**Supplementary Material: complete inventory of nicknames**

In Tables A to C below, column 1 lists athletes alphabetically by surname; column 2 shows their corresponding nickname. Most of the individuals listed are athletes or former athletes, several of whom subsequently became managers, coaches and/or media pundits; a handful (as noted here) are broadcasters, presenters, commentators or sports administrators. Column 3 shows the sport with which they are associated according to the source listed in column 4 – e.g. Table B identifies former professional rugby league player, Martin Gleeson, with rugby union as the citation in column 4 relates to his post-playing career as a coach in that code. Column 4 gives a bibliographic reference and a brief quote that demonstrates the context in which the nickname (in **bold**) is used (e.g. a quotation from a published source or an utterance in a live broadcast).

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| **Table A: monosyllabic surnames** | | | |
| **y-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Banks, Gordon | Banksy | football | *“You’re getting old,* ***Banksy****,” said England’s captain. “You used to hold on to them.”*  Taylor, L. 2020. ‘Razor sharp and revolutionary – Gordon Banks's historic save at 50.’ Online at  <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2020/jun/07/razor-sharp-and-revolutionary-gordon-bankss-historic-save-at-50> |
| Barnes, John | Barnesy | football | *“If I just go, ‘Ha ha, don’t worry about it, mate’ they’ll say: ‘****Barnesy****, you’re all right, mate, you’re great.’”*  McRae, D. 2021. ‘Interview: John Barnes.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2021/oct/11/john-barnes-interview-on-racism-and-society-there-are-invisible-banana-skins> |
| Bell, Ian | Belly | cricket | *“When I went on the North v South series it was Andrew Strauss who said: ‘Who’s your favourite player growing up?’, and he expected me to say* ***Belly****.”*  Marks, V. 2020. ‘Ollie Pope looks the part as he follows in footsteps of England batting giants.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jan/15/ollie-pope-england-batting-giants-south-africa> |
| Bell, Lauren | Belly | cricket | Jones, A. 2023, July 16. *yes* ***Belly*** *nice*. [Player mic comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 2nd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Best, George | Besty | football | *As Pat Crerand, the tough Glaswegian right-half who was Best's protector in those days, put it: "****Besty*** *just went daft."*  Glanville, B. 2005. ‘Obituary:  George Best.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/news/2005/nov/25/guardianobituaries.football> |
| Black, Alan | Blackie | rugby union | *Born and bred a Geordie,* ***Blackie*** *[…] joined Gosforth from the local grammar school in the early 1960s.*  Newcastle Falcons. 2021. ‘Obituary: Alan Black.’ Online at <www.newcastlefalcons.co.uk/alan-black> |
| Booth, Toby | Boothy | rugby union | *"Then I'll sit down with the family,* ***Boothy*** *and everyone at Irish and make the right decision."*  Kitson, R. 2009. ‘Mike Catt takes London Irish past Harlequins on road to Twickenham.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2009/may/11/mike-catt-london-irish-harlequins> |
| Bould, Steve | Bouldie | football | *“I said: ‘Don’t you remember, Arsène? We used to do this? Dicko [Dixon] would [attack] and I’d get Nigel in tight so when it broke down a holding midfield player came between me and* ***Bouldie****’*.  McRae, D. 2017. ‘Interview: Tony Adams.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2017/may/29/tony-adams-arsenal-arsene-wenger-board> |
| Bright, Mark | Brighty | football | *“I asked* ***Brighty*** *[Mark Bright, the club’s director of under-23s’ development] to put the question in, and he came back saying the manager wanted to see me.”*  Fifield, D. 2019. ‘Interview: Aaron Wan-Bissaka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/feb/08/aaron-wan-bissaka-crystal-palace-interview-best-tackler-europe> |
| Broad, Stuart | Broady | cricket | *“Even last night, when Foakes was going out to bat Baz wanted to send* ***Broady*** *out to go and have a slog, just score 30 to 40 runs and the game is done,” Stokes said.*  Burnton, S. 2022. ‘Root happy to focus on scoring runs after ‘unhealthy’ time as captain.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jun/05/root-happy-to-focus-on-scoring-runs-after-unhealthy-time-as-captain> |
| Brook, Harry | Brooky | cricket | *“The way* ***Brooky*** *controlled the game from ball one with the bat was amazing.”*  Martin, A. 2023. ‘Ben Stokes admits he ‘could not watch’ England’s narrow win against Australia.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/09/ben-stokes-admits-he-could-not-watch-englands-narrow-win-against-australia> |
| Brooks, Steve | Brooksie | hockey | Gough, D. [@goughd4]. 2018, May 5. *Great to catch up with good friend former International Hockey Umpire ‘****Brooksie****’ in Dublin tonight* [Tweet]. Online at  <twitter.com/goughd4/status/992874944886427648> |
| Bruce, Steve | Brucie | football | Neville, G. 2022, September 11. *yeah oh it was unbelievable I always say that you* ***Brucie*** *Pally Roy Incey Sparky Eric Bryan Robson a couple of years before all of you were like animals* [Presenter comment]. Gary Neville’s Soccerbox Season 4 Episode 2: Peter Schmeichel. Sky Sports Premier League HD. |
| Bull, Steve | Bully | football | Winstone, D. 1995. *The* ***Bully*** *Years*. Wolverhampton: Thomas Publications. |
| Burns, Rory | Burnsy | cricket | *“Unfortunately* ***Burnsy****’s injury happened, we’re all gutted for him because it’s a bit of a freak accident, and then Jof’s not playing as well.”*  Stocks, C. 2020. ‘‘We’ll find something else’: Pope says England have accepted football ban.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jan/03/england-cricket-football-ban-fun> |
| Cash, Pat | Cashy | tennis | Henman, T. 2023, July 11. *good point* ***Cashy*** [Expert summariser comment]. Today at Wimbledon: Day 9. BBC Two Television. |
| Catt, Mike | Catty | rugby union | ***Catty*** *spent two days in bed with flu this week but we still started him because we know how important he is to controlling our attack."*  Kitson, R. 2009. ‘Mike Catt takes London Irish past Harlequins on road to Twickenham.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2009/may/11/mike-catt-london-irish-harlequins> |
| Clark, Daryl | Clarky | rugby league | *“He had* ***Clarky*** *in front of him last year but he got over the top of him today and it’s a huge pat on the back for him.”*  Bower, A. 2015. ‘Castleford leapfrog Warrington after outstanding show from Adam Milner.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/apr/06/warrington-wolves-castleford-tigers-super-league-match-report> |
| Clarke, Darren | Clarkey | golf | *“Everybody found it hysterical … apart from* ***Clarkey****, who went absolutely mental at me.”*  Murray, E. 2023, September 27. ‘Interview: Billy Foster.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/27/caddie-billy-foster-the-ryder-cup-makes-the-majors-look-like-monthly-medals> |
| Clarke, Steve | Clarkie | football | *“Look at the brilliant spirit of the Scotland squad under* ***Clarkie****.”*  McRae, D. 2024, June 12. ‘Interview: Pat Nevin.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/article/2024/jun/12/pat-nevin-i-didnt-want-to-be-a-player-at-first-but-in-the-end-i-loved-it> |
| Clough, Brian | Cloughie | football | Clough, B. 2014. ***Cloughie****. Walking on Water: My Life*. London: Headline. |
| Cook, Alastair | Cooky | cricket | *Among his current teammates, Stuart Broad tweeted: “Not enough words to describe what a legend* ***Cooky*** *is.”*  Martin, A. 2018. ‘Alastair Cook retires from England duty, saying ‘there is nothing left in the tank’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/sep/03/alastair-cook-retires-england-international-cricket> |
| Cork, Dominic | Corky | cricket | Doull, S. 2023, August 3. *just have another look at this* ***Corky*** [Commentator comment]. The Hundred: Northern Superchargers v Birmingham Phoenix. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Croft, Robert | Crofty | cricket | *“I don't want it to sound like sour grapes, or have people thinking there goes* ***Crofty*** *whingeing.”*  Weaver, P. 2000. ‘Bitter Croft lashes out at selectors.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2000/aug/30/cricket4> |
| Cross, Kate | Crossy | cricket | Bell, L. 2023, July 18. *I’ve had* ***Crossy*** *by my side to pick me up a couple of times* [Interviewee comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 3rd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Crouch, Peter | Crouchy | football | *It’s not hard to see what endears* ***Crouchy*** *to a certain type of man.*  Jonze, T. 2023. ‘Interview: Peter Crouch.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2023/jun/19/i-was-being-bullied-on-a-global-scale-peter-crouch-on-mockery-marriage-and-having-the-last-laugh> |
| Danns, Jayden | Dannsy[[1]](#endnote-1) | football | Klopp, J. 2024, February 28. *Lewis is a fantastic finisher […] and* ***Dannsy*** *we knew as well that he is quite a good finisher* [Interviewee comment]. FA Cup 5th Round: Liverpool v Southampton. [Live TV broadcast]. ITV1. |
| Danns, Neil | Dannzy[[2]](#endnote-2) | football | *Macclesfield director of football Robbie Savage said: "****Dannzy*** *is someone we would rather not lose, both as a player and a manager, but ultimately this was his decision."*  BBC. 2023. ‘Neil Danns: Tranmere Rovers appoint Macclesfield boss as assistant manager.’ Online at <www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/65502011> |
| Doull, Simon | Doully | cricket | Anderson, J. 2023, August 3. *good call that* ***Doully*** [Expert summariser comment]. The Hundred: Northern Superchargers v Birmingham Phoenix. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Fell, Andy | Felly | hockey | Southgate HC. [@southgatehc].2011, November 11. *I like* ***Felly'****s new look. The hair especially.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/SouthgateHC/status/134917387182014464> |
| Finch, Aaron | Finchy | cricket | Morgan, E. 2024, June 08. *afternoon Ath afternoon* ***Finchy*** *afternoon everyone what an occasion we have here [...] two great sides going toe to toe in the group stages* [Commentator comment]. ICC Men’s T20 World Cup: Australia v England. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Foakes, Ben | Foakesy | cricket | *“Tomorrow, that first hour, with Rooty and* ***Foakesy*** *out there is going to be crucial.”*  Burnton, S. 2022. ‘Stuart Broad rejoices in ‘dreamworld’ of England’s transformative morning.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jun/04/stuart-broad-rejoices-in-dreamworld-of-englands-transformative-morning> |
| Fox, Ben | Foxy | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2022, November 3. *Congratulations to Foxy, Nemo and* ***Drummo*** *on their recent success for Great Britain u21s in Malaysia* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1588131662885539841> |
| French, Bruce | Frenchy | cricket | *“The keepers are out every morning working with* ***Frenchy****, the bowlers are out with the bowling coaches, Leachy has worked really hard with the spin coaches who’ve been here.”*  Mark, V. 2020. ‘Chris Silverwood backs early Test starts to combat light delays.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/aug/19/chris-silverwood-praises-england-players-on-fringe-of-bubble> |
| Froome, Chris | Froomy | cycling | *Vingegaard, Pogacar and Evenepoel represent the exhilarating new guard. Thomas admires all three but argues that “****Froomy****” [his former teammate Chris Froome who won the Tour de France four times] was also a special guy.*  McRae, D. 2023. ‘Interview: Geraint Thomas.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/24/geraint-thomas-interview-cycling-fifth-olympics> |
| Gale, Luke | Galey | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2015, September 28. *Shenny &* ***Galey*** *make the Super League 2015 #DreamTeam* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/648484475568017408> |
| Genge, Ellis | Gengey | rugby union | *“Boys like* ***Gengey*** *have kind of tapped into it a bit this week.”*  Meagher, G. 2023, August 18. ‘England use Farrell saga to kickstart World Cup campaign as Ireland loom.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/aug/18/england-using-farrell-saga-to-kick-start-world-cup-campaign-as-ireland-loom> |
| Giggs, Ryan | Giggsy | football | Worrall, F. (2010). ***Giggsy****: The Biography of Ryan Giggs*. London: John Blake. |
| Glenn, Sarah | Glenny | cricket | Jones, A. 2023, July 16. *good* ***Glenny*** [Player mic comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 2nd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Gooch, Graham | Goochie | cricket | *“As a seven-year-old boy,* ***Goochie*** *was my hero.”*  Martin, A. 2023. ‘‘It is not easy to say goodbye’: Alastair Cook retires from cricket.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/13/alastair-cook-retires-from-cricket> |
| Gough, Darren | Goughie | cricket | *“I was 5mph off where I wanted to be in New Zealand but it was nicer when I moved to the red-ball part of the tour and a fresh set of eyes in* ***Goughie*** *picked up a couple of things pretty quickly.”*  Martin, A. 2020. ‘Darren Gough’s coaching transformed my bowling, says England’s Mahmood.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jan/30/darren-gough-coaching-transformed-my-bowling-england-saqib-mahmood-sri-lanka-cricket> |
| Greaves, Jimmy | Greavesie | football | *After stints on Central Television and ITV’s World of Sport, Saint and* ***Greavsie*** *first aired when he was just 45, a year older than Gary Neville is now.*  Brewin, J. 2019. ‘Jimmy Greaves had the right idea: football broadcasting should be fun.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2019/jul/16/jimmy-greaves-fun-football-broadcasting-saint-and-greavsie> |
| Head, Travis | Heady | cricket | Marsh, M. 2023, November 11. *I sort of knew when* ***Heady*** *came back I’d be moving down to number three* [Interviewee comment]. ICC Cricket World Cup: Australia v Bangladesh. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Hill, Richard | Hilly | rugby union | *“I watched him with* ***Hilly****, and it was outstanding – the work rate, physicality he brought to it.”*  Meagher, G. 2024. ‘Georg Ford in line for England No 10 spot with Fin Smith in the wings.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/jan/31/george-ford-in-line-for-england-no-10-spot-with-fin-smith-on-the-bench> |
| Hills, Adam | Hillsy | rugby league | Briscoe, S. 2023, August 11. *you did the fire walk didn’t you with* ***Hillsy*** *afterwards* [Interviewee comment]. ‘Adam Hills: Grow Another Foot.’ Channel 4 Television. |
| Holmes, Alex | Holmesy | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, October 24. *M1s win 5-2 against @UOBHC1! Goals: Vides, Boonie, Parky, Shark and Sookie. MoM: Parky, DoD:* ***Holmesy***[Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1055101390786301952> |
| Hood, Seb | Hoody | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2019, October 19. ***Hoody*** *bins a backhand to bring the scores level after an early Isca goal.*  [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1185540617247567873> |
| Hughes, Mark | Hughesie | football | Meek, D. 1993. ***Hughesie****! The Red Dragon: An Autobiography*. Edinburgh: Mainstream. |
| Ince, Paul | Incey | football | Neville, G. 2022, September 11. *yeah oh it was unbelievable I always say that you Brucie Pally Roy* ***Incey*** *Sparky Eric Bryan Robson a couple of years before all of you were like animals* [Presenter comment]. Gary Neville’s Soccerbox Season 4 Episode 2: Peter Schmeichel. Sky Sports Premier League HD. |
| Jacks, Will | Jacksy | cricket | *“We just didn’t execute at the end. I don’t think you can put anything down to* ***Jacksy*** *not bowling.”*  Burnton, S. 2023. ‘Bowling flexibility is key for England and Buttler after narrow Antigua defeat.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/dec/04/cricket-england-west-indies-rehan-ahmed-jos-buttler> |
| Kenny, Laura (née Trott) | Trotty | cycling | Whitehall, J. 2012, December 30. ***Trotty****!* [Panellist comment]. A League of Their Own Season 6 Episode 6. Sky One Television. |
| Keys, Richard | Keysy | presenter | *Strictly speaking, this is not* ***Keysy*** *and Grayey's first foray into live events.*  Hyde, M. 2011. ‘Smash it! The reinvention of Andy Gray and Richard Keys.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/lostinshowbiz/2011/dec/15/smash-andy-gray-richard-keys> |
