# Chloe Kelly’s winning strike and street party spark new wave of Lionesses celebrations



Chloe Kelly, the star forward for England’s Lionesses, has been at the centre of nationwide celebration following the team’s remarkable achievement in securing back-to-back UEFA Women’s European Championship titles. Scoring the winning penalty against Spain in the Euro 2025 final held in Switzerland, Kelly’s decisive strike sealed England’s historic 3-1 victory in a tense shootout. This triumph made the Lionesses the first English senior team to retain a major tournament title and to do so on foreign soil, further solidifying their status as icons of women’s football.

In the days following the final, Kelly’s influence and popularity soared. She not only scored a dramatic late winner in extra time during the semi-final but also captured the nation’s heart with her vibrant celebrations. Most memorably, on the pitch, she delivered a now-famous line, "so nice we had to do it twice," reflecting England’s consecutive European wins, and later celebrated atop an open-top bus during the jubilant parade in London. Over 65,000 fans turned out to honour the team, enjoying performances from artists including Katy B and Burna Boy, as well as emotional speeches led by captain Leah Williamson, who praised the team’s resilience through challenges. The parade culminated in a celebratory gathering outside Buckingham Palace, where the Lionesses led the crowd in renditions of Tina Turner’s "River Deep Mountain High," a song that has become synonymous with the team’s spirit.

Kelly’s celebration extended beyond the capital. Over the weekend, she threw a lively street party in her hometown of Hanwell, West London, dancing alongside friends and family to Cameo’s hit "Candy," encapsulating the community pride and joy sparked by her achievements. Her connection to Hanwell runs deep—she attended Elthorne Park High School and has never forgotten her roots, inspiring many local girls to dream big in sports. Ealing Council, recognising her profound impact both on and off the pitch, plans to bestow upon Kelly the Freedom of the Borough later this year, a prestigious civic honour. The council is also exploring ways to publicly commemorate her contributions through community art projects and other tributes.

Kelly’s journey has been marked by memorable moments and a reputation for bold celebration. Her iconic goal during the Euro 2022 final against Germany, which secured England’s first major women’s trophy, was followed by a powerful celebration where she stripped off her shirt, revealing her sports bra—a gesture that sparked much discussion about gender norms in sports. The incident was dubbed "the best yellow card" she ever received, reflecting her unreserved joy and the changing landscape of women’s football, where players now openly express passion in ways traditionally seen in the men’s game.

The whole Lionesses squad was welcomed home with adoration after their victory, greeted by fans at London’s Southend Airport and honoured with a national reception hosted by government officials at Downing Street. Though Prime Minister Keir Starmer was absent due to diplomatic duties, he praised the team’s role in inspiring young people and advancing women’s sports. This victory, combined with their prior success, has not only cemented their legacy in English football history but also highlighted the rapid growth and broader acceptance of women’s football in the UK.

