

# TUFFLEY ROVERS



**Match Day Sponsor:**

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS  
Tel: 01452 305231  
E-mail: [info@mjfabrifications.co.uk](mailto:info@mjfabrifications.co.uk)  
[www.mjfabrifications.co.uk](http://www.mjfabrifications.co.uk)



**TUFFLEY ROVERS V FLEET SPURS**  
**SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022, 3pm**





# **A&R**

Light Haulage<sup>Ltd</sup>

## **SUPPORTERS OF TUFFLEY ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

### **Offering:**

- **Flatbed truck pallet service**
- **Same / next day delivery**
  - **Courier services**
  - **24 hour service**
  - **Fully insured**
- **Support for house removals**

[arlighthaulageltd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:arlighthaulageltd@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.arhaulage.net](http://www.arhaulage.net)



**@a\_rhaulage**

Rich: 07792188695

Adam: 07969978491

# EDITOR'S COMMENT



Welcome to everyone visiting Glevum Park this afternoon for the visit of Fleet Spurs, who we host in an FA Vase 2<sup>nd</sup> Qualifying Round tie for the second consecutive season. I would like to welcome all their players, supporters and officials to our home.

Firstly, thank you to our match-day sponsors, JMJ Fabrications Ltd., for their support of the club. As I said in the last edition of the programme, match-day sponsors are a vital part of our business at the football club and we are delighted that a company who are on our doorstep feel able to support us.

This is our first home game since we hosted Lydney Town on 13 August. On that day we had a few issues with the pitch – although they had begun to emerge in the weeks leading up to that game – and although we managed to play two further Development Squad games in the weeks that followed, the surface had become dangerous as cracks were opening up due to the sustained period of incredibly dry weather. We had no choice but to suspend home fixtures and invest a significant sum of money in having all the drainage lines – that had only been installed last year – refilled. The outcome? A pitch that is now safe but isn't so pleasing to the eye.

When the drainage system was installed last year we had hoped most of our problems were behind us, after years and years of having a bog to contend with during autumn and winter, but the unprecedented heat this summer brought us new challenges. The surface today will be better than that we were playing on in early August but won't look that way. Once the grass has time to recover, I'm hoping we will then have a pitch to be truly proud of. That is the plan, at least!

We've had five consecutive away games leading up to today and after a disappointing defeat at Fairford Town the squad have managed to put together some decent results and performances – if we exclude the trip to Hereford Pegasus, where we started incredibly badly and deservedly lost – and that has helped us into a respectable league position. Most pleasing is how resilient the squad is looking and a team that couldn't keep a clean sheet after October last season has already recorded four in the league this season. We also won a Hellenic League Floodlit Cup tie, which hasn't happened for a little while!

Our management team have instilled a confidence and belief in this squad and that is great to see. We won't win every game but we are now in every game, which makes for a better match-day experience; at least from my own perspective.

In Muzzy (and Ritchie) We Trust!

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to read this. I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

**- NEIL**

#uptherovers

# Reduce your fuel costs

with a Silvey Fleet Fuel Card



## Fuel savings

Reduced fuel costs



## Less admin

No more receipts



## Safe and secure

Set spending limits

Silvey Fleet fuel cards offer competitively priced fuel at over 6,800 branded fuel stations throughout the UK, including HGV sites.

## Call Silvey Fleet on

01454 333 022

or visit [www.silveyfleet.co.uk](http://www.silveyfleet.co.uk)

**SILVEY** fleet  
DRIVING EFFICIENCY

# CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT



Good afternoon all and a very warm welcome to Glevum Park.

First of all I would like to welcome the supporters, committee, management and players of Fleet Spurs to Glevum Park. I hope you had a comfortable trip and enjoy the hospitality here along with the football on show.

It is a case of déjà vu for this fixture – the first at Glevum Park when the new drainage system had been installed 12 months ago, and again due to the drought, this is the first fixture since having had to have remedial works carried out on the drainage lines again this year. The pitch may not look as aesthetically pleasing as it was a number of weeks ago, but safety is paramount and that is was our main concern. Thanks must go to Ian and Tom who maintain our pitch for getting it to this stage in just a matter of a few weeks.

It has been a positive start to the season for Neil Mustoe (Muzzy), Ritchie and Shayne in getting the team playing some good, competitive football and achieving some pleasing results. There is a really positive atmosphere around the squad now, which hasn't always been the case in recent years, when we had been missing that type of togetherness.

Today is about cup football, when you are only guaranteed one game in any competition, but we are hoping this year to have a bit of a cup run or two, starting today in the FA Vase.

Away from first team action, our Development Squad have had a great start to the season, winning three out of three, including an emphatic win last Saturday against a team that would be considered as title contenders. Dave Cornock and Michael Oakes are building something with that young squad and it is great to see.

I hope everyone enjoys the day today and have a safe journey home.

Many thanks,

*Dan*  
#uptherovers

**Sponsored by:**





BluefinSport



## myClubinsurance

### For amateur and semi-professional sports clubs

To make sure you are appropriately covered, our myClubinsurance policy can be built around your particular needs. Whether you require stand-alone liability cover or full buildings and contents protection, the policy can be adapted to suit.



LIABILITIES



BUILDINGS  
AND STADIA



CONTENTS



BUSINESS  
INTERRUPTION



FIXED  
FLOODLIGHTS



SCOREBOARDS  
AND SIGHTSCREENS



FIXED  
GOALS/POSTS



PLAYING SURFACES  
(NATURAL / ARTIFICIAL)

0345 872 5060

myclub@bluefinsport.co.uk | bluefinsport.co.uk/myclub

0023-0918

Bluefin Sport is a trading name of Marsh Ltd. Marsh Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in England and Wales Number: 1607274. Registered Office: 1 Tower Place West, Tower Place, London EC3R 5BU.

 MARSH

# MANAGER'S COMMENT



Good afternoon and welcome to all players officials and supporters of Fleet Spurs FC for this afternoon's FA Vase fixture.

After five straight away games it is good to get back for a home game. The pitch has had a lot of work done recently and is still a few weeks away from being where we would like it to be, but it is still good to be back here playing games.

After back-to-back wins and a fourth league clean sheet, we go into this fixture with a bit of confidence but also knowing we have lots to improve on over the coming weeks and months. If we are going to stay competitive throughout the season we need to build on the progress we've made.

A good cup run is always something we should be targeting and it builds confidence knowing you are competing on various fronts and hopefully we can start and continue our FA Vase journey today.

We know this will be a difficult game this afternoon as league form goes out of the window and anything can happen.

I hope you enjoy the game.

