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Z I N E

TRAINERS
SNEAKERS
KICKS+WEBS
STRIDES+SOLES
CREPS+BEATERS
TRABS+TRAINEES

Whatever you call your footwear, there is a particular tribe who are obsessive about theirs.

volume 07 / community
summer 2022



Every collector has a different story, focus and approach, we ask what's yours in this Community issue?

IN CONVERSATION

with Paul Doke + Wayne Taylor

Adi 8's UK (and half each way)

+

Adidas Vintage 'r Us

and Kayla + Paul @sole_magazine

Solezine Exhibition June 2022

PO: Thank you both for your time today. We've had a brilliant exhibition, and some great commentary about our theme of 'Community', but first, for our readers (and the ones that never made the show), tell us a bit about your backgrounds. How did you get into the trainer scene and what does trainer life look like to you both, as collectors today?

WT: I didn't realise I was collecting. But over a 20-year period I'd amassed about two hundred pairs, which was ridiculous... So, I saved them for Lucas, my son. They were all size seven, seven and a half, and he was in that size range for about a month, now he's a size ten. After that I didn't know what to do with them, so I joined some Facebook groups to sell a few. I didn't know anyone collecting trainers at the time and that's where I started to meet everybody, and I didn't realise it was such a big community that's when the serious buying and selling started.

PO: Yeah.

WT: When I went to look at what I had in the loft, it was pretty much all blue boxes everywhere. There were a few Nike ones, Puma, and a couple of Reebok, but it was primarily adidas. That's when I started collecting properly. When I wanted to improve my collection.

PO: So that element of 'serious collecting' came around 10 years ago?

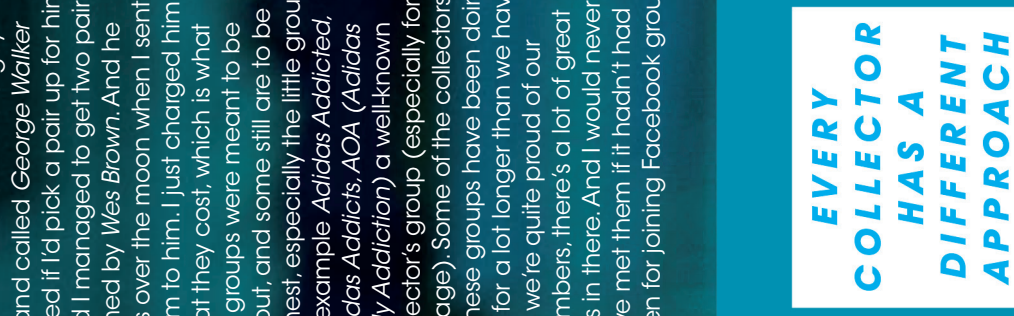
WT: Sort of, Size? [sports retailer] did a 10th anniversary release, I managed to get hold of a few pairs. But it was when I joined the Facebook groups that it really started. I just got hooked instantly and thought, I like these, I like those, I had plenty to sell, enabling me to buy what I wanted.

PO: That's really interesting, and Paul, what about yourself?

PD: I haven't really been collecting per se, as long as Wayne, I always used to wear the top of the range stuff when I was a kid. We were fortunate enough to go abroad on holidays, to places like Switzerland, Malta, South of France and Spain. So, we'd always pick up nice clothes and trainers that you couldn't get back here when we were kids. And then as you know, my life took a very drastic wrong turn, into a life of crime and addiction and all the issues that come with that lifestyle. But in 2011, when I got my act together and got clean, I realised that I must have

PO: I found that fascinating, that camaraderie and the number of lads that have been into the exhibition and said, "I queued outside Size? for two days. I didn't get my shoe size, but I got them for someone else or passed them on for what I paid for them". That generosity of spirit is amazing.

WT: Yeah, that happens a lot, there was a Barcelona that came out which were a Man United trainer, I'm a Liverpool fan, so I didn't want them. And a guy in Ireland called George Walker asked if I'd pick a pair up for him and I managed to get two pairs, signed by Wes Brown. And he was over the moon when I sent them to him. I just charged him what they cost, which is what the groups were meant to be about, and some still are to be honest, especially the little groups, for example Adidas Addicted, Adidas Addicts, AQA (Adidas Only Addiction) a well-known collector's group (especially for vintage). Some of the collectors in these groups have been doing this for a lot longer than we have, but we're quite proud of our members, there's a lot of great lads in there. And I would never have met them if it hadn't had been for joining Facebook groups.



PD: Yeah. So, I've been collecting, seriously now for six years. I like the community elements and the interaction with people.

PO: Now, are you just about vintage? Is that right?

PD: No, not really. Half my collections vintage.

PO: Okay. So, I'm wondering about the differences between these two sub-groups within the trainer community, because there's a noticeable visibility in the modern aftermarket and we see the massive hikes from resellers, especially when it comes to limited editions. We know it's all a trend in marketing, but on the vintage side, it's less apparent, how does that work?