| King, Toby | Kingy | rugby league | *“We’ve got a strong side across the park but playing outside of Drinky and inside of* ***Kingy*** *and Tash is a good edge.”*  Turner, M. 2024. ‘Lachlan Fitzgibbon on Warrington Wolves' defeat in France.’ Online at <www.warringtonguardian.co.uk/sport/24126958.lachlan-fitzgibbon-warrington-wolves-defeat-france> |
| Knight, Nick | Knighty | cricket | Greenway, L. 2023, July 18. *thank you* ***Knighty*** [Presenter comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 3rd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Lam, Adrian | Lammy | rugby league | *“The key ingredients were Chezzie and* ***Lammy****”.*  Bower, A. 2023. ‘‘Not finished yet’: How Leigh changed their spots and became contenders.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/15/not-finished-yet-how-leigh-changed-their-spots-and-became-contenders> |
| Lamb, Alan | Lamby | cricket | *When he started to counter-attack successfully, Richards told Marshall to give him a “serious delivery”. Lamb enquired what that meant. Richards smiled. “It’s one that you eat,* ***Lamby****.”*  Smyth, R. 2017. ‘The scariest Test England ever played: terror at the hands of West Indies.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2017/aug/13/scariest-test-england-ever-played-terror-west-indies-cricket-1986-patrick-patterson> |
| Last, Andy | Lasty | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2022, December 6. *Good to have you back,* ***Lasty****! #COYF* [Tweet]. Online at<twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/1600105275318587392> |
| Leach, Jack | Leachy | cricket | *“The keepers are out every morning working with Frenchy, the bowlers are out with the bowling coaches,* ***Leachy*** *has worked really hard with the spin coaches who’ve been here.”*  Mark, V. 2020. ‘Chris Silverwood backs early Test starts to combat light delays.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/aug/19/chris-silverwood-praises-england-players-on-fringe-of-bubble> |
| Long, Sean | Longy | rugby league | Long, S. 2009. ***Longy****. Booze, Brawls, Sex and Scandal: The Autobiography of the Wild Man of Rugby League*. London: John Blake. |
| Moyes, David | Moyesie | football | *Poor* ***Moyesie****. Did you see him on the touchline at Vicarage Road last Sunday?*  Steinberg, S. 2021. ‘There’s no pleasing some people.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2017/nov/24/the-fiver-west-ham-david-moyes-general-state-of-it-all> |
| Mott, Matthew | Motty | cricket | *“Jos and* ***Motty*** *[Matthew Mott, England’s white-ball coach] have a lot on their shoulders with it being a World Cup.”*  Burnton, S. 2023. ‘‘Let’s not be timid’: Ben Stokes issues rallying cry before his England return.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/19/lets-not-be-timid-ben-stokes-issues-rallying-cry-before-his-england-return> |
| Nurse, Nick | Nursey | hockey | Andrews, K. 2024, March 20. ***NURSSSSSEEEEYYYY*** *IS DA GOAT* [Comment posted in BUCS Big Wednesday live stream chat]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=0N8CndtM0b0> |
| Page, Robert | Pagey | football | *“They can call him* ***Pagey*** *but I bet the ones left out of the squad won’t be calling him* ***Pagey****,” says Adams, laughing.*  Fisher, B. 2021. ‘‘A deep thinker’: Robert Page, the accidental manager of Wales at Euro 2020.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2021/jun/08/a-deep-thinker-robert-page-accidental-manager-wales-euro-2020> |
| Park, Ben | Parky | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, October 24. *M1s win 5-2 against @UOBHC1! Goals: Vides, Boonie,* ***Parky****, Shark and Sookie.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1055101390786301952> |
| Park, Nick | Parky | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. *Conor Williams with the ball into Jonny Gall* ***Parky*** *down the right hand side* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Pickford, Jordan | Picks | football | Guéhi, M. 2024, June 17. *I've always said it helps when you've got so many experienced players around me you know Tripps who's got like four tournaments or five tournaments under his belt Stonesy the same Walks the same* ***Picks*** *the same* [Interviewee comment]. UEFA Euro 2024 Group C: Serbia v England. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC One. |
| Platt, David | Platty | football | *“****Platty****’s technique was second to none.”*  James, S. 2018. ‘David Platt, Italia 90 and England v Belgium in the players' own words.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2018/jun/28/david-platt-drama-england-belgium-world-cup-clash> |
| Pope, Nick | Popey | football | Newcastle United FC. [@NUFC]. 2023, October 25. *10' INCREDIBLE,* ***POPEY****! A wonderful double save from Nick Pope!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/NUFC/status/1717257365378961683> |
| Pope, Ollie | Popey | cricket | *“I think* ***Popey*** *is a great leader in the group,” said Broad, back for this New Zealand tour.*  Martin, A. 2023. ‘Stuart Broad tips Ollie Pope as future England Test cricket captain.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/feb/10/stuart-broad-tips-ollie-pope-as-future-england-test-cricket-captain> |
| Reid, Peter | Reidy | football | *My understanding is that* ***Reidy*** *wasn't happy with Mills' fitness or training, so he dropped him and then the player had a pop in the papers.*  Atkinson, R. 2003. ‘How the boss can get the best out of a bust-up.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2003/aug/22/sport.comment> |
| Ridge, Louis | Ridgey | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2023, March 5. *A good slap from Armo finds* ***ridgey*** *who narrowly deflects it over the bar* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1632386534493044736> |
| Root, Joe | Rooty | cricket | *Tomorrow, that first hour, with* ***Rooty*** *and Foakesy out there is going to be crucial.”*  Burnton, S. 2022. ‘Stuart Broad rejoices in ‘dreamworld’ of England’s transformative morning.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jun/04/stuart-broad-rejoices-in-dreamworld-of-englands-transformative-morning> |
| Rose, Justin | Rosey | golf | *“****Rosey****, today is a super important day, bud, because we are sons of great men and fathers of beautiful children.*  Murray, E. 2014. ‘Sean Foley: ‘Rosey, represent your father with everything he taught you’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2014/jun/09/sean-foley-justin-rose-us-open-interview> |
| Rush, Ian | Rushy | football | *“I was like: ‘What do I call him? Do I call him Ian? Do I call him* ***Rushy****?’”*  Fisher, B. 2019. ‘Interview: Harry Wilson.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/feb/15/harry-wilson-derby-county-liverpool-interview> |
| Scholes, Paul | Scholesy | football | *The case for Paul Aaron Scholes (aka* ***Scholesy****) being the Son of God is compelling*  Buckley, W. 2009. ‘Do God and Jesus resemble Paul Scholes or is it the other way round?’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2009/sep/20/paul-scholes-god-jesus-messiah> |
| Sciver-Brunt, Katherine (née Brunt) | Brunty | cricket | *“****Brunty*** *was brilliant and gave us some momentum at the end of the innings.”*  Smyth, R. 2021. ‘England beat New Zealand by 30 runs: first women’s ODI – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2021/sep/16/england-v-new-zealand-first-womens-one-day-international-live-cricket-score-updates> |
| Sole, David | Soley | rugby union | *“****Soley*** *is not the most talkative of individuals.”*  Palmer, B. 2020. ‘Scotland’s 1990 grand slam remembered: ‘Nobody was going to beat us that day’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/feb/05/scotland-england-1990-grand-slam-rmurrayfield-six-nations-rugby-union> |
| Smith, Ian | Smithy | cricket | Hussain, N. 2023, November 15. *thanks for bringing that up Ian Smith where was that Durban wasn't it he bowled us out great memories brilliant thanks* ***Smithy*** [Commentator comment]. ICC Men's World Cup Semi Final: India v New Zealand. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Stokes, Ben | Stokesy | cricket | *“I’m sure* ***Stokesy*** *is pretty frustrated as well, as he was playing the aggressor role and I was just getting into my innings and finding my way.”*  Stocks, A. 2020. ‘‘We’ll find something else’: Pope says England have accepted football ban.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jan/03/england-cricket-football-ban-fun> |
| Stones, John | Stonesy | football | *“We speak when we are away with England about our own clubs and* ***Stonesy****, Raz, Phil and Walks have had nothing but good things to say whenever it’s been mentioned.”*  Hytner, D. 2021. ‘‘Dream come true’: Jack Grealish seals record £100m Manchester City move.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2021/aug/05/jack-grealish-seals-record-100m-manchester-city-move-from-aston-villa> |
| Strauss, Andrew | Straussy | cricket | *“Sad news that* ***Straussy*** *is retiring but I would like to congratulate him on an amazing career.”*  Bryant, T. 2012. ‘Andrew Strauss retires from all forms of cricket – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2012/aug/29/andrew-strauss-england-captain-live> |
| Stubbs, Alan | Stubbsy | football | ***Stubbsy*** *was definitely a key factor in a much more resilient Everton side that opened the 2001-02 season with an unprecedented win at Charlton to celebrate his debut.*  Kenrick, M. & L. Lloyd. 2012. ‘Everton Past Player Profiles: Alan Stubbs.’ Online at <www.toffeeweb.com/players/profiles/Stubbs.php> |
| Swann, Graeme | Swanny | cricket | *If England have a bad day, their spin doctors invariably send out* ***Swanny****, the tweeting, guitar-playing, natural-born entertainer, to pacify the press.*  Barkham, P. 2011. ‘Interview: Graeme Swann.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2011/oct/12/graeme-swann-binge-drink> |
| Thorpe, Ian | Thorpie | swimming | *Olympic gold medalist Stephanie Rice also tweeted: “****Thorpie*** *is and will always be a superstar in my eyes!!!”*  Culzac, N. 2014. ‘Ian Thorpe: Olympic legend thanks supporters after tide of praise at announcement.’ Online at <www.independent.co.uk/news/people/news/ian-thorpe-gay-olympic-gold-medalist-thanks-supporters-after-swell-of-praise-at-announcement-9602672> |
| Toone, Ella | Tooney | football | *“It’s so cool to have relationships with different kinds of people.* ***Tooney’****s like my little sister.”*  Wrack, S. 2023. ‘Interview: Alessia Russo.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/08/alessia-russo-arsenal-comfort-zone-manchester-united-england> |
| Trott, Jonathan | Trotty | cricket | ***Trotty*** *and Ian Bell have been big influences at Warwickshire, plus the batting coach Tony Frost.*  Martin, A. 2020. ‘Interview: Dom Sibley.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/oct/14/dom-sibley-its-all-about-grooving-hitting-balls-and-feeling-good-cricket-interview> |
| Vaughan, Michael | Vaughany | cricket | *“I know with* ***Vaughany*** *that it's got to the stage where the captaincy won't play on his mind that much.”*  Fletcher, D. 2008. ‘Vaughan's innings was the mark of a class player.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2008/may/21/englandvnewzealand2008.englandcricketteam> |
| Wade, Christian | Wadey | rugby union | *“****Wadey*** *stops celebrating after that,” Cipriani writes in his powerful and thoughtful new book.*  McRae, D. 2023. ‘Interview: Danny Cipriani.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/13/danny-cipriani-interview-england-rugby-world-cup> |
| Wane, Shaun | Waney | rugby league | *“I stuck my nose in, asked questions and* ***Waney*** *took a shine to me*.”  Bower, A. 2023. ‘Interview: Matt Peet.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/12/matt-peet-wigan-warriors-grand-final-rugby-league> |
| Ward, Hugo | Wardy | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2019, March 7. *Stay tuned for live tweets for today’s games: M1s @ 1pm with* ***Wardy*** *and Tullberg* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/971335687898312704> |
| Warne, Shane | Warnie | cricket | *Oh,* ***Warnie****. What have you got up to now?*  Ronay, B. 2022. ‘Shane Warne’s death is like that of a friend and gets worse with each hour.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2022/mar/05/shane-warnes-death-is-like-that-of-a-friend-and-gets-worse-with-each-hour> |
| Watt, Michael | Watty | finance | *“‘****Watty****,’ he said to me over lunch one day, ‘can you stop this [professionalism] quickly?’”*  Aylwin, M. 2020. ‘The man behind deal that launched rugby union's professional era.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jun/21/the-man-behind-deal-that-launched-rugby-unions-professional-era> |
| Watts, Liam | Wattsy | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2023, February 11. *Worst Dressed? Most intelligent? Biggest Joker? Get to know the boys as Westy and* ***Wattsy*** *take on, teammates! #COYF* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/1624483406624038919> |
| West, Dan | Westy | hockey | Southgate HC. [@SouthgateHC]. 2013, April 13. *Mens1s 2-1 to Gate. Well done* ***Westy****!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/SouthgateHC/status/323026132448468992> |
| Wise, Dennis | Wisey | football | *I almost burst out laughing.* ***Wisey*** *mowing the lawn."*  Brodkin, J. 2004. ‘A wiser Wise is tackling things nicely.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2004/may/22/sport.comment> |
| Woakes, Chris | Woakesy | cricket | *“The way he played with* ***Woakesy*** *in that partnership was high class.”*  Martin, A. 2023. ‘Ben Stokes admits he ‘could not watch’ England’s narrow win against Australia.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/09/ben-stokes-admits-he-could-not-watch-englands-narrow-win-against-australia> |
| Wong, Issy | Wongy | cricket | *“I thought it was really impressive how the bowlers wanted to keep attacking and keeping wickets.* ***Wongy*** *banging it in and adding something a little bit different.”*  Aldred, T. 2022. ‘England beat South Africa by 114 runs in second women’s ODI – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2022/jul/15/england-v-south-africa-second-womens-cricket-one-day-international-live> |
| Wood, Mark | Woody | cricket | *“Obviously* ***Woody*** *hasn’t played back-to-back Test matches for a while.”*  Marks, V. 2020. ‘With Jofra Archer fit, what will work best for England at the Wanderers?’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jan/22/jofra-archer-england-south-africa-wanderers-test-cricket> |
| Wright, Ian | Wrighty | football | *“Ian Wright will step down as a pundit from Match of the Day at the end of the season,” it read. “Thank you for everything,* ***Wrighty****.”*  McVeigh, N. 2023. ‘Ian Wright to step down as Match of the Day pundit at end of current season.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/17/ian-wright-match-of-the-day-pundit-bbc> |
| Yorke, Dwight | Yorkie | football | Dublin, D. 2023, August 6. *that's typical* ***Yorkie*** [Expert summariser comment]. Five Live Sport. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| **o-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Dean, Charlotte | Deano | cricket | Jones, A. 2023, July 18. *yes* ***Deano*** [Player mic comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 3rd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Hemp, Lauren | Hempo | football | Russo, A. 2023, August 16. *I love playing with* ***Hempo*** [Interviewee comment]. FIFA Women’s World Cup Semi Final: Australia v England. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Keane, Robbie | Keano | football | *By full-time, chants of "****Keano****" rang out and a loanee had proved to be the matchwinner.*  Murray, E. 2010. ‘Robbie Keane tastes defeat on Celtic debut as Kilmarnock prevail.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2010/feb/02/kilmarnock-celtic-scottish-premier-league> |
| Keane, Roy | Keano | football | *Haaland said he had used chants of “****Keano****” from United fans as motivation as he waited to take the spot‑kick.*  Unwin, W. 2023. ‘Ten Hag claims United are ‘on the way up’ despite chastening defeat by City.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/oct/29/ten-hag-claims-united-are-on-the-way-up-despite-chastening-defeat-by-city> |
| Mead, Beth | Meado | football | Arsenal WFC. [@ArsenalWFC]. 2022, December 21. *It’s a big night for our* ***Meado****! Off to the BBC Sports Personality awards 2022* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ArsenalWFC/status/1605593210595713024> |
