

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

ISSUE 10

MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2018



DONCASTER BELLES

- Daniel Pentland talks to the new Doncaster Belles manager Neil Redfearn about his decision to move into women's football
- Looking ahead to the She Believes Cup - find out all the latest information about the teams
- The FA WSL Player of the Month has been announced
- Northern Ireland Women hold talks about fair pay in football

Welcome

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Welcome

Welcome to our tenth issue!

We have had so much news in the last month - Phil Neville has picked his first squad ahead of the She Believes Cup, Casey Stoney has retired, Northern Ireland Women are discussing equal pay - it is all happening in women's football!

Casey Stoney announcing her retirement was not a complete surprise but still a sad one. The guard of honour she received for her last Liverpool game definitely put a lump in the throat of many fans who were there to watch.

The She Believes Cup starts this week, if you want to watch the games then they can be watched as follows:
vs France
(BBC Red Button, 9pm, Thursday 1st March)

vs Germany
(BBC Red Button, 8pm, Sunday 4th March)

vs USA
(BBC Two, Midnight, Thursday 8th March)

Enjoy the issue!
Helen Rowe-Willcocks
Editor



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About my month

With lots of breaking news in February, it has certainly kept us busy here at TWFM.

The first phase of our new website is now live so if you get some time, please go and check it out. There are also lots of new ways in which you can subscribe to the magazine, so make sure you tell all your friends and family to take a look.

I would like to take this time to wish Casey Stoney all the luck in the world for her new role. It is always sad to see such a star retire but I have high hopes for her future within the England management set up.

We headed down to watch Millwall

Lionesses play in the Women's Super League 2 against London Bees. It was a cold night and the hosts were definitely not at the best but they managed to get a draw out of the game to keep their unbeaten run going - 365 days unbeaten. It is quite an impressive achievement!

We have a competition running on Twitter at the minute where you can win two tickets to the Conti Cup final. Simply retweet our tweet and follow us for a chance to win.

Lots of excitement - and lots of games to look forward to in the next month.

Have a good one,
Helen

@womensfootiemag





The Big Match

Doncaster Belles vs
Brighton and Hove
Albion



Less than seven days after former Manchester United and Everton defender Phil Neville's appointment as England Women's new manager came the first home fixture for the other shock managerial appointment of 2018, Neil Redfearn.

The former Leeds United and Rotherham United boss recently took up the challenge of moulding FA Women's Super League 2 club Doncaster Rovers Belles into a long term sustainable top flight outfit. Redfearn's first home match in charge saw him face arguably the most famous former England coach in the form of Hope Powell, who is now leading the Brighton & Hove Women charge to the 2018/2019 FA Women's Super League 1.

The opening stages of the match in South Yorkshire saw little in the way of goalmouth action as both sides struggled to get into their rhythm.

In the 19th minute, the home side were unlucky not to score when a Sophie Walton corner kick evaded everyone but hit the post before being scrambled to safety.

The first goal of the match finally arrived just after the half hour mark when Belles substitute Rebecca Rayner was too clever for Albion defender Beth Roe who brought the player down in the box. Jessica Sigsworth stepped up to take the spot kick and successfully fired the ball into the corner of the net leaving visiting keeper Lucy Gillett helpless.

Brighton & Hove Albion equalised one minute into first half stoppage time when a free-kick from captain Sophie Perry was met by the head of Fern



Whelan whose effort somehow crept into the bottom left hand corner of the net.

A draw would have been fair on both sides going into the interval but there was to be a further twist four minutes later when the Belles regained the lead. A cross from the right fell at the feet of midfielder Kirsty Hanson who made no mistake in finding the back of the net from 10 yards.

The Belles should have extended their lead 10 minutes after the break but Sigsworth could only shoot straight at Gillett when she really should have scored. Rayner then saw a free-kick deflect just wide as Redfearn's side piled the pressure on their opponents. Sigsworth again should have scored in the 66th minute when she was clear

through on goal although credit must go to Albion captain Perry who got back to make a superb block.

At the other end, Albion striker Ini Umotong tested home keeper Nicky Davies with a shot from range, the Nigerian ace looks like she could ruffle a few feathers in the top flight next season.

The Belles almost immediately missed another perfect opportunity to score when Sigsworth drilled a shot at the post before the same player dragged an effort wide across goal.

