

JULY 2023

WEMBLEY STADIUM CONNECTS

NEWSLETTER





INTRODUCTION

WELCOME TO THE THIRD EDITION OF WEMBLEY NEWS FOR 2023.

With the summer months now here, it means only one thing for Wembley – the start of our concert season.

The opening concert of our season was Capital Summertime Ball with a fabulous line up of acts including Tom Grennan, Ellie Goulding, Niall Horan and Calvin Harris. It also featured a surprise appearance from Kylie Minogue who was making a debut performance on stage at Wembley.

We then rolled straight into four nights of Harry Styles who returned to Wembley after a successful two-night stint last year. Every show was a sell-out with more than 320,000 people coming into Wembley over the entire run.

We still have Blur, Def Leppard, Mötley Crüe and The Weeknd to come, in what promises to be a busy time, but an exciting one too.

Concert season really is an interesting one for everyone here at Wembley Stadium. The first big change of course is inside the bowl. Less than 24 hours after this year's FA Cup Final between Manchester City and Manchester United, the concert team were in getting ready for Capital Summertime Ball.

A huge amount of work goes into getting the stadium concert ready. Cranes, trucks and production crews all come on to the pitch and work through the night covering the pitch and bringing in the production set. It never ceases to amaze me how much the stadium changes during the process.

The second big change we see is the diversity of audience. The crowds for Capital Summertime Ball and Harry Styles are more family orientated than we might traditionally see at a football match. Our planning and organisation have to reflect this and our team do a great job of putting on different activations to meet this change of audience. I am sure you all see it first-hand too, when they come on to the Wembley estate with the colour and atmosphere they create. You will certainly have noticed the number of feathers left behind after the Harry Styles gig!

As someone who comes from a concert background, I really enjoy this time of year. Wembley Stadium is a truly multi-purpose venue and I enjoy all the challenges we face turning it around, so it is a first-class venue for whatever event we have on.

We will be back for football in early August for the Charity Shield which returns after a break last year because of the Women's EURO.

This year's match will see Manchester City take on Arsenal. After that we will have the Rugby League final and then wrestling is back for the first time in over 30 years. What a summer we have ahead.

Thank You
Liam Boylan, Stadium Director

STADIUM NEWS



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE BOOST

This year's Women's FA Cup Final at Wembley saw a new first with three British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters in operation at the stadium.

The FA traditionally employs one BSL interpreter at its events so deaf fans inside the stadium can follow all the pre-match entertainment. It has become a noticeable element at several events over the past 12 months and meant live football was more accessible to a wider community.

This year, with the aim of making everything around the Final as accessible as possible, the number of interpreters was trebled with Ali Gordon, Radha Starr and Joanna Aldridge from Performance Interpreting Ltd all supporting the event.



WEMBLEY STADIUM'S GREEN GOALS

To ensure Wembley continues to score more green goals for the planet, the stadium team has worked with Veolia to introduce a fleet of new electric and hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) powered vehicles to clean up the stadium post-events.

The vehicles replace the old diesel powered fleet and will reduce

emissions by up to 90%, ensuring the home of football continues to be one of the greenest stadiums in the world.

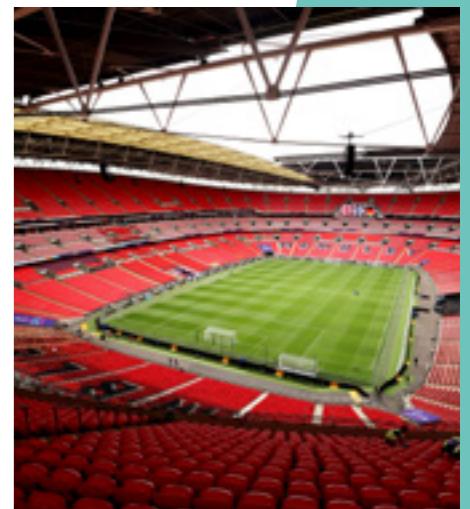
Wembley Stadium became a zero-waste-to-landfill venue in 2010 and was the first sporting venue to achieve the Carbon Trust Triple Standard in 2014.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY STADIUM

Wembley Stadium has become the first dementia friendly national stadium.

Several new features have been put in place in and around the stadium following an audit by a group of people affected by dementia. They were invited to attend two matchdays and provide feedback.

The new measures will improve accessibility and increase understanding and knowledge of dementia, setting the benchmark for other sports to follow.



COMMUNITY NEWS



OLYMPIC TERRACE

Wembley Stadium has a new dedicated space specifically for the local community.

Olympic Terrace, on level 5, officially opened in April this year. The first group to utilise the space was the Jason Roberts Foundation (JRF), who hosted a special event to mark their Inspire to Achieve Heritage Exhibition.

The exhibition tells the story of local footballers from Brent who went on to make it at the top level of the game.

The event was hosted by TV and Radio presenter Adrian Chiles with former professional footballers Jamal Campbell Ryce, Richard Langley, Dave Beasant, Mark Stein, Brian Stein, and Ricky Hill also in attendance.

More information about how to access this space will be available soon.



SPARKY STUDENTS

Students were given an insight into the daily operations of the stadium recently via a new work experience programme.

The Spark! Project provides mentoring and a work experience programme for 10 students from local Brent schools.

The first workshop took place in June and was held in the Learning Zone area of the stadium. Students took part in a series of workshops, met with FA staff and were given a free tour of the stadium in readiness for their work experience placement.



GRENFELL MEMORIAL CUP

Wembley Stadium's sister venue, St George's Park, was proud to play host to the 2023 Grenfell Memorial Cup earlier this year.

