2003.

His early promise was spotted by Elche, who moved quickly to bring the keeper to Spain a year later. After a loan spell back in Argentina with Arsenal Sarandi, the keeper returned to Elche and became the permanent owner of the club's No.1 shirt, making nearly 200 appearances in Segunda Division.

After seven years with Los Franjiverdes (The Green Striped Ones), Willy was snapped up by La Liga side Malaga early in 2011 on an emergency transfer to cover an injury to Sergio Asenjo.

Swiftly adapting to his new club, Willy made his debut within a few days against Villarreal, and went on to play every game until the end of the 2010-11 campaign, helping the La Rosaleda outfit avoid relegation.

He wrote his name into the club's record books in October 2011 when he went 480 minutes without conceding a goal, and was a key member of the squad that ended the 2011-12 campaign fourth in La Liga.

Willy gained recognition on the European stage the following season, as Malaga topped a Champions League group containing AC Milan and triumphed over Porto in the round of 16 to reach the quarter finals.

Having made sporadic appearances for City following his move in 2014, he proved his worth when given the chance in the 2016 Capital One Cup final. Three superb saves in the penalty shoot-out, to deny Liverpool's Lucas Leiva, Philippe Coutinho and Adam Lallana, helped City to victory and made Willy into an instant, if unlikely, City hero.

Willy has represented Argentina at youth level, and lifted the U20 FIFA World Cup in 2001. He was also part of the squad that won a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Athens in 2004 when aged 22.

ANGUS GUNN



DATE OF BIRTH:
22 JANUARY 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
NORWICH, ENGLAND

Son of Norwich City institution Bryan Gunn, Angus didn't have to look far for inspiration for a career between the posts.

Sharp reflexes and strong wrists are just two of the characteristics that attracted England U16s coach Kenny Swain to Gunn for their Victory Shield campaign in 2011/12 and he went on to represent the Three Lions at U17 level last season.

His ambitious streak was highlighted when shortly after signing his first-year scholarship with City he was already targeting a regular place in the Elite Development Squad for the Next Gen Series, however, a troublesome hip injury took a huge chunk out of Angus's season.

Gunn returned for the final few months of the season and was one of City U18s' best players, saving a couple of penalties and pulling off a string of eye-catching saves to steady the ship as the age-group enjoyed a solid end to the 2012/13 campaign.

Angus signed as a first-year pro in the summer of 2013 and was an integral member of the U19s squad which qualified from Group D of the inaugural UEFA Youth League.

Gunn is the recognised first choice goalkeeper for the EDS and won his first England U21 cap in the 2015/16 season, featuring for Gareth Southgate's side as the won the Toulon tournament in the summer of 2016.

IAN LAWLOR



DATE OF BIRTH:
27 OCTOBER 1994

PLACE OF BIRTH:
DUBLIN, IRELAND

Hailing from Dublin, 6ft 4 Ian Lawlor has already represented his country at youth level for the U19s in the UEFA Qualifiers.

Ian used to turn out for the esteemed Home Farm team in Ireland before crossing the Irish Sea in 2010 to join City. Home Farm boasts a glittering CV of Premier League footballers past and present, including former City captain Richard Dunne – huge footsteps the youngster will hope to follow in.

He was a regular starter for the Elite Development Squad across all domestic competitions in 2013/14, making 28 appearances in all competitions.

His impressive performances between the sticks caught the eye of Ireland manager Martin O'Neil and Lawlor was called up to the senior international side for the first time for their two game post-season mini-tour of the USA in June 2014.

Although Ian didn't feature, it's hoped that the experience will stand him in good stead for another season of development under City EDS goalkeeper coach, Dave Felgate.

Lawlor joined Barnet on an emergency loan in December 2015, making his debut in the 2-2 draw with Yeovil Town before ending his spell with the Bees with a 4-2 win over Crawley Town.

Following the completion of his loan move with The Hive-based club, Ian joined League One side Bury on loan until the end of the 2015/16 season.

BILLY O'BRIEN



DATE OF BIRTH:
22 NOVEMBER 1995

PLACE OF BIRTH:
BURY, ENGLAND

A strong and assured goalkeeper, Billy O'Brien proved his worth to earn a pro contract with City in July 2014.

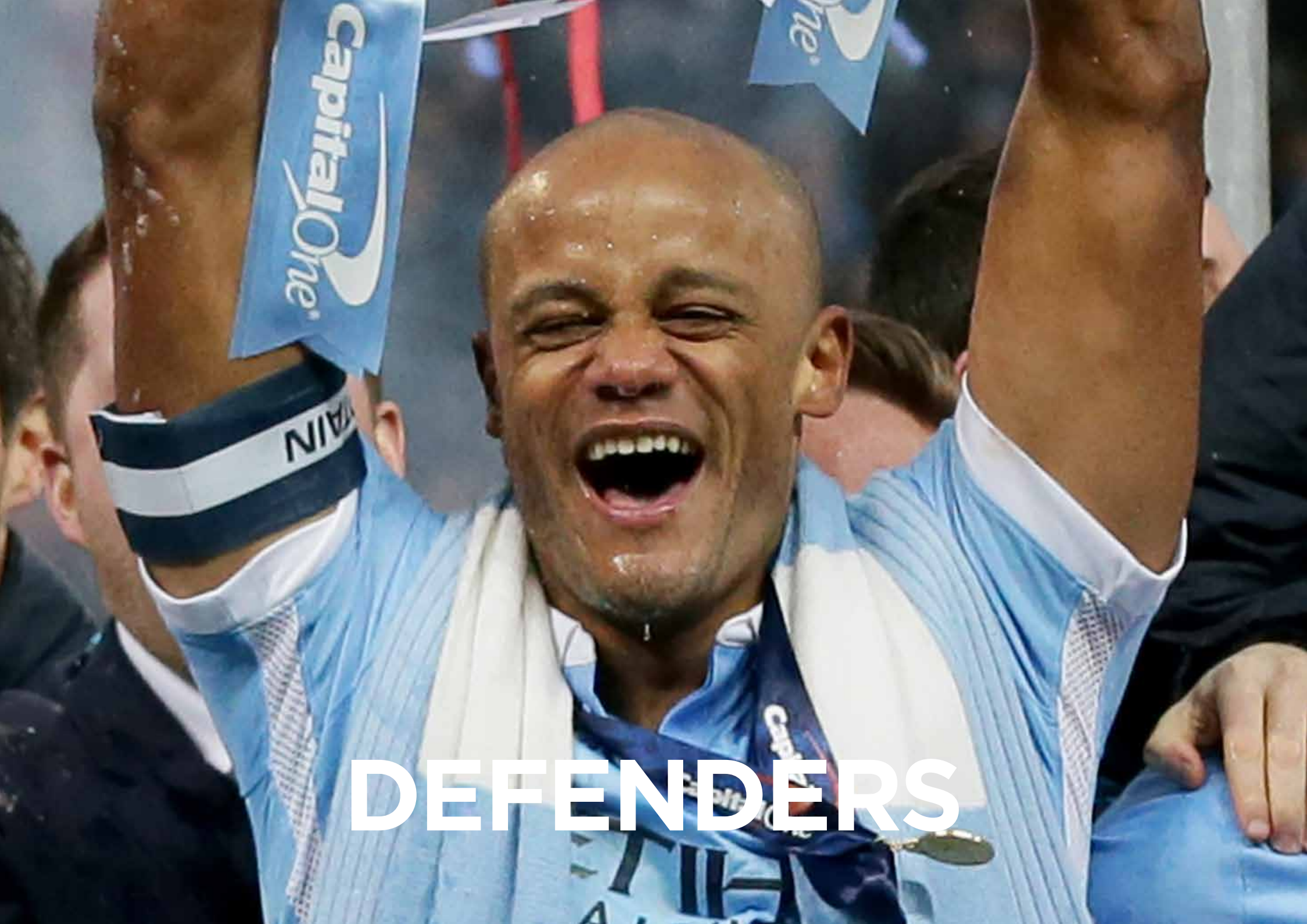
Possessing excellent distribution and handling, the Bury-born keeper also has impressive reach thanks to his 6ft stature and is brilliant at claiming crosses, providing confidence for the defence in front of him.

A lively and outgoing character, Billy wore the no.1 shirt for the u18s in 2013/14 as they romped to the North Division title, and gained European experience as part of Patrick Vieira's u19 UEFA Youth League squad.