Thanks,

Muzzy

*Today's match-day sponsor:*

# JMJ

## FABRICATIONS LTD

GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS

**Tel: 01452 305231**

**E-mail: [info@jmjfabrications.co.uk](mailto:info@jmjfabrications.co.uk)**

**[www.jmjfabrications.co.uk](http://www.jmjfabrications.co.uk)**

## Tuffley Rovers • Club History

The late Donald E Hall founded Tuffley Rovers FC in 1929. The Club's Headquarters were in a former railway carriage, which served as Mr Hall's Boot and Shoe repair shop on the Stroud Road at Tuffley in the City of Gloucester. The Club started its playing life in the North Gloucestershire League. Senior XI Championship honours include that of the North Gloucestershire League and Stroud and District League (4 times) and in 1987/1988 the Club were Champions of the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League and gained promotion to the Gloucestershire County League.



After two seasons of consolidation the Club won the County League Title in 1990/1991, their application to join the Hellenic League was successful and they were accepted into Hellenic Division One. Progress continued as in the 1992/1993 season Rovers were Champions of Division One and also Division One League Cup Winners and after promotion competed in the Premier Division of the Hellenic League from 1993/1994, regularly finishing in the top half of the table. The 1998/1999 season saw Tuffley win the Norman Matthew's Floodlit Cup defeating Carterton Town in the final. Whilst the Club enjoyed this success, the 2nd XI and 3rd XI also gained promotion and championship honours. The 1998/1999 season saw the 2nd XI win the Northern Senior League and reach the finals of both the County Cup and League Cup, unfortunately losing out on both occasions. Promotion, however, was not possible as reserve teams were not allowed at that point to enter the Gloucestershire County League and progress further up the pyramid system.

The Club continued to thrive in the Hellenic League and managed to win the Floodlit Cup again in the 2002/2003 season defeating Brackley Town over two legs in the final. However, the ever-changing ground grading requirements, if the club was to remain in the Hellenic League, and the financial strain these improvements imposed on the Club forced Tuffley Rovers to make the decision to withdraw from the Hellenic League in 2005 and settle for local football in Gloucestershire.

After a difficult start Rovers were crowned champions of Division 2 of the Northern Senior League in the 2005/2006 season and were promoted to Division 1. After a slow start the team put together a consistent run and managed to claim the Division 1 Title as well as win the GFA Senior Amateur Cup and reach the final of the Reg Davis Memorial League Cup.

A return to the Gloucestershire County League followed and the club finished a very creditable 4th place (2007/8) but the summer of 2008 saw a number of senior players retire. Over the next few seasons, an evolving squad finished 11<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the County League, before the 2012/13 Season marked an improvement for the club. After challenging for league championship honours all season, the club couldn't quite maintain the form to secure the title, finishing second. However, this was enough to gain promotion to the Hellenic League Division One (West) for the 2013/14 season.

On their return to the Hellenic League, The Rovers saw a season that witnessed some turmoil – including the departure of manager, Doug Foxwell – to record a decent sixth place finish and some good cup results. This was followed up with the Runners'-up spot in 2014/15 and promotion back to the Hellenic Premier Division, exactly ten years after they had withdrawn from the League.

The first season saw a struggle against relegation, ultimately resulting in the resignation of Warren Evans as manager, before the club retained their status due to a vacancy in the league, after finishing 17<sup>th</sup>. Mark Pritchett was then appointed as Player/Manager and took the side to consecutive 10<sup>th</sup> placed finishes, before a 15<sup>th</sup> place finish in 2018/19.

Two pandemic affected seasons then passed, with Pritchett leaving the club part-way through. Rich Cox took over as Manager for a single season, but resigned midway through 2021/22 after a disastrous run of results. Former Manchester United player Neil Mustoe then took over, steering the club away from danger (finishing in 17<sup>th</sup> place).



# HEART HEROES

## Working with children and their families living with Heart Conditions

Heart Heroes work with children and their families living with heart conditions. We aim to provide services for these children, to help them meet others who are in similar situations and allow their family to talk to other families going through related experiences.

### At Heart Heroes we:

- **Support children with heart diseases aged 0 – 16.**
- **Organise events and provide socialising opportunities for children to attend.**
- **We aim to introduce families with similar experiences so that they can support each other.**



**Tuffley Rovers' partner charity for the 2022/23 season**



# HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

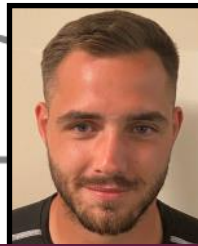
We are grateful to all the companies, supporters and other benevolent individuals who have sponsored the first team squad this season.



Elliot Jones



Brad Poole



Robin Hoffland

Sponsored by  
**SONIA SPILLER**



Nico Hewson-Barsellotti



Paul Azubilla



Ryley Mace

Sponsored by  
**TRFC Youth  
Chairman**



Dan Lander

Sponsored by  
**PAT SPILLER**



Kieran Squires





**George Driver-Dickerson**

Sponsored by  
**TRFC Youth  
Chairman**



**Ashley Davies**



**Warren Mann**



**Noah Smerdon**



**Jordan Barry**



**Macaulay Herbert**

**BECOME A  
SPONSOR**



**Martin Kent**



**Kian Maher-Goldsmith**

**BECOME A  
SPONSOR**



**Josh Stevens**

**BECOME A  
SPONSOR**



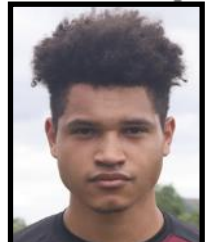
**Demilade Yussuf**

Sponsored by  
**IAN GREIG**



**Liam Smith**

Sponsored by  
**NEIL SPILLER**



**Mason Lewis**

Sponsored by  
**NEIL SPILLER**





**Dominik Kent**



**Henry Birkett**

Sponsored by  
**CHRIS WOOD**



**Sammie Hicks**



**Joshua Abbott-Tarrant**

Sponsored by  
**TRFC Youth  
Chairman**



**Ryan Dobbins**



**Tomos Shyampant**

Sponsored by  
**CHRIS WOOD**



**Shayne Bradley**



**Jack Beardsell**



**Callum McGuirk**



**Neil Mustoe**  
(Manager, First XI)



**Ritchie Warden**  
(Asst. Manager, First XI)

Sponsored by  
**KARL BAYLISS**



**Dave Cornock**  
(Joint Manager,  
Development Squad)







**Luke Hawkins**

**BECOME A SPONSOR**



**Dayton Fallows**

Sponsored by  
**NEIL SPILLER**



**Damarei Bryan**

**BECOME A SPONSOR**



**James Reynolds**

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS  
Tel: 01452 305231  
E-mail: info@jmjfabrications.co.uk  
www.jmjfabrications.co.uk



**Yeshaya Lomotey**

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS  
Tel: 01452 305231  
E-mail: info@jmjfabrications.co.uk  
www.jmjfabrications.co.uk



**Ellis Danes-Rutherford**

**BECOME A SPONSOR**



**Tyrel Roberts**

Sponsored by  
**PAT SPILLER**



**Matt Butler**

**Jelly Bears**  
Day Nursery



**Michael Oakes**  
(Joint Manager,  
Development Squad)

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS  
Tel: 01452 305231  
E-mail: info@jmjfabrications.co.uk  
www.jmjfabrications.co.uk



**Craig Darkin**  
(Coach)

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS  
Tel: 01452 305231  
E-mail: info@jmjfabrications.co.uk  
www.jmjfabrications.co.uk



**Ashleigh Watson**  
(Physio / Sports Therapist)

**LILLYWHITE**  
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT



**Hopeton Francis**  
(Physio / Sports Therapist)

**LILLYWHITE**  
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

**BECOME A SPONSOR**

If you'd like to sponsor a player, please email to [admin@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk](mailto:admin@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk)



**UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION  
THORNBURY TOWN 0-2 TUFFLEY ROVERS  
SATURDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2022  
(ATT: 47)**

The 2021/22 season had seen Tuffley Rovers beaten twice by Hellenic League Premier Division new boys Thornbury Town, during a campaign that too often saw the Glevum Park outfit wilt under the slightest pressure from their opposition.

