



Walter Tull & Arthur Wharton



Britain's First Black Professional Footballers

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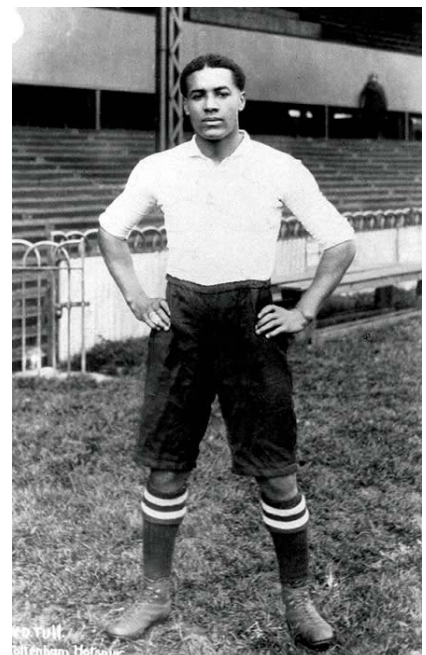
Foreword

Many people imagine that the sixties or possibly the fifties saw the first black professional football players in Britain. However at least two black players were playing professionally before the first world war, with one Arthur Wharton playing semi professional football in 1886. However very little is generally known of these players



Arthur Wharton was the world's first black professional footballer. Arthur was born to parents who were both mixed race. His father was half Grenadian and half Scottish, and his mother was half Scottish and half Fante Royal of the stool family of Ekumfie. He was also the world record holder for the 100 yard dash.

Walter Tull was one of Britain's first black professional footballers, playing for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town in the years leading up to the first world war. Despite the poorest of backgrounds, he also became Britain's first black army officer - an almost unimaginable achievement at the time. He died in the second battle of the Somme - 80 years ago today.



This pack concentrates on the lives, family, footballing and other achievements of these two men. The materials were produced for a Year 8 group of mainly EAL learners, who were in the early stages of developing English.

Pam Hacker, Cross-Phase Consultant (Ethnic Minority Achievement)
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Teaching Activities

These resources were used collaboratively. Pupils were grouped in pairs or threes and given a different information sheet per group. Pupils then became 'experts' on an aspect of each footballers lives by completing the activity and extensions sheets together. They then used this expertise to produce an A1 poster about an aspect of their footballers lives, which formed the basis of a presentation to both the class and the school at an assembly.

Other suggested activities

Hot seating

Pupils/pupils play role of their selected footballer and are questioned in role by other members of the class about their particular area of expertise.

Role Play

Pupils present a role play presentation of an aspect of their chosen footballers life.

Further research on the internet.

The following page contains a list of helpful websites for pupils researching the lives of Arthur Wharton & Walter Tull.

Links to the National Curriculum

Year 6 Autumn Term 1

Word

Non-Fiction: *(i) autobiography and biography, diaries, journals, letters, anecdotes, records of observations, etc. which recount experiences and events; (ii) journalistic writing; (iii) non-chronological reports.*

Websites:

Walter Tull

<http://web.ukonline.co.uk/ntfc/tull.htm>

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWtull.htm>

http://www.100greatblackbritons.com/bios/walter_tull.html

<http://www.thegreatergame.org.uk/exhibition/sporting11/tull.html>

http://www.furd.org/biographies_walter.asp

<http://www.blackpresence.co.uk/pages/sport/tull.htm>

<http://www.learningcurve.gov.uk/greatwar/g3/cs3/g3cs3s2.htm>

Arthur Wharton

<http://www.furd.org/arthurwharton.asp>

<http://www.blackpresence.co.uk/pages/sport/wharton.htm>

http://www.100greatblackbritons.com/bios/arthur_wharton.html

http://www.bbc.co.uk/tyne/roots/2003/10/arthur_wharton.shtml

<http://www.donny.co.uk/Doncaster/news/index.php3?ID=477>

<http://www.nationalfootballmuseum.com/Hall%20of%20Fame/arthurwharton.htm>

<http://www.thisweekghana.com/ThisWeek/Personalities.arthurwharton.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcfour/documentaries/blackflash/phil-vasili.shtml>