His stunning save in the 1-0 last 16 win over Atletico was one of the standout moments from Billy's promising 2013/14 campaign.

After cutting his teeth at international level with Wales u19s, O'Brien spent the first part of the 2014/15 campaign on loan with Hyde FC.

He was the hero for City EDS in 2015/16 as he saved the crucial penalty against Bolton to put the Blues through to the Manchester Senior Cup final.



DEFENDERS

PABLO ZABALETA



DATE OF BIRTH:
16 JANUARY 1985

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**BUENOS AIRES,
ARGENTINA**

Passion, desire and commitment epitomise City hero 'Zaba', who has donated sweat by the bucket load to stadiums across Europe and has literally bled for the cause before being patched up and carrying straight on.

Born in Buenos Aires, the defender began his career with San Lorenzo in Argentina as a midfielder before crossing the Atlantic to Spain to join Espanyol as a 20-year-old, after captaining his country to the FIFA Under 20 World Cup in 2005.

In three years with the la Liga outfit, Pablo established himself as a rugged, durable defender and was on the losing side when Espanyol made the Uefa Cup final in 2007.

City came calling a year later, signing Pablo in late August 2008 in one of the most astute pieces of business of the Club's recent history.

His move came shortly after he had helped Argentina win the gold medal at the Beijing Olympics, part of a stellar team including Lionel Messi, Angel Di Maria and future City team-mate Sergio Aguero.

Pablo took to English football immediately and quickly became a popular figure with Blues fans, and his versatility was a nice option too, with an ability to play in midfield as well as right-back helping City out on several occasions.

His opening goal on the day City secured the Premier League title in 2012 further enhanced his cult status.

He was City's Etihad Player of the Season winner in 2013, and he remained a crucial cog in the side that regained the title two years later as well as claiming the Capital One Cup.

Pablo's never-say-die spirit is as strong now after over 300 City appearances as it ever was, and he still gives every last ounce of effort for the cause.

BACARY SAGNA



DATE OF BIRTH:
14 FEBRUARY 1983

PLACE OF BIRTH:
SENS, FRANCE

Bacary Sagna brought a wealth of experience with him when he joined City from Arsenal in summer 2014.

The defender joined several ex-Gunners in City's ranks, following a seven-year spell in north London where he built a name for himself as one of the best full-backs in the Premier League.

Born in the city of Sens in northern France, Bacary started his career at Auxerre where he came through the youth system to become one of Ligue 1's most consistent defenders.

He played 121 games for the French outfit and was named in the Ligue 1 Team of the Season in his final year there, before Arsenal paid a fee of around £7m for his services in July 2007.

A month later he made his debut for France, having opted for the country of his birth despite having the option of representing Senegal.

He has gone on to win over 50 caps, appearing at the World Cup finals in 2010 and 2014 as well as Euro 2016 in his home country, having missed out four years earlier due to a broken leg.

His seven years at Arsenal saw Bacary become a dependable presence at right-back with some occasional appearances in central defence showing off his versatility.

An attacking full-back in the modern style, he liked to get forward and made 22 goal assists for the Gunners, and grabbed five goals into the bargain.

He left Emirates Stadium in summer 2014 having helped Arsenal win the FA Cup and moved to City, where he vied with Pablo Zabaleta for the right-back berth.

The Argentine held sway in Bacary's first season at the Club, but Bacary was a more regular face in the side during 2015-16. He won his first piece of silverware for the Blues in the Capital One Cup triumph over Liverpool at Wembley.

Bacary also helped mark 'Back to the future Day' on 21 October 2015 by spoofing the famous film and its time-travelling DeLorean car in a City TV YouTube clip called... wait for it... 'Bac to the future'.

PABLO MAFFEO



DATE OF BIRTH:
12 JULY 1997

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**SANT JOAN
DESPÍ, SPAIN**

Spanish right back Pablo Maffeo swapped Barcelona for Manchester to join City in July 2013 after beginning his youth career at Espanyol.

The Catalan side had already identified the defender's early promise, and Maffeo made his league debut for Espanyol B in Segunda Division B at just 15 years of age, entering the fray as a late substitute against Constanca.

Although injury delayed his City debut, the Spanish youth international made the right back slot his own in a competitive U18 squad, and scored his first goal in a sky blue shirt against Bolton in November 2013.

Pablo has now progressed through to the EDS and will be looking to hold down a spot in the starting eleven for the remaining games of the season.

He signed a new three-year deal with the Club in January 2016 before joining Spanish side Girona on loan.

In an international set up littered with talent in all age groups, Pablo has already represented his country at U15, U16 and U17 level.

TOSIN ADARABIOYO



DATE OF BIRTH:
24 SEPTEMBER 1997

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND**

An U18s regular since making his debut at the tender age of 14, England youth international Tosin Adarabioyo signed his first professional contract with City upon turning 17 in September 2014.

A strong and confident centre-back, the 18-year-old Mancunian celebrated penning his deal with a brace away to Liverpool the following week.

Excellent on the ball, the defender possesses good positional awareness and leadership skills – recognised by boss Jason Wilcox, who appointed him U18 skipper as a first year scholar at the start of the 2014/15 campaign.

After making 17 appearances as part of the U18 squad that clinched the Premier League North Division title in 2013/14, Tosin wore the captain's armband 13 times for Jason Wilcox's squad during his first year as a scholar, while also turning out seven times for the EDS against players up to four years his senior.

An ever-present in last term's UEFA Youth League campaign, Tosin was a key part of a stingy back line that conceded just four goals to help City to a 100% record in the group stages.

Now promoted to Simon Davies's EDS set-up full-time in 2015/16, he led City to the FA Youth Cup final and struck up good partnerships with Cameron Humphreys and Charlie Oliver. He also earned a first call up to the England U19s in 2015.

KEAN BRYAN



DATE OF BIRTH:
1 NOVEMBER 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND**

England youth international Kean Bryan joined City at the age of 11, and made his U18s debut at 15 years old.

A box-to-box midfielder transformed into a centre back, the youngster likes to use his strength in possession, vision and passing ability to influence the game from the centre of the park. The youngster also possesses a powerful and accurate long range shot, and a cool head from the penalty spot.

In 2014/15 Bryan was involved in both the U18s and the EDS, featuring in the FA Youth Cup final, UEFA Youth League and the U21 International Premier League Cup.

He was a regular for the EDS in the first part of the 2015/16 season before undergoing surgery for an injury but he returned late on the in campaign and will be hoping to enjoy another impressive season and potentially catch Pep Guardiola's eye, in 2016/17.

NICOLAS OTAMENDI



DATE OF BIRTH:
12 FEBRUARY 1988

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**CAPITAL FEDERAL,
BUENOS AIRES**

A tough Argentine international teammate of Sergio Aguero, Martin Demichelis and Pablo Zabaleta, Nicolas Otamendi joined City from Valencia in the 2015-16 summer transfer window.

Nicolas was born in El Talar, a small neighbourhood in the Argentine capital city Buenos Aires. He shared his time between boxing and football while growing up, building up his strength in a local gym with his cousin.

He joined Velez Sarsfield, one of Argentina's most famous and successful clubs, as a youngster and made his debut for the first team in 2008 aged 20.

Nicolas was called up by Argentine national team coach Diego Maradona for a friendly with Panama in 2009. At the time of his selection he had only played 11 professional games and started the match on 20 May, helping his side to a 3-1 win.

Still only 21, Nicolas was voted into El Pais' South American Team of the Year for 2009, with the paper describing him as "one of the revelations of the year". Despite his young age, he was a fixture in the first-team and made waves across the continent for both club and country.

By 2010, he had made 10 appearances for Argentina, including a starring role at the World Cup in South Africa, and he was snapped up by Porto in August of that year.

Porto won the Portuguese league, domestic cup and the Europa League, where they beat Portuguese rivals Braga, in his first season. They retained the league in 2011-12 and made it a hat-trick of league titles the following season.

Nicolas was becoming a runaway success, playing week in, week out for the top club in Portugal but in February 2014 he agreed a move across the border to Valencia.

Otamendi was immediately loaned out upon arrival at the Mestalla, spending the summer at Atletico Mineiro in Brazil.