A reasonable start to that last competitive season had seen the side managed by Rich Cox record three clean sheets by the start of October, but a shocking decline in form ultimately led to Cox's departure in December and although his successor, Neil Mustoe, had been unable to arrest the slump completely (although he did enough to keep the side in the Premier Division) or solve the defensive frailties – with just one clean sheet in the cup evidence that problems remained – there was evidence of change, as The Rovers became harder to beat as the season wore on.

Mustoe has continued to steer his squad in the right direction since the start of the 2022/23 season and if a fourth clean sheet in eight league fixtures isn't evidence enough of how resilient his side have become under his stewardship, the contrast between this win over Thornbury and two lame defeats last term would be obvious to all who wanted confirmation of the progress that has been made.

This was not a vintage performance, nor will it live long in the memory. In truth, Rovers defeated a Thornbury Town side who looked likely to struggle this season and did nothing to dispel any notion that one point gained from seven previous league outings was an unfair reflection of their season to date. However, defeat them they did and that ensured that some momentum is building for Mustoe's side and it allows them to look down the table at a side who they had been looking up at for most of the previous season.

After a midweek victory in the Hellenic League Floodlit Cup, where Mustoe had given an opportunity to several players short of starting time, the Rovers manager made several changes to his line-up, with Warren Mann, Sammie Hicks, Jack Beardsell, Ryan Dobbins and Ashley Davies all recalled to the starting eleven.

Dom Kent had an early chance for Rovers but his shot, after a late burst into the Thornbury penalty area presented a chance, was blocked by Nathan Sage and cleared to safety.

Rovers were very much on the front-foot, without clear chances, and the it wasn't until the 22<sup>nd</sup> minute that they had another chance of note, as Mason Lewis found enough space to get a shot away that was angled across the goal, forcing Mackenzie Welsh to make a diving save to turn the ball away for a corner.



Beardsell had the other notable chances for Mustoe's side in the remainder of the first half, twice heading narrowly wide, first from Lewis' cross and then from a wonderful outswinging centre from Mann.

When the two clubs had met at the start of the 2021/22 season Rovers had arguably had the better of the first period, only for their hosts to start the second period well, score twice and then go on to win the game. The early stages of the game after the interval might have left some of the travelling support with concerns of a repeat but despite having a healthy share of possession, Town could not carve out a clear chance and the score remained at 0-0.

As with the trend around keeping clean sheets being reversed, Rovers have now found an ability to eek out chances, although the lead they managed to gain on this occasion owed much to an error by the normally reliable Tom Webb, who badly under-hit a back-pass, allowing Beardsell to nip in and poke the ball beyond keeper Welsh and into the bottom corner of the Thornbury net, to make it 1-0 shortly after the hour mark.



Substitutions followed for both teams, with Shayne Bradley, who had scored twice in the midweek victory, introduced for Dobbins and he offered a different sort of attacking threat, which seemed to cause Town's defence far more problems.

With ten minutes remaining, the pressure eventually told and after Bradley had put his marker under pressure, a huge punt upfield from Elliot Jones ran through to Kent, who calmly finished beyond Welsh, to record his first goal of the season and make it 2-0 to the visiting team.



Jones had to be alert to deny the hosts as the game moved into its final stages and Kent struck the post with another effort on goal, but the score remained unchanged, allowing Rovers to celebrate a well deserved three points that took them to 11<sup>th</sup> in the Premier Division and moved them seven points ahead of a Thornbury Town side who sit bottom of the table, with a solitary point, having played a game more.

# HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 21 September 2022

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Cribbs	8	7	1	0	10	22
2	Malvern Town	8	5	2	1	13	17
3	Westfields	8	5	2	1	4	17
4	Corsham Town	8	4	3	1	9	15
5	Worcester Raiders	7	4	3	0	9	15
6	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	8	4	2	2	8	14
7	Bradford Town	9	4	2	3	2	14
8	Wantage Town	8	3	2	3	-1	11
9	Hereford Pegasus	8	3	1	4	-3	10
10	Longlevens AFC	8	2	3	3	3	9
11	Lydney Town	9	2	3	4	-12	9
12	Tuffley Rovers	7	2	2	3	-2	8
13	Hereford Lads Club	8	2	2	4	-3	8
14	Fairford Town	9	2	2	5	-4	8
15	Roman Glass St George	5	2	1	2	1	7
16	Mangotsfield United	8	2	1	5	-1	7
17	Shrivenham	6	2	1	3	-3	7
18	Brimcombe & Thrupp	6	1	3	2	-3	6
19	Chipping Sodbury Town	7	1	3	3	-10	6
20	Thornbury Town	9	0	1	8	-17	1

# Appearance information



**Up to and including Saturday, 17 September 2022**

**(includes selected list of former players)**

Today could be the day when another player reaches a milestone appearance. If he features in today's game Henry Birkett will make his 50<sup>th</sup> competitive first team appearance...a little over 6 ½ years after making his debut! A very young Master Birkett made his debut as a substitute in a 2-2 draw away at Royal Wootton Bassett Town on 17 February 2016, with Warren Evans as manager, and went onto make three further appearances from the bench under then caretaker boss, and now fellow squad member, Shayne Bradley. He then didn't appear until 2018/19 (20 appearances), then had another sabbatical from The Rovers before making 16 appearances in 2020/21. Assuming he does feature today we thank Henry for his service and can't wait to see an increasingly influential player make the journey to 100 appearances, in due course!



