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Media release NCFA 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021

THIS COUNTRY v THAT COUNTRY a charity football match where the first half played at Market Road, Islington, London and the second half played Flanders Peace Field, Mesen, Belgium, site of the First World War, 1914, Christmas Truces.

## Saturday 9th October 2021

The National Children's Football Alliance (NCFA) charity football match THIS COUNTRY v THAT COUNTRY will deliver a Peace Poppy Football from the Market Road Football Pitches, Islington, North London to The Last Post at Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium. 24 footballers will play the first half at Market Road Football Pitches and on the same day, the second half will be played at Flanders Peace Field, Mesen, Belgium. The Market Road Pitches will be officially twinned with Flanders Peace Field, through the NCFA's Peace Field Project charity football match. After the match a Peace Poppy Football will then be laid at The Last Post, Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium in commemoration of North London's war dead. The money raised will provide young people with the opportunity to participate at the Global Peace Games, a week long peace education through play programme celebrating the United Nation's International Day of Peace.

The BBC BAFTA award winning THIS COUNTRY stars, Daisy May Cooper and Charlie Cooper, are patrons of The NFCA, which their father and fellow on screen actor, Paul Cooper, is the Co-Founder and Director of The NCFA.

'The game of course will be fun but the fact of the matter is that under privileged children from war torn countries will benefit from being special guests at the 2022 Global Peace Games where they will meet 80 children from 20 different countries enjoying the same once in a lifetime experience'. Paul Cooper (NCFA)

"As patron of the NCFA I had the pleasure of working at the 2019 Global Peace Games and the change in the children over the week was astonishing. This programme really does change lives." Charlie Cooper (NCFA)

"Please support this amazing initiative and help change children's lives and create ambassadors for Peace."

Daisy Cooper (NCFA)

In the first half the charity game in Islington will be joined by Arsenal in the Community players and in the second half in Flanders the game will be joined by Bruges F C in the community players.

'TCvTC will be very special for all those participating and most importantly, for all those that will benefit from the experience of playing at the 2022 Global Peace Games.' Philippe Servais (Bruges FC)

To support <u>THIS COUNTRY v THAT COUNTRY</u> sponsors and donors can go online and visit the JUST GIVING page: <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/thiscountryvthatcountry">https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/thiscountryvthatcountry</a>

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

<u>National Children's Football Alliance</u> is a coalition of agencies and organizations that safeguard and advance the rights of children in football. The NCFA seeks to protect childhood through play.

<u>The Peace Fields Project</u> is an extension of the Heritage Lottery funded 2014 <u>Football and Peace Project</u>, inspired by the Christmas Truces of 1914. The NCFA are the custodians of <u>The International Children's Football Alliance</u> and organizers of the <u>Global Peace Games</u>, which delivers peace education projects through play.

<u>Star Lizard Integrity Services</u> supports <u>National Children's Football Alliance (NCFA)</u> The NCFA works tirelessly throughout communities to engage with young people and deliver child focused football projects designed to increase inclusion and improve inter-generational relationships, providing benefits for young people, ethnic minorities, migrants, refugees, special needs, families, disadvantaged and vulnerable children.

GLL is a not for profit charitable social enterprise committed to delivering a better quality of fitness and leisure, libraries and performing arts facilities for everyone. We're committed to providing access to quality community facilities - and more - at a price everyone can afford. We already manage over 258 facilities, and we're adding more all the time operating under our 'Better' brand. <a href="www.better.org.uk">www.better.org.uk</a> Contact: Anthony Jarrett Anthony.Jarrett@GLL.ORG

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Daisy May Cooper with her Dad, Paul Cooper.

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