Walter Tull

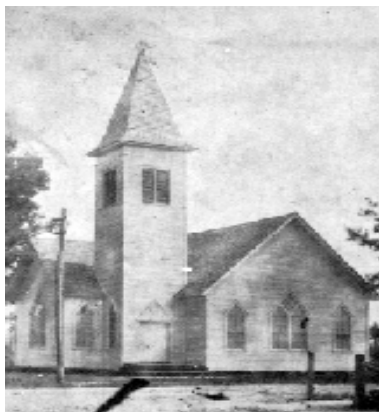
Information Sheet One

Tull's Family and childhood

Walter Tull was born in 1888. His father, the son of a slave came to Britain from Barbados in 1876 and worked as a carpenter. He married a girl from Folkestone.



Barbados an Island in the Caribbean



A Methodist Church

Walter's parents joined the Methodist Church and had six children. When Walter was seven, his mother died. His father married again, but he also died years two later.



An orphanage where children without a Mum or dad live

His stepmother was unable to cope with all six children and Walter and his brother Edward were sent to a Methodist run orphanage in Bethnal Green, London.



A Dentist

Edward was adopted and went to live in Scotland. He became a successful dentist and worked in Aberdeen and Glasgow.



A man on a printing machine

After finishing at school, Walter started to learn to become a printer. But he gave up this job for a more exciting career in football.

Walter Tull

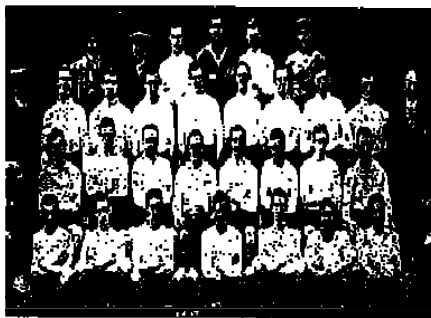
Information Sheet Two

Tull's Football Career

In 1908, Walter Tull was learning to be a printer and playing for a local football team in Clapton. He was a very good player and his talents were discovered by a scout from Tottenham Hotspur and he joined their team.



Tottenham Hotspur Football Club



Tottenham Hotspur
Football Team 1909

Walter played for Tottenham until 1910 when he was transferred for a large fee to Northampton Town football club. He played 110 times for Northampton Town's first team.



Northampton Town Football Club



Walter Tull

Walter played in wing half position and he soon became one of the club's most popular player. Other clubs wanted to sign him and in 1914 Glasgow Rangers began negotiations with Northampton Town. However before he could sign for them war was declared and Walter joined the army.

Walter Tull

Information Sheet Three

Tull's Army Career

On the outbreak of the First World War Walter Tull immediately abandoned his footballing career and went into the British Army. Walter joined the 1st Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment.



Walter Tull in the army



The Battle of the Somme

The army soon recognised Tull's leadership qualities and he was quickly promoted to the rank of sergeant. In July 1916, Tull took part in the Somme offensive, a major battle of World War One

In December 1916 Walter Tull developed trench fever a disease caused by being in wet trenches. He was sent home to England to recover. When he did get better he was sent to the officer training school in Scotland.



A trench in the First World War



Favreuil

By 1917 Tull had been made an officer. His rank was 2nd lieutenant. Tull was the first ever black officer in the British Army. Walter Tull was sent to the Italian front. On May 25th 1918 Tull was ordered to lead his men on an attack on the German trenches at Favreuil and was killed in action.

Walter Tull

Information Sheet Four

Walter Tull's Memorial

Walter Tull was the first black outfield player in the football league. He made 110 appearances for Northampton Town Football club from 1911 to 1914.



Walter Tull



Opening the Walter Tull Memorial

Tull joined the British Army at the outbreak of the first world war. He was the first black man in the army to become an officer, reaching the rank of 2nd lieutenant. To mark his achievements as a footballer and a soldier the Walter Tull memorial and garden of rest was opened at Northampton Town in 1999.



The memorial is passed by football supporters on their way into the stadium complex. It reminds everyone who passes it that black Britons have been contributing to our society for many years.

WALTER TULL
MEMORIAL
&
GARDEN OF REST

Official Unveiling
and
Dedication Service

Sunday
July 11th 1999
11.00am



The memorial stone.