<b>Name</b>	<b>Apps</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Apps</b>	<b>Goals</b>
<b>Alder, Kieran</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Kent, Dominik</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Anson, Shayne</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Lander, Daniel</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Azubilla, Paul</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Lewis, Mason</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Barry, Jordan</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Lomotey, Yeshaya</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Beardsell, Jack</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Mace, Ryley</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Birkett, Henry</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Mann, Warren</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Bradley, Shayne</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>McGuirk, Callum</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Butler, Matt</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>McNally, Laurie</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Davies, Ashley</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Middlecote, Martin</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dobbins, Ryan</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Nicholls, Scott</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Driver-Dickerson, George</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Perks, Christopher</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Ford, Mark</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Poole, Bradley</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Foxwell, Marcus</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>Pritchett, Mark</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Geddes, Jacob</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Shutt, Joe</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Griffith, Stuart</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Shyamapant, Tomos</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Hamilton, Courtney</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Smerdon, Noah</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Haswell, Tristan</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Smith, Liam</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Hawkins, Luke</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Squires, Kieran</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Herbert, Macaulay</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Thomas, Peter</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Hicks, Sammie</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Walker, Harry</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Hill, Sam</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Wallington, Lee</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>James, Brett</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>Wallington, Mark</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>James, Richard</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>White, Joel</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>John, Harri</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Wright, Liam</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Jones, Elliot</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Yussuf, Demilade</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>

NB: The figures are correct for all league competitions from season 2007/08, when Tuffley Rovers returned to the County League (Step 7) and include all competitive games since the start of the 2013/14 season. There are some gaps in the information relating to cup games prior to the start of the 2013/14 campaign. This period is currently subject to a thorough review and there may be some variation to statistics in due course.

# Statistics 2022/23

## Competition

UHSport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

FAC = FA Cup; FAV = FA Vase; GFA = GFA Challenge Trophy;

BFCC = Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup;

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

						Att	Scorers
<b>2022</b>							
03/Aug	7:45pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp		A	0-0	143	-
06/Aug	3pm	Slimbridge	FAC	H	1-2	186	R Mace
09/Aug	7:45pm	Malvern Town		H	1-3	124	R Dobbins
13/Aug	3pm	Lydney Town		H	4-0	84	J Beardsell (2), M Lewis
17/Aug	7:45pm	Fairford Town		A	1-4	90	N Smerdon
29/Aug	3pm	Longlevens		A	0-0	222	-
03/Sep	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		A	1-4	50	M Butler
13/Sep	7:45pm	Newent Town	WLFC	A	2-1	65	S Bradley (2)
17/Sep	3pm	Thornbury Town		A	2-0	47	J Beardsell, D Kent
24/Sep	3pm	Fleet Spurs	FAV	H			
01/Oct	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		A			
08/Oct	3pm	Cribbs FC		H			
11/Oct	7:45pm	Lydney Town	WLFC	A			
15/Oct	3pm	Shrivenham		H			
19/Oct	3pm	Worcester Raiders		A			
22/Oct	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		A			
25/Oct	7:45pm	Fairford Town		H			
29/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		H			
01/Nov	7:45pm	Worcester Raiders		H			
05/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United		A			
15/Nov	7:45pm	Hartpury University	GFA	H			
19/Nov	3pm	Corsham Town		A			
22/Nov	7:45pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp		H			
26/Nov	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		H			
03/Dec	3pm	Bradford Town		H			
10/Dec	3pm	Wantage Town		H			
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		H			
<b>2023</b>							
02/Jan	3pm	Shrivenham		A			
07/Jan	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		H			
14/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		A			
21/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United		H			
28/Jan	3pm	Cribbs FC		A			
04/Feb	3pm	Corsham Town		H			
11/Feb	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		A			
18/Feb	3pm	Bradford Town		A			
25/Feb	3pm	Wantage Town		A			
04/Mar	3pm	Thornbury Town		H			
11/Mar	3pm	Westfields		A			
18/Mar	3pm	Lydney Town		A			
25/Mar	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		H			
01/Apr	3pm	Malvern Town		A			
07/Apr	3pm	Westfields		H			
10/Apr	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		H			

TOTAL APPEARANCE  
STARTS  
SUBSTITUTE  
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE

### Goalscorers

Beardsell, Jack	3	Dobbins, Ryan	1
Lewis, Mason	2	Smerdon, Noah	1
Bradley, Shayne	2	Butler, Matt	1
Mace, Ryley	1	Kent, Dominik	1





## TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

### **Brad Poole**

### **Goalkeeper**

Fantastic keeper who first played under Doug Foxwell in the County League promotion season in 2012/13, after being attached to Cheltenham Town in youth football, but unable to commit to first team football in the years that have followed, due to work commitments, and has made just four competitive appearances in a Rovers shirt. Now providing goalkeeping cover for the 2022/23 season.

### **Kieran Squires**

### **Defence**

Previously with the club from 2014/15 to 2017/18 but then spent time at Slimbridge, Longlevens and Hardwicke, before dropping down to play local league football. Returned to the club at the start of pre-season and if he can recover fitness, he could be a shrewd acquisition. Thunderous tackling, powerful in the air and has a terrific long-throw that could add a dimension to our play.

### **George Driver-Dickerson**

### **Defence**

A new signing, but a familiar surname for those who remember his father's spell as a player at the club. Signed from Slimbridge, where he had played his U18s football and looking to make the progression to first team football. Naturally a full-back, who looks confident on the ball and tenacious off it. Also a very talented cricketer.

### **Paul Azubilla**

### **Defence**

Joined from local side Gloucester Athletic this season, after requesting a trial in the summer. Impressed in the early pre-season sessions and could be a great acquisition. Raw but has pace, power, strength and desire to improve. Very calm on the ball and capable of hitting a pass, meaning he could be a good prospect as the season develops.

### **Dan Lander**

### **Defence**

Returned in pre-season, having spent a short spell with the club a few seasons ago, without making a competitive appearance. Has returned with more experience and is a tall centre-half, who is strong, fierce in the tackle and decent in the air. He's also sensible in possession and knows his role in the side.

### **Ashley Davies**

### **Defence**

In his third spell with the club. Has had spells away at Hardwicke, Shortwood United and Cinderford Town but returned last season for a short period and is now raring to go in 2022/23! Was Neil Mustoe's first signing last season and an incredible coup. Brings class on the ball, a physical presence, leadership and a wonderful work ethic to the squad and his influence will be of huge value to the club. Can also play in midfield.

## 2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

### **Noah Smerdon**

### **Defence**

A stellar capture by Neil Mustoe, who knew the player from his time at Gloucester City. Made it into the City first-team before he'd turned 18 and courted interest from higher level clubs before signing for Exeter City. Had spells at Tiverton Town and Weston-Super-Mare but injuries restricted his progress. Has signed in an effort to regain fitness, so may not be with us for long, but a hugely impressive signing! Can play on the left-side of the defence or in a holding midfield role.

### **Scott Nicholls**

### **Defence**

A member of our hugely successful 2020/21 FA Youth Cup squad, Scott then secured a scholarship to attend college in the US but returned to the club in December 2021 and made a solid contribution in five appearances, punctuated by a return to the USA, before the end of the season. Tall, athletic and comfortable on the ball will be looking to collect more first team appearances this season.

### **Mason Lewis**

### **Defence**

Recently signed after impressing in pre-season. Capable of playing at centre-back or left-back and can also play further forward in a wide role. Tall, commanding, strong and comfortable on the ball. Will be looking to secure a regular starting berth after spells at Cirencester Town, Lydney Town and Longlevens, amongst others.