He returned to help Los Che qualify for the Champions League for the first time in four years. He was the only Valencia player named in the La Liga Team of the Year for the 2014-15 season, before making his move to City.

His Blues debut came as a substitute at home to Juventus, but he was soon featuring regularly in the starting line-up.

His first goal for the Club came courtesy of a powerful header against Norwich, and he won silverware in his first season at City in the shape of the Capital One Cup. On the international front, Nicolas was part of the Argentina side that were losing finalists in the 2016 Copa America.

VINCENT KOMPANY



DATE OF BIRTH:
10 APRIL 1986

PLACE OF BIRTH:
UCCLE, BELGIUM

Captain, leader, defensive rock – Vincent Kompany is one of the most decorated skippers in the club's history.

Strong in the air, comfortable on the ball, accurate in the tackle and always ready to nip in and pinch the ball off a striker's toes, the Belgian was a bargain buy when bought from Hamburg at just £6million in 2008.

A natural leader, he was handed the armband in 2011 and has since captained the side to two Premier League titles and two Capital One Cup triumphs.

Multi-lingual and multi-talented, Kompany began his career with Anderlecht, a series of composed performances in the Belgian Premier League and Champions League attracting interest from across the continent.

Two years at Hamburg was enough to convince Mark Hughes to bring Vincent to City in August 2008, one of the Welshman's most astute buys in his time at the Club.

Initially a defensive midfielder, Vincent shifted back into central defence with aplomb and became the figure around which successive Blues backlines have been built.

Having helped win the FA Cup in 2011, he was a key figure in the title triumph of 2012, bagging the winning goal in a Manchester derby victory that proved vital in the final dramatic outcome.

Handed the club captaincy by Roberto Mancini, Vincent continued in the role following the arrival of Manuel Pellegrini in 2013, and led City to the Premier League the following year.

He showed his worth as the man for the big occasion with impressive displays against Europe's elite in the Champions League, scored the second goal against West Ham in the victory that clinched the title and lifted the Capital One Cup in 2014 and 2016.

Injuries have kept Vincent away for frustrating spells in recent seasons, but each time he has fought back to reclaim his place at the heart of the side.

Also a key part of Belgium's talented national team, he featured at the 2014 World Cup but injury kept him out of the squad for Euro 2016 – although the BBC were quick to call upon his services as an articulate and perceptive pundit.

ELIAQUIM MANGALA



DATE OF BIRTH:
19 FEBRUARY 1991

PLACE OF BIRTH:
COLOMBES, FRANCE

Eliaquim Mangala became City's sixth signing of summer 2014. Mangala is recognised as one of the continent's most promising young defenders, equally acclaimed for his tenacious tackling, positional sense and ability to play out from deep.

The French defender left his hometown club Namur's youth academy and started his senior career at Standard Liege, making his professional debut in November 2008.

Mangala went on to win silverware in his first season as a pro, making 11 appearances to help Standard to the 2008/09 Belgian Pro League crown.

He made 31 league appearances the following season and lifted the Belgian Cup in one of the last of his 100 appearances for Standard Liege during 2010/11.

Porto boss of the time Vitor Pereira took him to Portugal at the end of that campaign and the defender went on to feature against City in the Europa League in his first season with his new club.

His second season saw him become a regular starter, making 39 appearances in all competitions and scoring seven goals. The Frenchman won the Portuguese championship twice, in 2011/12 and 2012/13.

In total, Eliaquim represented FC Porto on 92 occasions, including 42 appearances in 2013/14.

Despite interest from the Belgian FA, Eliaquim chose to represent the country of his birth and made his debut for France U21s in a friendly match against Tunisia in 2009.

He went on to take his senior bow on 5 June 2013 in a 1-0 defeat to Uruguay in Montevideo.

Mangala was included in Didier Deschamps' squad for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil but didn't add to his three international caps.

In his second season at the Etihad Eliaquim won his first piece of silverware with the club as the Blues lifted the 2015/16 Capital One Cup at Wembley.

JASON DENAYER



DATE OF BIRTH:
28 JUNE 1995

PLACE OF BIRTH:
JETTE, BELGIUM

In his short time at City, Belgian centre-half Jason Denayer has proved himself to be a classy operator on the ball and an excellent reader of the game at the heart of the back four.

He joined the Club in 2013 having come through the JMG Academy in his native Belgium, where he developed his skills playing barefoot while adapting to having live away from his family.

Once at City, he struck up an excellent partnership with Shay Facey in defence for the Elite Development Squad side throughout the 2013-14 season as the Blues went deep in four competitions at home and abroad.

He scored his first goal for the club in the 6-0 UEFA Youth League win over Bayern Munich at the start of October, and continued to shine throughout the season, earning himself opportunities to train with the first-team.

By now a Belgian youth international, Jason was nominated for the EDS Player of the Year award after a fantastic 2013-14 campaign before joining Celtic on a season-long loan on 12 August 2014.

Jason made an immediate impact, scoring on debut and going on to make 44 appearances in all competitions.

Hoops supporters were sad to see him go after he claimed the SPL Young Player of the Year award, as well as the club's own Young Player of the Year award, as well as helping the Glasgow giants win the Scottish league title and the League Cup.

His impact in Scotland had been noticed back home, and he Jason made his first senior international start for Belgium against France on 7 June 2015, three months after his debut off the bench in the Euro 2016 qualifier against Israel.

Jason impressed on loan again in 2015-16, this time with Turkish outfit Galatasaray, where he occasionally featured at right-back. It was no surprise that he was included in Belgium's squad for Euro 2016, and although his one appearance ended in defeat to Wales he looks certain to be an important part of his national side's future.

GAEL CLICHY



DATE OF BIRTH:
26 JULY 1985

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**TOULOUSE,
FRANCE**

Gael left Arsenal to join the Club on 4 July 2011, following in the footsteps of former Gunners at City around that time, including Kolo Toure, Patrick Vieira and Emmanuel Adebayor.

The last remaining member of the Arsenal 'Invincibles' squad that went through the 2003-04 Premier League season unbeaten in all 38 matches, he arrived at City with a justified reputation as one of the finest left-backs in Europe.

The Frenchman had played only 15 senior games for Cannes before he was spotted by Arsène Wenger's scouting network in 2003, making his Arsenal debut on the same night as Cesc Fabregas in a League Cup tie with Rotherham.

He understudied England's Ashley Cole for a couple of seasons, and became the youngest player to win a Premier League medal in 2004 at 18 years and 10 months. After Cole left for Chelsea in 2006 he emerged as one of the mainstays of Wenger's side despite being dogged by injuries.

His pace and speed of thought, allied to an ability to get up and down the pitch in the stamina-sapping environs of the Premier League, made him one of Arsenal's most consistent defenders.

A willingness to join the attack brought a rare goal against Stoke in November, 2008. His second and only other Arsenal strike was against Leyton Orient in March, 2011.

That the France international is alive to play top-flight football at all is a miracle, this being the description of the surgeon after Gael's heart stopped for 15 seconds during a seven-hour operation as a 15-year-old.

Gael's emotional reaction to City's title-triumph in 2011/12 was one of the most memorable of many on the day as he justified his decision to move to the Club in his very first season.

Although the Blues' attempts to win silverware in 2012/13 ended in disappointment, Gael's performances offered some comfort as the Toulouse-born full-back impressed in nearly all of his 28 Premier League starts.

Gael won his second Premier League title with City - and the third of his career - in 2013/14 and was also a Capital One Cup winner to help Manuel Pellegrini to two trophies in his first season as City boss.

Joined at the Blues by another ex-Arsenal team-mate in the shape of Bacary Sagna in 2014, Gael continued to impress, occasionally making the odd appearance at right-back and also grabbing his only City goal so far in a win at Southampton.

A knee injury kept Gael out of action for the first four months of 2015-16, but he bounced back to reclaim his place as first-choice left-back and help City win the Capital One Cup for the second time since his arrival.

ALEKSANDAR KOLAROV



DATE OF BIRTH:
10 NOVEMBER 1985

PLACE OF BIRTH:
BELGRADE, SERBIA

Aleksandar Kolarov, nicknamed the 'Serbian Roberto Carlos', joined City from Lazio in July 2010 as an attacking left-back with a reputation for spectacular goals.

Born in November 1985 in the Serbian capital of Belgrade, Aleks began his career in 2004 at FK Cukaricki Stankom before moving to OFK Beograd in 2006, both in his homeland.