| Payne, Ollie | Payno | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2019, September 28. *Obviously* ***Payno*** *saves it and the bloody boys tear it up the other end and score. Jackson on target. 1-0 Durham.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1177992195774783491> |
| **sy-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **reference** |
| Key, Rob | Keysy | cricket | *“I’m in a WhatsApp group with* ***Keysy*** *and Baz [McCullum] – it’s not all golf swings and that kind of stuff.”*  Martin, A. 2024. ‘Stokes keeps England’s vision clear as golden chance awaits in second Test.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/feb/01/stokes-keeps-englands-vision-clear-as-golden-chance-awaits-in-second-test> |
| Shaw, Richard | Shawsy | football | *“I never said anything, but Redders and* ***Shawsy*** *knew. They started working with me, doing second sessions, practising defensive drills.”*  Fifield, D. 2019. ‘Interview: Aaaron Wan-Bissaka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/feb/08/aaron-wan-bissaka-crystal-palace-interview-best-tackler-europe> |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table B: polysyllabic surnames** | | | |
| **clip** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **reference** |
| Atherton, Michael | Ath | cricket | Morgan, E. 2024, June 08. *afternoon* ***Ath*** *afternoon Finchy afternoon everyone what an occasion we have here [...] two great sides going toe to toe in the group stages* [Commentator comment]. ICC Men’s T20 World Cup: Australia v England. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Bashir, Shoaib | Bash | cricket | *“When I first found out the news in Abu Dhabi, I did say we shouldn’t fly until* ***Bash*** *gets his visa but that was a little bit tongue in cheek.”*  Martin, A. 2024. ‘England gamble on three spinners as Bashir’s India visa is approved at last.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/jan/24/england-india-three-spinners-tom-hartley-debut-visa-row-shoaib-bashir-cricket> |
| Bishop, Ed | Bish | hockey | University of Nottingham Men’s HC. [@uonmhc]. 2015, December 9. *The Angel on top of the Christmas tree for today is* ***Bish****, with a hat-trick to make it 5 goals in his last 2 BUCS games.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/uonmhc/status/674662570326958081> |
| Bissouma, Yves | Biss | football | Postecoglou, A. 2024, May 2. *we've got some guys who didn't play on the weekend Pape Sarr and* ***Biss*** *who I think will help us in the midfield.* [Interviewee comment]. Premier League: Chelsea v Tottenham Hotspur. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Main Event. |
| Brazill, Ashleigh | Braz | netball | Anon. 2023, August 6. *well* ***Braz*** *I'm not gonna keep you any longer.* [Interviewer comment]. Netball World Cup Final: Australia v England. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC Two. |
| Burridge, John | Budge | football | *“On Friday nights* ***Budge*** *would come down into the sitting room wearing his goalkeeping gloves and sit down on the sofa in front of the TV."*  Pearson, H. 2008. ‘Keep the shorts on as life begins at 40.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2008/aug/11/premierleague2> |
| Butcher, Mark | Butch | cricket | Taylor, M. 2023, July 23. *maybe one more twist yet* ***Butch*** [Commentator comment]. The Ashes: 5th Test Day 5. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Cavendish, Mark | Cav | cycling | *It was the decade of “G” and “****Cav****”, of Wiggo sideburns and Hugh Porter, of long summer afternoons wasted away in the Rapha café while some bore in Lotto‑Soudal kit droned on about echelons.*  Liew, J. 2024. ‘UK cycling boom was not here to stay and lack of institutional will could keep it away.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2024/feb/06/cycling-boom-was-not-here-to-stay-and-lack-of-institutional-will-could-keep-it-away> |
| Critchley, Neil | Critch | football | *“They need their coach and they get their coach:* ***Critch****.”*  Hunter, A. 2020. ‘Jürgen Klopp will not attend Liverpool’s FA Cup replay with Shrewsbury.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/28/jurgen-klopp-unrepentant-over-decision-to-field-weakened-liverpool-side-in-fa-cup-replay-shrewsbury |
| Docherty, Tommy | Doc[[3]](#endnote-3) | football | *Both had been successful, but by the time the* ***Doc*** *arrived at Wolves and Big Mal on Teesside they were so inextricably linked with financial ruin they were like pointmen for the official receiver.*  Pearson, H. 2003. ‘Wilko joins Big Mal and Tommy Doc as the old boys expelled from the Frame Academy.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2003/nov/22/sport.comment4> |
| Dougan, Derek | Doog[[4]](#endnote-4) | football | *But on the day of the final, the* ***Doog****, as he was nicknamed, suddenly demanded a transfer.*  Glanville, B. 2007. ‘Obituary: Derek Dougan.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/uk/2007/jun/25/northernireland1> |
| Drogba, Didier | Drog | football | *Dumping "The* ***Drog****" would enable Ancelotti to alter the team's whole pattern of play away from Drogba-inspired directness in favour of a quicker, subtler style more in keeping with the current fashion.*  Hayward, P. 2011. ‘Didier Drogba feels the heat of change at Chelsea.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2011/feb/27/didier-drogba-chelsea> |
| Fashanu, John | Fash | football | *There's* ***Fash*** *beaming next to Don King,* ***Fash*** *flashing a grin alongside Patrick Vieira,* ***Fash*** *having a laugh with Vinnie Jones.*  White, J. 2002. ‘Interview: John Fashanu.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2002/feb/18/sport.comment> |
| Federer, Roger | Fed | tennis | *But perhaps, when the Mighty* ***Fed*** *eventually does retire, he will become just an ordinary, down-home multimillionaire, tending his children and his cows behind the 24-hour security fencing.*  Barnes, J. 2015. ‘The Mighty Fed – Julian Barnes reviews Federer and Me: A Story of Obsession by William Skidelsky.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/books/2015/may/15/the-mighty-fed-julian-barnes-reviews-federer-and-me-story-obsession-william-skidelsky> |
| Fitzpatrick, Cathryn | Fitz | cricket | Jones, M. 2019, June 19. *No matter the score/opposition I never thought we were out of a game with* ***Fitz*** *at the top of her mark.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/meljones\_33/status/1152097746276487168> |
| Fletcher, Flo | Fletch | hockey | Exeter University Women’s HC. [@EULHC]. 2023, March 8. *GOALLLLL.* ***Fletch*** *remains unfazed as she burys it into the net. 3-0 Exeter.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EULHC/status/1633527956608806912> |
| Gatting, Mike | Gatt | cricket | “*We got back to the hotel after the match ended and the hotel manager had given* ***Gatt*** *and me a bottle of champagne and a chocolate cake that must have been 2ft square.”*  Burnton, S. 2021. ‘‘A scary time’: Graeme Fowler on his 201 in India amid turmoil.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/feb/10/a-scary-time-graeme-fowler-on-his-201-in-india-amid-turmoil> |
| Hoddle, Glenn | Hod[[5]](#endnote-5) | football | *"I need to know what the wicket is like, I need to know what the batting conditions are like, will it take spin bowling and how many overs I've got" - bizarrely,* ***Hod*** *was talking about his contract negotiations.*  Rostance, T. 2004. ‘The wisdom of Hod.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2004/dec/07/newsstory.wolverhamptonwanderersfootball1> |
| Huckerby, Darren | Huck | football | *San Jose finished last this season, but the* ***Huck*** *notched six goals.*  Lamont, T. 2008. ‘They know the way to San Jose.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2008/nov/23/majorleaguesoccer> |
| Hutchison, Tommy | Hutch | football | Hutchison, T. 2022. ***Hutch****, Hard Work and Belief: The Tommy Hutchison Story*. Chichester: Pitch Publishing Ltd. |
| Mazarelo, James | Maz | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. ***Maz*** *with a great save calmly clearing his lines* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| McGeechan, Ian | Geech[[6]](#endnote-6) | rugby union | *“So* ***Geech*** *gets into the circle and starts to talk to us about tactics, all the things we do when we’re in certain parts of the field”*  Palmer, B. 2020. ‘Scotland’s 1990 grand slam remembered: ‘Nobody was going to beat us that day’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/feb/05/scotland-england-1990-grand-slam-rmurrayfield-six-nations-rugby-union> |
| McIntosh, Malcolm | Tosh | football | *'****Tosh****' is one of the many great local young players who have come through the system at the Manor, and he was also an integral part of our youth coaching set up for many years.*  Oxford United FC. 2018. ‘Malcom McIntosh Is Manor Club Guest.’ Online at <www.oufc.co.uk/news/2018/december/manor-club-malcolm-mcintosh> |
| McIntyre, Emma | Mac | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, August 29. *2-0 win for the gals in a promising performance vs @SouthgateHC. Goals from Dobby &* ***Mac***[Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1034897778638577664> |
| Merson, Paul | Merse[[7]](#endnote-7) | football | *We had some great individuals –* ***Merse****, Dion and Gareth Southgate – but we became more and more a team.*  Fisher, B. 2023, December 16. ‘‘It was a sickening end’: voices from inside Aston Villa’s last title challenge.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/16/it-was-a-sickening-end-voices-from-inside-aston-villas-last-title-challenge> |
| Mitchell, John | Mitch | rugby union | *These days “****Mitch****” lives quietly in Surrey with his South African wife, Julie, supports Woking FC, prefers to put on his glasses for photographs, enjoys listening to London Grammar and is at his happiest – “That’s my peaceful place” – barbecuing in his backyard.*  Kitson, R. 2024. ‘Interview: John Mitchell.’ Online at<www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/mar/19/john-mitchell-the-futures-definitely-going-to-be-a-female-coach-england-women-six-nations-rugby-union> |
| Murphy, Todd | Murph | cricket | Carey, A. 2023, July 29. *nice* ***Murph*** [Player mic comment]. The Ashes: 5th Test Day 3. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Oxlade-Chamberlain, Alex | Ox[[8]](#endnote-8) | football | *“I am really happy with* ***Ox*** *in the moment and hopefully it stays like this.”*  Hunter, A. 2021. ‘Jürgen Klopp delights in Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain’s fine Liverpool form.’ Online atwww.theguardian.com/football/2021/dec/17/jurgen-klopp-delights-alex-oxlade-chamberlain-fine-liverpool-form |
| Pochettino, Mauricio | Poch | football | *Farewell then,* ***Poch****. After the hugs and the backslaps, time now for a last wave goodbye.*  Ronay, B. 2019. ‘Spurs’ sacking of Mauricio Pochettino was brutal but oddly inevitable.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/nov/19/spurs-sacking-mauricio-pochettino-brutal-inevitable> |
| Rashid, Adil | Rash | cricket | *Rehan has come in and replaced Adil Rashid, and we don’t even know that* ***Rash*** *isn’t here.”*  Burnton, S. 2023. ‘Matthew Mott confident in the future of England’s inexperienced ODI squad.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/dec/10/matthew-mott-confident-in-future-of-england-inexperienced-odi-squad-cricket> |
| Sessegnon, Ryan | Sess | football | *“I was angry because it was the last ball and they had a good chance. I can’t put the blame on* ***Sess****, of course. It’s just to keep your attention high.”*  Hytner, D. 2024. ‘Interview: Guglielmo Vicario.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2024/jan/13/guglielmo-vicario-i-was-prepared-to-sign-for-tottenham-in-my-own-blood> |
| Sheffield, Lucy | Sheff | hockey | Robinson, E. 2022, December 30. ***Sheff*** *just got engaged!*  [WhatsApp message]. |
| Sturridge, Daniel | Studge | football | *“There was a point when Izaguirre kicked the ball at* ***Studge*** *[Daniel Sturridge] when he was lying on the floor five seconds after the whistle had gone.”*  Fifield, D. 2014. ‘Roy Hodgson’s England arrive ready to resist any World Cup provocation.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2014/jun/08/roy-hodgson-england-world-cup-warm-up-glen-johnson> |
| Toshack, John | Tosh | football | Toshack, J. 1976. *Gosh it's* ***Tosh****!* London: Gerald Duckworth & Co Ltd. |
| Vicario, Guglielmo | Vic | football | *So what do his teammates call him? “****Vic****,” he replies.*  Hytner, D. 2024. ‘Interview: Guglielmo Vicario.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2024/jan/13/guglielmo-vicario-i-was-prepared-to-sign-for-tottenham-in-my-own-blood> |
| Wizbek, Tony | Wiz | hockey | Beechener, R. 2024, March 10. *Apologies as will be having a few sundowners with* ***Wiz****.* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Zaltzman, Andy | Zaltz | statistician | Norcross, D. 2023, July 23. *how do the numbers stack up* ***Zaltz*** [Commentator comment]. Test Match Special: 5th Ashes Test Day 4. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC 5 Live Sports Extra. |
| **clips + y-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Baugniet, Henry | Boonie[[9]](#endnote-9) | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, October 24. *M1s win 5-2 against @UOBHC1! Goals: Vides,* ***Boonie****, Parky, Shark and Sookie. MoM: Parky, DoD: Holmesy* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1055101390786301952> |
| Bennett, Phil | Benny | rugby union | *Wales is still capable of producing culturally significant, respected national icons such as Alun Wyn Jones but the death of Barry John, as with JPR and* ***Benny*** *et al, is yet another grievous blow for sporting romantics everywhere.*  Kitson, R. 2024. ‘Farewell Barry John, the fly-half who played rugby from another world.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/feb/06/rugby-union-barry-john-wales> |
| Buckingham, Sam | Bucky | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2022, April 3. *Goalll!!! Armo with some filthy handles leaves the defence in his dust. He puts a ball on the half volley for* ***Bucky*** *to cover drive home 5-2 end of Q3* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1510620944926134285> |
| Collingwood, Paul | Colly | cricket | *“****Colly****'s done an excellent job; he's captain of a world champion side, so he's going to take credit for that.”*  Wilson, A. 2010, May 18. ‘Paul Collingwood happy to step aside as captain for Andrew Strauss.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2010/may/18/paul-collingwood-captain-andrew-strauss> |
| Drinkwater, Josh | Drinky | rugby league | *“We’ve got a strong side across the park but playing outside of* ***Drinky*** *and inside of Kingy and Tash is a good edge.”*  Turner, M. 2024. ‘Lachlan Fitzgibbon on Warrington Wolves' defeat in France.’ Online at <www.warringtonguardian.co.uk/sport/24126958.lachlan-fitzgibbon-warrington-wolves-defeat-france> |
| Duckett, Ben | Ducky | cricket | *“****Ducky*** *showed just how good he is against spin bowling in the recent T20 series here.”*  Martin, A. 2022. ‘Duckett and Livingstone step up as England bring Bazball to Pakistan.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/nov/29/cricket-england-pakistan-preview-duckett-livingstone-stokes> |
| Ecclestone, Sophie | Eccy | cricket | Ecclestone, S. 2023, June 21. *welcome to the start of a new series with me Sophie Ecclestone and Alice Capsey we’re Caps and* ***Eccy*** *on Tour and we’re gonna be talking about everything Ashes and everything outside of cricket* [Presenter comment]. Caps & Eccy on Tour: Episode 1. [Video]. Online at <www.ecb.co.uk/video/3547604/caps--eccy-on-tour--episode-one> |
| Erasmus, Johan | Rassie | rugby union | *South Africa’s director of rugby,* ***Rassie*** *Erasmus, says he and his coaching team called for multiple head injury assessments during the second half of Sunday’s quarter-final triumph against France because “there is life after rugby” and they are serious about prioritising the safety of their players whatever is at stake in the match.*  McLauchlin, L. 2023. ‘Player safety is priority for South Africa after HIA calls, insists Rassie Erasmus.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/16/player-safety-is-priority-for-south-africa-after-hia-calls-insists-rassie-erasmus> |
| Ferguson, Sir Alex | Fergie | football | *“People go: ‘What’s happened to Man United?’ But football’s cyclical and it was always going to be very difficult for United after* ***Fergie****.”*  McRae, D. 2020. ‘Interview: Gary Lineker.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/27/gary-lineker-interview-bbc-var-klopp-guardiola-brexit-licence-fee> |