### **Luke Hawkins**

### **Midfield**

Joined during pre-season, having previously been at Newent Town, and will be looking to make the step up into Hellenic League Premier Division football this season. Looks to have plenty of pace, combined with an industrious style of play. Could prove to be a good acquisition, particularly as he looks comfortable playing in a wide position.

### **Sammie Hicks**

### **Midfield**

Signed in January to bolster the squad following Neil Mustoe's appointment as manager, on a dual registration agreement with Cinderford Town. Has now committed to the club for 2022/23. A super talented midfielder, now with experience at a higher level and just what we needed after a difficult season. Coming back from a series of injuries that have hampered his progress but a stellar signing, nonetheless.

### **Dominik Kent**

### **Midfield**

About to start his fifth season with the club, Dom was a product of Neil Mustoe's Gloucester City U18 squad and is a talented midfielder, who is good on the ball, industrious and quick across the ground but also incredibly tenacious, whether looking to retain possession or win the ball back. Has often sacrificed his natural attacking instinct to play in a deeper midfield role but still retains a healthy goals per game ratio.

## TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

### **Demilade Yussuf**

### **Midfield**

In this third season with the club, currently captain of our U18s squad and made the leap to Hellenic League Premier Division football last season, at the age of sixteen, and has already collected a healthy number of first team appearances. Strong, athletic and incredibly hard-working, Demi was previously at Cheltenham Town and is a real talent. One to watch in future years.

### **Liam Smith**

### **Midfield**

Another player with Southern League experience. Calm in possession and possesses a good passing range, whilst also physically strong, will be looking to hold down a regular place in the side, after an injury hit campaign in 2021/22. Offers experience and capable of dropping into the back four when needed.

### **Henry Birkett**

### **Midfield**

Now in a third (or fourth!) spell with Rovers, after a fairly nomadic life in Hellenic League & County League football. Has made forty appearances for the first team over 7 years but returned during pre-season with a new maturity - could be the season where he settles down to become the key player that we all believe he can be? Great energy, good passing ability, hard-working & can add goals. An important year ahead.

### **Warren Mann**

### **Midfield**

By far our longest serving player and has now made over 450 appearances at Step 7 and above, which is a record for the club. 'Wazza' may now lack pace in comparison to the winger who started with the club, but is hugely committed and massively experienced. Brings energy, passion and excellent technique; he's constantly involved in every game. Practical joker off the field (and sometimes on it!); usually the opposition support's least favourite player!

### **Jack Beardsell**

### **Midfield**

Re-joined the club in October 2021 on a transfer from Fairford Town, having previously played for the club thirty-three times, scoring eight goals. A mercurial talent who is capable of producing some high quality moments and, when on form, a healthy supply of goals. Needs to add consistency to his game but could be a big player in 2022/23.

### **Shayne Bradley**

### **Forward**

Could this season see an Indian Summer for the club's leading goalscorer since our return to Step 7 football (and progression since)? 106 goals in 230 appearances were hugely valuable to our progress from County League football and Bradders still possesses the quality that saw him make four Premier League appearances, as well promotion success at Mansfield Town, before injury curtailed his professional career. Last appeared in a Rovers shirt during 2018/19 but now set for a return in 2022/23.

## 2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

### **Tomos Shyamapant**

### **Forward**

Youngster who has been a consistent goalscorer for both the U18s and Development Squad over the past two seasons. Highly rated and a genuine prospect. Made his debut against Cheltenham Saracens in the GFA Challenge Trophy last season and gained more experience as the season drew to a close. Natural finisher, who will be looking for more opportunities to make an impact this season. One for the future, for sure!

### **Ryan Dobbins**

### **Forward**

Another returning player, who started out at the club's Stroud League sides, before a successful period in the Reserves' squad was followed by a prolific spell at County League side Gala Wilton. Then moved back into Hellenic League football, where he played for Cheltenham Saracens, before a return to Glevum Park this season. Has the potential to contribute goals, but his all-round game has improved immeasurably and he is adept at holding the ball up and bringing his teammates into the game. Good signing for 2022/23.

### **Yeshaya Lomotey**

### **Forward**

Powerful striker who joined in 2021/22 after spells at other local clubs, including Slimbridge and Cinderford Town. Struggled for fitness during his first season but showed his quality on the ball and packs a powerful shot that could be a potent weapon. Will be hoping to stay fit and if he does, will be looking to contribute a regular supply of goals.

### **Matt Butler**

### **Forward**

Joined in 2021/22 season from Winchcombe Town & became a pivotal part of the Development Squad, scoring regularly. Was an occasional selection in our first team, mainly from the bench, but always made a positive impression, with an exceptional work-rate, when selected. Could be another important squad member in 2022/23.

### **Neil Mustoe**

### **Manager**

Appointed as first team manager in January and took the club away from relegation fears to a place of safety. Spent many years as a professional at Manchester United, Wigan Athletic, Cambridge United, Stevenage and Yeovil Town, before over 350 appearances for Gloucester City. Previous coaching experience with City before a spell away from the game until his appointment with The Rovers.

### **Ritchie Warden**

### **Assistant Manager**

Appointed as Assistant Manager in 2020, when Richard Cox took on the Caretaker Manager role, Ritchie is a UEFA B qualified coach who has experience from working at Cheltenham Town. Stayed on to become Neil Mustoe's assistant after Cox's resignation and is an important part of the management team.



# altripan

Quality plywood since 1968

**Europe's leading and independent importer for quality plywood and panel products.**

**Altripan UK Ltd offers quality and reliable products at competitive prices, thanks in part of Altripan Europe's proven track record of knowledge and experience built up over more than 40 years.**

<http://altripanuk.com>



# Severn Signs Ltd

**Signmakers & Digital Print Specialist**

Call Us: 01452 739156

Office: Unit R2 Innsworth Technology Park, Innsworth, Gloucester, GL3 1DL

Email Us: [info@severnsigns.co.uk](mailto:info@severnsigns.co.uk)



# Who will you be today?



## Show some Respect

Thousands of referees drop out of the game every season due to abuse.

The uhlspport Hellenic League operate a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy toward Inappropriate Language & Behaviour

[TheFA.com/Respect](http://TheFA.com/Respect)

# Respect





## Half-time quiz: Break for five

Grab a cup of tea and something to eat, then spend the five minutes of your half-time break trying to answer these questions. As ever, there is a theme and today the questions or answers focus on renewed acquaintances....

1. Brian Clough is noted as one of the most successful managers in English football history, having taken both Derby County and then Nottingham Forest to the English First Division title. He didn't appear to be on the road to success when he first took over at Forest but things took a positive turn when he was reunited with which former colleague, who had assisted him at Derby, in the dugout at the City Ground?

2. Which football manager, pictured, has just finished his fourth permanent spell at Oldham Athletic, having been reacquainted with the club in January 2022?