But after just one season at OFK Beograd, Aleks was sold to Serie A giants Lazio in September 2007. He made an instant impression, scoring with a thunderous effort from around 40 yards out on his full debut against Reggina.

His two years at the Stadio Olimpico occasionally saw Aleks operate on the left side of midfield, and he made two appearances for his country at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa just before making his move to City.

Aleks' first season with the Blues ended with the Serb helping end a 35-year wait for silverware through a memorable FA Cup triumph over Stoke, Aleks having played in every round including the final at Wembley.

The following campaign saw Aleks play a big part in City's Premier League title drive, his late equaliser against Sunderland securing a point that would prove vital when the league was claimed on goal difference.

2012-13 found Aleks vying more and more with Gael Clichy for the left-back berth, a pattern that continued under Manuel Pellegrini in the following season. Despite the competition with the French defender, Aleks played his part to claim a second Premier League winners' medal as well as the Capital One Cup.

Aleks has continued to battle with Clichy for the left-back spot in subsequent seasons as well as contributing the odd trademark goal, such as a brilliant strike at Bournemouth in April 2016.

He's also become an unlikely star of social media – his deadpan reading of "Jingle bells" on YouTube went viral at Christmas 2013, and a year later he followed it up with an unforgettable rendition of "Santa Claus is coming to town". Both truly have to be seen (and heard) to be believed...

ANGELINO



DATE OF BIRTH:
4 JANUARY 1997

PLACE OF BIRTH:
CORISTANCO, SPAIN

Spanish left back Jose Angel Tasende, known as Angelino, signed as a first year scholar in July 2013, but was already a regular for City U18s the during the 2012-13 campaign.

Adept defensively and going forward, Angelino can take a good corner and produce a thundering free kick from up to 25 yards.

The Spaniard's pace and accurate crossing ability give City a valuable attacking outlet down the left, and his late strike against Liverpool last term was nominated for Academy Goal of the Season.

An impressive start to his first season as a scholar led to Angelino's inclusion in the U19 UEFA Youth League squad, and he was involved in all but one of City's European fixtures as Patrick Vieira's men made it all the way to the quarter finals.

A Spanish youth international, Angelino's eye-catching performances led to the defender making his U21 debut before his 17th birthday.

He joined sister club New York City FC on loan in July 2015 until the end of the 2015 MLS season, making 14 appearances and assisting 4 goals as NYCFC failed to make the play-offs in their inaugural season.

Upon his return, Angelino made his debut for the first-team against Aston Villa in the FA Cup in January 2016. He went on to be named in squads on a number of occasions in the remaining months, as well as playing an important role for the EDS in the run-in.



MIDFIELDERS

JESUS NAVAS



DATE OF BIRTH:
10 JANUARY 1985

PLACE OF BIRTH:
LOS PALACIOS, SPAIN

Spanish winger Jesus Navas completed his move to City from Sevilla in June 2013.

Blessed with electric pace, Navas is one of the fastest wide men in the Premier League and has regularly topped the 'chances created' columns since joining the Blues and the diminutive winger created 76 chances for his teammates in the 2012/13 league campaign, which was the fifth highest total in La Liga.

Navas arrived with an impressive medal collection, too including two UEFA Cups, a UEFA Super Cup, two Copa del Rey titles and the Spanish Super Cup during his time at Sevilla.

He also boasts World Cup and European Championship medals with Spain for whom he has won 35 caps including an appearance from the bench in the 2010 World Cup final.

Navas began his career at the age of 15 when he joined Sevilla's youth programme and he was handed his senior debut just two years later – coming off the bench against Espanyol in November 2003.

A sprinkling of first team appearances followed that season, alongside a regular place for Sevilla B in Spain's third tier.

Boss Joaquin Caparros had seen enough and the youngster became a permanent fixture in the first team the following season, going on to chalk up 393 appearances for his home town club.

Jesus celebrated his first season in sky blue by winning the Premier League title and the Capital One Cup, where he scored one of City's goals in a 3-1 win over Sunderland at Wembley.

His record of 48 appearances, six goals and 13 assists made him one of the most productive members of Manuel Pellegrini's squad.

Navas' second season saw him play 45 times, creating 11 more for his team-mates but only finding the back of the net once.

His third campaign saw him play 50 times in all competitions, creating 11 goals and scoring one.

Navas was also an integral member of the side that lifted the 2016 Capital One Cup for the second time in three years, scoring in the penalty shoot-out and collecting his second winner's medal in the competition.

A tireless worker for the team, Navas has rarely missed a game in three years at City, averaging 48 games in all competitions each season.

RAHEEM STERLING



DATE OF BIRTH:
8 DECEMBER 1994

PLACE OF BIRTH:
KINGSTON, JAMAICA

Raheem joined City in July 2015 from Liverpool for a Club record fee, reportedly becoming the most expensive English player of all time in the process.

Inspired to become a footballer because of the family home's proximity to Wembley Stadium, the attacking midfielder began his career at Queens Park Rangers.

Born in Jamaica, he had moved to London at the age of seven and eventually spent seven years at Loftus Road. During his time with the Hoops, he made his international debut at under-16 level with England.

In 2010, he made the move to Merseyside where he made a name for himself as one of the country's rising stars, making his debut for the Reds as a substitute against Wigan in March 2012 at the age of 17.

A string of impressive displays earned him the Golden Boy award in 2014, as dubbed by a panel of sports journalists, naming him as the best player under the age of 21 playing in Europe.

While at Anfield, Sterling also became the youngest Liverpool player to ever receive an international cap, making his debut for England against Ukraine in September 2012.

His first senior start for Liverpool came against City that August, and he impressed enough to retain his place ahead of more experienced players.

A key member of the side that pushed the Blues to the wire in the 2013/14 title race, Sterling scored against Manuel Pellegrini's outfit in what had seemed a significant 3-2 win.

He made 52 starts in what would be his final season at Liverpool, scoring 11 goals, but opted for a fresh challenge when City showed interest in bringing him to the Etihad.

Having joined the Blues in the summer of 2015, Raheem made his debut in the 3-0 away win at West Brom, scoring his first goal against Watford three games later.

He enjoyed a blistering first half of the 2015/16 campaign, scoring nine goals in his first 23 starts for the Blues, including a hat-trick against Bournemouth and two goals in two minutes against Borussia Monchengladbach on his 21st birthday.

He scored twice more in the months that remained, totting up an impressive 11 goals from 44 appearances, and will be hoping to kick on again in 2016/17.

BRANDON BARKER



DATE OF BIRTH:
4 OCTOBER 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**MANCHESTER,
ENGLAND**

A City Academy player since the age of eight, Brandon signed a pro contract with the club in July 2014.

Winner of the Academy Players' Player of the Year award in the 2013/14 campaign, he enjoyed an explosive season as a first year scholar.

A winger with frightening pace, able to beat defenders with an accurate cross from wide areas or cutting inside, Manchester-born Brandon scored 13 goals in 32 appearances for the U18s in the same year.

He made his debut for City U18s while still eligible to play for the U15s, represented the EDS while on preseason tour in 2013 and went on to test himself against players up to two years older than himself as part of the U19 UEFA Youth League squad.

Barker joined Rotherham on a youth loan at the start of November, appearing four times before City cut short his loan in mid-December.

He went on to make his first-team debut for City in the FA Cup defeat to Chelsea on 21 February 2016 and will be hoping for more tastes of the big time in 2016/17.

ILKAY GUNDOGAN



DATE OF BIRTH:
2 APRIL 1993

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**BELÉN DE ESCOBAR,
ARGENTINA**

Ilkay Gundogan moved to City having earned a reputation as an energetic, intelligent midfielder during the early stages of his career in his native Germany.

He spent time on the books of a number of clubs, including Borussia Dortmund's arch-rivals Schalke 04, as a youth until his senior career began in earnest with a move to FC Nurnberg in 2009.

His debut did not arrive until March 2010, but following on from a handful of appearances that season he was a regular pick in the Nurnberg side that finished sixth in the 2010-11 edition of the Bundesliga.

Dortmund made their move for Gundogan following on from that impressive campaign in the summer of 2011, and it was a transfer that paid off in fine style for both club and player alike.

