

FA CUP PEN-PICTURES continued

Continued from previous page:

West Ham Utd continued ...

Matthew Etherington, signed from: Tottenham, August 2003. Dangerous winger who has found a home at West Ham after a frustrating spell with Tottenham. Has pace to worry defenders.

Shaun Newton, signed from: Wolves, March 2005. Experienced campaigner who joined the Hammers to assist their promotion push. Can be quick and has a menacing delivery. Has not yet scored many for the Londoners but does have a reputation for netting useful goals from midfield.

Carl Fletcher, signed from: Bournemouth, August 2004. Has found chances limited due to the form of Mullins (suspended) and Reo-Coker but is a useful central midfielder. A good passer of the ball with a liking for getting forward.

Marlon Harewood, signed from: Nottingham Forest, November 2003. Has hit form in the latter half of the season and etched his name into Hammers folklore with the semi-final winner against Middlesbrough.

Dean Ashton, signed from: Norwich, January 2006. Made an immediate impression after his mid-season move from Norwich with five goals in his first seven games. Handy striker who proved his worth in the Premiership with Norwich last year.

Bobby Zamora, signed from: Tottenham, February 2004. Capped a fine 2004-05 by scoring the goal that secured promotion in the play-off final. Goals and chances have been fewer this season but has provided useful back-up to Harewood and Sheringham.

Teddy Sheringham, signed from: Portsmouth, July 2004. Former England international who continues to excel at the age of 40 and has another season of top-flight football to look forward to. Still as wily as ever even though he may not play the full 90 minutes much these days. Won the FA Cup with Manchester United in 1999.

Yaniv Katan, signed from: Maccabi Haifa, January 2006. Speedy striker or attacking midfielder signed for £100,000 in the January transfer window. Caught the eye in his homeland but is yet to make his mark in the Premiership.

Man in the Middle: The FA have announced 45-year-old Staffordshire official, **Alan Wiley**, will referee the final between Liverpool and West Ham.

HOW THE TEAMS REACHED THE FINAL

THIRD ROUND

Luton 3 Liverpool 5.

Norwich 1 West Ham 2.

FOURTH ROUND

Portsmouth 1 Liverpool 2. Steven Gerrard and John Arne Riise put the visitors comfortably ahead at Fratton Park by half-time. Although Sean Davis pulled one back for Pompey.

West Ham 4 Blackburn 2. David Bentley put Rovers ahead in the first minute but Pardew's men recovered and were ahead by half-time, with Teddy Sheringham's cheeky penalty level-lin matters. Lucas Neill made it 3-2 in the second half but Zamora sealed the win.

FIFTH ROUND

Liverpool 1 Manchester United 0. Peter Crouch rose to head home the winner in the 19th minute, taking advantage of slack marking from United's Nemanja Vidic.

West Ham 2 Bolton 1. After a goalless draw at the Reebok Stadium, Marlon Harewood struck the winner in the replay at Upton Park.

QUARTER-FINAL

Birmingham 0 Liverpool 7. Liverpool brushed aside relegation-threatened Birmingham in convincing fashion at St Andrews. The victory never looked in doubt.

Manchester City 1 West Ham 2. Dean Ashton produced a moment of class to open the scoring at the end of a dreary first half at Eastlands. He doubled the lead to seal the win.

SEMI-FINAL

Chelsea 1 Liverpool 2

Riise curled a free-kick through Chelsea's defensive wall to open the scoring, with Luis Garcia volleying spectacularly for the second. Didier Drogba bravely headed in to give Chelsea hope, but Liverpool held on for a famous win.

Middlesbrough 0 West Ham 1

With the Millennium Stadium clash appearing to be heading towards extra-time, Harewood ran through and blasted into the top corner past substitute Australian 'keeper Brad Jones. Boro's first-choice keeper Mark Schwarzer had been taken off after a challenge from Ashton with a broken cheek bone.



Kiama Soccer Club,
cordially invites all those interested in the World Game, to join us for a celebration of football at the Leagues Club tonight, Saturday, May 13th, from 8.30 pm onwards.

FA CUP NIGHT LIVERPOOL v WEST HAM UTD

Saturday, May 13th, 2006

pre-match entertainment starts approx 8.30 pm.



Terralong St, Kiama. Phone 4232 1777

FA CUP PEN PICTURES



CAN Harry Kewell emulate Craig Johnston in a Liverpool shirt 22 years on?

with Chris Hudson

Not only have they both represented their countries and also one of the top football clubs in the world, but both Kewell and Johnston have now gone one step further in Australian history, and that is to represent Liverpool in a FA Cup final.

Johnston scored in Liverpool's 3-0 win over Newcastle in 1974, a golden age for the club, when silverware filled the cupboards and mantels at a successful Anfield.

The Merseysiders should prevail tonight and once again engrave their name on the prestigious trophy. Their opponents, West Ham Utd, have been showing hot and cold form all season but cannot be taken lightly, even if the odds show otherwise.

Players to Watch:

Arne Riise, Liverpool utility player; watch his overlaps and free kicks, a very adventurous full-back; **Harry Kewell**, can change a game, just needs to build his confidence back up to where it was at Leeds, scoring an incredible goal at Highbury. Luis Garcia is ruled out through suspension, so **Steve Garrard** is the other obvious player and with Kewell, will probably be the key to unlocking the West Ham defence.

West Ham's **Marlon Harewood**, always had talent, now has the stage to prove it; **Paul Konchesky**, a dream come true for a lifelong Hammers fan, volatile, but can be creative; **Dean Ashton**, possible future England international, maybe the occasion to prove his worth, and be added onto the list for England's World Cup squad.