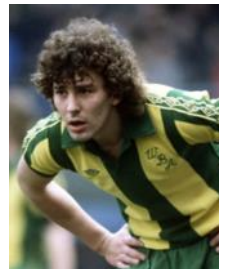


3. Can you name the English striker who had three separate spells at Tottenham Hotspur between 2004 and 2014, as well as two spells at Sunderland, 2015/17 and 2022, not to mention two spells at Bournemouth, in 2001/02 and 2017/20?

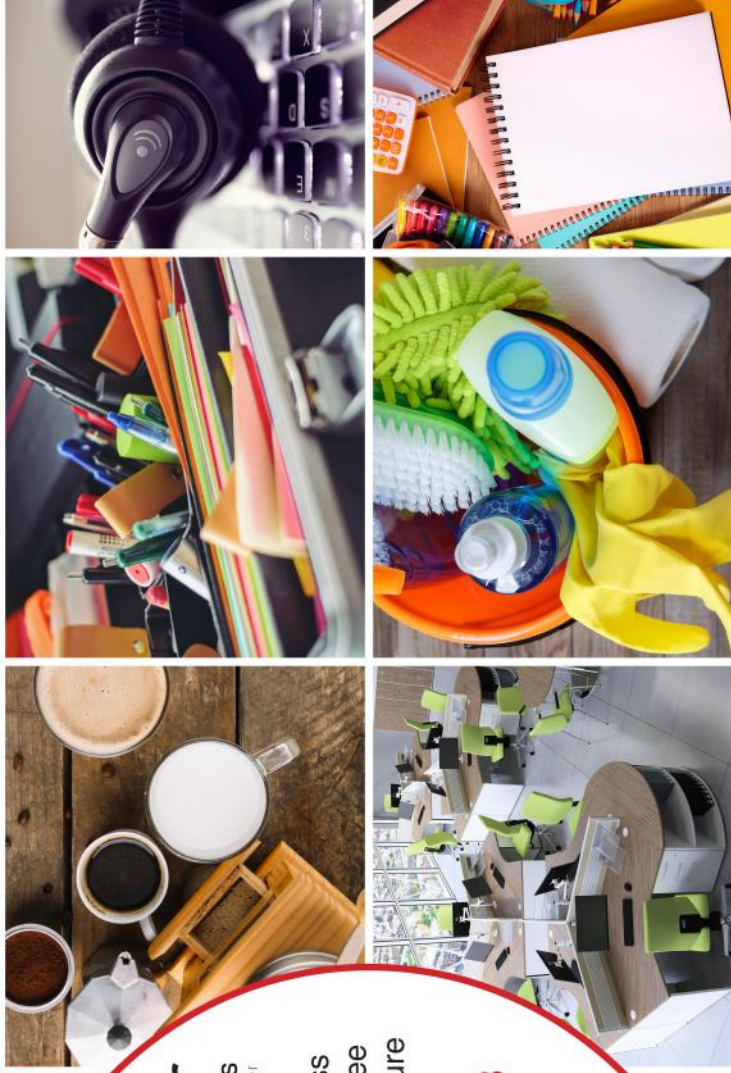
4. Who is pictured here, controversially celebrating a goal for his new club in front of the fans of his previous club in 2009/10 and how much was the FA fine that he received for this, in addition to a two match suspension?



5. Which two players (both pictured) were reunited with their former club manager, at his new club, when they transferred in 1981? For a bonus point, who was the manager?



**Quiz Answers:** (1) Peter Taylor, (2) John Sheridan, (3) Emmanuel Adebayor was the scorer up and received a £25,000 fine, (4) Jermaine Defoe, (5) Remi Moses & Bryan Robson linked up with Ron Atkinson, when they joined Manchester United from West Bromwich Albion.



 **Harbour**  
Business Supplies  
*proud to be a netcare partner*

We have all your business  
needs covered from coffee  
straight through to furniture

**Call 01452 530 228**

 @harbourbusinesssupplies  
 @harboursupplies  
 @harboursupplies

# FLEET SPURS FC – HISTORY



Fleet Spurs Football Club started in 1948, shortly after World War II, when a group of young footballers began playing friendly matches in the Fleet and Aldershot area. Opponents included the Royal Medical Corps, Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Royal Army Service Corps, Parachute Regiment, and Wellington Press. Tradition holds that Fleet Spurs FC was formed as a reaction, or an alternative, to the long-established "semi-professional" Fleet Town FC. The purpose was to provide an amateur football club for local players with a strong social environment.

The first club badge was a cockerel on a ball, and was the same as for Tottenham Hotspur FC, one of the rising stars of English football at the time. The Fleet Spurs cockerel has altered over the years, notably a few seasons ago when the London club threatened legal action if the Fleet club didn't change their logo. Financial might triumphed, and a new logo was designed. Sadly, bullies don't always lose. The original club colours were black and white, similar to Tottenham's navy & white. Subsequently, they changed to red and black stripes, like AC Milan, and eventually to the present dark blue and red.

In 1951, Fleet Spurs FC joined the Aldershot and District League. They progressed through that and other local leagues, winning many honours along the way, notably becoming champions of the Aldershot Senior League four times. In 1991 they joined Hampshire League Division 3. By this time, they also fielded three Aldershot League teams - the Reserves and the A & B teams.

Up until 1997, the club had played at various grounds in the Fleet area. In the 1997/8 season, they finally established a home at Kennels Lane in Southwood, part of neighbouring Rushmoor. At the same time, the first team was promoted to Hampshire League Division 2 and became champions in 1998/99 and so was promoted to Division 1. They played two seasons in that division, finishing in sixth position, but were immediately relegated to Division 2. This was done not for football reasons, but because they failed to meet the new standards set by the league for Division 1 grounds.

After a reorganisation of local football, the club moved into Wessex League Division 3 in 2004/5. Following further reorganisations, including the renaming and renumbering of the divisions, it moved to Wessex League Division 1, which was, and still is, at Step 6 in the English Football League Pyramid. This necessitated significant ground improvements, including the installation of state-of-the-art floodlights. These improvements were supported by grants from the Football Foundation's Football

Stadia Improvement Fund, the Hampshire Playing Fields Association, the Mike Ritchie Sports Fund and donations from club members. Over the period up to 2016/7, the club remained in Wessex League Division 1, where their fortunes fluctuated. Their most successful season was 2010/11 when after losing eight of their first 11 games, they narrowly missed promotion, finishing third in the table.

In 2017/18, Fleet Spurs moved into the Combined Counties League, remaining at Step 6. This move was instigated by the FA with the intention of helping the club and in particular having the effect of halving the average distance they had to travel to away games. The move had the other benefits that accrue from playing against many local teams – ease of recruiting players, bigger average crowds etc. Four seasons later, the FA switched Spurs back into the Wessex League as part of a much wider reorganisation of Step 5 and Step 6 football. The move has the major disadvantage to the club of doubling the distance they must travel to away league games. On the positive side, it has been pleasant to renew relationships with old friends and to make new friends, and the club is looking forward to continuing to enjoy being members of the Wessex League.

