

MY LIFE IN FOOTBALL

THE MAN WHO

MEETS T



TIMBSY

Age 25
Job COPA90 presenter
Team Arsenal
Favourite player Mesut Özil



Hanging out in Munich with David Alaba and Renato Sanches

The YouTube presenter spends his life hanging out with pro footballers and making videos for COPA90, who have over 1.5 million subscribers. But there is way more to his job than chilling with Lionel Messi!

One of my earliest football memories is going in the changing rooms and tunnel at Arsenal's old stadium, Highbury. I was only about six and I met Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain.

I support Arsenal because my dad supported them, and my grandad. My grandad was from Dagenham. He ran a local football team in the same league as Tony Adams' dad.

My happiest moment watching football was when Arsenal won the 2014 FA Cup final against Hull. We hadn't won a trophy since 2005 and back then we were used to winning so I didn't appreciate it. In 2014 I was at Wembley with mates and we were all so happy.

When I was younger I wanted to be a footballer. I knew early on I wasn't going to

make it, though. I played in school teams but getting into a proper academy was never on my radar. I still loved football, so I looked at being a football journalist, or a commentator on TV or the radio.

No day at COPA90 is the same. We have new things to film every day so I am often writing a script or organising a set where the video will be filmed. Then I help out with social media stuff like Snapchat and Instagram, edit videos and do voiceovers for other videos. It's so varied, I love it.

It is always surprising how normal players are off the pitch. Most of the time they just have a conversation with you like anyone else. It's happened with everyone – Zinedine Zidane, David Beckham, Lionel Messi. I chatted



Eye to eye with Leicester's Christian Fuchs



Eden Hazard points the way

Who's he?



THE STARS!



Getting to grips with Lionel Messi



Timbsy sharpens his skills at the Ajax training centre

There is a picture of Lionel Messi and me on stage and I still can't believe it. It was for the reveal of the 2018 World Cup ball and they didn't know if Messi would show up until the last minute. They needed a Spanish speaker to introduce

There's always going to be different paths. You could go to university, get a degree in journalism then join a newspaper. Or don't go to uni and make a name for yourself on your own. Nothing is off limits.

to Messi a bit. He's one of the best players of all time, yet he's right in front of me chatting about his day.

The coolest thing about my job is meeting players who we all love so much. These footballers are the best in the world, have loads of money and are famous but you can talk to them. It's refreshing.

him to the audience and the people who organised the event knew I spoke the language so they just said: "Timbsy, do you want to do it?" I said yes and then started to really panic, I was like "What am I doing?!"

My advice to people who want to work in football YouTube and social media is to work hard. There is more than one way to get to where you want to be.



Man City's Kevin de Bruyne



Timbsy chills with Arsenal's Aaron Ramsey and Watford's Troy Deeney

