

= Kenwyne Jones =

Kenwyne Joel Jones CM ( born 5 October 1984 ) is a Trinidadian professional footballer who plays as a striker for Atlanta United and the Trinidad and Tobago national team , whom he captains .

He began his football career with Joe Public in his native Trinidad and Tobago . He moved to W Connection in 2002 , and he was a utility player in the Trinidad and Tobago team in 2003 against Finland . In 2004 , he joined Southampton , where he was converted to a striker . He was later loaned to Sheffield Wednesday and Stoke City during the 2004 ? 05 season . In 2007 he joined Sunderland for £ 6 million where he spent three seasons before he signed for Stoke City in August 2010 . In his first season at Stoke Jones scored 12 goals and played in the 2011 FA Cup Final . Following the arrival of Peter Crouch in August 2011 , Jones struggled to hold down a regular place in the side which saw him score just four more league goals in the next three seasons . In January 2014 he joined Cardiff City in a player @-@ exchange with Peter Odemwingie .

= = Club career = =

= = = Early career = = =

Jones was born in Point Fortin , Trinidad and Tobago , to Lydia and Pamphile. and he attended St. Anthony 's College in Trinidad along with his future Sunderland team @-@ mate Carlos Edwards . His uncle , Philibert Jones was also a footballer as a prolific forward for Strike Squad that came within a point of qualifying for the 1990 World Cup and was a similar player to Kenwyne ; both in style and celebration . His athleticism and pace , which Sunderland considered attractive , was not established until he joined Sheffield Wednesday in September and began to show his potential .

He had earlier had trials at Manchester United and Middlesbrough in 2002 , and further trials at West Ham United and Rangers in 2004 . Jones revealed in an interview with Simon Bird that he had to travel around Europe looking for a football club , or face a career in the Trinidad army ; he said " It was hard because I 'd just had my son and it was make it ? or join the army . I had a family to support and at that time , it was either this is it ... or I go into the services . I was ready for that life . " Jones began his professional career with Joe Public in his native Trinidad and Tobago in 2002 . He soon moved to W Connection where he played for two years .

= = = Southampton = = =

In July 2004 , Jones signed for Southampton from W Connection for a nominal fee after a trial . W Connection 's Chairman David John Williams described Jones ' move , saying : " When Kenwyne Jones was transferred to Southampton , I told you all that he is going to be the biggest thing in Trinidad and Tobago football since beside Dwight Yorke " . In December 2004 , while on loan to the Football League One club Sheffield Wednesday , he scored seven goals in seven games , and returned to Southampton in January 2005 , where he played in games against Liverpool and local rivals Portsmouth . He joined Championship side Stoke City in February 2005 on loan where he played 13 times scoring three goals .

Before the start of the 2006 ? 07 season , Jones scored a hat trick against Anderlecht in Southampton 's last pre @-@ season game , Meanwhile in the Football League Championship Jones scored two goals against Birmingham City on 29 November that ended 4 ? 3 to Southampton . On 26 December 2006 , he received the first red card of his career for a push on Mark Hudson in the match against Crystal Palace . He scored another two goals against Southend United in a 4 ? 1 win on the last day of the season to ensure a place in the play @-@ offs for Southampton , following this , Jones was injured for the play @-@ off semi @-@ final defeat at Derby County but finished the season with 16 goals .

On 11 May 2007 , Southampton manager George Burley stated that " Kenwyne is another Didier Drogba in the making , as far as physical attributes , his strength and power in the air are second to

none " . This followed news that Derby County wanted to sign Jones for around £ 5 @.@ 5 million . Jones submitted a transfer request to Southampton on 24 August 2007 and went on " strike " until a move could be agreed , requesting not to be selected for the forthcoming league match against Stoke City .

= = = Sunderland = = =

On 29 August 2007 , it was confirmed that he had joined Sunderland in a deal valued at £ 6 million with fellow @-@ Trinidadian Stern John moving to Southampton . The Trinidadian striker made his debut for Sunderland on 1 September in a 1 ? 0 defeat to Manchester United and scored his first goal for the club in a 2 ? 1 home win over Reading on 15 September .