The annual event, which raises awareness of the Grenfell Tower tragedy in west London, saw five games take place at the national football centre in Burton-on-Trent. It was the first time the event was held outside of London.

"As we approach what will be the sixth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower tragedy later this year, we were delighted to support this event organised by the Grenfell Foundation," said FA CEO Mark Bullingham.

"Given the proximity of Grenfell Tower to Wembley Stadium, those affected by the tragedy will always remain close to our hearts."

Wembley Stadium once again showed its support for all those associated with the tragedy by lighting the arch on the anniversary of 14 June.

COMMUNITY NEWS

FAITH AND FOOTBALL

Wembley Stadium welcomed over 1,600 people to celebrate the religious festivals of Ramadan and Vaisakhi earlier this year.

The celebrations formed part of The FA's Faith and Football series which connects stakeholders across the game to football via their faith.

First up we hosted an Open Iftar to follow on from last year's successful event at the stadium. Partnering with Ramadan Tent Project, Iftar is the meal prepared and offered to Muslims observing Ramadan when breaking their fast.

Visitors from both the local area and beyond were welcomed to Wembley including The Lord Mayor of Brent Councillor Abdi Aden, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Hamza Taouzzale, His Excellency Turkish Ambassador to the UK, Koray Ertaş and Councillor Muhammad Butt, Leader of Brent Council.



Following a panel talk featuring former England Women's star Rachel Yankey, former men's professional players Michael Chopra and Anwar Uddin and Abu Nasir of The FA's National Game Board, there was a call to prayer, which took place inside the bowl of Wembley Stadium, before the fast was broken and food served.

Following that we celebrated the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi which marks the creation of the Khalsa. Religious hymns and the prayer of Chaupai Sahib and Ardaas, were delivered by representatives from Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall Gurdwara.

Guests then enjoyed food provided by Midland Langar Seva Society before a host of guests spoke, including the FA's Deji Davies and Dal Singh Darroch, Preet Gill MP (APPG Leader for British Sikhs) and Amandeep Singh from Basics of Sikhi provided an overview on the significance of Vaisakhi and its meaning.

WEMBLEY 100

100TH ANNIVERSARY

On April 28 this year Wembley Stadium celebrated its 100th anniversary.

The stadium first opened its doors in 1923 for that year's FA Cup Final.

The anniversary was celebrated across the media and stars passed on their best wishes on social media. There were Happy Birthday messages from Gary Barlow, Coldplay, The Killers, Raheem Sterling and Harry Kane to name a few.

Here at the stadium, we invited 2,000 members of the community for a free tour.

The day proved to be a huge success and we look forward to carrying on the Wembley 100 celebrations throughout the year.

Visit the Wembley 100 hub on our website www.wembleystadium.com to follow the action and stay up to date with the latest news.



DIARY DATES

JUNE 2023

SUNDAY 11	Capital Summertime Ball
TUESDAY 13	Harry Styles
WEDNESDAY 14	Harry Styles
FRIDAY 16	Harry Styles
SATURDAY 17	Harry Styles

JULY 2023

SATURDAY 1	Def Leppard & Motley Crue
SATURDAY 8	Blur
SUNDAY 9	Blur

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY 6	Charity Shield – Manchester City v Arsenal
SATURDAY 12	Rugby League Challenge Cup Final
FRIDAY 18	The Weeknd
SUNDAY 27	AEW Wrestling

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUNDAY 1	NFL Jacksonville Jaguars v Atlanta Falcons
FRIDAY 13	England v Australia (men)
TUESDAY 17	England v Italy (men)

OCTOBER 2023

EVENT DAY ROAD CLOSURES

To ensure the safe movement of pedestrians on events days it is necessary to implement a series of road closures in and around Wembley Stadium.

The closures are coordinated between the Stadium and Brent Council. We would like to thank you for your co-operation during these periods and will continue to keep you updated prior to each event.

FULL CLOSURES

SOUTH WAY (Wembley Hill Road to First Way from W-E)
FULTON ROAD
ENGINEERS WAY
PACIFIC CRESCENT
ATLANTIC CRESCENT

All full road closures are implemented 4 hours prior to KO / event start and removed 2 hours after the event end*

*some event day exceptions may apply

OTHER ROAD CLOSURES

WEMBLEY HILL ROAD - Closed in both directions between South Way and the Wembley Triangle 30 minutes before the event end until 2 hours post-event.
EMPIRE WAY - Closed southbound only between Wembley Park Drive and South Way from 30 minutes before event end until 2 hours post-event.
LONDON ROAD - Closed between Wembley High Road and Cecil Avenue from event start until 2 hours post-event.
OAKINGTON MANOR DRIVE - Access for local residents only from 3 hours pre-event until 2 hours post-event.
ECCLESTONE PLACE - closed from event start until 2 hours post-event.

TEENAGE KICKS WOWS WEMBLEY STADIUM

A football loving teenager saw his dream come true when he scored a goal at half-time of this year's Emirates FA Cup Final.

Edward, 14, from Gloucestershire, challenged himself to take 100 kicks at 100 different locations and raise £100,000 for brain tumour research. He was inspired to take on the task after being diagnosed with an aggressive, grade 4, brain cancer, when he was just 11.

Edward took the 70th kick of his campaign, in front of a crowd of more than 83,000 people at Wembley Stadium. The Manchester United fan slotted his penalty past the club's mascot Fred the Red to the cheers of the entire stadium.

You can find out more about Edward's campaign at www.100strikesatcancer.org