The South Yorkshire club's luck seemed to be evading them as an Emily Simkins cross bounced off the bar before Mayumi Pacheco's follow up thundered off the post. The Belles



were to find a third goal though when moments later Hanson unleashed an unstoppable 18-yard beauty which left Gillett a spectator in the Albion goal.

In the final minute, first half substitute Rayner fired an excellent 30 yard strike over Gillett into the net to round off a wonderful display by the Belles as their new boss grabbed a maiden home victory courtesy of a 4-1 success.

When speaking to The Women's Football Magazine after the match, Belles boss Redfearn was naturally delighted with the victory. "I thought in the first half they (Brighton) were the better footballing side, they played some good stuff" the Belles boss confessed.

"Second half, I thought we were totally dominant. We created chance after chance, I was just a little bit worried



Redfearn: “I thought in the first half they (Brighton) were the better footballing side, they played some good stuff”

that it was 2-1.

“The two finishes to make it 4-1 were top draw. In the end, we deserved to win but four flatters us.”

Brighton & Hove Albion coach Hope Powell agreed with Redfearn and admitted that her side were outclassed.

The former England coach said “I think Donny were the better team and credit to them.

“Had it not been for some resilient defending it could have possibly been a bit more. “They were, stronger, faster in certain areas so they thoroughly deserved the win. “It was a good education and a result that we didn’t

want but they were the better team.”

Doncaster Belles are currently at the top of the WSL 2 table. They are three points clear of Millwall Lionesses in second after 10 games.

Brighton and Hove Albion sit third in the league table on 19 points.

*Upcoming fixtures: Sunday March 25
Sheffield FC Ladies v Brighton & Hove Albion
Sheffield FC - 1pm ko*

*Doncaster Rovers Belles v Tottenham Hotspur Ladies FC
Keepmoat Stadium - 2pm ko*





GOTB 201

Casey Stoney announces playing retirement

@womensfootiemag



Former England captain Casey Stoney MBE announced her retirement from football on Monday, February 19 bringing to an end a glittering career with club and country.

The news coincides with Liverpool defender Stoney joining the England Women backroom staff as part of The FA's new player to coach scheme. She will work alongside head coach Phil Neville for next month's SheBelieves Cup in the United States and the remaining FIFA Women's World Cup qualifiers. In the US tournament, England take on France, Germany and the hosts before heading home for a vital World Cup qualifier against Wales to be played in Southampton on Friday 6 April.

Stoney won 130 caps for the Lionesses and played an integral part in England's rise to become the third-ranked team in the world, including being part of the squad that took the bronze medal at the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. Having spent

two years as England skipper, she captained Team GB in five matches at the 2012 Olympics in London, including scoring in the 3-0 defeat of Cameroon in Cardiff before leading the team to a memorable 1-0 win over Brazil at Wembley Stadium.

Casey Stoney, who was made an MBE for services to football in June 2015, said: "Although I am sad to be hanging up my boots, I do so proud of what I have achieved and with great optimism about what the future holds for the women's game. With that in mind, I am hugely excited about starting my next chapter as part of Phil Neville's Lionesses backroom team.

"I am thoroughly looking forward to working with Phil, who is an excellent choice to take the women's game forward. I talked to him at length before accepting the job and was hugely impressed with his vision, passion and eagerness to learn. I will be doing everything possible to support him alongside finishing my coaching badges."

The 35-year-old began at Chelsea before heading to Arsenal and then Charlton Athletic. A return to Chelsea followed before spells at Lincoln and Arsenal, where she won her third Women's FA Cup with a 1-0 defeat of Chelsea at Wembley Stadium in 2016, before moving on to Liverpool. Notably, from an international perspective, Stoney played in the 2009 UEFA Women's Euro final before that 2015 World Cup third place and was named in the squad that reached the Euro 2017 semi-finals.



#LIONesses

Phil Neville, England Head Coach, said: “Casey has been a wonderful player for England and I am delighted she will continue to help the team with her new position. She has tremendous knowledge of the game and will be invaluable in helping us to take the team up another level. From working with her already and seeing at first-hand the hunger she has to pass on her experience, I am sure Casey will go on to have a coaching career that rivals what she did on the pitch.”

