



On-set with A League of Their Own

# “Mo Farah feels like one of our kids!”

Gold-medal guests, huge sporting challenges and Olympic “children”: we talk about the new series of A League Of Their Own with the stars of the show...

**A** League Of Their Own is nothing short of a phenomenon. It's the highest-rated entertainment show on Sky 1, boasts the cream of British sport on its panel, and even created Mo Farah's iconic “Robot” celebration. So we headed on-set to talk about the new series with the stars of the show – James Corden, Freddie Flintoff, Jamie Redknapp and Jack Whitehall – and took on one of their infamous sporting challenges... **LET'S START WITH THE “MOBOT”. THAT'S GONE**

**GLOBAL, AND IT'S ALL DOWN TO THIS SHOW...**  
**James Corden** Crazy, right? No one could have imagined that it would take off in such a way. It's amazing that he did it and he really went for it! He's on the first show of the new series and he's an absolute inspiration to everyone. He's one of the best guests we've ever had. He just comes in with the right spirit.  
**Jamie Redknapp** It's funny – when he passed the line, he did it and you felt like he was one of your kids. He did it for us!  
**JC** The amount of calls that

I got on my phone, you'd think that I'd just won a Gold medal! I kept going, “I can't believe it, I can't believe it!”  
**WHO ARE YOUR FAVOURITE GUESTS ON THE NEW SERIES?**  
**JR** Sir Chris Hoy – he's very competitive, but also just a really nice guy, classy and good fun.  
**Freddie Flintoff** Vincent Kompany was brilliant. I'm a Man City fan, sat next to their captain! He's proper cool.  
**JC** Having Mo back was great. The roof just came off the studio when he walked in. I've

really enjoyed having him on the show in the time he's become a national treasure.  
**Jack Whitehall** Charlotte Jackson, the Sky Sports presenter. She's really fit.  
**ZOO TOOK THE ROAD CYCLING CHALLENGE.**  
**ARE THERE CHALLENGES YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO DO?**  
**JC** I don't think there's anything they won't let us do – they're quite open to us injuring ourselves!  
**JR** We went to a velodrome for one challenge and I think they



ZARA PHILLIPS AND JAMIE: BEST OF TEAMMATES



FREDDIE HAS A LAUGH WITH LAURA TROTT



ZOO takes on the road cycling challenge...



...and wins Gold!

were actually disappointed that none of us injured ourselves.  
**JW** I reckon this show is insured by some guy they met down the pub. It can't be through some legitimate company!  
**JC** Jamie tried hard to get out of the synchronised swimming challenge.

**JR** In the morning, I was ringing up, like I was pulling a sickie.  
**JW** He had a sick note from Harry!

→ The new series of A League Of Their Own starts on Friday 26 October, 10pm on Sky 1

EXCLUSIVE!

## A QUICK WORD WITH JOE THOMAS

Fresh Meat star Joe Thomas tells ZOO about university, crap football teams and The Inbetweeners Movie sequel

**HI JOE! THE NEW SERIES OF YOUR UNI COMEDY FRESH MEAT IS CURRENTLY ON. WHAT'S NEW?**  
 Oh, lots of good stuff! There's plenty of new relationships and new characters. There's a girlfriend character for Kingsley and there's also a new housemate who's a much older Dutch woman they all hate, so she stirs up the house.  
**MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE BEARD...**

It's known as a “soul patch”. I'm not committed to it. I'd rather go rugged full-beard, or no beard at all. There's something about cultivated facial hair I find a bit weird. A beard should be rugged; trimming it defeats the object.  
**IS THIS YOUR BIGGEST HAIR FAIL?**

I had really long hair at university, but I didn't consider it an unusual thing. I only cut it when I started doing *The Inbetweeners*. So, I didn't even realise that it looked sh\*t. It just got taken off me.  
**TELL US MORE ABOUT YOUR UNI DAYS...**

I remember jumping in rivers a lot. I thought if I jumped in rivers, girls would think I was brave. This is honestly a problem I have had throughout my life, as it's obviously not true. Nothing really changes when you get out of the river, except you're a lot wetter.

**DID YOU JOIN ANY WEIRD UNIVERSITY SOCIETIES?**  
 I was on an email list of a society that was planning a visit to Colombia, but it sounded like they were either



WITH THE FRESH MEAT CAST!



gathering drugs or going to commit mass suicide!  
**WHAT ABOUT SPORT?**  
 I played for the second 11 in football, where there was an unspoken agreement people shouldn't try that hard. I remember one time, a player scored a really good goal, where he cut in and slotted the ball into the corner, and everyone reacted like, “That's a bit off, mate. Come on, don't be a dick.”  
**FINALLY, THE INBETWEENERS SEQUEL! ANY NEWS?**  
 We are working on one, but there isn't a script yet and it's quite a long way off. But I hope that it'll come to fruition. Watch this space.

→ Fresh Meat is on Tuesdays, Channel 4, 10pm