Gundogan's form warranted a first senior cap for Germany against Belgium in October 2011, and he played a major role in Jurgen Klopp's Dortmund side as it went on to claim its second successive Bundesliga title.

2012-13 saw Dortmund vie with Bayern Munich for both the German title and the Champions League, and while they were edged out by Bayern both domestically and in Europe, Gundogan's stock continued to rise with some eye-catching performances.

City fans also had their first chance to see their future player in action at close quarters in two group stage matches in the Champions League. Dortmund went all the way to the final at Wembley, with Gundogan sending Manuel Neuer the wrong way to equalise from the penalty spot.

A niggling back injury forced Gundogan to miss virtually all the 2013-14 season, and the subsequent World Cup.

But he made a full recovery and continued to impress as Dortmund challenged for honours at home and abroad, coming up against former manager Klopp in a sensational Europa League quarter-final against Liverpool in April 2016.

FABIAN DELPH



DATE OF BIRTH:
21 NOVEMBER 1989

PLACE OF BIRTH:
BRADFORD, ENGLAND

Fabian Delph arrived at City in July 2015 having established himself as an integral member of the Aston Villa side where he had also taken on the captain's armband.

He had also become part of Roy Hodgson's England squad, winning six caps in the season before his move to Etihad Stadium.

Born in Bradford, Fabian began his senior career at Leeds United, making 50 appearances between 2006 and 2009 and managing to impress in what was a difficult time for the Elland Road club.

In 2009 he was voted the Leeds United Young Player of the Year and Leeds United Players' Player of the Year. He was also named in the PFA League One Team of the Year, and won the Football League Player of the Year award before moving to Villa in time for the start of the 2009-10 season.

Still only 19 when he moved to Villa Park, Fabian found it hard to nail down a regular starting role but was starting to make progress when a cruciate knee ligament injury in April 2010 ruled him out for 10 months.

He briefly returned to Leeds early in 2012, but frustratingly his loan spell was cut short by an ankle injury that ended his season early.

He truly established himself at Villa in 2012-13, and the following season saw him voted as the club's Player of the Season.

A first full England cap arrived in September 2014 against Norway, and another good season in a struggling Villa side was rewarded with the captaincy of the club from new manager Tim Sherwood.

City added him to the ranks in time for 2015-16, but a hamstring injury suffered in the opening seconds of an England appearance in September side-lined Fabian for two months.

He bounced back to contend for a place in Manuel Pellegrini's line-up, and bagged his first goal for the Blues in a 3-1 win over Southampton in September.

A popular figure with a bubbly personality, Fabian's sense of fun extended to a straight-faced appearance in an April Fool's Day prank on City TV's Nicola McCarthy.

FERNANDINHO



DATE OF BIRTH:
4 MAY 1985

PLACE OF BIRTH:
LONDRINA, BRAZIL

Fernandinho is the consummate midfield anchor man.

Although his main role is as a defensive midfielder, the Brazil international can also play in an advanced role and chips in with his quota of goals each season making him a threat to the opposition in both halves of the field.

Swapping Ukraine for Manchester in 2013, Fernandinho made an immediate impact, becoming a key piece of the jigsaw in the Club's engine room and making 41 appearances as City lifted the Premier League title and Capital One Cup.

He quickly became a fans' favourite and his move to Manchester reignited his international career that had been dormant for several years during his time in the Ukraine.

Establishing a reputation as one of Brazil's most promising young talents during three years with Atletico Paranaense, 'Ferna' played a key role in his country's World Youth Championship triumph of 2003.

Seizing the opportunity to further his career in Europe, he signed for Shakhtar Donetsk in 2005. A world away from Brazil in distance, culture and climate, Fernandinho overcame a number of a number of hurdles to establish himself with his new club.

Somewhat off the radar in Ukraine, he remained with Shakhtar for eight years, winning 14 medals including the UEFA Cup and six Ukrainian Premier League titles, while honing his craft on the Champions League stage.

His early success with City helped Fernandinho earn a starting berth for Brazil in time for the 2014 World Cup and by 2016 he had added 21 more caps to the five he'd previously won.

Ferna was one of the first names on the team-sheet for the 2014/15 campaign and though it didn't result in any silverware, he made 43 appearances and enjoyed yet another solid campaign.

His third season would see Ferna repeat his 2013/14 stats – 46 appearances and 5 goals – but he would be integral in helping the Blues win the Capital One Cup, scoring the opening goal against Liverpool in normal time though he missed a penalty in the ensuing shoot-out.

Ferna's fourth season with City will be fascinating. How will new Head Coach Pep Guardiola utilise the Brazilian's talents? Will he be employed in the holding midfield role or will he have a new position in whatever formation the Catalan decides to use?

Whatever happens, Fernandinho will no doubt go about his business seamlessly adapting to whatever is asked of him.

FERNANDO



DATE OF BIRTH:
25 JULY 1987

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**ALTO PARAISO,
BRAZIL**

Fernando Francisco Reges arrived at the Etihad Stadium from Porto after lifting four Primeira Liga trophies during his seven year career at the Estadio do Dragao.

The Alto Paraíso-born defensive midfielder brought a great deal of UEFA Champions League experience to Manchester with him, having appeared in five campaigns for the 27-time Portuguese champions.

He began his career in his homeland with Vila Nova Futebol Clube in the third tier of the Brazilian league pyramid where he made his professional debut in 2005.

Snapped up by Porto two years and 57 league appearances later, he was immediately loaned out for the following season to fellow Primeira Liga outfit, C.F. Estrala Amadora.

Swiftly adapting to European football, Fernando missed just four games all season, two of them down to his ineligibility to face his parent club, and he established himself as one of the first names on the teamsheet.

Upon his return to Porto, he was immediately placed into the first-team at Estádio do Dragão, where he was a regular starter alongside Lucho González and Raul Meireles, helping the Portistas to a league and Portuguese Cup double in his first season.

His breakout season can be considered to be the following campaign (2010/11) when the Brazilian clocked up more than 3,000 minutes as Porto claimed a league, cup and Europa League treble under Andre Villas Boas.

Fernando started 14 times in the Europa League that season, including the final in Dublin against Braga, where he lined up alongside compatriots Helton and Hulk.

The then-23-year old also played against City in both legs of the last 32 clash of the same competition in the following season, when City ended Porto's title defence with a 6-1 aggregate win.

However, Fernando would end that 2011/12 season by lifting the Portuguese league trophy – a feat he repeated for the fourth time the following season.

Virtually ever-present during the 2013/14 campaign, the midfielder missed just five league games all season and played every minute of the Portuguese side's Champions League campaign.

In total, Fernando played for Porto 232 times and scored five goals.

Moving to City in the summer of 2014, Fernando looked at home in the Premier League immediately and found his liking for a tackle perfectly suited to the demands of the game in England.

He also contributed the odd goal, opening his City account on Boxing Day 2014 in a 3-1 win at West Brom. His second season at Etihad Stadium saw him win his first piece of silverware for the Club in the shape of the Capital One Cup.

JAMES HORSFIELD



DATE OF BIRTH:
21 SEPTEMBER 1995

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**HAZEL GROVE,
ENGLAND**

James Horsfield hails from Hazel Grove and has been with City for more than ten years, signing on as a first year scholar in July 2012.

Described as a born leader, James captained the U16 side and wore the armband for the U18s with increasing regularity during the 2012/13 campaign.

A midfield lynchpin with a great eye for a pass, James is a versatile member of the squad who can fill in at right back or take a well-struck penalty when the occasion requires.

"Horsy" made 22 appearances for the U18s in 2013/14 and scored two goals as he earned himself a pro deal in summer 2014.

James headed out on loan in September 2015 when he joined League One side Doncaster on loan, making three appearances in his month long spell with the Yorkshire club.

He signed another new deal with City in the summer of 2016.

ALEIX GARCIA



DATE OF BIRTH:
28 JUNE 1997

PLACE OF BIRTH:
ULLDECONA, SPAIN

Aleix Garcia joined City on 27 August 2015.

He has represented Spain at U16, U17 and U18 level and made his senior first-team debut for Villarreal at the end of the 2014/15 season.

A regular for Villarreal's B and C teams, Aleix made his first La Liga appearance on 23 May 2015 against Athletic Bilbao.

Aleix scored twice in his two games for Spain U18s in 2015 and he went on to make his City debut against Chelsea in the FA Cup in February 2016.