Jones was linked with a £ 12 million player move to Liverpool in November 2007 , with Peter Crouch moving to Sunderland . Jones was again linked with high profile clubs on 21 December 2007 , including Chelsea and Liverpool , but Sunderland manager Roy Keane insisted that he would be going nowhere . Jones scored his fifth goal at the Stadium of Light , with a header from the near post off a corner kick , in Sunderland 's 3 ? 1 win over Bolton Wanderers on 29 December.Chelsea captain John Terry praised Jones , saying : " Jones was fantastic and I have played against him twice now . He is a very good player , very hard working and probably the best in the air in the entire Premier League , he really is that good " after Chelsea had won the match 1 ? 0 on 15 March 2008 .

On 1 June 2008 , Jones suffered a knee ligament injury in a collision with goalkeeper David James in the seventh minute of Trinidad & Tobago 's 3 ? 0 defeat against England . He made his first appearance of the 2008 ? 09 season playing for 60 minutes in Sunderland reserve team 's 2 ? 0 victory against Wigan Athletic . , followed by a return to Sunderland 's first team in the Tyne ? Wear derby on 25 October 2008 as a second @-@ half substitute , when he helped Sunderland to secure a 2 ? 1 victory over their local rivals . His first goal following his return came on 12 November in a 2 ? 1 League Cup defeat against Blackburn Rovers . He continued his recovery from injury with a goal , again against Blackburn , on 15 November 2008 as Sunderland won 2 ? 1 .

Jones put an end to speculation linking him with a move to Tottenham Hotspur by signing a 4 and a half @-@ year contract at the Stadium of Light on 27 January 2009 . After a spell of six games without a goal , Jones scored against Manchester United in a 2 ? 1 defeat . On 22 August Jones contributed to Sunderland 's 2 ? 1 victory over Blackburn Rovers scoring two goals . Jones again contributed with two goals for Sunderland when they were at home to Wolves on 27 September , in a 5 ? 2 win . One goal being the highlight of the game , curling the ball home from 22yards out . Jones scored his fifth goal of the season with a header against Manchester United , outjumping Ben Foster to give Sunderland a 2 ? 1 lead but in the dying moments of the match at Old Trafford , Patrice Evra 's shot was deflected in for an own @-@ goal by Anton Ferdinand to level it up and end the match as a 2 ? 2 draw . Jones scored his sixth goal of the season with a close @-@ range header against Manchester City which City won 4 ? 3 . On 6 February , Jones scored his seventh goal of the season with another header against Wigan Athletic which ended up 1 ? 1 at the Stadium of Light . Jones then scored again against Manchester City bringing his tally to eight , with a spectacular header at the Stadium of Light , which ended up 1 ? 1 . He also opened the scoring against Wolves on the final day of the season , netting after a strike deflected off Jody Craddock after 8 minutes , but Wolves would go on to win 2 ? 1 .

= = = Stoke City = = =

On 11 August 2010 , Jones signed for Stoke City on a four @-@ year @-@ deal for a club record fee of £ 8 million . Jones took a wage cut in order to join Stoke .

" We need goals in our team and we also need strong competition among our strikers if we are to continue improving at this level . " Kenwyne will give us that . It 's no secret that I am one of his biggest admirers , he did a smashing job for us when he was here on loan . " He was very young back then but I believe that he has the best years ahead of him as a top striker . "

Jones took over the number 9 shirt from the departing James Beattie who had joined Rangers . He made his second debut for City against Wolverhampton Wanderers on 14 August 2010 , he made a bright start hitting the crossbar with his first shot . However after falling awkwardly from a challenge from Jody Craddock on 14 minutes Jones was forced to come off . On 13 September , Jones scored his first goal for Stoke on his home debut against Aston Villa in a 2 ? 1 win . Jones followed this by scoring against West Ham United , Fulham in the League Cup and Newcastle United . He scored the second goal on 13 November in a 2 ? 0 win against Liverpool at the Britannia Stadium .

After six games without a goal and some criticism from supporters , manager Pulis revealed that Jones has had personal problems which have affected his performances . He ended this run with a goal against Everton on New Year 's Day . However he again went on a goal drought this time for three months before scoring against Tottenham Hotspur in April . He then went on a similar scoring run he had at the start of the season scoring against Bolton Wanderers at Wembley , Aston Villa , Wolverhampton Wanderers and then had an opportunity to become the first Stoke player to score in four consecutive Premier League matches against Blackpool but he missed an open goal . He made amends the following match scoring against Arsenal in a 3 ? 1 win . Jones played in the 2011 FA Cup Final as Stoke lost 1 ? 0 to Manchester City , he had Stoke 's best chance in the match going through one on one with Joe Hart who saved Jones ' effort . Jones ended the 2010 ? 11 as joint top goalscorer with Jonathan Walters , both scored 12 goals . Jones said that he had a ' topsy @-@ turvy ' first season at Stoke .