As celebrations transition from public parades to more personal acknowledgements like Kelly’s hometown party and upcoming civic honours, the Lionesses continue to serve as pioneers and role models. Their resilience, unity, and groundbreaking performances have pushed the sport into a new era, energising a generation and reshaping the cultural landscape of football.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14966805/Lionesses-hero-Chloe-Kelly-throws-huge-street-party-hometown-celebrate-Euro-2025-glory.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.fourfourtwo.com/news/lionesses-celebrate-womens-euro-2025-victory-with-huge-parade-in-london), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/england-women-return-home-heroes-welcome-after-euro-2025-win-2025-07-28/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[2]](https://www.fourfourtwo.com/news/lionesses-celebrate-womens-euro-2025-victory-with-huge-parade-in-london), [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/england-women-return-home-heroes-welcome-after-euro-2025-win-2025-07-28/), [[4]](https://www.fourfourtwo.com/features/when-is-the-lionesses-parade-all-you-need-to-know-about-englands-euro-2025-victory-celebrations-how-to-attend-and-how-to-watch-on-tv)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14966805/Lionesses-hero-Chloe-Kelly-throws-huge-street-party-hometown-celebrate-Euro-2025-glory.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[5]](https://hounslowherald.com/ealing-celebrates-hanwells-chloe-kelly-with-highest-civic-honour-p28717-308.htm)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14966805/Lionesses-hero-Chloe-Kelly-throws-huge-street-party-hometown-celebrate-Euro-2025-glory.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[6]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/chloe-kelly-lionesses-england-euro-2022-celebration-yellow-card-gmb-good-morning-britain-b1016105.html), [[7]](https://kbizoom.com/chloe-kelly-euro-2025-winning-goal-shirtless-celebration-debate/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/england-women-return-home-heroes-welcome-after-euro-2025-win-2025-07-28/), [[2]](https://www.fourfourtwo.com/news/lionesses-celebrate-womens-euro-2025-victory-with-huge-parade-in-london)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14966805/Lionesses-hero-Chloe-Kelly-throws-huge-street-party-hometown-celebrate-Euro-2025-glory.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.fourfourtwo.com/news/lionesses-celebrate-womens-euro-2025-victory-with-huge-parade-in-london> - The Lionesses celebrated their UEFA Women's Euro 2025 victory with a massive parade in London, drawing over 65,000 fans. This marked a historic achievement as they became the first English senior team to retain a major tournament title and win it on foreign soil. Their win came after a dramatic penalty shootout against Spain in the final, with Alessia Russo equalizing and Hannah Hampton making crucial saves before Chloe Kelly netted the decisive penalty. The celebration included performances by Katy B and Burna Boy, with emotional speeches from team members, including captain Leah Williamson, who highlighted the team’s resilience and unity through challenging moments. Heather Small also performed 'Proud,' a motivational song for the players. The festivities concluded with the squad leading fans in singing Tina Turner's 'River Deep Mountain High,' a now-traditional anthem for the team. Jess Carter was the only squad member absent, returning early to her NWSL club. The event underscored the rapid growth and enduring legacy of women's football in England.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/england-women-return-home-heroes-welcome-after-euro-2025-win-2025-07-28/> - The England women's soccer team returned home on Monday to a jubilant welcome following their victory in the Euro 2025 Championship. After defeating Spain 3-1 in a penalty shootout in Basel, with Chloe Kelly scoring the final spot-kick, the team successfully defended their 2022 title. Their arrival at London's Southend Airport was met by enthusiastic fans, despite the Football Association's appeal to avoid crowding the location. A national reception was organized at Downing Street, hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner and attended by Sports Minister Stephanie Peacock and Football Association representatives. Prime Minister Keir Starmer, though absent due to diplomatic duties in Scotland, praised the team for inspiring the nation’s youth. The team was celebrated for their role in advancing women's sports and empowering the next generation. Players expressed pride and joy in post-match celebrations, with Captain Leah Williamson saying she always believed in their success. A public homecoming event is scheduled for Tuesday in central London, featuring live music and tournament highlights, cementing their status as national heroes.