KEVIN DE BRUYNE



DATE OF BIRTH:
28 JUNE 1991

PLACE OF BIRTH:
DRONGEN, BELGIUM

Known as one of the continent's assist kings, Kevin De Bruyne arrived at City with a huge reputation but after just one full season with the Blues, it was easy to understand why the Club were so keen to secure his services.

De Bruyne's creativity and eye for defence splitting passes and crosses prompted City to sign the Belgian international in the summer transfer window of 2015/16.

He began his career at Belgian side Genk, quickly working his way into the starting XI for the Pro League outfit and he soon became an integral part of their title-winning side, making 17 assists in all competitions and scoring six goals – a sign of things to come.

After three full seasons, De Bruyne signed for Chelsea in January 2012, remaining at Genk for the rest of the 2011/12 season.

He was then loaned out to Werder Bremen for the 2012-13 season, impressing for the Bundesliga side for whom he scored 10 goals in 34 starts.

He then returned to Chelsea where he found first-team opportunities hard to come by. So much so, he made just nine appearances and was allowed to leave in the 2014 January transfer window, signing for Bundesliga outfit Wolfsburg.

Though he made 18 starts during his first campaign, it was his first full season in sky blue that saw De Bruyne blossom into one of the best play-makers in world football.

Apart from scoring 16 goals in 51 games, he broke the Bundesliga record for most assists with 21 in 2014/15, with his incredible contribution helping them finish second in the Bundesliga and to win the German Cup.

His efforts led to him receiving the Bundesliga Player of the Year award, as well as the Footballer of the Year award in Germany.

The impact he made in his first season at the Etihad was nothing short of brilliant with the player quickly becoming a huge crowd favourite thanks to a series of match-winning displays.

De Bruyne quickly became an integral part of the Blues' attack, orchestrating, providing and often finishing moves that quickly made him indispensable.

Few players have enjoyed such a flying start and his 16 goals and 15 assists bear testament to a stunning first campaign during which he won a record four Etihad Player of the Month award.

De Bruyne is fast, intelligent and is likely to be one of Pep Guardiola's pivotal players in the coming seasons and aged only 25, he has his best years ahead of him. A very special footballer.

SAMIR NASRI



DATE OF BIRTH:
26 JUNE 1987

PLACE OF BIRTH:
MARSEILLE, FRANCE

Born and brought up in Marseille, Samir joined his hometown club at the age of nine and rose through the youth ranks before making his senior debut aged 17.

His relatively tender years were no barrier to Samir and he quickly established himself in the Marseille first team, playing in a central role behind two strikers.

He was named as Ligue 1's Young Player of the Year for 2006/07, and he made his senior international debut against Austria in March 2007 after playing for France at a succession of youth levels.

His rapid progress made it inevitable that major clubs around Europe would look in Samir's direction, and he joined Arsenal in the summer of 2008 after representing France at the European Championships.

Adapting to the demands of English football proved to be no problem, and Samir made a fine start to his career at the Emirates Stadium, scoring on his Barclays Premier League debut against West Brom in Arsenal's opening match of the 2008/09 season.

Equally capable either out wide or in the middle, Samir was named as the French Player of the Year for 2010.

He was an instant hit at City following his move from Arsenal in August 2011, adding balance to a mouth-watering midfield trio that also included Yaya Toure and David Silva. Together they provided an irresistible attacking unit that helped secure the 2011/12 Premier League title.

He made 45 appearance that campaign, scoring six goals – none more crucial than the winner in the in the 2-1 victory over Chelsea in March.

Though the Blues failed to win any silverware in 2012/14, Samir won his second Premier League title in 2013/14 when he was one of the Blues' best and most productive players.

He scored 11 goals in 46 matches including a spectacular Capital One Cup winner as City beat Sunderland 3-1 at Wembley and the opening goal in the final day title-clincher against West Ham United.

Nasri's fourth season produced three goals from his 33 appearances but the 2015/16 campaign was ravaged by a thigh injury that kept him side-lined from October until April.

He returned for the last six weeks of the season and will be hoping to hit the ground running in what will be his sixth campaign for the Blues.

DAVID SILVA



DATE OF BIRTH:
8 JANUARY 1986

PLACE OF BIRTH:
ARGUINEGUIN, SPAIN

David Silva arrived at City in the summer of 2010, having agreed to join the Blues after the World Cup.

It would prove to be one of the most inspired purchases by the Club in the modern era.

Silva had already established himself in the national team having steadily risen through the ranks with La Roja, until he made his senior debut in November, 2006.

He scored his first goals in a 3-2 win over Greece in 2007 and played a key role in Spain's 2008 European Championship success, including a semi-final goal against Russia.

He came to prominence when Valencia loaned him to top-flight side Celta Vigo for the 2005-06 season and he hit four goals in 31 games to help clinch a UEFA Cup spot.

Silva's exploits earned him a seven-year contract at the Mestalla where he would go on to make 161 appearances over the next four seasons.

Silva quickly adjusted to the demands of English football, quickly becoming a firm crowd favourite due to his continued excellence.

Few would deny that Silva has gone on to become one of the world's best midfielders, helping his country to the Euro 2012 prize, making him a world and European champion.

His ability to cast a spell over opposition defences led to fans nicknaming him either 'Merlin' or 'El Mago' – the magician and it's no coincidence that City's most successful period has come with Silva as an integral member of the Blues' starting XI.

His first two seasons in sky blue saw him add a Premier League and FA Cup winner's medal to an already bulging collection, as well as individual honours which include a place in the PFA Premier League Team of the Year in 2012 and the City Player of the Year Award for the same season.

Silva made 41 appearances in the 2012/13 season, scoring five goals and assisting 13.

He was again at his sparkling best as City won the Premier League title in 2013/14 and was also a Capital One Cup winner as City beat Sunderland 3-1 at Wembley.

The following season saw Silva post a personal best as he bagged 12 goals in 42 games, though he would have to wait until the 2015/16 season to add another winner's medal as he was part of the team that beat Liverpool to clinch the Capital One Cup.

Silva won his 100th cap for Spain at Euro 2016 to confirm his lofty status for both club and country.

YAYA TOURE



DATE OF BIRTH:
13 MAY 1983

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**SEKOURA BOUAKE,
COTE D'IVOIRE**

Yaya began his career as a youth with Ivorian side ASEC Mimosas in 1996 before he moved to Beveren aged 18 in 2001, spending two full seasons with the Belgian side before joining Ukrainian side Metalurg Donetsk in 2003.

After further spells with Olympiakos and Monaco enhanced his reputation yet further, Yaya became the first Ivorian to be signed by Barcelona who paid around £9m for his services in 2007.

In 2009, he won the Champions League with the Catalans, employed by Pep Guardiola as an emergency centre-half and he celebrated his second successive La Liga title with Barca before jetting off to South Africa for the 2010 World Cup, his second having been part of the 2006 squad in Germany.

After 118 appearances with the Spanish giants and almost 300 career appearances under his belt, he agreed to move to City where he would become one of the most influential midfielders the Club has ever had.

He chose the No.42 shirt in honour of one of his idols Patrick Vieira, who was still wearing the No.24 jersey at City, Yaya's first campaign with the Blues saw him inspire the Club to a first major trophy for 35 years.

The Ivorian scored the goal that settled the Manchester derby FA Cup semi-final at Wembley and it was Yaya again who scored the winner in the final against Stoke.

Yaya was inspirational again in the 2011/12 season, continuing his knack of making key contributions at crucial moments.

He scored vital goals against Newcastle in City's penultimate game of the season to put Roberto Mancini's men within touching distance of the league crown, which, of course, the Blues dramatically won a week later.

The multiple African Football of the Year was named in the PFA Premier League Team of the Year in 2012 and in 2012/13 he scored 10 goals in 32 appearances.

He easily surpassed that figure in a monumental 2013/14 title-winning campaign, with his 24 goals from 49 games deservedly winning him the Manchester City Player of the Year award.

His spectacular goal in the Capital One Cup final that season was also among the best seen at the new Wembley Stadium.

Though no silverware followed in 2014/15, Yaya still contributed to finishing runners-up with 12 goals from 37 appearances, and in 2015/16, he found the net eight times in 42 matches.

A man for the big occasion, Yaya's contribution at City has been immense and he richly deserves his place among the Club's all-time greats.