Sue Campbell, FA Director of Women’s Football, said: “I would like to thank Casey for the immense contribution she has made to women’s sport in this country. What she has achieved in nearly two decades in the game is remarkable and she has certainly helped pave the way for future

generations, particularly in terms of her professionalism and passion. She has simply been the example for others to follow. Her new role means she will continue to be such a positive influence on the England team going forward, and it is great to have her leading the way on our new player-to-coach programme. This is such an important area for us as we look to increase coaching opportunities for all.”

As part of recent changes made at St. George’s Park and the new England Women’s coaching structure, The FA is rolling out a new player-to-coach programme. The programme aims to give elite women’s players the opportunity to develop as coaches and prepare them for UEFA A and Pro Licence courses.





SHEBELIEVES CUP

BELIEVE
in greatness

Phil Neville announces his first England squad ahead of the She Believes Cup

England Women head coach Phil Neville has named his first squad with the selection for the SheBelieves Cup in the United States next month.

The 23-player squad, led by captain Steph Houghton, will meet up this weekend in London before travelling to the US for the prestigious four-team tournament involving the host nation, France and Germany in early March. All three matches will be broadcast live on television by BBC Sport.

England's third participation in the annual competition will be important preparation for the resumption of 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup qualifying with the visit of Wales to Southampton on Friday 6 April before a trip to

Bosnia-Herzegovina four days later.

In terms of the squad, there is a recall for Chelsea defender Anita Asante for the first time since 2015. Asante is one of the players who fell out of favour with former manager Mark Sampson.

Club-mate Hannah Blundell has the chance of her first cap. Everton's Gabby George, another uncapped player, is also included having previously been in the squad for last November's qualifiers.

Some notable absences from the squad include Jess Carter, Danielle Carter, Rachel Daly and Gilly Flaherty. Neville has only made three changes from the squad last chosen by Mo Marley. Not

Neville: "I have been really impressed by what I have seen in the past few weeks. Some exciting young players have caught my eye, and not just those that have been picked for this squad."

too surprising really given the amount of time he had in the role.

Marley will travel to the USA as a temporary number 2, Mark Mason travels with the squad as goalkeeper coach and Casey Stoney takes up her new role.

The group will be joined by Arsenal's Leah Williamson, who is travelling to the US as part of her continued development around the England set-up but will not be able to play in the three fixtures.

Neville added: "Some exciting young players have caught my eye, and not just those that have been picked for this squad. They will get an

opportunity in the coming months to challenge the established players who, of course, deserve big respect for what they have done to take this team to third in the world.

I also hope this squad shows that the door is not closed to anyone, and that those in form will always have a strong chance of being picked. To those that have just missed out this time, I hope they use that disappointment in the right way to force their way into contention. We want to go to the SheBelieves Cup with a positive approach and then kick on into the World Cup qualifiers."



England will depart for the SheBelieves Cup on Sunday, February 25.

The Lionesses' games are:
vs France
Thursday, March 1
Columbus, Ohio

vs Germany
Sunday, March 4
Harrison, New Jersey

vs USA
Wednesday, March 7
Orlando, Florida



ENGLAND SQUAD					
NAME	CLUB	D.O.B.	CAPS	GOALS	DEBUT
Goalkeepers					
Karen Bardsley	Manchester City	14.10.84	71	0	v Northern Ireland (09.03.05)
Siobhan Chamberlain	Liverpool	15.08.83	49	0	v Netherlands (22.09.04)
Carly Telford	Chelsea	07.07.87	8	0	v Scotland (11.03.07)
Defenders					
Anita Asante	Chelsea	27.04.85	70	2	v Iceland (14.05.04)
Hannah Blundell	Chelsea	25.05.94	0	0	n/a
Millie Bright	Chelsea	21.08.93	18	0	v Belgium (20.09.16)
Lucy Bronze	Lyon	28.10.91	52	6	v Japan (26.06.13)
Gabby George	Everton	02.02.97	0	0	n/a
Alex Greenwood	Liverpool	07.09.93	26	2	v Finland (07.03.14)
Steph Houghton	Manchester City	23.04.88	94	11	v Russia (08.03.07)
Demi Stokes	Manchester City	12.12.91	44	1	v Norway (17.01.14)
Midfielders					
Isobel Christiansen	Manchester City	20.09.91	21	5	v Estonia (21.09.15)
Jordan Nobbs	Arsenal	08.12.92	50	7	v Italy (06.03.13)
Jill Scott	Manchester City	02.02.87	126	18	v Netherlands (31.08.06)
Keira Walsh	Manchester City	08.04.97	1	0	v Kazakhstan (28.11.17)
Fara Williams	Reading	25.01.84	167	40	v Portugal (24.11.01)
Forwards					
Karen Carney	Chelsea	01.08.87	134	31	v Italy (17.02.05)
Toni Duggan	Barcelona	25.07.91	54	19	v Croatia (19.09.12)
Fran Kirby	Chelsea	29.06.93	26	9	v Sweden (03.08.14)
Melissa Lawley	Manchester City	28.04.94	3	1	v France (20.10.17)
Nikita Parris	Manchester City	10.03.94	18	8	v Serbia (04.06.16)
Jodie Taylor	Melbourne City	17.05.86	32	15	v Sweden (03.08.14)
Ellen White	Birmingham City	09.05.89	69	24	v Austria (25.03.10)