| Figueroa, Keyrol | Figgy | football | *“****Figgy*** *came in at 11-12 years of age, from grassroots football.”*  Butler, M. 2024. ‘Like father, like son: the Liverpool talents following in famous footsteps.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2024/feb/29/like-father-like-son-the-liverpool-talents-following-in-famous-footsteps> |
| Filarmonico, Elisa | Filly | hockey | Southgate HC. [@SouthgateHC]. 2016, October 1. *Southgate ladies 1s continue their national league campaign with a 4-0 win over Northampton. Goals from Alex x3 and* ***Filly****.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/SouthgateHC/status/782245299406397440> |
| Fitzpatrick, Matt | Fitzy | golf | McIlroy, R. 2023, September 29. *I said to* ***Fitzy*** *for his first point for Europe I was proud to be the one to get it with him*  [Interviewee comment]. The Ryder Cup:Day 1. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Main Event. |
| Gilzean, Alan | Gilly | football | *All at Spurs-Web would like to pass on our condolences to the family and friends of* ***Gilly****. A true gent and a true legend of Tottenham Hotspur. Rest in Peace.*  Read, S. 2018. ‘“The King of White Hart Lane” passes away. RIP Gilly.’ Online at <www.spurs-web.com/app/the-king-of-white-hart-lane-passes-away-rip-gilly> |
| Gordon, Antony | Gordy | football | *“Some people call me ‘Tony G’. Or ‘****Gordy’****.*  Gorrie, J. 2018. ‘Anthony Gordon now shares the two nicknames he has amongst Newcastle teammates.’ Online at <www.geordiebootboys.com/news/anthony-gordon-now-shares-the-two-nicknames-he-has-amongst-newcastle-teammates> |
| Gustard, Paul | Gussy | rugby union | *“I wish* ***Gussy*** *all the best,” announced Jones.*  Kitson, R. 2018. ‘Rapid staff turnover suggests unrest around Eddie Jones’ England.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2018/may/22/rapid-turnover-unrest-eddie-jones-england-paul-gustard> |
| Harmison, Steve | Harmy | cricket | *"It's typical* ***Harmy****, I'm afraid. We've seen it over and over again. He could and should be the No1 one bowler in the world but he can't seem to be able to put it all together."*  Hopps, D. 2008. ‘Pumped-up Harmison punishes Yorkshire.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2008/apr/21/cricket.friendsprovidenttrophy1> |
| Klaasen, Heinrich | Klaasy | cricket | Roy, J. 2023, August 9. *the seamers I found harder* ***Klaasy*** *didn't* [Interviewee comment]. The Hundred:Oval Invincibles v Manchester Originals. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC Two. |
| Kokkinos, Amy | Kokky | hockey | Robinson, E. 2023, October 10. ***Kokky*** *was number 14 last year so would assume she’s the same this!* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Klinsmann, Jürgen | Klinsi[[10]](#endnote-10) | football | *Klinsmann seems like a decent sort but he's so bowled over by the attention, he's even allowing an entire nation to coo - in that sickly, new-parent manner - '****Klinsi'*** *every time they sit fawning over his picture.*  Turner, G. 2004. ‘Hail Klinsi!’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2004/sep/10/sport.comment3> |
| Lewis, Jon | Lewy | cricket | *“It feels now like* ***Lewy’****s main message is ‘inspire and entertain’ and that is huge because it takes the pressure off, win or lose.”*  Nicholson, R. 2023. ‘England eye women’s Ashes glory as Amy Jones hails ‘turning point’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/15/england-australia-womens-ashes-2023-odi> |
| Livingstone, Liam | Livi[[11]](#endnote-11) | cricket | *“When* ***Livi*** *took that catch it set that standard of really scrapping for every run in the field.”*  Burnton, S. 2022. ‘Sam Curran takes five as England seal T20 World Cup win over Afghanistan.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/oct/22/england-afghanistan-t20-world-cup-cricket-match-report> |
| McCoist, Ally | Coisty | football | *With their natural chemistry, Woods and* ***Coisty*** *invariably seem to cope effortlessly, whatever the mood or tone.*  Glendenning, B. 2020. ‘Premier League 2019-20 review: pundits of the season.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jul/27/premier-league-2019-20-review-pundits-of-the-season> |
| Maxwell, Glenn | Maxi[[12]](#endnote-12) | cricket | Ian Smith (of Glenn Maxwell hitting successive sixes off Noor Ahmed): *two in a row from* ***Maxi***  Smith, I. 2023, November 7. *two in a row from* ***Maxi*** [Commentator comment]. Men’s ICC World Cup 2023: Afghanistan v Australia. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Main Event. |
| Milner, James | Milly | football | *“****Milly*** *is unbelievably important to us,” Jürgen Klopp said.*  Wilson, P. 2019. ‘Klopp calm over Milner’s Liverpool contract and sings praises of Matip.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/sep/27/klopp-milner-liverpool-contract-matip-alisson> |
| Montgomerie, Colin | Monty | golf | Montgomerie, C. 2013. ***Monty****: An Autobiography*. London: Orion. |
| Mortimer, Dennis | Morty | football | Mortimer, D. 2022. *The Full* ***Morty***. Chichester: Pitch Publishing Ltd. |
| Motson, John | Motty | commentator | ***Motty****’s match notes were something of an institution in their own right.*  Wilson, S. 2023. ‘Motty’s skill and delivery secured his status at the heart of our national psyche.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/feb/23/john-motson-skill-and-delivery-secured-his-status-at-the-heart-of-our-national-psyche> |
| Ogrizovic, Steve | Oggie | football | *Most people shrink as they get older but “****Oggie****”, as everybody at City’s training ground still calls him, seems to have grown.*  Butler, M. 2018. ‘Interview: Steve Ogrizovic.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2018/nov/16/steve-ogrizovic-coventry-goalkeeper-coach-police-relegation-football> |
| Osborn, Ben | Ozzy | football | Jagielka, P. 2024, April 7. *he won't mind me saying this but his right foot's not his strongest* ***Ozzy***[Expert summariser comment]. Five Live Sport. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Osman, Leon | Ossie | football | *"It makes playing against us a lot harder when you have people like Darron in the team and* ***Ossie*** *by the side of him.”*  Hunter, A. 2012. ‘Darron Gibson's return has given Everton an edge, says Phil Jagielka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2012/dec/10/everton-phil-jagielka-darron-gibson> |
| Pallister, Gary | Pally | football | Neville, G. 2022, September 11. *yeah oh it was unbelievable I always say that you Brucie* ***Pally*** *Roy Incey Sparky Eric Bryan Robson a couple of years before all of you were like animals* [Presenter comment]. Gary Neville’s Soccerbox Season 4 Episode 2: Peter Schmeichel. Sky Sports Premier League HD. |
| Rashford, Marcus | Rashy | football | *Ten Hag was asked about this. “I have a lot of sympathy for* ***Rashy****,” he said.* Jackson, J. 2024. ‘Everyone should back him’: Ten Hag supports Rashford over ‘abuse’. Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2024/apr/26/marcus-rashford-manchester-united-abuse-football> |
| Shakespeare, Craig | Shaky | football | Dublin, D. 2023, August 6. *we hated it* ***Shaky*** Five Live Sport. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Shenton, Michael | Shenny | rugby league | *“****Shenny*** *was a bit younger than me but a good, young lad who was always one of the first picks on your team.”*  Press Association. 2014. ‘Rob Burrow: Leeds old guard must win Challenge Cup before it is too late.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2014/aug/21/rob-burrow-leeds-challenge-cup-final-castleford> |
| Sidwell, Steve | Siddy | football | Sidwell, S. 2024, January 2. *Milly it’s* ***Siddy*** *you started off today sort of in that midfield role then you went to left back then you sort of went to left wing back*  [Studio analyst comment]. FA Premier League: West Ham United v Brighton & Hove Albion. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Premier League. |
| Sookias, James | Sookie | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, October 24. *M1s win 5-2 against @UOBHC1! Goals: Vides, Boonie, Parky, Shark and* ***Sookie****.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1055101390786301952> |
| Souness, Graeme | Souey | football | *“Being aggressive is part of football,” he* [Ian Wright] *squawked.* ***Souey*** *couldn’t have put it better himself.*  Brewin, J. 2024. ‘American VAR expert Christina Unkel gives ITV edge over BBC at Euro 2024.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/article/2024/jun/16/american-var-expert-christina-unkel-gives-itv-edge-over-bbc-at-euro-2024> |
| Sowter, Nathan | Sowty | cricket | Billings, S. 2023, August 9. ***Sowty*** *that's class boy* [Player mic comment]. The Hundred:Oval Invincibles v Manchester Originals. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC Two. |
| Tarkowski, James | Tarky | football | *“****Tarky*** *does nothing, minimal contact other than the keeper landing on him.”*  Hunter, A. 2023. ‘Bobby De Cordova-Reid gets Fulham off to winning start at wasteful Everton.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/aug/12/everton-fulham-premier-league-match-report> |
| Trueman, Jake | Truey | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2019, September 5. *TRY TRY TRY! Third one for @JT6Trueman tonight! Cheyse Blair with a terrific offload near the Hull line and* ***Truey*** *gets his hat trick!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/1169699774767009793> |
| van Barneveld, Raymond | Barney | darts | *That was a mighty performance from Luke Littler, easily his best of the tournament, because* ***Barney*** *maintained an average around 100 throughout.*  Smyth, R. 2023. ‘Luke Littler beats Raymond van Barneveld: PDC World Darts Championship – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2023/dec/30/luke-littler-v-raymond-van-barneveld-pdc-world-darts-championship-live> |
| Webster, Adam | Webby | football | Milner, J. 2024, January 2. *I thought it was a solid performance especially with a couple of boys coming back who haven’t had too much football Purvis and* ***Webby*** *especially in coming in and do the job they did I thought they were outstanding* [Interviewee comment]. FA Premier League: West Ham United v Brighton & Hove Albion. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Premier League. |
| Westerman, Joe | Westy | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2023, February 11. *Worst Dressed? Most intelligent? Biggest Joker? Get to know the boys as* ***Westy*** *and Wattsy take on, teammates! #COYF* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/1624483406624038919> |
| Westwood, Lee | Westy | golf | *“Obviously* ***Westy****, Poults, as captains or vice captains or however they may or may not be involved in the future, they do have a lot to offer, of course, from experiences and that point of view.”*  Murray, E. 2023. ‘McIlroy’s LIV dig: Westwood and Poulter will miss us more than we miss them.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/27/mcilroy-liv-rebels-westwood-and-poulter-miss-us-more-than-we-miss-them> |
| Woodward, Sir Clive | Woody | rugby union | *Minding his Ps and Qs in some obscure Twickenham back office has never been* ***Woody****'s style.*  Kitson, R. 2011. ‘Sir Clive Woodward has left everyone at the RFU with explaining to do.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2011/may/19/clive-woodward-rfu-performance-director> |
| Woosnam, Ian | Woosie | golf | Woosnam, I. 2013. ***Woosie****: My Autobiography*. London: Collins-Willow. |
| **clips + o-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Adamson, Tony | Addo | commentator | *At the microphone on the old “graveyard” court, “****Addo****”, a veteran of many Wimbledon finals and golf majors exclaimed: “Mark my words, this boy* [Andy Murray] *is a future Wimbledon champion.*  Overend, J. 2024. ‘I thought Andy Murray would win Wimbledon – but dared not say so.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/article/2024/jul/03/i-thought-andy-murray-would-win-wimbledon-but-dared-not-say-so> |
| Aldridge, John | Aldo | football | *“A different player with a different personality, who hadn’t played so well – don’t forget* ***Aldo*** *scored 22 that season – couldn’t have done that.”*  Lowe, S. 2021. ‘Goals, class, a red Ferrari: Aldridge, Richardson and Atkinson at la Real.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2021/feb/25/aldridge-richardson-and-atkinson-at-real-sociedad-goals-class-red-ferrari> |
| Anderson, Gary | Ando | darts | *What a steal that is, from 0-2 and against the darts!* ***Ando*** *had four goes at clinching it, and now look!*  Harris, D. 2021. ‘Gerwyn Price beats Gary Anderson: PDC World Darts Championship final – as it happened!’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2021/jan/03/gerwyn-price-v-gary-anderson-pdc-world-darts-championship-final-live> |
| Armitage, Sam | Armo | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExtereUniHC]. 2023, March 5. *“20 A good slap from* ***Armo*** *finds ridgey who narrowly deflects it over the bar* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1632386534493044736> |
| Burnley, Ella | Burno | hockey | Exeter University Women’s HC. [@EULHC]. 2022, March 22. *Huddle: Team talks. Who let* ***burno*** *be so tall* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EULHC/status/1638569468447145986> |
| Dennis, Ian | Denno | commentator | Morrison, C. 2023, August 20. *you’re looking pretty trim* ***Denno*** *don’t worry* [Expert summariser comment]. Five Live Sport: Aston Villa v Everton. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Dixon, Lee | Dicko[[13]](#endnote-13) | football | *“****Dicko*** *[Dixon] would [attack] and I’d get Nigel in tight so when it broke down a holding midfield player came between me and Bouldie’*.  McRae, D. 2017. ‘Interview: Tony Adams.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2017/may/29/tony-adams-arsenal-arsene-wenger-board> |
| Dobson, Michael | Dobbo | rugby league | *"But* ***Dobbo*** *has come up with the big play for us again."*  Wilson, A. 2009. ‘Dobson last-gasp drop rescues a draw for Hull KR.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2009/feb/15/bradford-bulls-hull-kr-draw> |
| Dobson, Richard | Dobbo | football | *“Me and* ***Dobbo*** *looked at each other and said: ‘What have we done?’ It was incredible.”*  McRae, D. 2020. ‘Interview: Gareth Ainsworth.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/sep/09/wycombe-gareth-ainsworth-hair-championship-football-rock-n-roll-manager> |
| Donaldson, Ben | Donno | rugby union | *“I think* ***Donno*** *brings a level of composure to that position but ... we’ll just pick the guy who’s right for this weekend.”*  Reuters. 2023. ‘Eddie Jones set to drop Carter Gordon for must-win match against Wales.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/21/eddie-jones-set-to-drop-carter-gordon-for-must-win-match-against-wales-rugby-world-cup> |
| Drummond, Ollie | Drummo | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHc]. 2022, November 3. *Congratulations to Foxy, Nemo and* ***Drummo*** *on their recent success for Great Britain u21s in Malaysia* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1588131662885539841> |
| Evans, Dan | Evo[[14]](#endnote-14) | tennis | *“****Evo*** *had a great year coming back and getting his ranking around the 40 mark. He wasn’t that far away from being seeded at slams, which is a great effort.”*  Mitchell, K. 2019. ‘Davis Cup in state of flux but GB go from strength to strength.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/nov/24/davis-cup-gb-strength-to-strength> |
| Francis, Ben | Franco[[15]](#endnote-15) | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. ***Franco*** *there Ben Francis good trap but alleged to be the back stick* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Gibson, Darron | Gibbo | football | *“****Gibbo*** *is massively important for us and you need to have someone who can keep the opposing defence on their toes."*  Hunter, A. 2012. ‘Darron Gibson's return has given Everton an edge, says Phil Jagielka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2012/dec/10/everton-phil-jagielka-darron-gibson> |
| Grealish, Jack | Grealo | football | Walker, K. 2023, December 27. *hi guys I’m Kyle* ***Grealo*** *and Rammers and this is the best episode of Gogglebox you’ll ever see in your life* [Presenter comment]. Gogglebox: Grealish, Ramsdale & Walker Look Back at The Best Moments Of 2023. [YouTube video]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGFov5j3Ia8> |