PD: There's some vintage that I like and the idea of the concept of a reissue, but in reality, the quality would be sub-standard.

PO: What if they could do that quality?

PD: If they could reproduce that quality, we'd have probably give you a list of about 50 pairs.

PO: Next question, if you could choose only one - runners or flats?

PD: That's a difficult one.

PO: Well, it might change from day to day, week to week, I suppose.

WT: Yeah, I'd say I prefer runners now, but I liked flats back then.

PD: At the moment, I'm going through a little bit of a runner phase as well.

WT: They are good to be honest, if you can get a good pair of runners you're sorted.

PO: OK, so you may have been asked this one before, if your house was on fire and you've only got time to save one pair - which pair would it be? (from James Brown)



EVERY COLLECTOR HAS A DIFFERENT FOCUS

WT: One pair that's number one, it would be my Columbia.

PO: What's the significance, the story attached to that Wayne?

WT: I wanted them as a kid and just never got them. Mum never had enough money to buy them, or the opportunity never arose. They were on my list for years and when I joined the Facebook group, I actually saw a picture of them. I put a question out to ask who they were. I was asked why I wanted to know, and I said because they are my girl pair. The guy who owned them in the picture didn't have them anymore, he'd sold them on, but he put me in touch with the guy, he'd sold them to, and that guy sold them to me for the same price he'd paid. I had to

PO: So, before Paul comes in the second and third are...

WT: T-Master and Mexicana

PO: Cool.

PD: So, mine would be, West German Amsterdam (they are first pair of vintage I got, it's funny because Wayne invited me to admin onto the V R U and I think that was the second bonus ball. At the time I was frantically searching for boxed vintage, and I was going round the bend over it. The first pair of boxed vintage were my adidas French Rusty, I just love them trainees. And number three would probably be the 1969 unworn French Chamolis, they're the oldest pair I've got in the original box.

PO: Your number one pair, the Amsterdam, is the pair you'd like to be buried in, I think we've just covered a question from Matthew Garside. Next question from Philip Kenningale, what decade do you feel was the best for trainer design?

WT: Definitely 70s and 80s for sure.

PO: So, it's both, it crosses over.

PD: I think, I'd lean towards the seventies for suedes, and the 80s for runners.

WT: Yeah, probably right.

PO: Okay. Great. We have a few question in from Wa/Scott. What's the personal story behind liking adidas? Wayne, you said you had multiple brands initially, but are you a solo adidas person now?

WT: Yeah, I got rid of everything else and had to focus, not enough room for all brands and adidas was the one.

PO: Is there anything significant behind that choice?

WT: Not really, just the three stripes, I think.

PO: It is a massive thing in the North, as well as that affiliation with the Terrace Casual movement in Menswear.

WT: The three stripes was definitely something that stood out across the board against all the others. Like, Nike, it never felt, for me, as good on foot or looked as good as a pair of adidas.

PO: And something like Nike was later as well, it's eighties, isn't it?

PD: It's just adidas for me but I do remember the Nike runners in the late eighties, I did have a few pairs of them, but you know, I've always just been predominantly adidas. Even, when I was playing football as a kid adidas always felt better for me personally. They felt better on me feet.

WT: When I used to see people with adidas on I'd be like, wow, I never did that over any other brand.

PO: We've got a question here about looking up to elders (in a fashion sense) at senior school. What 'pairs' did you look up to then? And actually, can you remember the person's name that was wearing them?

PD: Yeah...

WT: Yeah, for sure...

PD: I always remember one of me mates in school Mick Harris... Liverpool were playing in Switzerland and he actually went, Trimm Trabb. They were the pig skin Trimm Trabb and they were like a sky blue colour and I was like, oh my God.

PO: I'm not a fan of the Trimm Trabb.

PD: I'm not a fan of them, but at the time, well, as a 15-year-old lad, I'd just never seen nothing like them.

PO: I remember a similar experience at school, one of my mates had come back from the States with a pair of Huarache and I was like, wow, what the hell are those?

WT: There were two people. There was an older friend of mine John Clarke whose family were fairly well off, and he had a pair of Forest Hills. They were stunning... and he was just running around the streets, kicking a football, made my eyes bleed (laughs).

At school you had to wear black shoes. Majority of us had adidas Kick even though you weren't really supposed to wear them for school. One lad, Gary Griffiths had a pair of actual All Black and everyone was like oh my God, he can wear them for school.

Everyone else was colouring their white stripes in with marker pen or some kids would put black tape over for school and take it off at the weekend.