#LIONESSES



LA LISTE

SÉLECTIONNEURE C. DIACRE

GARDIENNES

K.BENAMEUR | S.BOUHADDI | S.DURAND

DÉFENSEURS

**E.CASCARINO | L. GEORGES | S. KARCHAOUI | A.MAJRI
G. MBOCK | E.PERISSET | M. TORRENT | A.TOUNKARA**

MILIEUX

**M.CLEMARON | A.DIALLO | K.DIANI | G.GEYORO
A.HENRY | G.THINEY**

ATTAQUANTES

**V. ASSEYI | V.GAUVIN | M-C.LEGER | E. LE SOMMER
F.ROBERT | O. SARR**

France Women head coach Corinne Deacon announced her She Believes Cup squad on Monday. Their first match will be against England on March 1.

The Lionesses famously beat the French for the first time in 43 years when the sides met at the 2017 European Championships. Jodie Taylor scored the only goal of the game to send England through to the semi-finals and knock France out of the competition.



#SHEBELIEVES

The USA announced their squad on Wednesday, February 14.

The squad are the current holders of the She Believes Cup and are hoping to keep hold of the trophy. Manager Jill Ellis named her full squad which includes many well known names including Carli Lloyd who spent a brief spell with Manchester City last season.

During her time at City she helped the side lift the SSE Women's FA up.

**PRELIMINARY
ROSTER**
GOALKEEPERS

jane CAMPBELL
ashlyn HARRIS
alyssa NAEHER

**PRELIMINARY
ROSTER**
DEFENDERS

abby DAHLKEMPER
tierna DAVIDSON
sofia HUERTA
hailie MACE
kelley O'HARA
casey SHORT
taylor SMITH
emily SONNETT

**PRELIMINARY
ROSTER**
MIDFIELDERS

morgan BRIAN
julie ERTZ
lindsey HORAN
carli LLOYD
rose LAVELLE
allie LONG
andi SULLIVAN

**PRELIMINARY
ROSTER**
FORWARDS

crystal DUNN
ashley HATCH
savannah MCCASKILL
alex MORGAN
mallory PUGH
christen PRESS
megan RAPINOE
lynn WILLIAMS



TOR

01 Almuth Schult
12 Laura Benkarth
21 Carina Schlüter

ABWEHR

02 Johanna Elsig
03 Kathrin Hendrich
04 Leonie Maier
05 Babett Peter
07 Jaqueline Klasen
14 Anna Blässe
15 Sara Doorsoun
17 Verena Faißt

MITTELFELD

08 Lena Goёßling
10 Dzsenifer Marozsan
13 Sara Däbritz
16 Linda Dallmann
20 Lina Magull
22 Tabea Kemme
26 Sharon Beck

STURM

09 Mandy Islacker
11 Alexandra Popp
19 Svenja Huth
23 Hasret Kayikci
27 Lea Schüller

SHE BELIEVES CUP 2018 KADER



Steffi Jones was the first manager to announce her squad for the She Believes Cup.

England face Germany in their second match on March 4 and will be hoping for a better result this year after their defeat in last year's competition. The Lionesses lost 1-0 but are above them in the world rankings after an impressive Euro 2017 performance.

Germany were knocked out of the 2017 European Championships in the quarter-finals by Denmark who went on to be finalists.