Part of the text on the memorial reads:
'Through his actions WDJ Tull ridiculed the barriers of ignorance that tried to deny people of colour equality with their contemporaries'

Walter Tull showed that black and white men and women can live together as equals.

Walter Tull

Activity Sheet One

Tull's Family and childhood

Methodist	slave	printer	Orphanage
Barbados	dentist	died	father



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces

When you have made your choice cross the word out

Walter Tull's father was a son of a

His father came to Britain from in the Caribbean. Walter's mother and father were members of the Church.

When Walter was seven his mother

When Walter's father also died two years later,

Walter and his brother Edward were sent to an

..... where children who have no

mum or dad live. Walter's brother Edward became

a and Walter started to learn to

be a

Walter Tull

Activity Sheet Two

Tull's footballing Career

second	Tottenham Hotspur Football club	Wing half	Northampton Town Football Club
1910	£4	Clapton	printer



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces
When you have made your choice cross the word out

Walter Tull was working as a printer and playing for a local team in He was discovered by a scout fromHe was paid a £10 signing on fee. His wages were a week. Walter was the black man to play in Britain. Walter played for Tottenham until He transferred to for a large fee. Walter played in the position of and became one of the club's most popular players. He was going to sign for Glasgow Rangers when war broke out and he joined the army.

Walter Tull

Activity Sheet Three

Tull's Army Career

first	Italian front	Favreuil	sergeant
Somme	officer training school	British Army	footballing



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces
When you have made your choice cross the word out

On the outbreak of the First World War Walter Tull abandoned his **footballing** career and went into the Walter joined the 1st Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. He was quickly promoted to the rank of In July 1916, Tull took part in the offensive, a major battle of World War One. He later developed trench fever and was sent to England to recover. When he got better he was sent to the in Scotland. Tull was the ever black officer in the British army. In 1917 2nd lieutenant Walter Tull was sent to the He was killed in action in an attack on the German trenches in..... .

Walter Tull

Activity Sheet Four

Walter Tull's Memorial

contributing	British Army	Northampton Town	memorial
black Britons	officer	equals	first



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces
When you have made your choice cross the word out

Walter Tull was the **first** black outfields player in the
football league. He made 110 appearances for
..... from 1911 to 1914.

On the outbreak of the first world war he joined the
..... Walter Tull was the first black
..... in the British Army. To mark his
achievements the Walter Tull and Garden
of Rest was opened in 1999 . The memorial reminds
everyone who passes it that
have beento our society for many years.
Walter Tull showed that black and white men and women
can live together as

Walter Tull

Extension Sheet One

Tull's Family and childhood



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What was Walter Tull's father the son of?

Walter Tull's father was a son of a slave.

2) Where did his father come to Britain from?

.....

.....

3) What church were Walter's mother and father members of?

.....

.....

4) How old was Walter when his mum died?

.....

.....

5) Where were Walter and his brother sent when their father died?

.....

.....

6) What is an orphanage?

.....

.....

7) What profession did his brother work in?

.....

.....

8) What job did Walter start to learn before he became a footballer?

.....

.....

Walter Tull

Extension Sheet Two

Tull's football career



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What was Walter Tull learning to be when he was playing for a local football team?

Walter Tull was learning to be a printer when he was playing for a local football team.

2) What team signed Walter Tull on first?

.....
.....

3) How much was Walter Tull paid for signing on with Tottenham Hotspur football club?

.....
.....

4) How much was Walter Tull paid a week at Tottenham Hotspur football club?

.....
.....

5) How many black footballers had there been playing in Britain before Walter?

.....
.....

6) What club did Walter Tull transfer to from Tottenham Hotspur football club?

.....
.....

7) What position did Walter Tull play in?

.....
.....

8) Who was Walter Tull going to play for when war broke out?

.....

Walter Tull

Extension Sheet Three

Tull's Army Career



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What did Walter Tull do on the outbreak the First World War?

On the outbreak of the first world war Walter Tull abandoned his footballing career and joined the British Army.

2) What battalion did Walter Tull join?

.....
.....

3) What rank was Tull promoted too and why?

.....
.....

4) What disease did Walter Tull develop?

.....
.....

5) Why did he catch this disease?

.....
.....

6) When he got better, where was he sent?

.....
.....