| Gündoğan, Ilkay | Gundo[[16]](#endnote-16) | football | *“He [Phil Foden] is the guy who is going to take his [Silva’s] minutes or maybe he has to fight with Kevin [De Bruyne],* ***Gundo*** *[Ilkay Gündogan] and Bernardo [Silva].*  Jackson, J. 2020. ‘Phil Foden can fill David Silva’s shoes at Manchester City says Pep Guardiola.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/11/phil-foden-david-silva-manchester-city-pep-guardiola> |
| Hampson, Matt | Hambo[[17]](#endnote-17) | rugby union | *On top of that, the can-do “****Hambo****” still loves his rugby, with Saturday’s Tigers v Saints fixture –”I love the brand of rugby Tigers are playing” – a prospect to be savoured.*  Kitson, R. 2021. ‘Interview: Matt Hampson.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/apr/23/matt-hampson-we-want-rehab-from-sport-injuries-rugby-union> |
| Henderson, Jordan | Hendo | football | *“I loved some of the reaction on the bench because you could see the younger players were totally delighted for* ***Hendo****.”*  Hytner, D. 2021. ‘How Jordan Henderson and England’s ‘tribal elders’ made them a force.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2021/jul/04/how-jordan-henderson-and-englands-tribal-elders-made-them-a-force> |
| Higginson, Connor | Higgo | football | ***Higgo*** *discusses life after Mansfield and eventually joining Ollerton.*  Kent, L. 2020. ‘The Lockdown Lowdown with... Conor Higginson: Part Two.’ Online at <www.ollertontownfc.co.uk/news/the-lockdown-lowdown-with-conor-higginson--part-two-2545568.html> |
| Ibbotson, Derek | Ibbo | athletics | *“****Ibbo****”, as he was always known, had fancied his chances of taking an Olympic gold medal in the 1500m.*  Rawling, J. 2017. ‘Obituary: Derek Ibbotson.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2017/mar/06/derek-ibbotson-obituary> |
| Jackson, Richie | Jacko | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2018, November 28. *M1s beat @UOBHC1 3-2. Goals: Sookie, Ali Midd and* ***Jacko****. MOM: Birthday Boy Hogg, DOD: Wolowitz* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1067919646177878016> |
| Johnson, Martin | Johnno | rugby union | *“Maybe the RFU are not very bright because, if they were,* ***Johnno*** *wouldn’t be anywhere near the England job … he’s never coached anyone.”*  McRae, D. 2023. ‘Interview: Danny Cipriani.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/13/danny-cipriani-interview-england-rugby-world-cup> |
| Jonno | rugby union | *“I remember there was a book written about what happened at Leicester and Neil Back and* ***Jonno*** *[Martin Johnson] were upset my name wasn’t mentioned.”*  Bower, A. 2023. ‘League of their own: the cross-code converts thriving at Rugby World Cup.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/11/league-of-their-own-the-cross-code-converts-thriving-at-rugby-world-cup> |
| Lawrenson, Mark | Lawro | football | ***Lawro*** *could probably get away with it too, being somewhat "old school", as I'm sure he would agree, something he has in common with his former team-mate Graeme Souness.*  Kelner, M. 2012. ‘Lost in translation listening to Mark Lawrenson on Match of the Day.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2012/oct/28/mark-lawrenson-match-of-the-day> |
| Millington, Grant | Millo | rugby league | *“There is a bunch of young lads like me, Sam Hall and Lewis Peachey who are middles and* ***Millo*** *for example, has been really good with us this year through pre-season.”*  *ROAR* Issue 5. 2021. ‘Brad Martin Interview.’ Online at <www.issuu.com/zahra-ignitionsportsmedia/docs/roar\_issue05\_2021> |
| Paterson, Ellen | Patto | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2017, January 18. *W1s win 3-2 vs @EUWHC Goals: Lulu, Anna,* ***Patto****. MOM: Flora, DOD: Seed* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/821745630506876928> |
| Patterson, Patrick | Patto | cricket | *But are you sure* ***Patto****’s all too short Test career overlapped with Richardson’s long one?*  de Lisle, T. 2021. ‘India reach 215-2, trail England by 139: third Test, day three – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2021/aug/27/england-v-india-third-test-day-three-live> |
| Patterson, Rory | Patto | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. ***Patto*** *with the ball over to Hoops on the left-hand side* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Pendleton, Victoria | Pendo | cycling | *Wiggo,* ***Pendo****, Romero and Sir Chris will all be present at this year's Track Cycling World Championships in Poland (to 29th).*  Lamont, T. 2009. ‘The calendar.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2009/mar/01/sports-events-march-2009> |
| Robinson, Andy | Robbo | football | *Possibly the best fullbacks playing today: 21-year-old local lad Trent Alexander-Arnold (known just as Trent) and the fiery Scot Andy Robertson (****Robbo****) are spoken about by pundits as innovators.*  Parkinson, H-J. 2020. ‘30 years of hope: my life as an ardent Liverpool fan.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/mar/08/30-years-of-hope-my-life-as-a-diehard-liverpool-fan-hannah-jane-parkinson> |
| Robertson, John | Robbo | football | Robertson, J. 2021.***Robbo****: The Game's Not Over Till the Fat Striker Scores*. Edinburgh: Black & White Publishing. |
| Robinson, Ellie | Robbo | hockey | Durham University HC. [@DUHC1]. 2020, March 7. *W1’s win 1-0 vs @BenRhyddingHC. Goal Scorer Molly MOM* ***Robbo*** *DOD Danny* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/DUHC1/status/1236325579567304704> |
| Robinson, Paul | Robbo | football | *I remember there was plenty of tears in the dressing room afterwards, mostly from the local lads who came through the academy, people like Smudger [Alan Smith] and* ***Robbo*** *[Paul Robinson], who it hit a bit harder."*  James, S. 2013. ‘Interview: James Milner.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2013/feb/16/james-milner-manchester-city-leeds-united> |
| Robson, Bryan | Robbo | football | Robson, B. 2006.***Robbo****: My Autobiography*. London: Hodder & Stoughton. |
| Sibley, Dom | Sibbo | cricket | *“I remember driving* ***Sibbo*** *to most of those [games for Surrey]. I’m very proud of him to have got to where he’s got to.”*  Martin, A. 2019. ‘Sam Curran looking to lose vulnerability and nail down England Test spot.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/nov/18/sam-curran-england-cricket-test-new-zealand> |
| Simpson, Paul | Simmo | football | *However, speaking in his final media conference of the memorable 22/23 season,* ***Simmo*** *emphasised that his priority is to ensure that his Carlisle side can compete and remain in League One beyond the 2023/24 campaign.*  O'Hara, M. 2023. ‘‘We have to be realistic’ - Simmo on Carlisle's League One priorities.’ Online at <www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/23573055.we-realistic---simmo-carlisles-league-one-priorities> |
| Stephenson, Mike | Stevo[[18]](#endnote-18) | rugby league | ***Stevo*** *began his broadcasting career in Australia with brief spells at radio and television stations in Sydney.*  Wikipedia. 2023. Online at <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike\_Stephenson> |
| ten Doeschate, Ryan | Tendo[[19]](#endnote-19) | cricket | Bopara, R. 2023, October 18. *I know* ***Tendo*** *you know they said that you know they had hopes of reaching the semi-finals of the World Cup I don’t think they’re gonna reach the semi-finals of this the World Cup mate but they can certainly get another scalp* [Expert summariser comment].ICC Men’s Cricket World Cup: Netherlands v South Africa. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Thomson, Jeff | Thommo | cricket | *With his mustachioed fellow-assassin Lillee,* ***Thommo*** *simply brutalised England in 1974–75.*  Smyth, R. 2015. ‘The Joy of Six: Ashes quotes.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/jul/03/the-joy-of-six-ashes-quotes> |
| Tomlinson, Louis | Tommo | football | *Others are momentarily concerned that, slightly apart from his colleagues on the bench,* ***Tommo*** *looks a lonely figure.*  Simpson, D. 2013. ‘One Direction's Louis Tomlinson: Doncaster Rovers' new super-mascot.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/music/musicblog/2013/sep/19/one-direction-louis-tomlinson-doncaster-rovers> |
| Trescothick, Marcus | Tresco[[20]](#endnote-20) | cricket | ***Tresco****'s disaffection was less marked and nowadays he looks infinitely more relaxed and at peace with himself.*  Foot, D. 2009. ‘Inner turmoils of the opener's mind nothing new in cricket.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2009/jun/03/cricket-psychology-marcus-trescothick> |
| Watson, Ian | Watto | rugby league | “*I’ve always left clubs on bad terms, so for this to be able to be on my terms and be able to tell* ***Watto*** *[Ian Watson, the Salford coach] … I started tearing up.”*  Bower, A. 2019. ‘Jackson Hastings primed to repay debt to Salford with a grand farewell.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/jul/20/jackson-hastings-salford-farewell-wigan-move> |
| Watson, Shane | Watto | cricket | Naidoo, K. 2023, November 16. *some absolute blinders taken in this tournament what has stood out for you* ***Watto*** *who are you calling for a win tonight* ***Watto*** [Commentator comment]. ICC Men's World Cup Semi Final: Australia v South Africa. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Wiggins, Bradley | Wiggo | cycling | *The younger members of Team GB’s cycling squad in Rio amused themselves by addressing him as Sir Bradley. To the rest of us, he will for ever be* ***Wiggo****.*  Aitkenhead, D. 2016. ‘Interview: Bradley Wiggins.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/sep/10/bradley-wiggins-remembered-cyclist-with-sideburns> |
| Wilkin, Jon | Wilko | rugby league | *“Paul is going to be around for a long time. He will play a supporting role to* ***Wilko*** *and will remain part of the leadership group.”*  Press Association. 2015. ‘Jon Wilkin replaces Paul Wellens as St Helens captain.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/jan/21/jon-wilkin-paul-wellens-st-helens> |
| Wilkinson, Howard | Wilko | football | *"Sometimes you just get lucky," I imagine* ***Wilko*** *saying mirthlessly as the player, unnerved by this unexpected turn of events, shanked his own fictitious drive and watched it disappear down a rabbit hole.*  Pearson, H. 2003. ‘Wilko joins Big Mal and Tommy Doc as the old boys expelled from the Frame Academy.’ Online a <www.theguardian.com/football/2003/nov/22/sport.comment4> |
| Wilkinson, Jonny | Wilko | rugby union | ***Wilko*** *can be England's saviour.*  Castagnède, T. 2007. ‘Wilko can be England's saviour.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2006/dec/31/wilkocanbeenglandssaviour> |
| Wilkinson, Sam | Wilko | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2022, August 26. *35’ another interception from* ***Wilko*** *and another free hit won by Bucky. Lovely hockey* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1430963020088414211> |
| **clips + s-suffixation[[21]](#endnote-21)** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Beckham, David | Becks | football | Beckham, D. 2003.***Becks*** *Talking: David Beckham in his Own Words*. London: Omnibus. |
| Biggar, Dan | Biggs | rugby union | Patchell, R. 2023, October 14. *I think* ***Biggs*** *is one of these players he likes the ball in hand he wants the ball in his hands all the time* [Interviewee comment]. Saturday Breakfast. [Live radio broadcast]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Boycott, Geoff | Boycs | cricket | McKinstry, L. 2000.***Boycs****: The True Story*. London: Partridge. |
| Buckle, Adam | Bucks | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. ***Bucks*** *has been in the gym I think he’s quite a big lad* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Capsey, Alice | Caps[[22]](#endnote-22) | cricket | Jones, A. 2023, July 16. *nice* ***Caps*** [Player mic comment]. Women's Ashes Series: 2nd ODI. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Chattock, Ella | Chatts | hockey | Exeter University Women's HC. [@EULHC]. 2023, March 23. *Corner for @DUHC1 W3s. A last ditch tackle from a very chatty* ***Chatts****. Shut out and still 1-1* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EULHC/status/1506593018631053313> |
| Cipriani, Danny | Cips | rugby union | *Marler, for his part, is not completely convinced –”Is* ***Cips****’s book fiction or non-fiction?”*  Meagher, G. 2023, September 13. ‘Joe Marler enjoys England’s freedom of expression under Steve Borthwick.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/13/joe-marler-england-rugby-world-cup-eddie-jones-steve-borthwick> |
| Danton, Ian | Dants | presenter | *Another Planet Rock DJ, whose main job is with talkSPORT Radio is Ian Danter.* ***Dants****, as he is known, has an interesting story about how he got into radio in the first place – and it’s all about his voice.*  Setter, J. 2021 (p.105). *Your Voice Speaks Volumes: It's Not What You Say, But How You Say It*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. |
| Dawson, Matt | Daws[[23]](#endnote-23) | rugby union | Grayson, P. 2023, October 18. *in the biggest moment of your life that is what separated Johnno because* ***Daws*** *would’ve been not treading on eggshells doing that interview but you don’t want to ask Martin the pointless question because you’ll get nothing from him* [Interviewee comment].‘20 years on *…* France 2023.’ [Radio programme]. BBC Radio 5 Live. |
| Diamond, Steve | Diams | rugby union | *“****Diams*** *has done really well both to develop players and give them the opportunity to succeed. Because if you don’t give them the opportunity they can’t take it*.”  Ingle, S. 2019. ‘Ben Curry is excited to watch his twin, Tom, in the World Cup final.’ On line at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/oct/28/ben-curry-tom-curry-england-rugby-world-cup-final> |
| Dunkley, Sophie | Dunks | cricket | England Cricket. [@englandcricket]. 2020, September 28. *A first game at home for @dunkleysophia! Good luck* ***Dunks***  [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/englandcricket/status/1310621415150944256> |
| Flatman, David | Flats | rugby union | *As double acts go they might even qualify as rugby’s answer to Ant and Dec, were it not for the fact that “****Flats****”– who also stands on the left – could probably eat five Ants in one sitting.*  Kitson, R. 2020. ‘‘If it’s an act, it’s unsustainable’: rugby union’s answer to Ant and Dec.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2020/sep/04/if-its-an-act-its-unsustainable-rugby-unions-answer-to-ant-and-dec> |
| Foden, Ben | Fodes | rugby union | *“****Fodes*** *has been a remarkable player for both Northampton Saints and England,” said the interim head coach, Alan Dickens.*  Kitson, R. 2018. ‘Ben Foden will leave Northampton and look to start a ‘new chapter’ abroad.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/may/03/ben-foden-will-leave-northampton-rugby-union-at-end-of-season-after-decade-at-club> |
| Gatland, Warren | Gats | rugby union | *“We know Ireland’s players well and there is mutual respect. It would be nice to top off* ***Gats****’s 100th match with a win that would keep our title hopes alive.”*  Rees, P. 2018. ‘Interview: Ken Owens.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/feb/17/wales-ken-owens-warren-gatland-respect-six-nations> |
| Gleeson, Martin | Glees | rugby union | *“‘****Glees****’ has come in now, a new set of eyes, new set of ideas. I was really impressed with him.”*  McLaughlin, L. 2021. ‘Interview: Jonny May.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/oct/01/jonny-may-ive-got-a-finish-line-in-sight-probably-the-world-cup> |
| Hartley, Tom | Harts | cricket | *Bash and* ***Harts****. Stokes loves these guys. He backs them in actions and words.*  Ronay, B. 2024. ‘England’s junior tweakers thrive on Stokes’ brawny arm around shoulder.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2024/feb/24/englands-junior-tweakers-thrive-from-stokes-brawny-arm-around-shoulder> |
| Jagielka, Phil | Jags | football | *“From my point of view* ***Jags*** *got better in the England games. His confidence grew and he gives England something different at the back.”*  McCarra, K. 2010. ‘David Moyes calls on England to pick Phil Jagielka over Rio Ferdinand.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2010/oct/07/phil-jagielka-england-david-moyes> |
| Lampard, Frank | Lamps | football | *But fear not, now he’s back in the managerial saddle,* ***Lamps*** *is talking tough again.*  Butler, M. 2022. ‘Frank Lampard, passion and crowd-pleasing triple overlaps at Everton.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2022/jan/31/frank-lampard-passion-and-crowd-pleasing-triple-overlaps-at-everton> |