The change of leagues has led to wholesale changes in the club hierarchy, including a new chairman and managers. John Haddock, whose background in Fleet Spurs is in junior football, took over as chairman. The new joint managers, Scott Kemp and Suj Kherra, are both UEFA B Licensed Coaches. They have experience in youth and adult football at all levels of the game from grass roots to professional with particular emphasis on player development. In 2021/22 season, they built from scratch an entirely new squad. After the inevitable slow start, what was mainly a young squad climbed to safety, and were delighted to remain in the Step 6 Wessex League. By the end of the season, they were playing a decent standard of football. The club is confident that, under Scott's and Suj's wise guidance, this will continue and that the enforced brinkmanship of last season will be a memory of the past.

In 1991, Fleet Spurs FC had formed an association with Fleet Youth FC. The youth section then added the word Spurs to its name, but for almost 30 years the senior and youth sections continued to operate separately. In 2020 – bad timing for any major change, and of course accidental – the club began to operate as a single entity. It now provides football 'from cradle to grave'. The cradle is the Under 6 academy, and the grave contains our two Veterans teams. Neither group is likely to be happy with those descriptions. The club now has 37 teams - four senior teams, including the Vets' teams and the Reserves, the reigning champions of the Aldershot & District Football League; 31 youth teams, including one Under 19 team and three Under 18 teams; and two girls' teams - as well as the academy.



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR FA VASE

Thirty years ago, in 1992, Tuffley Rovers AFC played a first ever FA Vase tie, away at Calne Town, and won 4-1. We are now in our 22<sup>nd</sup> year competing in what is now The Buildbase FA Vase and today will be our 36<sup>th</sup> tie.

This is our twelfth fixture in the Second Qualifying Round and we have recorded six victories at this stage, to take us through to the First Round Proper, including a victory against Fleet Spurs last season. Our best performance in the competition came in 1994 and 2016, when we reached the Second Round Proper on each occasion, losing to Westbury United and Bodmin Town, respectively.

Today's opposition, Fleet Spurs, have never gone beyond this stage, having participated in the FA Vase on twelve previous occasions. They have four competition victories to their name but all in the First Qualifying Round. This year, like The Rovers, they had a bye to this stage; hopefully we won't be the first side to suffer a defeat to them at this stage!

*Courtesy of the Football Club History Database, our FA Vase history:*

1992-93	EP	CALNE TOWN	A	4-1	
	PRE	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	H	1-0	
	1	WELTON ROVERS	A	0-2	
1993-94	EP	KEYNSHAM TOWN	H	1-4	
1994-95	PRE	CIRENCESTER TOWN	A	3-1	
	1	WOTTON ROVERS	H	2-1	
	2	WESTBURY UNITED	A	1-4	
1995-96	2Q	SHORTWOOD UNITED	A	1-3	
1996-97	1Q	OLD GEORGIANS	A	0-4	
1997-98	2Q	FAIRFORD TOWN	H	1-2	
1998-99	2Q	TRURO CITY	H	0-1	
1999-00	1Q	MINEHEAD TOWN	A	2-1	
	2Q	WILLAND ROVERS	A	0-1	
2000-01	2Q	ILFRACOMBE TOWN	A	3-0	
	1	LYMINGTON & NEW MILTON	H	0-2	
2001-02	2Q	WELLINGTON (SOMERSET)	H	2-1	
	1	MONEYFIELDS	A	0-5	
2002-03	2Q	CULLOMPTON RANGERS	H	3-1	
	1	CHRISTCHURCH	A	2-4	
2003-04	1Q	PORTHLEVEN	H	1-2	
2004-05	1Q	BRISLINGTON	A	0-1	
2005-06	1Q	HAMWORTHY UNITED	A	SCR	
2014-15	2Q	EVERSLEY & CALIFORNIA	A	3-3	Tuffley won 6-5 on pens
	1	PLYMOUTH PARKWAY	A	1-4	
2015-16	1Q	CHERTSEY TOWN	A	1-5	
2016-17	2Q	ARDLEY UNITED	H	4-1	
	1	SHERBORNE TOWN	H	4-0	
	2	BODMIN TOWN	H	0-2	
2017-18	1Q	CRAWLEY GREEN	A	1-2	
2018-19	2Q	LONGLEVENS	A	0-0	
	2Qr	LONGLEVENS	H	0-1	
2019-20	1Q	SHORTWOOD UNITED	A	0-5	
2020-21	1Q	CLANFIELD	A	0-2	
2021-22	1Q	MALMESBURY VICTORIA	A	4-2	
	2Q	FLEET SPURS	H	3-2	
	1	STREET	H	1-2	

Our overall record in the competition is:

Tuffley Rovers	P	W	D	L	F	A
	35	12	2	21	49	72



# Your's Truly Creations & Gifts

*A family run business, making and creating all things personalised.*

*We cover all celebrations throughout the year and make sentimental gifts for all occasions.*

*We also cover uniforms, school leavers uniform, accessories and so much more.*

*We thrive to make all our customers happy, and we have all the gifts to make sure your receivers  
are also just as happy.*

*We are the home of all 'things' personalised!*

*For any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact us.*

 @ Truly Creations

 @ TrulyCreations

 Yourstrulycreationsandgifts@outlook.com

 07808226899

 WEBSITE COMING VERY SOON!!



# JMJ

## FABRICATIONS LTD

GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS

**Tel: 01452 305231**

**E-mail: [info@jmjfabrications.co.uk](mailto:info@jmjfabrications.co.uk)**

**[www.jmjfabrications.co.uk](http://www.jmjfabrications.co.uk)**



# DREAMSHED

*theatre*

*Dreamshed Theatre is a local professional theatre company which aims to encourage young people to develop their creative skills. We stage productions frequently and also provide workshops for students of all ages and aptitudes. We have something for everyone! Please contact us on 07771 965985 for more information.*



**GREAT PRODUCTS. GREAT PRICES. UNBELIEVABLE SERVICE.**

 **PLAYING AND TRAINING KIT**

 **TRAINING EQUIPMENT**

 **WIDE RANGE OF BRANDS**

 **CLUB WEBSTORE SET-UP**

[www.batemanssports.co.uk](http://www.batemanssports.co.uk) [kevin@batemanssports.co.uk](mailto:kevin@batemanssports.co.uk)

01453 764320

PROUD PARTNERS WITH

**uhlsport® Hellenic League**



uhlsport®



## Previously against today's opposition at Glevum Park

The last time we hosted today's visitors in a competitive fixture at Glevum Park was almost exactly one year ago today and at the same stage of this competition. It was a close run thing and a moment of controversy surrounded Rovers' winner over Fleet Spurs...

### **MATCH REPORT: THE BUILDBASE FA VASE, SECOND QUALIFYING ROUND TUFFLEY ROVERS 3-2 FLEET SPURS SATURDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2021**



A much-changed Tuffley Rovers team took to the field for a serious competitive match at their own home for the first time since they had played Ardley United 361 days earlier. Repair work to the Glevum Park pitch had seen Rovers play their opening seven league fixtures of 2021-22 away from home in addition to three cup-ties and one cup replay which were also played away from Gloucester.