7) In 1917 what rank had Walter Tull achieved and why was this important?

.....
.....

8) Where and how did Walter Tull die?

.....

Walter Tull
Extension Sheet Four
Walter Tull's Memorial



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) Who was the first black outfield player in the football league?
Walter Tull was the first black outfield player in the football league.

2) How many matches did Walter Tull play for Northampton Football club?

.....

.....

3) What did Walter Tull do on the outbreak of the first world war?

.....

.....

4) What was Walter Tull the first black man to achieve in the British army?

.....

.....

5) What was opened in 1999 to mark the achievements of Walter Tull?

.....

.....

6) What does the memorial remind people of who pass it?

.....

.....

7) Write some of the text on the memorial

Part of the text on the memorial reads

.....

.....

.....

.....

Arthur Wharton

Information Sheet One

Wharton's Family and Childhood

Arthur Wharton was the first black professional footballer to play in Britain. He was born in Jamestown in the Gold Coast colony, now known as Ghana, a country in West Africa, on the 28th October 1865.



Arthur Wharton



Ghana in West Africa

Both of Arthur's parents were mixed race. His father was half Grenadian and half Scottish, and his mother was half Scottish and half Fante royal. Arthur's mother's parents came from a very wealthy important family who were involved in business, politics and religion on the Gold Coast.

Arthur's father the Reverend Henry Wharton came from Grenada in the West Indies. He was a famous man who was the first African Caribbean to hold an important post with the Wesleyan Missionary Society part of the Christian Church on the Gold Coast.



Grenada, an island in the West Indies

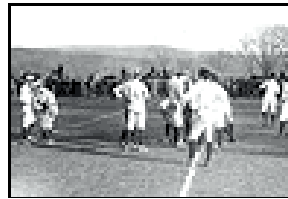
Arthur came to Britain to train to become a missionary teacher like his father. He went on to become an athlete and a professional footballer. Arthur's middle class family background and education made him a very unusual paid football player as most professionals came from poor backgrounds.

Arthur Wharton

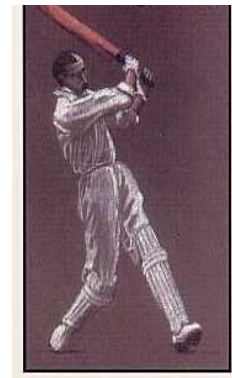
Information Sheet Two

Wharton's Athletics Career

Arthur Wharton trained to become a missionary teacher at Shoal Hill College, Cannock near Birmingham, England. While at college he played football and cricket.



Football



Cricket



A runner in the 1880's

Arthur moved to Cleveland College, Darlington in 1884. He was an outstanding athlete and eventually decided to abandon the idea of becoming a missionary to concentrate on being a sportsman. He started running at the college and as a sprinter (very fast runner) began to win prizes in lots of races.

The next season Arthur was entered into the national sprint title at the Amateur Athletic Association's (AAA) Championship at Stamford Bridge, London. He won the 100 yard race in a time of 10 seconds, the first world record in this event. Arthur was the first black athlete to win an AAA championship.

Arthur became a professional runner in 1888, and that year won the unofficial professional championship. For three seasons from 1885 until 1888, Arthur was probably the fastest runner in the world.



Arthur Wharton

Arthur Wharton

Information Sheet Three

Wharton's Footballing Career

Arthur Wharton was born in Ghana in 1865. Of mixed race, Wharton moved to England to train as a Methodist missionary. But Arthur was an outstanding athlete and decided to become a professional sportsman.



Ghana, an Island in the West Indies.



Arthur Wharton

Arthur was a sprinter and played football. In July, 1886, he set a new world record when he ran the 100 yards in 10 seconds. This performance brought him to the attention of Preston North End football club and he joined them later that year, he was not officially paid for this, but received lots of unofficial 'gifts' anonymously.

Arthur played as goal-keeper. In 1889 Wharton signed for Rotherham United football club. He became the first black footballer ever to play professional football in England. After five years he moved to Sheffield United. However, he had difficulty holding his place and was eventually replaced by Bill Foulke.



Rotherham United



As well as playing for Sheffield United he ran the Sportsman Cottage public house in the city. During this time he developed a drink problem and in 1902 he was forced to retire from football.