| Lockyer, Tom | Locks | football | *“****Locks*** *has been amazing,” said his teammate Gabe Osho during their unlikely run to Premier League promotion last season.*  Booth, D. 2023. ‘Tom Lockyer incident evokes painful memories of Eriksen and Muamba.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/16/tom-lockyer-incident-evokes-painful-memories-of-eriksen-and-muamba> |
| Middleton, Simon | Mids | rugby union | *Botterman said: “It’s an end of an era and sad to see both of them go, especially Sunter (Sarah Hunter) obviously, with everything she’s done for the game, but* ***Mids*** *as well.”*  Steinberg, R. 2023. ‘England’s Hannah Botterman makes Twickenham prediction ahead of 2025 World Cup.’ Online at <www.independent.co.uk/sport/twickenham-sarah-hunter-simon-middleton-six-nations-england-b2305926.html> |
| Morgan, Eoin | Morgs | cricket | *The environment* ***Morgs*** *has created and his standing as captain make you realise that decisions are made solely for the team’s benefit.*  Ali, M. 2019. ‘Family comes first in this England team and that’s probably for the best.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2019/jun/17/family-england-moeen-ali-cricket-world-cup> |
| Noble, Mark | Nobes[[24]](#endnote-24) | football | Richards, M. 2024, May 13. ***Nobes*** *he was a player* [Presenter comment]. Match of the Day: Top 10 One Club Men. [Podcast]. Online at <www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0hx85m9> |
| Pogba, Paul | Pogs | football | *And reports in Spain suggest that Pogba’s agent, Mino Raiola, has told Barcelona that they can have the midfielder if they like because he doesn’t want another joyless season in the Premier League. Poor* ***Pogs****!*  Bakowski, G. 2018. ‘Football transfer rumours: Paul Pogba to leave Manchester United for Barça?’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2018/jul/16/football-transfer-rumours-paul-pogba-to-leave-manchester-united-for-barca> |
| Poulter, Ian | Poults | golf | *“Obviously Westy,* ***Poults****, as captains or vice captains or however they may or may not be involved in the future, they do have a lot to offer, of course, from experiences and that point of view.”*  Murray, E. 2023. ‘McIlroy’s LIV dig: Westwood and Poulter will miss us more than we miss them.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/27/mcilroy-liv-rebels-westwood-and-poulter-miss-us-more-than-we-miss-them> |
| Ramprakash, Mark | Ramps | cricket | *If there has been anything jarring about the serial eulogies of the last few days it has been the suggestion from former coaches and team-mates that* ***Ramps*** *was simply a flawed perfectionist, a rarified oddball.*  Ronay, B. 2012. ‘With Mark Ramprakash goes the last imprint of an era of cricket.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2012/jul/06/mark-ramprakash-era-of-cricket> |
| Radlinski, Kris | Rads | rugby league | *“Myself and* ***Rads*** *[the chief executive, Kris Radlinski] started talking about what we wanted to achieve over the next few years a couple of years ago, and we’re building.”*  Bower, A. 2023. ‘Wigan Warriors crowned Super League champions after downing Dragons.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/14/catalans-dragons-wigan-super-league-grand-final-rugby-league-match-report> |
| Roby, James | Robes | rugby league | St Helens RFC. [@Saints1890]. 2023, July 19. *"We don't want* ***Robes*** *to have played his last Challenge Cup game, we want his last to be at Wembley..." @jackwelsby\_ looks ahead to Saturday's @TheChallengeCup Semi-Final!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/Saints1890/status/1681695642983473152> |
| Shankly, Bill | Shanks | football | Bowler, D. 1996. ***Shanks****: The Authorised Biography of Bill Shankly*. London: Orion. |
| Shilton, Peter | Shilts | football | *“Cameroon were brilliant in the quarters. They outplayed us most of the game but* ***Shilts*** *made three world-class saves. I scored the two penalties and we won.”*  McRae, D. 2020. ‘Interview: Gary Lineker.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/27/gary-lineker-interview-bbc-var-klopp-guardiola-brexit-licence-fee> |
| Sibley, Dom | Sibs | cricket | Surrey County Cricket Club. [@surreycricket]. 2023, June 14. *What an effort by Dom Sibley* ***Sibs*** *finishes 140 not out after batting for 146.1 overs So good to have you home* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/surreycricket/status/1669007828407705603> |
| Silverwood, Chris | Silvers | cricket | *“I feel like I can have really nice, open and honest conversations with* ***Silvers*** *and having a coach that understands how I tick and how I like to train really does help.”*  Burnton, S. 2021. ‘Lawrence confident he can rise to the occasion for England in Sri Lanka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/jan/11/dan-lawrence-confident-rise-to-occasion-england-sri-lanka> |
| Stricker, Steve | Stricks | golf | *“We have a task in front of us that we have a chance to do something really special for our team, our country and especially for* ***Stricks****.”*  Murray, E. 2021. ‘No hiding place: US and Europe lock horns for epic Ryder Cup battle.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/sep/23/no-hiding-place-europe-and-us-lock-horns-for-epic-ryder-cup-battle> |
| Spittles, Alex | Spits | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2021, September 25. *Meanwhile,* ***Spits****’ performance is simply a rota of: Attempt flair skill throws hands in the air to appeal I find myself agreeing with the umps more than* ***Spits***[Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1441760384549982216> |
| Trippier, Kieran | Trips | football | Scott, A. 2020, June 12. *hopefully* ***Trips*** *has a great game* [Expert summariser comment]. Euro 2020: England v Croatia. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC One. |
| Walker, Kyle | Walks | football | *“We speak when we are away with England about our own clubs and Stonesy, Raz, Phil and* ***Walks*** *have had nothing but good things to say whenever it’s been mentioned.”*  Hytner, D. 2021. ‘‘Dream come true’: Jack Grealish seals record £100m Manchester City move.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2021/aug/05/jack-grealish-seals-record-100m-manchester-city-move-from-aston-villa> |
| Welbeck, Danny | Welbs | football | Milner, A. 2024. ***Welbs*** *people like that as well it’s a big job for us to make sure that we help these guys* [Interviewee comment]. FA Premier League: West Ham United v Brighton & Hove Albion. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Premier League. |
| **clips + er(s)-suffixation** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Agnew, Jonathan | Aggers | cricket | Agnew, J. 1997. *Over to you,* ***Aggers***. London: Gollancz. |
| Atherton, Michael | Athers | cricket | Norrie, D. 1997. ***Athers****: The Authorised Biography of Michael Atherton*. London: Headline |
| Badree, Samuel | Badders | cricket | Germanos, N. 2023, October 12. *Australia usually so good in the first ten overs up and striking in the power play and getting teams on the back foot not to be today* ***Badders***  [Commentator comment]. Men’s ICC World Cup: South Africa v Australia. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Blofeld, Henry | Blowers | commentator | *“We have an audience that’s not just cricket fans,” Mountford says, “and even if you know nothing about cricket, you know* ***Blowers*** *because of the language, the personality, the character. In that way, he transcended the sport.”*  Bull, A. 2017. ‘Henry Blofeld made cricket fun for all but TMS has bottled his spirit.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2017/sep/12/the-spin-henry-blofeld-tms> |
| Borthwick, Steve | Borthers | rugby union | *“A lot of things are back that have been their trademarks for decades. They’re clearly well-drilled with* ***Borthers*** *there and they’re setting the standard.”*  Bull, A. 2023. ‘England prove there is beauty in winning the Borthwick way.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/sep/10/england-prove-there-is-beauty-in-winning-the-borthwick-way> |
| Brackley, Peter | Brackers | presenter | *As ever* ***Brackers*** *brushed it all off, commentating on a game he hadn’t even prepared for before we returned to San Siro.*  Grade, J. 2022. ‘Fun, glamour and chaos: how Gazzetta Football Italia won our hearts.’ Online at<www.theguardian.com/football/2022/sep/05/fun-glamour-and-chaos-how-gazzetta-football-italia-won-our-hearts> |
| Carragher, Jamie | Carra[[25]](#endnote-25) | football | Carragher, J. 2008. ***Carra****: My Autobiography.* London: Bantam. |
| Chapman, Mark | Chappers | presenter | *Kelly Cates has been a great host, working both afternoons and on 606, and Mark “****Chappers****” Chapman is as enjoyable a listen as ever.*  Sawyer, M. 2018. ‘The week in radio and podcasts.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2018/jun/24/week-in-audio-world-cup-2018-radio-5live-totally-football-show> |
| Cockerill, Richard | Cockers | rugby union | *“Edinburgh needed someone like* ***Cockers*** *back in 2017,” wrote Barclay not long before Cockerill was appointed by England.*  Meagher, G. 2021. ‘Eddie Jones’ 2023 gamble: England’s new dream team or too many cooks?’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/sep/21/the-breakdown-eddie-jones-2023-gamble-englands-new-dream-team-or-too-many-cooks-rugby-union> |
| Dagley, Ellie | Daggers | hockey | Robinson, A. 2021, October 3. *saw* ***Daggers*** *yesterday* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Dagnall, Charles | Daggers | cricket | *43rd over: England 272-2 (Dunkley 72, Sciver 61) “This could get ugly for South Africa,” says* ***Daggers****. Yep, all signs suggest that from here.*  Aldred, T. 2022. ‘England beat South Africa by 114 runs in second women’s ODI – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2022/jul/15/england-v-south-africa-second-womens-cricket-one-day-international-live> |
| Durden-Smith, Mark | Durders | presenter | *Slightly better, perhaps, to describe the smooth-talking “****Durders****”– “I’m from the mean streets of Highgate” – and his bull-necked pal as the Posh and Pecs of British broadcasting.*  Kitson, R. 2020, September 4. ‘‘If it’s an act, it’s unsustainable’: rugby union's answer to Ant and Dec.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2020/sep/04/if-its-an-act-its-unsustainable-rugby-unions-answer-to-ant-and-dec> |
| Henman, Tim | Henners | tennis | *He could not have been less suited to the nickname Tiger Tim, which even in the mouths of fans always sounded faintly sarcastic (though it is still better than the one given on his own website, which is "****Henners****").*  Dowling, T. 2007. ‘Go Tim!’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2007/aug/21/tennis.timdowling> |
| Jackman, Robin | Jackers | cricket | *“Vic Marks wasn’t much of an athlete;* ***Jackers*** *[Robin Jackman] could only do fine leg at both ends and Geoff Cook was struggling with a rib injury.”*  Marks, V. 2020. ‘Here’s to Ian Gould: umpire and cockney who won over cricket's finest.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/apr/21/ian-gould-umpire-cockney-who-won-over-crickets-finest-the-spin> |
| Johnston, Brian | Johnners | commentator | Agnew, J. 2010. *Thanks,* ***Johnners****: An Affectionate Tribute to a Broadcasting Legend*. London: Blue Door. |
| Kilcline, Brian | Killer | football | *The long-haired central defender, whose nickname was* ***'Killer'****, began his career with Notts County but was transferred to Coventry in 1984.*  Anon. 2006. ‘Frozen in time: 7 January 1989.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2006/jan/08/features.sport22> |
| Mac Allister, Alexis | Macca | football | *“Before the game you could see* ***Macca****’s foot is right today, he was really into shooting.”*  Unwin, W. 2023. ‘‘A game you’d never forget in your life’: Jürgen Klopp lauds Liverpool victory.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/03/a-game-youd-never-forget-in-your-life-jurgen-klopp-lauds-liverpool-victory> |
| Maddison, James | Madders | football | *“I was really happy, we had three of the big five including the goalkeeper making their debuts in this league,* ***Madders*** *[James Maddison] made his debut for the club and I thought they all acquitted themselves well.”*  Brewin, J. 2023. ‘Ange Postecoglou hopeful Tottenham can move forward despite losing Kane.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/aug/13/ange-postecoglou-tottenham-brentford-harry-kane-football> |
| McMahon, Steve | Macca | football | McMahon, S. 1990. ***Macca*** *Can! The Steve McMahon Story*. London: Pelham. |
| McManaman, Steve | Macca | football | McManaman, S. 2005. *El* ***Macca****: Four Years with Real Madrid*. London: Pocket. |
| McShane, Paul | Macca | rugby league | Castleford Tigers. [@CTRLFC]. 2020, November 23. ***Macca*** *is the #ManOfSteel! Congratulations @mcshane\_paul, what an effort you have put in for the Tigers in 2020 Fords faithful, send us your messages to Paul!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/CTRLFC/status/1330948983808671744> |
| McSheffrey, Gary | Sheffers | football | *Gary McSheffrey Nickname: "****Sheffers****"*  Soccerrockz. 2010.‘Meet the Coaches.’ Online at <www.soccerrockz.com/meet-the-coaches> |
| Pickford, Jordan | Pickers | football | *“You obviously fear the worst when you miss a penalty but* ***Pickers*** *did brilliantly with the save and they’ve hit the bar, so I’m just relieved we got over the line.”*  Ronay, B. 2019. ‘Jordan Henderson steps up to show the value of meat and potatoes.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2019/feb/20/jordan-henderson-liverpool-bayern-munich-champions-league> |
| Podmore, Harry | Podders | cricket | *HARRY PODMORE Nickname:* ***Podders***  Kent Cricket. 2023.‘Profile: Harry Podmore.’ Online at <www.kentcricket.co.uk/profile/harry-podmore> |
| Pomfret, Nick | Pommers | hockey | University of Nottingham Men’s HC. [@uonmhc]. 2015, September 23. *Oxford equalise from a short corner but* ***Pommers*** *puts Notts straight back in the lead! 2-1 #greenandgold* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/uonmhc/status/646686806570868736> |
| Raducanu, Emma | Radders | tennis | *Emma, or “****Radders****” to pals, is an A- star student, who speaks Mandarin and binge-watches Taiwanese TV shows.*  Hill, P. 2022. ‘Brit teenager Emma Raducanu taking Wimbledon by storm tipped to earn millions.’ Online at <www.mirror.co.uk/sport/tennis/brit-teenager-emma-raducanu-taking-24454162> |
| Ramsdale, Aaaron | Rammers | football | Walker, K. 2023, December 27. *hi guys I’m Kyle Grealo and* ***Rammers*** *and this is the best episode of Gogglebox you’ll ever see in your life* [Presenter comment]. Gogglebox: Grealish, Ramsdale & Walker Look Back at The Best Moments Of 2023. [YouTube video]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGFov5j3Ia8> |
| Reddington, Dave | Redders | football | *“I never said anything, but* ***Redders*** *and Shawsy knew. They started working with me, doing second sessions, practising defensive drills.”*  Fifield, D. 2019. ‘Interview: Aaaron Wan-Bissaka.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2019/feb/08/aaron-wan-bissaka-crystal-palace-interview-best-tackler-europe> |
| Ringshaw, Amy | Ringers | hockey | Exeter University Women's HC. [@EULHC]. 2023, March 28. *critical save from* ***ringers*** *keeps it clean #iloveajug*  [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EULHC/status/1600511011211157506> |
| Shrubsole, Anya | Shrubbers | cricket | *It really could be that the Ole Partnership of Brunty and* ***Shrubbers*** *grabbed a hold of me right there and then: I’ve been attending England Women internationals ever since.*  Walton, R. 2022. ‘The Revolution According to Anya Shrubsole.’ Online at <www.sportslaureate.co.uk/2022/04/15/the-revolution-according-to-anya-shrubsole> |
| Sloan, Ian | Sloaner | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. *Stu Rushmere providing some pressure* ***but Sloaner*** *looking to provide a long ball cut out by Conor though*[Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Topley, Reece | Toppers | cricket | England Cricket. [@englandcricket]. 2023, April 6. *You'll be back. They don't come much stronger than you,* ***Toppers***[Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/englandcricket/status/1644015375217045504> |
| Tufnell, Phil | Tuffers | cricket | Tufnell, P. 2017.***Tuffers'*** *Cricket Hall of Fame*. London: Headline. |