BERSANT CELINA



DATE OF BIRTH:
9 SEPTEMBER 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
PRIZREN, KOSOVO

Bersant Celina enjoyed a sensational 2014/15 campaign in which he started the season with the U18s but caught the eye of both Patrick Vieira and Manuel Pellegrini.

The versatile forward made the first team bench for City's FA Cup clash against Sheffield Wednesday in January 2015, and after taking his chance to impress during training with the first team he made his debut against Hamburg in a mid-season friendly that same month.

Comfortable on either wing or further forward, he possesses quick feet, a powerful shot and has scored a variety of wonderful goals in his fledgling City career, scooping the Academy Goal of the Season award in 2013/14.

Celina's strike rate was consistently excellent at whichever level he was asked to play last term – nine goals in 14 U18 league appearances was matched by four goals in seven UEFA Youth League matches, while he notched a further three strikes in 10 U21 appearances after forcing his way into Patrick Vieira's competitive EDS squad.

A place in the first team pre-season tour squad to Australia and Vietnam was the reward for the youngster, and he came on as a second half substitute against Adelaide United in the tour's opening match.

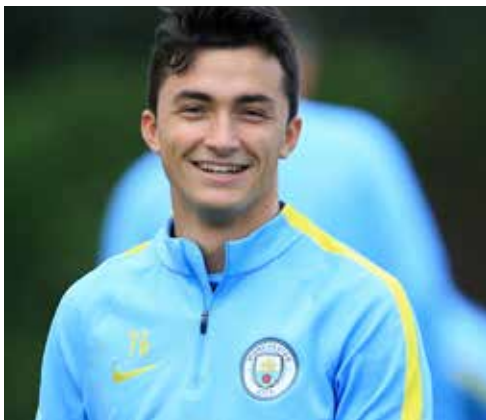
This was followed up by his first team debut in January 2016 when he appeared as a second half substitute against Norwich City in the FA Cup.

After moving to Norway from Kosovo at the age of 2, the playmaker has represented his adopted nation at youth level, but subsequently made footballing history with the land of his birth.

Bersant was the youngest player selected in the senior Kosovo squad for the country's first ever FIFA-sanctioned friendly in March 2014, and made his first start for the national team against Oman in September 2014 – the country's first ever officially recognised victory.

Celina signed a new three-year deal with City following a sublime 2016/17 campaign and will be hoping to catch Pep Guardiola's eye in the 2016/17 season.

MANU GARCIA



DATE OF BIRTH:
2 JANUARY 1998

PLACE OF BIRTH:
OVIEDO, SPAIN

Spanish youth international Manuel Garcia joined City from Sporting Gijon, made his U18s debut in March 2014 against Liverpool and turned out for the first team just 15 months later.

He made three substitute appearances for Jason Wilcox's North title-winning side during 2013/14 and picked up where he left off for his first full season wearing City blue, turning out 30 times across league and cup.

A talented midfielder who also shines just behind the striker, the Spaniard has excellent vision and passing range, loves to dictate play and seeks to do damage between the lines.

Small physically, Manu is deceptively tough and as well as providing a killer through-ball for others, he isn't shy of shooting himself – his perfectly-placed strike won the final Manchester derby at Platt Lane in October 2014.

A selection of cameos in the higher age groups followed, and he introduced himself in style by claiming two assists in an 11 minute cameo in the UEFA Youth League - his first appearance in the competition.

Manu also played an unforgettable role in a first piece of silverware for the EDS by coming on as a substitute in the International Premier League Cup semi-final and changing the game in City's favour.

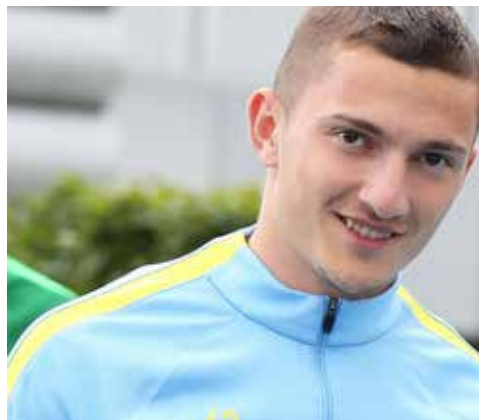
Manuel Pellegrini clearly liked what he saw in the young Spaniard, and picked him as the youngest member of the travelling party on post-season North America tour in May 2015, when he made his debut as substitute for compatriot and idol David Silva against Toronto.

Supporters got another tantalising glimpse of Manu's prodigious talents a few months later, when he was again named in a first team tour squad – this time the pre-season trip to Australia and Vietnam, when he started four of the five friendly fixtures in the build-up to the new campaign.

Offered a professional contract on the occasion of his 17th birthday, Manu was promoted to the EDS a year early in the summer of 2015. He made his debut for the first team in the Capital One Cup game at Sunderland before scoring his first goal against Crystal Palace in the same competition.

In a national team stocked with talent at every age group, Manu has pulled on his country's shirt at U16 level.

SINAN BYTYQI



DATE OF BIRTH:
15 JANUARY 1995

PLACE OF BIRTH:
NISHOR, KOSOVO

Sinan Bytyqi is a versatile forward, equally adept at playing on the wings or in behind the main striker and from his style of play, it's easy to see why he considers Barcelona striker Neymar as his idol.

An Austrian youth international, Bytyqi made his debut in City's successful Al Ain International Football tournament campaign in 2012.

Sinan signed for City in 2012 from Admira Wacker - he was spotted playing for his country against Denmark in a youth international fixture.

In 2013/14, Bytyqi was a regular starter for Patrick Vieira's EDS and he struck up a fantastic connection with Marcos Lopes, with the pair combining for many goals in an excellent season at youth level for the Blues.

No-one played more times for the EDS than Sinan in 2013/14 - he played 35 games, scoring seven goals in all competitions.

He signed off on his campaign in memorable style with a debut for the first-team in the 3-0 post-season friendly win over Al Ain in UAE.

Bytyqi followed that up by starring for his nation's U19 selection in the Euro U19 Championships in Hungary, scoring twice in Austria's run to the semi-finals where they were undone by eventual winners, Germany.

His 2014/15 season got off to a good start back at City. He added to his growing portfolio of free-kicks against Norwich on 12 September 2014 - one of two goals he scored in a 4-1 win.

Sinan was rewarded for his fine start to the 2014/15 season when he was named on the bench for the first time for the Capital One Cup third round tie against Sheffield Wednesday.

In January 2015, he signed a new two and a half year contract with the club and joined SC Cambuur on loan until 30 June.

Sadly, Sinan's time in the Eredivisie was cut short by an injury sustained in a game against Heracles Almelo in the spring.

He made his long awaited comeback for the EDS against Southampton in December 2015 and went on to finish the season strongly.

OLEKSANDR ZINCHENKO



DATE OF BIRTH:
15 DECEMBER 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
RADOMYSHL, UKRAINE

Widely regarded as the most talented Ukrainian of his generation, Oleksandr Zinchenko has taken the road less travelled to City.

After leaving Ukrainian giants Shakhtar Donetsk in 2014, the midfielder moved to Russian side FC Ufa.

During his two years in Russia, Zinchenko helped his club avoid relegation twice but it is on the international stage where the 19-year-old has made the biggest impact.

After being included in the Team of the Tournament for both the 2013 U17 and 2015 U19 European Championships, Zinchenko's talent became clear.

His precise passing and quick thinking have led experts to draw comparisons with some of Europe's great midfielders including Cesc Fabregas, the Ukrainian's idol.

Zinchenko's performances caught the eye of Ukraine boss Mykhaylo Fomenko and he went on to become the third-youngest debutant in Ukraine's history last October behind legends Andriy Shevchenko and Sergei Rebrov.

The midfielder even broke Shevchenko's record as the nation's youngest-ever scorer when he netted in a EURO 2016 warm-up match against Romania.

He was rewarded with a place in his country's EURO 2016 squad and despite a group stage elimination, Zinchenko yet again impressed experts.

After attracting the interest of several major clubs in Europe Zinchenko chose City, with his agent citing the player's desire to work with Pep Guardiola.



