

## Ray Parlour

Former England and Arsenal Football player

Ray Parlour is a genuine and very likeable man. He's great company and has a lot of stories and experiences to share.

After joining as a trainee, Ray spent 14 years at Arsenal, making 468 appearances enjoying fantastic success. During his time at the Gunners he won the league cup, three league titles and two FA Cups (including scoring a spectacular winning goal against Chelsea in the 2002 FA Cup Final) as well as playing in the Champions League and Uefa Cup.

It was in the Euro 2000 qualifier against Poland in 1999 that he made his England debut. He went on to win 10 caps for his country

Dubbed the 'Romford Pelé', Ray broke into the Arsenal side managed by George Graham in January 1992. An industrious and hard working player, he improved match by match and when Arsene Wenger arrived in September 1996 he flourished. With his footballing brain, skill and tackling ability he gave the Arsenal midfield a quality balance. Playing alongside the likes of Patrick Vieira and Dennis Bergkamp no doubt helped.

Ray left Highbury on a high note in the summer of 2004 shortly after Wenger's 'Invincibles' had completed an unbeaten title campaign. He signed for Middlesbrough and remained there for two and half years until 2007 when he joined Hull City for a short period before retiring.

A natural communicator and storyteller, on hanging up his boots Ray smoothly moved into the media world. He hosts a show on talkSPORT as well as being a contributor on other media outlets here and abroad.

He is great at hosting events as well as being a popular after dinner speaker.