Hampshire club Fleet Spurs arrived having endured a difficult time since their transfer from the Combined Counties League to Division One of the Wessex League. Just a single point from their opening seven league fixtures, four of which had been lost by five-goal margins, were not encouraging statistics to bring up to Gloucestershire with them.

Teams who have never met before tend to sound each other out during the opening minutes of a match. Unfortunately, this sounding-out lasted for almost the whole of a first half which was pretty tedious to watch even if it did contain a couple of goals. By contrast, the second half was much better and contained most of this game's major incidents and talking-points.

Fleet got the game going kicking towards the changing-room end but Rovers had the better of the opening exchanges until Aaron Basford went down injured but was able to continue without being treated on the pitch. Tuffley dominated the early possession with Dominik Kent having a really positive influence in midfield and Liam Wright pinging balls down both flanks for the wide players to run on to, a tactic which would have worked better had the home forwards not been caught in offside positions on several occasions.

The opening goal when it came was as scrappy as the play which had preceded it. Warren Mann made progress down the left and when he cut the ball back towards the near post it appeared to be defender Connor Allison who unluckily diverted the ball into his own net.



The Spurs were struggling to get through Tuffley's defence but, when they did, Khoury Taylor missed a decent opportunity when he dragged the ball just wide of the goal. The visitors would soon rue that miss as Rovers won two corners in quick succession. From the second Jacob Geddes powered in a fierce

downward header which was first saved then cleared, but the second goal soon arrived when Kent stole the ball deep on Fleet's left-hand side, burst past his man to the byline and calmly rolled it across to Joe Shutt whose simple side-footed effort went past Aaron Bufton's left side.

Nothing in the first half had really indicated a Fleet comeback from going two goals behind. But within a minute of the resumption they had pulled a goal back. Liam Smith dallied on the ball a second too long and in a flash Fleet centre-forward and captain Tom White had gained possession and clipped a shot across goal which beat Adam Clark and bounced in off the far post.

Rovers nearly restored their two-goal advantage when Geddes strolled forward for another corner and again reached the ball before any defenders but his header was comfortably claimed by Bufton.

The goal by White had given the visiting team belief and confidence they had shown little of before. Ethan Yewings set up White for a right-footed shot which flew over and the Tuffley defence, marshalled superbly by Geddes, found itself having to work hard to keep the visitors at bay. Further up the field Lewis Bainbridge ran clear from just inside his own half but his shot just cleared the far post. The referee called for a water-break when Bainbridge went down injured and he was almost immediately replaced by Dion Ellis-Clark. Fleet replied in kind by taking off Ryan Goddard and replacing him with Larry Briggs; a few minutes later they took Taylor off and brought Rhys Master on.



At the three-quarter point of the match it looked as if the next goal would be decisive whichever way it came. Things were getting tense off the field as well as on it and Rovers' Dave Strain was ordered to leave the dug-out by referee Dan Forrester. Joe Shutt's corner from the left was cleanly caught by Bufton at full stretch but another corner by the same player and from the same side was cleared and saw Fleet break into a menacing position before the assistant's


flag alerted the referee to the fact that Shutt's corner had been taken from outside the quadrant. When the corner was re-taken it was third time lucky for Geddes whose header this time fizzed out of Bufton's reach.

Liam Smith went down injured but Rovers had already made all three permitted changes. Ellis-Clark missed a good opportunity to put the tie out of Fleet's reach completely. With time almost up White scored a second for Fleet after a goalmouth scramble and immediately rushed to reclaim the ball as the Spurs looked for an even later goal that might send this tie to penalties.



Rovers hung on to claim a place in the First Round Proper and a decent crowd starved of competitive football at this ground for just short of a year had ultimately enjoyed an absorbing contest in which the second half was a lot better than the first.





# D&G

## CONTRACTING

[dandgcontracting.co.uk](http://dandgcontracting.co.uk)

T: 01242 370768

CEILING

PARTITIONS

SFS

ACOUSTIC SOLUTIONS

FIRE STOPPING



# BRABOW ENGINEERING



**Precision Subcontract Engineers**

Brabow is a family run precision engineering business with more than 48 years experience. Brabow has established, over this time, a national reputation for providing the highest quality service yet maintaining that important friendly and personal touch.

With Quality of Product & Business being our main concern, we have the Quality Management System in place to ISO 9001 - 2008.

Today, employing 24 highly skilled staff and using latest machining technology, many of the machines being computer controlled the company has gone from strength to strength.

Machining prototypes & Batch Production on the latest CNC vertical/horizontal machining centres and CNC lathes is at the heart of our business.



[www.brabow.co.uk](http://www.brabow.co.uk)

Brabow Engineering Co Ltd, Lower Tuffley Lane, Gloucester. GL2 5DT. Tel. 01452 520674 / 01452 410247 [sales@brabow.co.uk](mailto:sales@brabow.co.uk)

**uhlsport® Official Match Ball Supplier  
to the Hellenic League**



**[www.uhlsport.com](http://www.uhlsport.com)**



# TUFFLEY ROVERS

Claret & Blue shirts; Claret & Blue shorts; Claret & White socks (GK: Grey).

**JMJ**  
FABRICATIONS LTD  
GENERAL FABRICATION & WELDING SPECIALISTS

**MATCH DAY SPONSOR:**

- Elliot Jones **1**
- Paul Azubilla **2**
- Warren Mann © **3**
- Ashley Davies **4**
- Macaulay Herbert **5**
- Sammie Hicks **6**
- Dominik Kent **7**
- Henry Birkett **8**
- Ryan Dobbins **9**
- Jack Beardsell **10**
- Mason Lewis **11**
- Luke Hawkins **12**
- Shayne Bradley **14**
- Ryley Mace **15**
- Callum McGuirk **16**
- Kieran Squires **17**
- Yeshaya Lomotey **18**
- Dan Lander **19**
- Liam Smith **20**
- George Driver-Dickerson **21**
- Brad Poole **GK**

# FLEET SPURS

Green shirts; Green shorts; White socks (GK: Purple).



- Jack Coleman
- Will Friend
- Connor Knight
- Jayson Dalton
- Chris Farmiloe
- Charlie Graves
- Nick Holmes
- Tom Lycett
- Harry White
- Harvey Seeman
- Daniel Kwan
- Dale Small
- Lee Bush
- Jack Wilson
- Gavin Francis
- Jay Foster
- Aboubakar Fofana
- Bailey Rogers
- Conor Allison
- Nick Solomon
- Aaron Bufton

Neil Mustoe

**Manager**

Scott Kemp & Suj Khera

Ritchie Warden

**Asst. Manager**

Ashleigh Watson (Physio)

**Other Occupants**

Officials: James West; Michael Cofie; Garry Collier.