| Venables, Terry | Venners | football | *“I remember losing at Coventry where Clive Allen scored a goal that should have counted [the free-kick hit the framework at the back of the goal with the referee insistent it had struck a post] and* ***Venners*** *saying to us: ‘Look, we’ve just got to keep going and stick together.’”*  Fifield, D. 2018. ‘Interview: Vince Hilaire.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2018/mar/19/vince-hilaire-banana-throwing-monkey-noises-normal-70s-80s> |
| Vidic, Namanja | Vida | football | *"Rio and* ***Vida*** *allowed to leave at once," Neville has just tweeted.*  Wilson, P. 2014. ‘Rio Ferdinand, like Alex Ferguson himself, will not be easily replaced.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2014/may/13/rio-ferdinand-alex-ferguson-manchester-united-nemanja-vidic-defence> |
| Wadman, Matt | Wadders | hockey | Eastbourne HC. [@Eastbourne HC]. 2017. *Top lads at the top of the league! Mom:* ***Wadders*** *Dod* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EastbourneHC/status/916753121430425600> |
| Wagner, Neil | Waggers | cricket | *“We were having a bit of a laugh out there. ‘Oh look there’s another bouncer from* ***Waggers*** *[Neil Wagner]’ so that helped us to forget the situation and just concentrate on each other.”*  Marks, V. 2018. ‘Mark Wood: ‘When I get to 20 I think I’m like Bradman and play too many shots’.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2018/mar/30/england-mark-wood-bradman-new-zealand-second-test-christchurch> |
| **clips + R/S to Z (+ suffixation0** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Burrows, Charlotte | Buzz | hockey | Richardson, A. 2023, November 1. ***Buzz*** *is likely to be a no this weekend.* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Busby, Craig | Buzz | rugby union | *"****Buzz****", as he was generally known, was associated with several clubs over the years including Headingley, Selby, West Leeds and Garforth.*  Dobson, J. 2014. ‘Craig Busby Memorial Game on Saturday at West Leeds.’ Online at <www.pitchero.com/clubs/bradfordsalem/news/craig-busby-memorial-game-on-saturday-at-west-leeds-1269582.html> |
| Chester, Chris | Chezzie | rugby league | *“The key ingredients were* ***Chezzie*** *and Lammy”.*  Bower, A. 2023. ‘‘Not finished yet’: How Leigh changed their spots and became contenders.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/jul/15/not-finished-yet-how-leigh-changed-their-spots-and-became-contenders> |
| Farrell, Andy | Faz | rugby union | *If Ireland lose to Australia in Dublin on Saturday “Big* ***Faz****” will see it as undoing all the good work of this autumn.*  Kitson, R. 2022. ‘Why Andy and Owen Farrell are a father and son duo like no other.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/nov/15/andy-and-owen-farrell-rugby-union-father-and-son-duo-the-breakdown> |
| Farrell, Owen | Faz | rugby union | *Ellis Genge launched a similarly staunch defence of Farrell and insisted that he takes motivation from “everyone wanting us to lose […]* ***Faz****, he gets a lot of grief, but you are happy to have him in the team every time.”*  Meagher, G. 2023. ‘England’s attack coach says booing fans are wrong about Owen Farrell.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2023/oct/16/england-attack-coach-says-booing-fans-are-wrong-about-owen-farrell-rugby-union-world-cup> |
| Farrington, Rob | Faz | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. *oh yeah* ***Faz*** *is a silky player when it comes to shoot-outs he tries all sorts of things* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| Foster, Neil | Fozzy | cricket | *“****Fozzy*** *bowled brilliantly and was man of the match without a shadow of a doubt.”*  Burnton, S. 2021. ‘‘A scary time’: Graeme Fowler on his 201 in India amid turmoil.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2021/feb/10/a-scary-time-graeme-fowler-on-his-201-in-india-amid-turmoil> |
| Gascoigne, Paul | Gazza | football | Gascoigne, P. 2014. ***Gazza****: My Story*. London: Headline. |
| Lawrence, Dan | Loz[[26]](#endnote-26) | cricket | *“It was good to watch wasn’t it?* ***Loz*** *played beautifully,” he said.*  PA News Agency. 2021. ‘Rory Burns impressed with Dan Lawrence’s innings at Edgbaston.’ Online at <www.warringtonguardian.co.uk/sport/national/19364662.rory-burns-impressed-dan-lawrences-innings-edgbaston> |
| Murray, Andy | Muzza | tennis | *Polite claps turned to whoops and shouts to greet each point Murray took off his opponent. "Andrew!" "Andy!" "****Muzza****! We love you!" they yelled, already getting carried away with the occasion.*  Kessel, A. 2011. ‘That familiar feeling of despair as Rafael Nadal crushes Andy Murray.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2011/jul/01/andy-murray-rafael-nadal-wimbledon> |
| Verity, Tom | Vez | football | Robinson, B. 2020. *Got a game on Saturday with Bish* ***Vez*** *& Sebbo* [WhatsApp message]. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table C: initialisms & blends** | | | |
| **initialisms** | | | |
| **athlete** | **Nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Bairstow, Jonny | YJB | cricket | *Even for a resilient character such as the man they call* ***YJB****, it can only have been draining.*  Martin, A. 2024, June 1. ‘Fired-up Bairstow can add Caribbean twist to England’s World Cup defence.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/article/2024/jun/01/jonny-bairstow-caribbean-england-t20-world-cup-cricket> |
| bin Salman, Mohammed | MBS | finance | *Bin Salman, known as* ***MBS****, has presided over unprecedented spending on sport since becoming Saudi’s de facto ruler in 2017.*  MacInnes, P. 2023, September 21. ‘Mohammed bin Salman says he will ‘continue doing sport washing’ for Saudi Arabia.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/world/2023/sep/21/mohammed-bin-salman-says-he-will-continue-doing-sport-washing-for-saudi-arabia> |
| Bishop-Laggett, Richard | RBL | hockey | Southgate HC. [@Southgate HC]. 2022, November 14. *Huge congrats to our very own* ***RBL*** *(Richard Bishop-Laggett as he is rarely known) on umpiring your 100th National League game over the past weekend!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/SouthgateHC/status/1592156268348702725> |
| Condon, David | DC | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. *Wimbledon have taken it quickly Duncan down the line to Condon all the way to* ***DC***[Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |
| de Villiers, AB | ABD | cricket | ***ABD*** *was finally dismissed for 149 off just 44 deliveries in the match.*  Ani. 2021. ‘As AB de Villiers turns 37, let’s relive Mr. 360’s fastest knocks in cricket!’ Online at <www.thedailyguardian.com/as-ab-de-villiers-turns-37-lets-relive-mr-360s-fastest-knocks-in-cricket> |
| James-Pajwani, Charlotte | JP | hockey | Exeter University Women’s HC. [@EULHC]. 2023, March 22. *OMG WHAT AM I WATCHING Evie Green you hero!!! She takes a note out of* ***JP****’s playbook and fires a backspace shot into the back post!!!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/EULHC/status/1638501544285929475> |
| James, Lauren | LJ | football | *“I do think* ***LJ’****s goal should have stood. It would have been a huge moment for her, in her first World Cup, to score a hat-trick for England.”*  Downey, S. 2023. ‘Sarina Wiegman hails ‘special’ Lauren James after England progress.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/aug/01/sarina-wiegman-hails-special-lauren-james-after-england-progress> |
| Jenas, Jermaine | JJ | football | *As Kieron Dyer, not a bad player himself, said: "****JJ*** *was magnificent today. He has everything, the whole package."*  Walker, M. 2003. ‘Jenas states credentials for national service.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2003/jan/20/match.sport10> |
| Justin, James | JJ | football | *“Wout Faes did a big effort to be there, and Jannik [Vestergaard],* ***JJ*** *[James Justin] the same.”*  PA Media. 2023. ‘Harry Winks keeps Leicester flying with last-gasp winner against West Brom.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2023/dec/02/west-brom-leicester-championship-match-report> |
| Johnson, Dustin | DJ | golf | *17.38 GMT:* ***DJ****’s birdie putt across 10 has a massive right-to-left break, and he’s happy enough to nestle it close.*  Murray, S. 2020. ‘The Masters 2020: Dustin Johnson wins first green jacket – as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2020/nov/15/the-masters-2020-dustin-johnson-leads-final-round-at-augusta-live> |
| Johnson-Thompson, Katarina | KJT | athletics | *Johnson-Thompson might have a mouthful of a name but she is often just called* ***KJT*** *– and her initials and sporting prowess could light up both this year’s world championships in Beijing and the Rio Olympics in 2016.*  McRae, D. 2015. ‘Interview: Katarina Johnson-Thompson.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/mar/02/athletics-katarina-johnson-thompson-jessica-ennis-hill-donald-mcrae> |
| Jordan, Chris | CJ | cricket | *“****CJ*** *gives you a lot in other parts of the game,” Collingwood said. “He’s the perfect kind of T20 cricketer.”*  Burnton, S. 2022. ‘England turn their attention to improving death bowling.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/jan/25/england-improve-death-bowling-t20-international-west-indies> |
| Joshua, Anthony | AJ | boxing | *Unfortunately, it’s not,* ***AJ****. Without the talk, nobody walks. Fighters fight, but only when the deal is done.*  Mitchell, K. 2020. ‘Tyson Fury all bluster and brickbat but Anthony Joshua refuses to bite.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/dec/13/anthony-joshua-refuses-to-take-the-bate-of-tyson-furys-bluster> |
| Kane, Harry | H | football | *Rice is thinking about his speech before he leads out the team against Belgium. “That’s the worst bit!” he says. “****H*** *[Kane] always speaks, then the other night [against Brazil] it was Walks.*  Hytner, D. 2004. ‘Declan Rice steps up as England leader as he reaches half century.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2024/mar/25/declan-rice-steps-up-as-england-leader-as-he-reaches-half-century> |
| Keighran, Adam | AK | rugby league | Eckersley, Z. 2024, June 08. *thanks to all the lads obviously* ***AK*** *missed out but he's helped me all week massive thanks to him* [Interviewee comment]. Betfred Challenge Cup Final 2024: Warrington Wolves v Wigan Warriors. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC One. |
| Kelly, Charlotte | CK | hockey | Richardson, A. 2023, October 17. ***CK*** *might be able to grab them and bring them to the game.* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Karthik, Dinesh | DK | cricket | Ward, I. 2023, July 19. ***DK*** *what sort of an achievement would that be* [Presenter comment]. The Ashes: 4th Test Day 1. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| Kohler-Cadmore, Tom | TKC | cricket | Butcher, M. 2024, June 11. *it certainly was perilously close to inside edge and the front pad for* ***TKC*** [Commentator comment]. Vitality T20 Blast: Middlesex v Somerset. [Live TV broadcast]. Sky Sports Cricket. |
| McCarthy-Scarsbrook, Louie | LMS | rugby league | *But after a season training and playing with him, as well as the other hard men of the Saints front row such as Tony Puletua, Josh Perry and James Roby,* ***LMS*** *feels much better prepared to assume greater responsibility next year.*  Wilson, A. 2011. ‘How a scouse-cockney combo can buck trend for St Helens in Grand Final.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2011/oct/06/st-helens-grand-final-mccarthy-scarsbrook> |
| O'Brien, Caroline | Cob[[27]](#endnote-27) | hockey | Southgate HC. [@SouthgateHC]. 2023, October 28. *Today we come together to celebrate our wonderful friend* ***Cob****, a year on from losing you, the club, the members, your teammates and friends all miss you dearly!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/SouthgateHC/status/1718216935119134777> |
| O'Driscoll, Brian | BOD | rugby union | *Sexton added a second, following the best of the* ***BOD*** *passes, a left-handed overhead dunk to Rob Kearney.*  Butler, E. 2014. ‘Ireland rampant against Italy in Brian O'Driscoll's Dublin farewell.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2014/mar/08/ireland-italy-six-nations-match-report-brian-odriscoll> |
| Peacock, Jamie | JP | rugby league | Brown, K. 2024, June 08. *they've probably just tried too many risk (sic) and almost tried too much without building a platform and being patient but what* ***JP*** *said just there about the experience it's almost the inexperience of the Warrington side making the errors*[Studio analyst comment]. Betfred Challenge Cup Final 2024: Warrington Wolves v Wigan Warriors. [Live TV broadcast]. BBC One. |
| Pietersen, Kevin | KP | cricket | Pietersen, K. 2014. ***KP****: The Autobiography.* London: Sphere. |
| Rees-Zammit, Louis | LRZ | rugby union | *As* ***LRZ*** *made clear in his hastily written farewell note, this sort of life-changing opportunity does not come around every day.*  Kitson, R. 2024. ‘Louis Rees-Zammit’s hasty ditching of Wales for NFL adventure is huge gamble.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/jan/16/louis-rees-zammit-wales-nfl-huge-gamble-american-football> |
| Terry, John | JT | football | Derbyshire, O. 2010. ***JT****. Captain, Leader, Legend: The Biography of John Terry.* London: John Blake. |
| Thomas, Justin | JT | golf | *“You just don’t leave* ***JT*** *[Justin Thomas] at home,” Johnson insisted.*  Murray, E. 2017. ‘Justin Thomas says jealousy over Spieth’s Open inspired US PGA win.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2017/aug/14/justin-thomas-jealousy-jordan-spieth-us-pga-golf-tiger-woods> |
| van Dijk, Virgil | VVD | football | Richards, M. 2023, November 20. *well I’ve got* ***VVD*** *as one I think this season he’s definitely back to his best* [Presenter comment]. Match of the Day: Top 10 Dutch Players. [Podcast]. Online at <www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0gdvqpf> |
| van Gerwen, Michael | MVG | darts | “*Not a chance, you’ve still got* ***MVG*** *[Michael van Gerwen] and Luke [Humphries],” he replied when asked whether he was the best player in the world right now.*  Liew, J. 2024. ‘‘I can go all the way’: Littler dreaming of world darts title after easing into semis.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/jan/01/i-can-go-all-the-way-littler-dreaming-of-world-darts-title-after-easing-into-semis> |
| van Persie, Robin | RVP | football | *It won't be long before* ***RVP*** *Ennui is an official medical condition, as his transfer is shaping up to match the will-they-won't-they-MAKEITSTOP sagas of Patrick Vieira (2004) and Cesc Fábregas (2011).*  Smyth, R. 2012. ‘Football transfer rumours: Robin van Persie to Juventus?’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2012/jul/06/football-transfer-rumours-robin-van-persie> |
| Villas-Boas, André | AVB | football | ***AVB*** *leaves Tottenham seventh in Premier League*  Fifield, D. 2013. ‘Tottenham sack André Villas-Boas after humiliating home defeat.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/football/2013/dec/16/tottenham-sack-andre-villas-boas> |
| Yadav, Suryakumar | SKY | cricket | *The greatest catch ever? | INCREDIBLE fielding by* ***SKY*** *in last over of T20 World Cup final!*  Sky. 2024.ICC Men’s T20 World Cup Final: India v South Africa. Online at <www.skysports.com/watch/video/13161025/have-you-seen-a-better-catch-incredible-fielding-by-suryakumar-yadav> |
| Williams, J.P.R. | JPR | rugby union | *Williams, who has died aged 74 from bacterial meningitis, would forever be known as* ***JPR****, the three most evocative initials in the sport.*  Malin, I. 2014. ‘Obituary: JPR Williams.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2024/jan/09/jpr-williams-obituary> |
| **initialisms** | | | |
| **athlete** | **nickname** | **sport** | **source** |
| Axford, Maddie | Maxford | hockey | Cambridge City HC. [@cchcuk]. 2022, March 25. *Congrats to CCHC Old Girl Maddie who has been retrospectively awarded the 2021 U18 Youth Award from the @HockeyWriters1. Well done* ***MAxford****!* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/cchcuk/status/1507417198557642754> |
| Clifford, Tom | T-Cliff | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2021, September 25. *52’ 2-1 Now* ***T-Cliff*** *is creating and Gianni’s shot is smothered by some good goalkeeping.* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1441760384549982216> |
| Day, Jason | J-Day | golf | *5.22am: Next up is* ***J-Day****, even with the card and 12 shots behind his partner in the World Cup, Mr Scott.*  Cleary, M. 2013. ‘Australian Open day two: as it happened.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2013/nov/29/australia-open-golf-day-two-live> |