Arthur Wharton

Activity Sheet One

Wharton's Family and childhood

Jamestown	Grenada	wealthy	missionary
middle class	Ghana	mixed race	black



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces

When you have made your choice cross the word out

Arthur Wharton was the first black professional footballer to play in Britain. Arthur was born in..... in the Gold Coast colony now known as, a country in West Africa. Both of Arthur's parents were Arthur's mother's parents came from a very important family. Arthur's father the Reverend Henry Wharton came from in the West Indies. He was the first African Caribbean to hold an important post with the Wesleyan Missionary Society in the Gold Coast. Arthur came to Britain to become a..... like his father. Arthur's family background made him a very unusual paid football player as most professionals came from poor backgrounds.

Arthur Wharton

Activity Sheet Two

Wharton's Athletic Career

athlete	record	sprinter	fastest
professional	football	Cleveland College	missionary



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces

When you have made your choice cross the word out

Arthur Wharton trained to become a missionary teacher at Shoal Hill College, Cannock near Birmingham. While at college he played..... and cricket. Arthur moved to, Darlington in 1884. He was an outstandingand decided to concentrate on being a sportsman instead of a missionary. He began to win a lot of prizes as a He won a sprint race in the National Amateur Athletic Association championship in 10 seconds, this was the first world..... in this event. Arthur became a..... runner in 1888, and that year won the unofficial professional championship. For three seasons from 1885 until 1888. Arthur was probably the runner in the world.

Arthur Wharton

Activity Sheet Three

Wharton's footballing Career

goal keeper	Rotherham United	black	football
professional	Sheffield United	Preston North End	Methodist



Activity One

Choose one of the following words to fill in the spaces

When you have made your choice cross the word out

Arthur moved to England from Ghana where he was born to train as a **Methodist** missionary. But Arthur was an outstanding athlete and decided to become a sportsman. Arthur was a sprinter (fast runner) and played, his record breaking run of 10 seconds for 100 yards brought him to the attention of..... football club. He joined the club but was not officially paid for his work. Arthur played as a In 1889 Wharton signed for..... football club. He became the first ever footballer ever to play professional football England. After five years he moved to However he had difficulty holding his place and was eventually replaced by Bill Foulke.

Arthur Wharton

Extension Sheet One

Wharton's Family and childhood



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What was Arthur Wharton the first black person to be in Britain?

Arthur Wharton was the first black professional footballer in Britain.

2) Where was Arthur Wharton born?

.....

.....

3) What sort of family was Arthur's mother's?

.....

.....

4) Where was Arthur's father born?

.....

.....

5) Why was Arthur's father important?

.....

.....

6) Why did Arthur come to Britain?

.....

.....

7) What did he go on to do?

.....

.....

8) Why was Arthur's background unusual for a paid football?

.....

.....

Arthur Wharton

Extension Sheet Two

Wharton's Athletics Career



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What did Arthur Wharton train to be at Shoal Hill College, Cannock near Birmingham England?

Arthur Wharton trained to be a missionary at Shoal Hill College, Cannock near Birmingham, England.

2) What sports did Arthur play at college?

.....
.....

3) Where did Arthur move to in 1884?

.....
.....

4) Why did Arthur decide to concentrate on being a sportsman?

.....
.....

5) What did Arthur begin to win a lot of prizes at?

.....
.....

6) In what event did Arthur set a world record of 10 seconds in?

.....
.....

7) In what year did Arthur become a professional runner?

.....
.....

8) What was Arthur for the years 1885 until 1888?

.....
.....

Arthur Wharton

Extension Sheet Three

Wharton's Footballing Career



Activity Two

Answer the following questions. Make your answers a sentence.

1) What did Arthur Walton train as when he moved to England from Ghana?

Arthur Wharton trained to be a missionary when he moved to England from Ghana.

2) What did Arthur decide to become instead?

.....
.....

3) Why did he decide this?

.....
.....

4) What two sports did Arthur take part in?

.....
.....

5) What made Preston North End football club decide to sign Arthur?

.....
.....

6) hat position did Arthur play in?

.....
.....

7) For which club did Arthur become the first ever black professional footballer?

.....
.....

8) What was the last club that Arthur played for?

.....
.....