Jones started the 2011 ? 12 season well scoring against Norwich City and twice against FC Thun in the UEFA Europa League . With Stoke signing Peter Crouch at the end of August , Jones found himself out of favour and was restricted to cup and European matches . This has led to speculation that Jones could be leaving the club in the 2012 January transfer window but Pulis insists that he is still in his plans . He scored an historic goal for Stoke against Dynamo Kyiv to earn them a 1 ? 1 draw which secured Stoke 's qualification to the knock @-@ out stage of the Europa League . In 2012 ? 13 Jones remained behind Crouch in Pulis ' starting line @-@ up restricting him to cameo appearances off the bench . He regained his place in December 2012 after injury to Crouch and scored his first Premier League goal for sixteen months in a 1 ? 1 draw with Everton . Jones continued his revival scoring against Liverpool on boxing day , and against his old club Southampton on 29 December . Jones lost his place once Crouch had returned to the side and he ended the season on a sour note as he was involved in a dressing room bust @-@ up with Glenn Whelan . At the end of the season Tony Pulis was replaced by Mark Hughes and Jones was critical of the style of football played under Pulis .

Jones began the 2013 ? 14 season by scoring his first professional hat @-@ trick against Walsall in the League Cup on 28 August 2013 . On 12 January 2014 , Jones failed to arrive for Stoke 's home game against Liverpool citing " personal problems " , he was then fined two weeks wages by Hughes for his non @-@ appearance .

= = = Cardiff City = = =

On 28 January 2014 Jones joined Cardiff City in a player @-@ exchange with Peter Odemwingie . Jones scored a debut goal for the Bluebirds on 1 February 2014 , netting the winner in a 2 ? 1 triumph against Norwich City , just one minute after Craig Bellamy had equalised . He played 11 times for Cardiff in the 2013 ? 14 as they suffered relegation to the Championship .

Jones started the 2014 ? 15 season strongly , scoring 9 in the first half of the season . However Jones tailed off in 2015 , only managing to find the net twice . Due to Cardiff cutting costs , Jones was loaned to league leaders Bournemouth for the remainder of the season , despite being Cardiff 's top goal scorer . Jones scored on his debut for the Cherries on 3 April 2015 helping them to earn a 1 ? 1 draw against Ipswich Town . Jones made six substitute appearances for the Cherries as they won the Championship title , gaining promotion to the Premier League .

Upon returning to Cardiff , Jones found himself on the bench following an injury picked up on international duty over the summer . Jones ' return to the first XI , resulted in him finding himself on the score sheet in a 2 ? 0 win over Wolverhampton Wanderers . Initial reports that his form had

inclined manager , Russell Slade to open contract talks with him and the club in the final months of 2015 turned out to be untrue .

On 5 January 2016 , Jones joined UAE @-@ based club Al Jazira on loan until the end of the 2015 ? 16 season .

= = = Atlanta United = = =

On 15 July 2016 , Jones signed for newly formed Major League Soccer side Atlanta United for their inaugural 2017 season .

= = International career = =

Jones has been capped at under @-@ 18 , under @-@ 20 , under @-@ 23 olympic team and the Trinidad and Tobago national team .

He made his debut for the Trinidad and Tobago national team on 29 January 2003 in a match against Finland . Jones scored his first goal on 25 May 2005 in a 4 ? 0 win against Bermuda . He was later selected by Trinidad and Tobago for their 2006 World Cup campaign , where he made his first appearance in the competition in a 2 ? 0 defeat against England on 15 June 2006 at Frankenstadion , Nuremberg . Jones was named as Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation 's Player of the Year for 2007 . Jones said , " A lot of big names have won this before and I never really thought about something like this happening to me " . Jones was named as captain of the Soca Warriors in August 2011 by manager Otto Pfister .

= = = International goals = = =

Scores and results list Trinidad and Tobago 's goal tally first .

= = Career statistics = =

= = = Club = = =

As of match played 15 May 2016

= = = International = = =

As of 19 July 2015

= = Honours = =

= = = Club = = =

Stoke City

FA Cup : Runner @-@ up 2010 ? 11

Bournemouth

Football League Championship : 2014 ? 15

= = = Individual = = =

Sunderland Player of the Season : 2007 ? 08

Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation 's Player of the Year : 2007