PO: No way, amazing what kids used to do back then. Well, that brings the questions from the

just been walking around for years 'asleep' because I didn't notice or appreciate anything. After I got clean, it was as though someone had turned my vision on in HD. I began to really notice all these lads wearing Stone Island, CP, adidas, and all the top clobber I remembered from way back when. It really captured my attention because I used to love all that gear in the eighties and the nineties, but it was something that I'd drifted apart from. So, when I got clean after walking around destitute and lost for so many years, I really started to take pride in my appearance. I got back into really being bothered about how I looked, and how I presented myself. But the interest around trainers grabbed me first, I'd just seen a few mates who have loads of pairs of training shoes, and I'd be asking them questions and they said they were on Facebook groups. So, I ended up finding and joining all these Facebook groups, which is how I met Wayne. I'd see him posting all these different trainees and I just peppered his inbox with questions to tap into his wisdom...

loved the brand, weren't bothered about profit and so that's why we embedded that into our rules.

PO: That takes me to the conversation about resellers and retailers. Because looking at your collections that were in the show, we have the vintage element, predominantly from you Paul, but we had the more modern contemporary stuff from you Wayne, and it's about how these sub-groups and markets change. And if you see resellers or retailers attaching themselves to these groups in order to make profits?

WT: If there's something limited/rare out there, it doesn't matter if it's trainers or whatever, people will see an opportunity to make money and there's nothing you can do about that, and it doesn't bother me. The only thing that bothered me was when I wanted it myself and I could see I'd have to pay double or triple to get it. But that doesn't happen in our group.

WT: There isn't really a market 'cos no one really sells, and when they do, it gets snapped up really quickly. Vintage collectors have been at this for years and already got their collections amassed and they only tend to sell if they see another pair that they need to fund. So, they'll be upgrading their vintage collections. I had a top three pairs I wanted and I had to sell quite a lot of pairs to get them. Good boxed condition vintage is very hard to come by compared to the modern stuff, they very rarely come up for sale, people don't let it go, they know what they've got, and they like to keep hold of it.

through the Community and the Exhibition? Because there were a few things that popped up... So, I'll start with the first question few from *James Brown* ... Should adidas continue with reissues or look to create something new?

WT: No, not my vintage ones anyway. They do sometimes do a good job. Like with the reissue of the ZX600 the grey and yellow runner, from 2006 was really nice. If they can keep doing that standard of reissue then yeah fine, but I'm not even going to say what I don't want reissued 'cos they'll probably reissue it (*laughs*).

pick them up in Burnley, but I was like a kid at Christmas and that was it. I was hooked, the vintage addiction took hold. I actually had a hit list of three, took a few years but got there eventually.

WT: I had a pair of Nike division and never had them off my feet when I was younger, they were brilliant, indestructible. I'd love a pair of them now, but doubt I'd be able to find them in my size now. But as soon as you get the adidas bug that's it.

Community to an end. Can I just say a big thank you again for being so involved with the exhibition, being so open and generous with your time and collections, and again for taking time out to share your stories in Solezine.

WT: No problem. Really enjoyed it. Thank you.

PD: Yeah, thanks Paul.



Z I N E



Die Weltmarke mit den 3 Streifen

The brand with the three stripes

La marque aux trois bandes

Instagram:

[@dakeyp](#)

Size:

7.5

First Pair:

Kick

Latest Pair:

Taiwanese Jogging (1979)

Holy Grail:

French Artic Marine

Instagram:

[@waynetaylor11](#)

Size:

7.5

First Pair:

Napoli

Latest Pair:

Denver (Vintage)

Holy Grail:

Columbia (Vintage)



"The friendships are more important than the trainers"



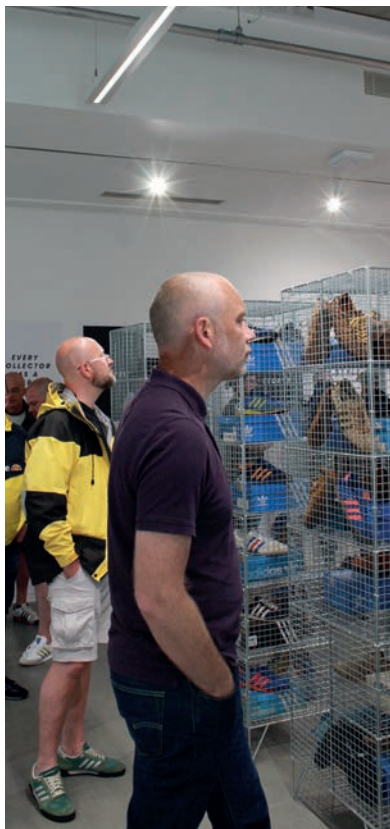
02 First pair?
T&R RUNNER

03 Favourite pair?
MANCHESTER ST

04 What does the trainer community mean to you?
A SENSE OF BELONGING



"The trainers are obviously a big part of it, but more than that, friendships have been forged and reinforced"



"it's broadened my knowledge and fuelled my passion for our beloved brand"



"It's the camaraderie, respect and integrity shown to each other. Friendships are forged and some of the gestures I've seen from our community is astonishing"



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