FÉMININE



SHEBELIEVES CUP 2018

march 1

MAPFRE STADIUM | COLUMBUS, OH

march 4

RED BULL ARENA | HARRISON, NJ

march 7

ORLANDO CITY STADIUM | ORLANDO, FL



VS



FÉMININE

4 PM ET



VS



7 PM ET



VS



FÉMININE

12 PM ET



VS



3 PM ET



VS



FÉMININE

4 PM ET



VS



7 PM ET



SHE WHO

#SHEWHODARES

DARES



CONTINENTAL TYRES
CUP FINAL



v



14.03.2018, 19.00
Adams Park, Wycombe Wanderers

Get your tickets now tickets.wwfc.com



Northern Ireland women's team demand fair pay

By Jessica Pratt

Northern Ireland are the latest women's side to demand a meeting with their governing body over issues with pay.

After the Republic of Ireland's similar campaign last year resulted in better pay for loss of earnings and improved playing conditions, Northern Ireland's players have launched their own plea to the Irish Football Association (IFA) through trade union SIPTU.

The official press release states SIPTU have contacted the IFA 'requesting a meeting with its officials to discuss a number of issues of concern to members of the union who play for the Northern Ireland Senior Women's International Football Team. These concerns include a lack of adequate payment to cover the expenses of the senior women's football team when they are representing Northern Ireland in international competition.'

SIPTU Sport Sector Organiser, Denis Hynes believes that the players are 'regularly being left in a position where they are unable to afford the loss in earnings [which] results in players withdrawing and a lack of consistency in squads which in turn

is undermining the ability of the team to qualify for major tournaments.'

In response to SIPTU's comments, the IFA released a statement confirming they are aware and hope to address them directly with the players so a quick resolution can be found.

Northern Ireland's women are in the same World Cup qualifying group as the Republic of Ireland, who publicised their grievances with the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) in the national media last April with support from SIPTU and the player's union (PFAI). Their dispute was quickly resolved after both sides 'reached common agreement and a settlement, which allows the two parties to move forward as one, in the best interests of Irish football.'

Northern Ireland will be hoping for a similar outcome before their next match – a World Cup qualifier away to European champions the Netherlands on 6 April.





BETH ENGLAND ANNOUNCED AS FA WSL 1 PLAYER OF THE MONTH

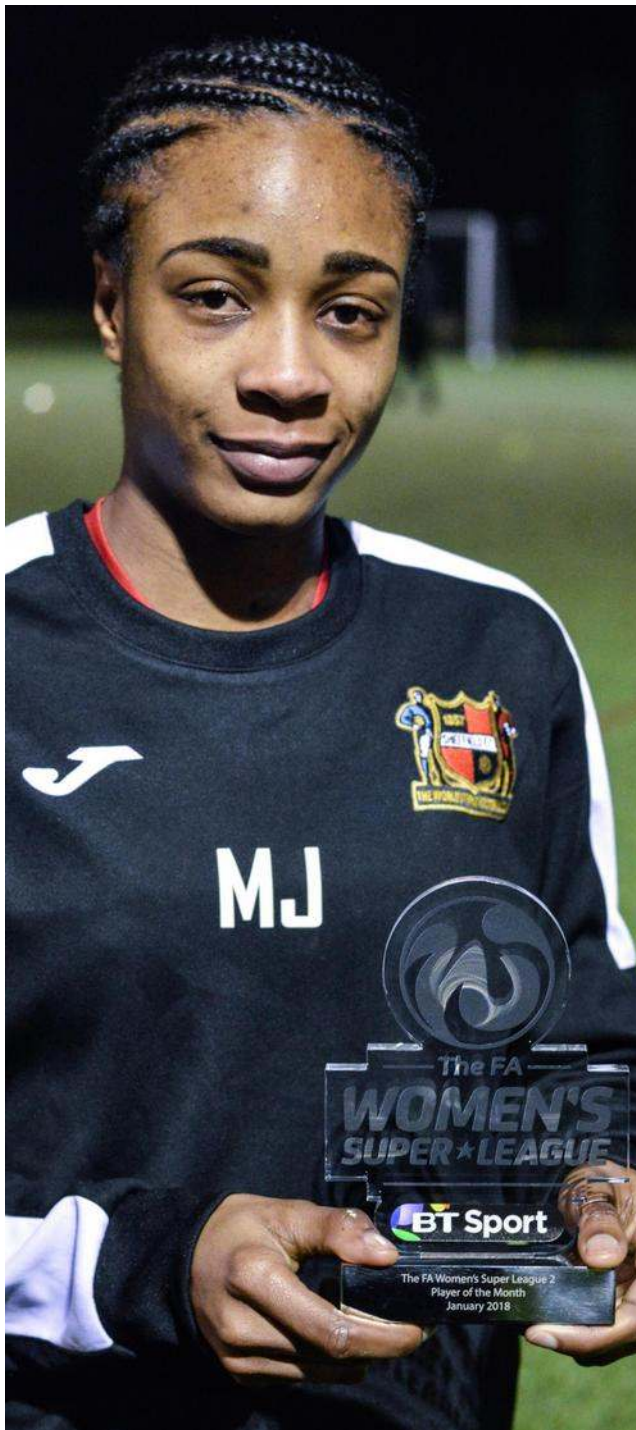
Liverpool's Beth England has been selected as The FA WSL 1 Player of the Month for January.

