

AN EVENING WITH THE

SOCCER SATURDAY

PUNDITS

OFFICIAL CHARITY
cureleukaemia
the blood cancer charity



With Special Guests

Paul Merson, Charlie Nicholas & Phil Thompson

Hosted by: **Pete Graves (Sky Sports)**

Date: **Thursday 28 November 2024**

Venue: **Edgbaston Stadium, Birmingham**



EVENT & SPEAKERS

Soccer Saturday has been a regular fixture for football fans since the early 1990s, home of top banter, live analysis and the occasional controversy! Fronted by broadcasting legend Jeff Stelling for 30 years until his recent retirement, we are delighted to reunite three of the men who made the show such compelling viewing for many years. Current Soccer Saturday regular Paul Merson, will be joined by two of the old guard, Phil Thompson and Charlie Nicholas, who did so much to establish the show as the number one location for Saturday soccer! With a delicious three course dinner in Edgbaston's superb Banqueting Suite, Sky Sports host Pete Graves will be in his element as he delves into the stories from both in front and behind the camera on the UK's most loved sports show. It's sure to be an epic evening!



PAUL MERSON: After making his Arsenal debut in 1986, Paul soon established himself in the first team; he was a regular on the right wing in the unforgettable 1988-89 season, when Michael Thomas scored with almost the last kick of the season at Anfield to bring the title back to Highbury. During that legendary season, Paul scored 10 goals from the wing, broke into the England U21 side, and was named the PFA Young Player of the Season. He went on to have a long and glorious career with The Gunners, making 423 appearances and scoring 99 goals in all competitions; he won another League title in 1991, as well as the FA and League Cups in 1993, and the Cup Winners' Cup in 1994. His first senior England cap came in 1991, and although he wasn't always a regular, he went on to win 21 caps for his country, scoring 3 goals. On leaving Arsenal, he enjoyed further successful spells with Middlesbrough, Aston Villa and Portsmouth, before finishing his 20 year League career off at Walsall. One of the game's most colourful characters, Paul is now one of the most highly-rated speakers on the circuit, and still a Soccer Saturday regular.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS: A name synonymous with both goals and outspoken opinions, Charlie Nicholas carved a successful path in football before becoming a well-known and highly regarded TV pundit with numerous channels, including Sky Sports' Soccer Saturday. Nicknamed "Champagne Charlie" for his flair and flamboyant style, Nicholas shone as a striker for Celtic and Arsenal. At Celtic, his prolific goalscoring form peaked in the 1982/83 season, netting a staggering 50 goals and earning both Scottish PFA Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year awards. He later joined Arsenal, scoring a memorable brace in their 1987 League Cup win. Charlie finished his club career with an impressive 224 goals in 578 appearances in all competitions. Capped 20 times for Scotland, Nicholas represented his country at the 1986 World Cup. Following retirement, Nicholas transitioned seamlessly into punditry. His sharp wit and insightful analysis have graced Sky Sports shows like Soccer Saturday and Monday Night Football, offering him a platform to dissect the beautiful game with the same passion he displayed on the pitch.



PHIL THOMPSON: A legend in Liverpool red, Phil Thompson carved his name as a central defender for the club during their dominant 1970s and 80s era. During his 14-year playing career at Liverpool, he lifted countless trophies, including 7 First Division titles, and three European Cups, including captaining the team to European glory in 1981. This success extended to the international stage, where he earned 42 caps for England, captaining the team on 6 occasions. After hanging up his boots, Thompson transitioned seamlessly into coaching, serving as Liverpool's assistant manager for several years, also taking the helm as caretaker manager during the 2001-02 season. However, his true calling after football seemed to be in the world of punditry. Thompson's passionate and insightful analysis, often laced with his signature wit, has made him a popular figure on British television. He's featured regularly on Sky Sports, offering his expert views on the beautiful game, particularly on Soccer Saturday, where his chemistry with Jeff Stelling and the boys over the years has been a joy to behold!

PETE GRAVES: A passionate Newcastle United fan, Pete has enjoyed a swift rise through the broadcasting ranks to become one of the most recognisable faces on Sky Sports. After leaving university, Pete started his broadcasting career with the hospital radio show Radio Tyneside, before working in the local Metro Radio, and then ITV Tyneside as a sports reporter. Since 2009 he has worked at Sky Sports, mainly as a presenter, where his passion for football and knowledge of the game are amongst his greatest assets. Over the past few years Pete has become a great asset as a regular host of our events, and we are delighted to have him as always!



EDGBASTON STADIUM: We are delighted to be holding our event in the Banqueting Suite at Edgbaston Stadium, which is a fantastic large facility, perfectly suited to our event. This is the stadium's premium pitch-facing facility, enjoying magnificent views over the middle, and plenty of natural light. Our guests will enjoy quality dining and service for which Edgbaston is rightly renowned, with ample complimentary parking for all attendees.

PACKAGES & ITINERARY

SILVER PACKAGE

- > Reserved places within The Banqueting Suite
- > Three course dinner
- > Entertaining Q & A with Paul Merson, Charlie Nicholas & Phil Thompson
- > Event hosted by Pete Graves (Sky Sports)
- > Auction
- > Raffle

£1,350+VAT (Table of 10)



GOLD PACKAGE

- > Same package elements as our Silver Package
- > Access to the VIP reception
- > Welcome drink on arrival
- > Group photo opportunity with Paul Merson, Charlie Nicholas & Phil Thompson
- > Logo on our event menu cards (Tables only)
- > Premium positioned table

£1,790+VAT (Table of 10)

SPEAKER SPONSOR PACKAGE

- > Same package elements as our Gold Package
- > One of our special guests to sit on your table
- > Opportunity to display branding in the event room
- > Opportunity to put a piece of marketing literature on every attendee's chair

£2,490+VAT (based on 10 guests per table)

ITINERARY

- > **From 6.30pm:** Arrival
- > **7.20pm:** Sit down
- > **7.30pm:** Introduction: Pete Graves (Sky Sports)
- > **7.35pm:** Three course dinner is served
- > **9.05pm:** Auction
- > **9.35pm:** Q & A with special guests
- > **10.35pm:** Raffle is drawn
- > **10.45pm:** Dinner concludes. Bar remains open!
- > **Midnight:** Venue closes

Please note that timings are provisional and are subject to change.



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Football • Rugby • Cricket • Horse Racing • Boxing • Tennis • Golf
Motor Racing • Sporting Dinners • Music • Concerts • Theatre • Film

To check on availability or to make a booking, please contact [Liz@EMG EVENTS LTD](mailto:Liz@EMGEVENTS.LTD)
+44 (0) 208 468 7599 | +44 (0) 771 039 9408 | liz@emgevents.co.uk