4. <https://www.fourfourtwo.com/features/when-is-the-lionesses-parade-all-you-need-to-know-about-englands-euro-2025-victory-celebrations-how-to-attend-and-how-to-watch-on-tv> - The England Lionesses will celebrate their Euro 2025 victory with a public parade in London on Tuesday, July 28. Fans can join the festivities in person or watch the event on TV. The team defeated Spain in the final after a dramatic match, with Alessia Russo equalizing and Chloe Kelly scoring the decisive penalty in the shootout. The parade begins at 12:10 pm, starting from Horse Guards Road and traveling via The Mall to the Queen Victoria Memorial in front of Buckingham Palace. A 30-minute official celebration will follow at the palace. The event is free, and no tickets are required, though accessible viewing area reservations are available via email. Road closures will be in place from 7 am to 6 pm, and attendees are encouraged to use public transport. Nearby tube stations include Charing Cross, Green Park, and Victoria. Fans are advised to avoid bringing restricted items such as chairs, flares, or drones, and restrooms and water refill stations will be available. For those unable to attend, the parade will be broadcast live from noon on BBC, ITV, and Sky, although specific channel listings have not yet been confirmed.
5. <https://hounslowherald.com/ealing-celebrates-hanwells-chloe-kelly-with-highest-civic-honour-p28717-308.htm> - After delivering back-to-back Euro wins for England, the Lioness icon is set to be recognised by Ealing for her impact on and off the pitch, inspiring girls in the borough and beyond. With a hop, skip, and a jump, Chloe Kelly rifled home the decisive spot-kick in the Euro 2025 final – her strike measured at 110 kmh – to seal England’s 3-1 win over Spain on penalties in Basel and clinch the title. The 27-year-old has been at the heart of the Lionesses’ rise to prominence and their role in transforming the women’s game. Three years earlier, in the Euro 2022 final, Kelly struck the extra-time winner against Germany to deliver England’s first major women’s trophy, delivering one of English football’s most iconic images when she celebrated by swinging her shirt above her head at Wembley. Despite her status as a national hero, Kelly, who grew up in Hanwell and attended Elthorne Park High School, has never forgotten her west London roots, and Ealing council has confirmed that the player will have an official Freedom of the Borough ceremony later this year. The council passed the motion in July 2023, but her performances in this summer’s tournament, as the Lionesses retained their European title, have intensified calls from residents for a lasting public tribute in her honour. Speaking to EALING.NEWS, an Ealing Council spokesperson said: “We are so proud of Hanwell-born and bred Chloe Kelly, as well as the rest of the women’s England team for bringing football home again. Chloe is an inspiration to everyone across the borough playing sport, and alongside her Freedom of the Borough award, we are looking at the most appropriate ways to honour her.” They added: “We are currently working on a public art plan for the borough, which goes out to consultation later this year, and we are keen that this plan includes the celebration of local heroes, like Chloe Kelly, and identifies spaces in our towns for these.”
6. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/chloe-kelly-lionesses-england-euro-2022-celebration-yellow-card-gmb-good-morning-britain-b1016105.html> - Lionesses star Chloe Kelly said she got “the best yellow card” of her life for a wild goal celebration at Wembley, when she ripped off her top to reveal her sports bra and ran down the hallowed turf. England’s super-sub returned home on Monday night to a hero’s welcome in Hanwell a day after scoring the winning goal in the team’s Euro 2022 victory over Germany in extra-time. Relatives and neighbours kissed and hugged Miss Kelly, 24, who locals said has given girls “the ability to dream”. She told Good Morning Britain on Tuesday: “I think that moment everything is a blur, you celebrate for what the moment is, not ‘Am I allowed to take my shirt off’. “As you know, I’m taking my shirt off. I’m going crazy because men footballers have been doing exactly the same, so as a woman why can’t we? You’re an England fan in that moment.” Despite being penalised for it by the referee, Miss Kelly added: “The best yellow card I’ve ever received.” Kelly on Good Morning Britain GMB Kelly's mother, Jane, 55, who stayed at home to care for her seven children while her husband Noel, 58, worked as a machinery engineer, said her daughter was football-mad from an early age. She added: “When she used to go to the shops, she’d be doing kick-ups. I would say, ‘Leave that ball at home’ and she would say ‘no, no, no’. Every time we went out, everywhere we went, she had a ball. “She was tough as old boots and just bounced off of everybody. Growing up here, everyone used to go out playing. Getting hit by the big boys with the ball, she used to get up and get up and that’s made her such a tough footballer. She used to come home with cuts on her legs from bouncing off the cage floor but she’d still go back the next day.
7. <https://kbizoom.com/chloe-kelly-euro-2025-winning-goal-shirtless-celebration-debate/> - Chloe Kelly's shirtless celebration after scoring the winning goal in the Euro 2025 final sparked debate. The incident drew attention due to the rarity of such celebrations in women's football. Kelly's spontaneous act of joy was met with mixed reactions, with some praising her for expressing her emotions freely, while others questioned the appropriateness of the gesture. The debate highlighted ongoing discussions about gender norms and expectations in women's sports. Despite the controversy, Kelly's performance and the team's victory were celebrated, underscoring the significance of their achievement in the tournament.