England cruised to the top of the goal scoring leaderboard in The FA WSL 1 as the Chelsea loanee scored six goals in just two games for Liverpool. England found the net four times in Liverpool's 8-0 win over Yeovil following it up with a further two in her side's clinical 2-0 win against Bristol, rounding off a superb month for the young forward.

England fought off some tough competition from a shortlist including Manchester City's Nikita Parris and Arsenal striker, Vivianne Miedema. Parris impressed in a 3-0 victory over

Sunderland netting two goals as Manchester City extended their unbeaten run to 16 games. Similarly, Miedema picked up two goals, scoring one in an FA WSL Continental Tyres Cup match versus Reading and the other in a narrow defeat against London rivals Chelsea.

Presented with The FA WSL 1 Player of the Month award, Liverpool's Beth England said, "As a striker I want to be in the action and scoring goals so I am really happy with how I have performed this month. I feel my goal against Bristol was probably one of the best goals I've scored in my career, which meant a lot to me in a tough fixture."



MELISSA JOHNSON ANNOUNCED AS FA WSL 2 PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Sheffield's Melissa Johnson has been selected as The FA WSL 2 Player of the Month for January.

Johnson has been one of the key players in the Sheffield FC set up this season as her side have looked to edge their way out of the bottom half of the table and was instrumental in securing valuable points in their FA WSL 2 fixture against Tottenham, scoring a hat-trick in the seven-goal thriller.

Johnson fought off some tough competition from a shortlist including Millwall Lionesses' Charlie Devlin and Doncaster Belles's Kirsty Hanson. Devlin came off the bench to score twice in Millwall Lionesses' win over Tottenham and helped her side to victory against Durham, extending their run of unbeaten games to three.

Hanson was also in goal scoring form with a brace against Brighton & Hove Albion to keep Doncaster Belles at the top of The FA WSL 2 table.

Presented with The FA WSL 2 Player of the Month award, Sheffield's Melissa Johnson said, "I feel I've settled in well since joining the club in the summer and continue to grow in confidence. I was really pleased with my first half hat-trick against Tottenham - it's not every day that happens, we need to be doing that in every game at this level!"



FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup France 2018 5 - 24 August

With the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup France 2018 almost upon us, reporter Dan Pentland takes a look at the four venues which will be used in the tournament.

The ninth edition of the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup is set to take place in the French region of Brittany this summer with the tournament running from 5-24 August.

A total of 16 nations from six continents will participate in the tournament with England hoping to earn themselves plenty of credit amongst the likes of the United States, Germany and host nation France.

@womensfootiemag



Ahead of the tournament, The Women's Football Magazine takes a look at the four venues which will share the 32 fixtures throughout the competition.

1. Vannes - Stade de la Rabine

The walled town of Vannes on the Gulf of Morbihan is best known for its fish, boats and butterflies but in August, the town will crown the new FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup champions with the Stade de la Rabine having been selected to host the final.

The 9,500-capacity venue will host 12 matches in total in August including two quarter-finals, both semi-finals, the 3rd place play-off and the final. The stadium is currently the home of National 3 Group Brittany club Vannes OC while rugby is also played

at the venue by Rugby Club Vannes.

Vannes was once famous for its jousting tournaments and this summer will see new battles commence in the town as some of the best young talent in the women's game fight to become world champions.

2. Concarneau - Stade Guy-Pirou

The third busiest fishing port in France is Concarneau with more than 100,000 tonnes of tuna caught each year. While Brittany's 'Filets Bleus' fishing festival takes place in August in the town, eight matches from the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup will be staged at US Concarneau's 6,500-capacity home, the Stade Guy-Pirou.