STRIKERS

SERGIO AGUERO



DATE OF BIRTH:
2 JUNE 1988

PLACE OF BIRTH:
QUILMA, ARGENTINA

His professional career started in July 2003 when, aged just 15 years and 13 days, he made his debut for Independiente, becoming the youngest debutant in the Argentine Premier League - a record previously held by the man who became his future father-in-law, none other than Diego Maradona.

Aguero won the Under-20 World Cup with Argentina in 2005, before combining with Fernando Torres at Atletico Madrid the following year.

His excellent club form was rewarded with a first Argentina cap in September 2006 and a year later, Aguero was the outstanding player at the 2007 U20 World Cup winning both the Golden Boot and Golden Ball awards, 'El Kun' scored six goals in seven games to clinch successive U20 World titles.

Aguero continued to thrive at Atletico was named La Liga's best foreign player in 2008 - the only time in four years that Lionel Messi was not awarded the honour - before landing an Olympic gold medal with Argentina in 2008.

Appearances at the 2010 World Cup and 2011 Copa America established Aguero as a permanent fixture in the national side, and his arrival at Etihad Stadium in July 2011 broke the Club's transfer record.

He didn't take long to announce himself at City, scoring twice on his debut against Swansea, ending his debut season with a superb tally of 30 goals.

But Kun's place in City's history was secured when he ended the club's 44-year Premier League title wait with his goal in the 94th minute against QPR on the final day of the 2011/12 season.

He bagged 28 goals in 2013/14 campaign as the Blues won a second Premier League title as well as the Capital One Cup.

In 2014/15, he had his best season yet in terms of goals, scoring 32 to take his overall tally past 100 in all competitions. Next he scored 29 from 42 games - achieving the 100 Premier League goals milestone.

WILFRIED BONY



DATE OF BIRTH:
10 DECEMBER 1988

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**BINGERVILLE,
COTE D'IVOIRE**

Wilfried Bony joined City in January 2015 having impressed for Swansea City since his arrival in South Wales in 2013.

The Ivorian netted 25 goals for the Swans in 54 appearances, with three coming against City over two meetings.

After the clash at the Liberty Stadium on New Year's Day 2014, Manuel Pellegrini declared his admiration for two-goal Bony, describing him as a "very good striker."

Hailed as one of the most powerful forwards around, the forward was targeted as the perfect solution to the Blues' striker shortage.

Born in Bingerville, he played street football from a young age before joining the Cyrille Domoraud Academy.

He signed his first professional contract with Issia Wazi in the Côte d'Ivoire's Premier Division and remained at the club until Sparta Prague B signed him on loan in 2007.

Having impressed at B level for his part in securing the Bohemian Football League championship, he was rewarded with a full contract with the first-team and went on to net 22 goals in 59 games, prompting Vitesse to snap him up in 2011.

He enjoyed another fruitful period with the Dutch side, ending the 2012/13 season as the Eredivisie's top scorer, clinching the league's Golden Shoe award and attracting Swansea's interest in the process.

A seasoned Ivory Coast international, Bony had to wait several weeks for his Manchester City debut to his participation in the Africa Cup of Nations, making his debut in mid-February against Newcastle United as a second-half sub.

His first goal came against West Brom exactly a month later and he would score one more goal in the weeks that remained, ironically against his former club Swansea City.

Bony's first full campaign with the Blues was hampered by niggling injuries that reduced him to just 18 starts in all competitions. Despite the set-backs, he still ended the campaign with eight goals and his overall record of 10 goals from 20 starts is a more than decent return.

Powerful in the air and excellent at holding the ball up, Bony will hope to have an injury-free 2016/17 and show his best form.

KELECHI IHEANACHO



DATE OF BIRTH:
3 OCTOBER 1996

PLACE OF BIRTH:
IMO, NIGERIA

Kelechi Iheanacho first rose to prominence during the Club's 2014 summer tour of the USA where the youngster caught the eye with a string of fine performances.

With six goals and seven assists at the 2013 FIFA U17 World Cup, Iheanacho was one of the most promising talents to come out of Africa for many years, but it was City who moved quickly to secure his services.

His sizeable contribution for Nigeria saw him named the U17 World Cup's best player, earning him the coveted Golden Ball trophy.

After injuries ruled the Nigerian out of much of the 2014/15 season, he returned to score in the FA Youth Cup final against Chelsea and then followed this up with the only goal in the International Premier League Cup final win over FC Porto, landing his first honour with the club in the process.

Kelechi continued his hot scoring streak for the EDS in the final weeks of the season, netting twice against champions Manchester United in the final league game to take his tally to six in seven games.

By the start of the 2015/16 season, the talented teenager had done enough to impress manager Manuel Pellegrini that there was no need to replace outgoing strikers Edin Dzeko and Stevan Jovetic, and he didn't disappoint in a superb first season at senior level.

He climbed off the bench in only his second game to score a last-minute winner away to Crystal Palace. This was just the start for the striker who was on his way to a fantastic first full campaign, during which he also won his first senior Nigeria caps.

Despite only starting 11 games, Kelechi ended the season with 14 goals in all competitions with only Kevin De Bruyne and Sergio Aguero scoring more for the Blues.

A natural goal-scorer with excellent technique and an eye for the unusual, Iheanacho looks set for a career at the very highest level with plenty more goals to come.

NOLITO



DATE OF BIRTH:
15 OCTOBER 1986

PLACE OF BIRTH:
**SANLÚCAR DE
BARRAMEDA, SPAIN**

The Spain forward joins the Blues from Celta Vigo where he spent three seasons, scoring 39 goals in 103 appearances.

The 29 year-old played for Pep Guardiola at Barcelona, though spent much of his time with the Catalans' B side from 2008 to 2011.

Able to play as a forward or winger, Nolito – real name Manuel Agudo Duran – began his career with Écija Balompíe, playing 76 times between 2006 and 2008.

From there he joined Barcelona B who had just been promoted to the second tier of La Liga under Guardiola who left to coach the first team.

Nolito stayed with Barcelona B for three years, scoring 29 goals in 106 appearances before being promoted to the senior team under Guardiola, making five appearances in the 2010/11 campaign.

With first team opportunities restricted and despite being offered a five-year deal, Nolito opted to join Benfica, enjoying two campaigns with the Portuguese giants for whom he scored 16 goals in 63 starts.

Nolito was loaned to Granada for six months during the 2012/13 campaign before joining Celta Vigo on a permanent deal.

Consistently one of Celta Vigo's best players, he won his first international call-up at any level aged 28, playing in Spain's 1-0 defeat to Germany.

After making the preliminary squad for Euro 2016, he scored four goals in two games against Bosnia and South Korea and was named in the final 23-man squad as a result.

Nolito started all three of Spain's Euro 2016 group matches and also the Round of 16 defeat against Italy, scoring one goal and assisting another for La Roja's ultimately unsuccessful defence of their title.

He has enjoyed the best moments of his career on the last few years and approaching 30, he is determined to make up for lost time with the national team, stating in an interview that he aims to enjoy every minute of the experience.

Popular among team-mates and supporters at his previous clubs alike, Nolito has battled hard to get to the top and is looking forward to a new chapter in his career.



CITY FOOTBALL ACADEMY

THE ACADEMY WAS SET UP IN 1998 TO PROVIDE A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE YOUTH PROGRAMME AIMED AT THE RECRUITMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG FOOTBALLERS WITHIN MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB.

Since then more than 30 young players have emerged from the Academy to play first-team football for Manchester City, including the likes of Shaun Wright-Phillips, Micah Richards and England striker Daniel Sturridge.

In line with the Elite Player Performance Plan, the Category 1 Academy prepares players of the future for the Club and enables them to progress both on and off the field.

Based at the newly built City Football Academy players aged 9-18 receive structured coaching together with an educational and welfare programme throughout their time at the Club.



CITY IN THE COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AT THE HEART OF MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD.

As a club with roots firmly in the local community, one of our key aims is to give something back to those people, both domestically and internationally, that have supported us through the years.

Our health, coaching and education programmes as well as our involvement in the regeneration of East Manchester, touches the lives of over 200,000 people a year.

For over 29 years CITC has engaged with people from all areas of Manchester, showing the clubs' commitment to supporting its local communities.

In addition to this, we endeavour to engage and interact with the various communities we come into contact with all over the world – from Africa to the Middle East and North America.

We hope our supporters across the globe will enjoy learning about what we do and will engage with us as our community work develops and grows worldwide.

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