

Football round-up

Kick off round the corner

After a short break from the beautiful game, the curtain will go up on another season of thrills and spills, and hopefully glory, for the borough's three footy clubs this month.

QPR are chomping at the bit to gain promotion to the Premiership but all eyes are on Champions Chelsea who, after completely dominating the domestic game for the last two years, have splashed out on new signings again this summer.

The blues are looking to start their bid for an historic third league title in a row with a win against Man City this Sunday 20 August. While borough rivals Fulham start with a tough lunchtime kick off away at Manchester United.

Next three games

Chelsea fixtures

Sun 20 Man City (H)
Wed 23 Middlesbrough (A)
Sun 27 Blackburn (A)
Visit www.chelseafc.com for more information

Fulham fixtures

Sun 20 Manchester Utd (A)
Wed 23 Bolton (H)
Sat 26 Sheffield Utd (H)
Visit www.fulhamfc.com for more information

QPR fixtures

Sat 19 Preston (A)
Fri 25 Ipswich (H)
Sat 9 Sept Plymouth (A)
Visit www.qpr.premiertv.co.uk for more information



Youth games success

Local athletes aged 11-18 improved the borough's overall position in the London Youth Games by five places. They struck gold in the girls' disability football, as well as bronze in the boys' disability swimming and bronze in the boys' volleyball. Hammersmith & Fulham came

fourth in the boys' karate, with four out of the five competing boys from the borough gaining tournament medals.

In the London Mini-Games for primary schools, a team from Parayhouse School, in Fulham, won gold in the paralympic sport of Boccia.

Local athletes pass the baton in the 4 x 100m relay at the London Youth Games finals at Crystal Palace.



Young coaches prove very good sports



Newly qualified coaches Luke Craig and Billy Shanahan

The course was organised by the Hammersmith & Fulham Volunteer Centre, based at 148 King Street, through its Millennium Volunteers youth scheme. In addition to their studies, the young people have been putting something back into the community by volunteering at local after-school club sports sessions. They have also been practising the Brazilian version of 5-a-side football, Futsal, which is growing in popularity in the UK but currently lacks coaches. The group recently came second in a Futsal tournament.

Luke Craig, 20 years old, says, "I've really enjoyed the course. I've learnt a lot about what it takes to be a good coach and have even helped run some sessions for local children, which was great."

To find out more about Millennium Volunteers, contact Ian Wingfield on 020 8600 2270 or email ian@hfvc.org.uk Or call the Volunteer Centre on 020 8741 9876.



Fifteen young people look set to follow in the footsteps of sporting heroes Jose Mourinho and Linford Christie after completing a coaching course that gives them both the confidence and qualifications to succeed.

The young people, aged 16-24, spent ten weeks with local sports organisation Active Planet studying for the community sports leaders award and FA Level 1 football coaching badge, as well as learning about first aid and child protection.

Many of the young people were previously long term unemployed, and lacked the experience to secure employment, but already two have been offered eight-week sports coaching contracts.

Movers and shakers

It's been a busy summer of signings for the borough's three top footy clubs with the revolving door of comings and goings at Stamford Bridge leading the way.

Here's the H&F News guide to who's coming and who's going.

Chelsea In

Henrique Hilario from CD Nacional
John Obi Mikel from Lyn
Andrei Shevchenko from Milan
Salomon Kalou from Feyenoord
Michael Ballack from Bayern Munich

Chelsea Out

Carlton Cole to West Ham

United
Danny Hollands to Bournemouth
Glen Johnson to Portsmouth
Joe Tilden to Milton Keynes Dons
Jiri Jarosik to Celtic
Filipe Morais to Millwall
Eidur Gudjohnsen to Barcelona
Lenny Pidgeley to Millwall
Dean Furman to Rangers

Fulham In

Bjorn Runstrom from Hammarby
Gabriel Zakuani from Leyton Orient
Jimmy Bullard from Wigan Athletic

Fulham Out

Dean Leacock to Swansea City

Liam Fontaine to Bristol City
Darren Pratley to Swansea City
Alain Goma, out of contract
Robert Watkins, out of contract

Queens Park Rangers In

Adam Czerkas from Korona Kielce
Egutu Oliseh from La Louviere
Nick Ward from Perth Glory
Damion Stewart from Bradford City

Queens Park Rangers Out

Richard Langley to Luton Town
Marcus Bean to Blackpool
Dean Sturridge to Kidderminster Harriers
Ugo Ukah to Noreuse

You can't beat a bit of Bully

Chris Coleman believes Fulham new boy Jimmy Bullard will become a fans' favourite after his move from Wigan. The midfielder, 27, completed a £2.5m switch to Craven Cottage over the summer and has already impressed his new boss. "Jimmy is top quality," he says. "He's integrated into the squad as if he's always been here. He oozes enthusiasm and our supporters are going to absolutely love him."