The ground is dominated by a large scale seated stand while there are a



number of terraced areas which are set to be used during the tournament. The Championnat National club named their stadium after former club president Guy Piriou. As well as a hosting six group matches, Concarneau will host the remaining quarter-final ties.

Concarneau is twinned with English town Penzance although in footballing terms, the two towns are miles apart. The French town's reputation for fishing will take a back seat in just a few months' time as world class women's football takes over for almost a fortnight.

3. Dinan-Lehon - Stade du Clos Gastel

National 3 Group Brittany side Dinan-Lehon will host six group matches at their Stade du Clos Gastel home, possibly the most basic stadium to be used in the tournament.

The club is based in the communes of Dinan and Lehon in the Bretagne

region on the river Rance which flows into the English Channel. The small town of Dinan is primarily built on a hill which offers spectacular views across the local area while Lehon can be found just two kilometres away and is slightly smaller in size. Lehon is made up of both stone houses and beautiful gardens.

Dinan-Lehon FC is one of the newest clubs in the French game. The fifth tier outfit were formed in 1989 and are relatively unknown by football fans outside of France.

4. Saint-Malo - Stade de Marville

Any England fans travelling to this summer's tournament by ferry are likely to find themselves at Saint-Malo. The port has direct transport links with Portsmouth and is the most accessible of the four venues from the UK.

Saint-Malo has a grand aquarium which boasts 600 species of fish while many of the buildings in the town have been restored over the years after being bombed during the war.

Like Dinan-Lehon, US Saint-Malo's Stade de Marville will host six group fixtures during the upcoming FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup. The venue is slightly bigger than the Stade du Clos Gastel but similarly is dominated by a main seated stand. The Stade de Marville was constructed in 1999 and should provide the visiting nations with decent facilities as they battle it out for vital group points.

The 16 participating clubs have now been confirmed and the draw for the finals will take place on 8 March 2018. The Women's Football Magazine will provide reaction to the draw once it has been made.



THE SSE WOMEN'S FA CUP

Women's FA Cup fifth round report: Holders Manchester City eliminate Birmingham City in extra-time

Manchester City needed extra-time goals from Georgia Stanway and Claire Emslie to knock out Birmingham City in their SSE Women's FA Cup fifth round tie after the scores remained level at 1-1 after the opening 90 minutes. Nadia Nadim scored to give City the lead in a tie which was a repeat of last season's final, but Birmingham levelled through England striker Ellen White before half time. The result takes the holders into next month's quarter-finals and maintains their unbeaten run in all competitions this season.

Fellow WSL 1 sides Arsenal, Chelsea, Sunderland and Everton also progressed with victories against lower-ranked opposition.

Arsenal managed to grind out a 1-0 victory over a resolute Millwall Lionesses, whilst Chelsea and Everton hit their opponents for six – both running out 6-0 victors over WSL 2 leaders Doncaster Rovers Belles and third-tier Lewes respectively.

Lewes' fellow Women's Premier League South club Chichester City fared no better against their Merseyside opponents, losing 3-0 at home to Liverpool as England U20 striker Rinsola Babajide netted on her FA Cup debut.

Sunderland had a trickier afternoon against Aston Villa but showed great character to come back from 2-1 down with two goals in the last 11 minutes to



win 3-2, thanks to Keira Ramshaw's winner.

Elsewhere, Charlton Athletic are the only team outside of the WSL 1 and 2 to progress to the quarter-finals after first-half goals from Kit Graham and Charlotte Gurr gave them a 3-1 away win over fellow Premier League South side Cardiff City.

Durham are the sole survivors from WSL 2 to make it through after they knocked out Leicester City in an impressive 5-2 home victory. Striker Abi Cottam grabbed a brace, including a superb volley that put the hosts 3-1 up. The Foxes got one back but the Wildcats showed too much quality and progress to the quarter-finals for the first time in their history.





SSE Women's FA Cup quarter-final draw

**Sunderland Ladies
vs Man City Women**

**Liverpool Ladies
vs Chelsea Ladies**

**Arsenal Women
vs Charlton Women**

**Durham Women
vs Everton Ladies**

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[@bluemafia](#) You're welcome! Have you entered our competition to win two Conti Cup final tickets? If not, tweet from earlier!

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Do not forget to enter our competition everyone. See the below tweet and follow us for your chance to win! <https://t.co/2liakx3SUR>

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