Here are the squads, LIVERPOOL:

Jose Reina, signed from Villarreal, July 2005. Has found a high level of consistency since joining the club last summer, helping the club to a record number of clean sheets during the campaign.

Jerzy Dudek, signed from Feyenoord, August 2001. Became a club legend after his Champions League final heroics last season but boss Rafael Benitez has shown little sentiment and used him sparingly this term.

Steve Finnan, signed from Fulham, July 2003. This Irish international removed all doubts over

his ability in the past 18 months to command a regular place in the back four with his consistent performances.

Sami Hyypia, signed from Willem II, May 1999. Back to his best this season as Liverpool have proved one of the toughest defences in the country to crack. May lack pace but makes up for that by being such a commanding presence.

Jamie Carragher, trainee, August 1994. Probably Liverpool's best player last season and again outstanding this term. A highly dedicated professional who never gives less than 100% and rarely lets the side down. Solid, ever-dependable performer.

John Arne Riise, signed from: Monaco, June 2001. Provides dangerous attacking outlet down the left whether fielded in defence or midfield and has a lethal shot. Likely to feature at left-back with Harry Kewell in such good form in midfield. Scored the opener in semi-final win over Chelsea.

Stephen Warnock, trainee, July 2002. One of the few products of Liverpool's Academy to have graduated to the first-team squad in recent seasons. A workmanlike left-back who pushed himself onto the fringes of the England picture earlier in the season.

Djimi Traore, signed from: Laval, February 1999. Gangly left-back who remains a firm fixture in the squad despite his numerous lapses of concentration and nervous mistakes.

Steven Gerrard, trainee, August 1998. Liverpool's talisman will hope to get his hands on another trophy after famously inspiring the club to Champions League glory last year. Has once again been outstanding all season, as dynamic in attack and committed in defence as ever, and must surely now be considered for the club's greatest ever XI.

Dietmar Hamann, signed from: Newcastle, July 1999. Another Istanbul hero who continues to serve the club with great distinction. Could have left Anfield last summer but Benitez was keen to keep him and his continuing reliability shows why.

Xabi Alonso, signed from: Real Sociedad, Au-

LIVERPOOL v WEST HAM UTD

COLOURS: Red, Red, Red

gust 2004. Technically excellent Spain international whose passing range allows him to dictate games when given space. Running into peak form at just the right time. His Spanish teammate, Luis Garcia, is suspended.

Mohamed Sissoko, signed from: Valencia, July 2005. Recovered from a potentially serious eye injury earlier this year to help Liverpool to the final. Has not had the smoothest of first seasons at Anfield - the injury aside - but he has shown potential.

Harry Kewell, signed from: Leeds, July 2003. Has completed a remarkable transformation from villain to hero this season. Reached the nadir of his career - in personal terms - when he was booed off by Liverpool fans in the Champions League final but has responded by getting fit and finally producing the goods.

Peter Crouch, signed from: Southampton, July 2005. Has had his critics this season but his performances would have been better appreciated had he been playing alongside a reliable partner.

Fernando Morientes, signed from: Real Madrid, January 2005. Big disappointment since his move from Real Madrid. After having the second half of last season to settle in, much was expected this term but has largely failed to deliver.

Djibril Cisse, signed from: Auxerre, July 2004. Another under-performing big-money signing who may find himself looking for another club this summer. Recovered from a badly-broken leg to regain his place but has fired only sporadically and has not won the trust of Benitez.

WEST HAM UNITED:

A team that you can never write off! Should be shown massive respect with the history of cup games behind them.

Shaka Hislop, signed from: Portsmouth, July 2005. Veteran who returned for a second spell at the club after they won promotion last summer. Has featured prominently with Roy Carroll and Jimmy Walker both suffering injuries. Will play in the World Cup this summer with Trinidad and Tobago.

Jimmy Walker, signed from: Walsall, June 2004.

COLOURS: Claret and Skyblue

Came into the side towards the end of last season to help secure promotion but his hopes of playing Premiership football this term have largely been dashed by injury.

Anton Ferdinand, trainee, December 2002. Another highly impressive youngster to roll off the West Ham production line, Ferdinand looks to have a bright future. The World Cup may come too soon but he seems certain to follow brother Rio into the England side soon.

James Collins, signed from: Cardiff, July 2005. Formed a solid central defensive partnership with the more experienced Danny Gabbidon at Cardiff from which West Ham now benefit after signing both players last year.

Danny Gabbidon, signed from: Cardiff, July 2005. Cultured player who has relished the step up from the Championship with West Ham. Is now an established Welsh international and has looked a smart signing by manager Alan Pardew.

Paul Konchesky, signed from: Charlton, July 2005. Hardly made the best of starts to his Hammers career when he was sent off on his second appearance but it proved a minor setback. His speed and strong tackling, as a left-back, central defender or midfielder, has caught the eye.

Lionel Scaloni, on loan from Deportivo La Coruna. Brought into the squad as a replacement for Tomas Repka, who left Upton Park in January. Provides back-up but is only on loan until the end of the season.

Clive Clarke, signed from: Stoke, July 2005. Joined West Ham as back-up for Konchesky at left-back. Confidently described himself as one of the better players in the Championship last season but has hardly had chance to prove himself at Premiership level due to injury.

Yossi Benayoun, signed from: Racing Santander, July 2005. Exciting creative player who has brought dynamism and a couple of spectacular goals to the West Ham midfield.

Nigel Reo-Coker, signed from: Wimbledon, January 2004. Lifted the play-off trophy at the Millennium Stadium last year but could hardly have expected the chance to get his hands on the FA Cup so soon.