| Earps, Mary | Mearps | football | *Holly Collins, who illustrates T-shirts for her company HollaaaaFC, made a jersey emblazoned with the phrase “Number one, second to none” above “****Mearps****” with the words “Safe hands – safe heart. Mary, Queen of Shots”.*  Hall, R. 2023. ‘Mary Earps goalkeeper shirts to go on sale after Nike U-turn.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/business/2023/aug/24/mary-earps-and-other-female-goalkeeper-shirts-to-go-on-sale-after-nike-u-turn> |
| Edmund, Kyle | Kedders | tennis | *“Apart from* ***Kedders****, I’ve got a pretty good record against the Brits; he took me down a few times so he’s probably favourite for the event.”*  Mitchell, K. 2020. ‘Dan Evans out to enjoy Battle of the Brits as pack returns for an airing.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/jun/21/dan-evans-out-to-enjoy-battle-of-the-brits-as-pack-returns-for-an-airing> |
| Ennis-Hill, Jessica | Jennis | athletics | *He described “****Jennis****”, as she is known to colleagues at the EIS, as the nicest person in the world.*  Perraudin, F. 2013. ‘Interview: Jessica Ennnis-Hill.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/oct/13/people-can-see-a-girl-from-sheffield-can-make-it-big-support-as-jessica-ennis-hill-retires> |
| Griffith Joyner, Florence | Flo-Jo | athletics | *The British sprinter insisted that the rapid improvements in spike and track technology meant “nothing is impossible” for modern athletes – including surpassing* ***Flo-Jo****’s iconic 100m and 200m records set in 1988.*  Ingle, S. 2022. ‘Dina Asher-Smith says Florence Griffith Joyner’s world records are at risk.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2022/may/20/dina-asher-smith-says-florence-griffith-joyner-world-records-are-under-threat> |
| Hill, Sam | Shill | hockey | Exeter University HC. [@ExeterUniHC]. 2023, March 28. *AGM 2023 Treasurer - Sam Hill Many congratulations to* ***Shill*** *who will be in charge of the club’s money next year* [Tweet]. Online at <twitter.com/ExeterUniHC/status/1640786512588738562> |
| Hunter, Sarah | Sunter | rugby union | *Botterman said: “It’s an end of an era and sad to see both of them go, especially* ***Sunter*** *(Sarah Hunter) obviously, with everything she’s done for the game, but Mids as well.”*  Steinberg, R. 2023. ‘England’s Hannah Botterman makes Twickenham prediction ahead of 2025 World Cup.’ Online at <www.independent.co.uk/sport/twickenham-sarah-hunter-simon-middleton-six-nations-england-b2305926.html> |
| Martin, Charlotte | Charmar | hockey | Robinson, B. 2019, September 6. *holiday with the Nottingham lot Pommers Bish* ***Charmar*** [WhatsApp message]. |
| McDowell, Graeme | G-Mac | golf | *“You’ve got Big Macs, we’ve* ***G-Mac****,” so sang the boisterous crowd at the first tee as McDowell led out Paul McGinley’s European side.*  Gibson, O. 2014. ‘Graeme McDowell is Ryder Cup mentor but USA take heart from wordplay.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2014/sep/28/graeme-mcdowell-ryder-cup-usa-europe-gleneagles> |
| Neville, Gary | G-Nev | football | Richards, M. 2024, May 13. ***G-Nev*** *he’s a good lad isn’t he he’s intelligent he knows football really well* [Presenter comment]. Match of the Day: Top 10 One Club Men. [Podcast]. Online at <www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0hx85m9> |
| Robinson, Ami | A Rob | hockey | Davies, M. 2024, April 26. *I’m happy for Ealing if* ***A Rob*** *is* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Robinson, Jonny | J Rob | hockey | Robinson, B. 2023, September 29. *Played it to Bish &* ***J Rob*** *- they’re thrilled hahah* [WhatsApp message]. |
| Roddick, Andy | A-Rod | tennis | *They have met 14 times, with the American winning just once, and even the most patriotic of US tennis commentators would be hard pushed to make a case for the* ***A-Rod*** *beating the world No1 again in their overnight quarter-final here at Flushing Meadows.*  Bierley, S. 2007. ‘Roddick saves his energy as he awaits Federer test.’ Online at <www.theguardian.com/sport/2007/sep/05/tennis.usopentennis2007> |
| Waller, Jack | J-Wal[[28]](#endnote-28) | hockey | Haycroft, M. 2024, April 7. *dunno whether there was maybe some miscommunication between* ***J-Wal*** *and Foxy* [= Ben Fox] *there* [Commentator comment]. Surbiton HC v Wimbledon HC. [Live stream]. Online at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=trUNcqQjuNg> |

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1. I spell the nickname, *Dannsy* with <s> here, but the pronunciation of Jürgen Klopp (whose L1 is German) is [ˈdantsi], which represents – in German - a spelling with /z/; cf. footnote 2 below. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Note that in *Dannzy* word final <s> in the input converts to <z> combined with y-suffixation in the output, but this has no impact on pronunciation – in English - which is /z/ in both surname and nickname; cf. footnote 1 above. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. *Doc* does not match the expected clipped form of the underlying surname, which would suggest ‘Doch’. This probably results from the possibility for confusion regarding pronunciation as word final ‘ch’ in English generally represents an affricate, /ʧ/, so \**Doch* might be misinterpreted as /dɒʧ/, while *Doc* is pronounced /dɒk/ in most varieties of British English as is the medial consonant in the surname *Docherty* (/ˈdɒkəti/). NB: a Scottish English (and Scots) pronunciation would be /ˈdɒxərte/; Tommy Docherty was born and grew up in Glasgow, but spent the vast majority of his professional football career as a player and manager in England. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. One might expect the clipped form to be spelt \**Doug*. ‘Doug’ is a common abbreviation of the first name, *Douglas*, and is usually pronounced (in England anyway) with a STRUT vowel (Wells, 1982: 131-132) – i.e. *Doug* (/dʌg, dʊg/). The spelling with double <o> makes it clear that the nickname, *Doog* (/duːg/), contains the same vowel as the initial syllable in the surname, *Dougan* (/ˈduːgən/). [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. One might expect a double <d> here. It is possible the single <d> offers an association with *God*; as an exceptionally creative and gifted footballer, Glenn Hoddle was revered as godlike by Tottenham Hotspur fans. [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. In this case, the output prompts a phonetic change as the resulting clip surfaces as *Geech* (/giːʧ/) - i.e. with a word final affricate, /ʧ/ - while the corresponding syllable in the surname, *McGeechan* (/məˈgiːkən/), has a final plosive, /k/. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. \**Mers* might suggest a pronunciation with word final /z/ - i.e. /məːz/, thus rhyming with ‘hers’; the additional <-e> makes it clear that the nickname, *Merse* (/məːs/) ends in a voiceless consonant – i.e. rhyming with ‘hearse’ – to mirror the pronunciation of the same consonant in the surname, *Merson* (/ˈməːsən/). [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. Intriguingly, a small number of nicknames as simple clips are prefaced by a definite article, *the*, when used in the third person. Referring to Tommy Docherty as *the Doc* is probably attributable to the fact it replicates the use in informal English of *the doc* [= ‘(the) doctor’]. Similarly, an association with *ox* [= ‘bovine animal’] probably explains why the definite article also frequently occurs with *the Ox* [Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain], but the motivation for the article prefix with *the Doog* [Derek Dougan], *the Drog* [Didier Drogba] and *the Huck* [Darren Huckerby] is less immediately apparent. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. Henry Baugniet is an English hockey player of French heritage. *Baugniet* – pronounced /boˈɲɛ/ in French – is generally realised as /ˈbuːniˌɛɪ/ by English speakers, thus prompting the form *Boonie* (/ˈbuːni/). [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
10. <-i> suffixation represents ostensibly the same phonetic output as English <y> suffixation, although I cannot vouch for how productive a process it is in German. While English speakers generally pronounce *Klinsmann* with /z/ - i.e. *Klinsmann* (/ˈklɪnzmən/) – and, I suspect, assume a similar realisation for his nickname – i.e. *Klinsi* (/ˈklɪnzi/) - Germans pronounce both with /s/ - i.e. *Klinsmann* (/ˈklɪnsˌman/) and *Klinsi* (/ˈklɪnsi/). [↑](#endnote-ref-10)
11. <-i> suffixation represents the same phonetic output as <y> suffixation, but is rare in the data (cf. footnotes 10 and 12); I suspect the final <i> in *Livi* is preferred to <ie> or <-y> as it retains a visual similarity with then underlying surname *Livingstone*. [↑](#endnote-ref-11)
12. Unusually, *Maxi* is spelt with final <i>; I suspect this is prompted by its visual and semantic relationship with *maxi* [= ‘maximum’]; Glenn Maxwell is a prolific hitter of boundaries and *maximum* is cricketing slang for a ‘six’ (Wallace, 2023). [↑](#endnote-ref-12)
13. The surname, *Dixon*, contains orthographic <x> representing the consonant cluster, /ks/; the change in spelling reflects the ‘normal’ process of removing word final <son> (/sən/) to generate the clip ‘Dick’ (/dɪk/) prior to adding suffix <-o> - i.e. the nickname is *Dicko* (/ˈdɪkəʊ/) not \**Dixo* (/ˈdɪksəʊ/). [↑](#endnote-ref-13)
14. While single <v> might imply the pronunciation, *Evo* (/ˈiːvəʊ/) - i.e. with a long initial vowel, as in the adhesive product brand name, *Evo-Stick*; the nickname is actually pronounced /ˈɛvəʊ/ - i.e. with the same initial vowel as the surname, *Evans* (/ˈɛvənz/). [↑](#endnote-ref-14)
15. In this case, the output prompts a phonetic change as the resulting clip surfaces as ‘Franc’ (/fɹaŋk/) - i.e. with a short vowel and word final /k/ - while the corresponding syllable in the surname has final /s/ and, for the RP-speaking commentator, a long vowel – i.e. *Francis* (/ˈfɹɑːnsɪs/); the nickname is thus *Franco* (/ˈfɹaŋkəʊ/) not \**Franso* (/ˈfɹaŋsəʊ, ˈfɹɑːnsəʊ/). [↑](#endnote-ref-15)
16. It is possible to include *Gundo* in this group if we assume syllable boundaries for *Gündoğan* at /gʌnd.ə.ɰan/, thus interpreting the output as derived from the clip, ‘Gund’, plus suffix <-o>. However, I suspect most English speakers confer syllable boundaries for this Turkish surname at /gʊn.də.wan/, which would result in the form \**Guno*. *Gundo* is, therefore, a marginal case and possibly open to interpretation as a disyllabic clip, *Gundo*, formed simply by deleting the final syllable, <-gan>. However, the data shows that nicknames as straightforward clips end exclusively with a closed syllable, which renders this interpretation equally problematic. Jamet (2009) reports that approximately 70% of clips in English end with a consonant; intriguingly, he also notes that, of the remaining 30% that end in an open syllable, roughly 55% have word final <o>, so the status of *Gundo* is open to conjecture. [↑](#endnote-ref-16)
17. The form, *Hambo*, requires conversion of syllable final <p> in the clipped surname to <b> in the nickname (i.e. ‘Hamp’ → *Hambo*), prompting a pronunciation change from a voiceless /p/ in the underlying form to a voiced /b/ in the output. I suspect the motivation for this may be the subsequent rhyme with *Rambo*, a fictional character played by Sylvester Stallone in a series of action films, since an aggressive, physically imposing action hero may well offer positive connotations as a nickname for a rugby player. For similar reasons Spanish golfer, Jon Rahm, who is renowned for his powerful ball striking, frequently goes by the nickname *Rahmbo* (Ingle, 2023). While superficially similar to the nicknames identified here, one might anticipate the surname, *Rahm*, could generate a nickname with o-suffixation – i.e. \**Rahmo* – but the additional <b> in *Rahmbo* (/ˈɹɑːmbəʊ/) suggests it is more likely simply inspired by orthographic similarity to *Rambo* so I do not include *Rahmbo* in my data set. I also exclude *Rambo* (/ˈɹambəʊ/) [footballer, Aaron Ramsey (Fisher, 2023)], as I suspect this nickname is equally imitative, as clipping plus suffixation would suggest \**Ram*(*m*)*o* (/ˈɹɑːməʊ/). [↑](#endnote-ref-17)
18. Note that in *Stevo* the consonant cluster, <ph>, in the input converts to <v> in the output, but this has no impact on pronunciation, which is /v/ in both surname and nickname. [↑](#endnote-ref-18)
19. It is possible to include *Tendo* in this group if we assume syllable boundaries for *ten Doeschate* at /tɛnd.us.xɑː.tə/, thus interpreting the output as derived from the clip, ‘Tend’, plus suffix <-o>. However, I suspect most English speakers confer syllable boundaries for this Dutch/Afrikaans surname at /tɛn.du.ʃɑː.tə/, which would result in the form \**Teno*. *Tendo* is, therefore, a marginal case and possibly open to interpretation as a disyllabic clip, *Tendo*, formed simply by deleting the final two syllables, <-schate>; cf. footnote 11 above. [↑](#endnote-ref-19)
20. It is possible to include *Tresco* in this group if we assume syllable boundaries for *Trescothick* at /tɹɛsk.ɒθ.ɪk/, thus interpreting the output as derived from the clip, ‘Tresc’, plus suffix <-o>. However, the conventions of English syllabification confer syllable boundaries at /tɹə.skɒθ.ɪk/, which would result in the form \**Treo*. *Tresco* is, therefore, a marginal case and possibly open to interpretation as a disyllabic clip, *Tresco*, formed simply by deleting the final syllable, <-thick>; cf. footnote 11 above. [↑](#endnote-ref-20)
21. While the spelling of nicknames in this group consistently features word final <s>, this is realised as /z/ following predictable assimilation to a preceding voiced consonant – i.e. *Becks* [David Beckham] is pronounced /bɛks/ but *Biggs* [Dan Biggar] is pronounced /bɪgz/. [↑](#endnote-ref-21)
22. I am confident that *Caps* belongs in this group if we accept the syllable boundary in *Capsey* /kap.si/ occurs between the /p/ and the /s/ - i.e. the <s> is in all probability a suffix added to the clipped form, ‘Cap’. [↑](#endnote-ref-22)
23. I have some reservations about *Daws*: structurally it meets the criteria for inclusion here if we consider the word final <s> to be a suffix. However, the final syllable, <son>, represents a free morpheme and common final element in English surnames, thus syllabification is, presumably, /dɔː.sən/, which would produce a clip, ‘Daw’ to which we can attach suffix <-s>. If this were correct, then one would expect the suffix to be voiced – as is the case when suffix <-s> marks noun plurals or third person singular verbs that end in an open syllable - e.g. *paw* (/pɔː/) → *paws* (/pɔːz/), *see* (/siː/) → *sees* (/siːz/). However, *Daws* has voiceless /s/ - i.e. *Daws* ([dɔːs]) – as confirmed by the pronunciation cited here of teammate, Paul Grayson. This suggests, then, that *Daws* may be a clip with word final <-on> deleted, although this overlooks the status of <-son> as a discrete unit. This is also true of *Glees* [Paul Gleeson], which I believe also has a voiceless final consonant – i.e. /gliːs/. [↑](#endnote-ref-23)
24. Note that *Nobes* is spelt with final <-es> (cf. *go* → *goes*) to indicate the pronunciation contains the same GOAT vowel (Wells, 1982: 146-147) vowel as the surname – i.e. *Noble* (/ˈnəʊbɫ̩/) → *Nobes* (/nəʊbz/), not \**Nobs* (/nɒbz/); cf. *Robes* (/ɹəʊbz/), [James Roby]. [↑](#endnote-ref-24)
25. Henry Baugniet is an English hockey player of French heritage. *Baugniet* – pronounced /boˈɲɛ/ in French – is generally realised as /ˈbuːniˌɛɪ/ by English speakers, thus prompting the form *Boonie* (/ˈbuːni/). [↑](#endnote-ref-25)
26. The conversion of orthographic <aw> in the surname to <o> in the output ensures the pronunciation of the initial vowel in the surname, *Lawrence* (/ˈlɒɹəns/), corresponds with the vowel in the nickname, *Loz* (/lɒz/) - i.e. both contain a LOT vowel (Wells, 1982: 130-131); \**Lawz* (/lɔːz/) would imply a THOUGHT vowel (Wells, 1982: 144-146) [↑](#endnote-ref-26)
27. Unusually for nicknames of this type, *Cob* is an acronym – i.e. /kɒb/; cf. *BOD* (/bɒd/) [Brian O’Driscoll] and *SKY* (/skaɪ/) [Suryakumar Yadav]. [↑](#endnote-ref-27)
28. I spell the nickname with single <l> here to indicate the vowel in the clip, ‘Wal’ ([wɒl]), and the surname, *Waller* ([ˈwɒlə],) are pronounced with a LOT vowel (Wells, 1982: 130-131) – i.e. the nickname is *J-Wal* (/ˈʤɛɪˌwɒl/) but a spelling with double <l> might imply the pronunciation *J-Wall* (/ˈʤɛɪˌwɔːl/). [↑](#endnote-ref-28)