# TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

6 December 2025 3:00PM KO UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION









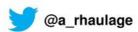


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# FROM THE EDITOR:



Welcome to all our visitors to Glevum Park this afternoon, notably the players, management team, committee and supporters of Worcester Raiders. Welcome, also, to this afternoon's match officials.

We first played Raiders in a competitive fixture on 19 October 2022. We lost 5-0. We played them again on 1 November 2022 and lost 2-1. We went to Sixways on 22 August 2023 and a late Tomos Shyamapant goal secured a valuable point in a 1-1 draw. Progress!

24 February 2024 saw us get another goal and another (Karnell Chambers the scorer of both) as we drew 2-2 at Glevum Park. The vital win was eluding us but two points and unbeaten in the season against Raiders. Good progress! Last season we lost both games, 2-0 at Sixways and 1-0 at home. No points, no first win and a setback of sorts.

Today we will go once again in search of a first competitive win against Worcester Raiders at the 7th attempt against a team firmly nestled in the play-off spots. Might this be the time when we record a three point haul? Who knows, but it is perhaps a sign of our progress over the last few seasons that the memory of the 2022 mauling has given way to a sense that we can compete in this division; and when we don't quite hit the levels we know we are capable of, a sense of frustration. We forget sometimes the journey we have been on and are still travelling.

In his programme note, Dan points to a sign of our progress given the draws against Fairford Town and Droitwich Spa. Muzzy emphasises the sense that any team can take points of any other in this division. Will today be our day? Maybe; maybe not, but I know our young squad will give it their best effort and that means we have a chance.

Here is hoping it is a good day. After not having played at home since 15 November, we now go on a run of consecutive home games in the league and cups, with consecutive home games leading into the Christmas break, before we end 2025 with a home game against Longlevens on 27 December.

Every game looks to be a tough one but there are points up for grabs and we have to believe that what sometimes feels impossible is possible. Dare to dream is how I look at it. Let today be the day where we change our future. We'd welcome an early Christmas present or two from today's visitors to help us on our way. They will, of course, be hoping that we will be the bearer of gifts. That any outcome is possible is what makes the game so great.

Get behind the lads and I know they'll try to reward your support.

I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil



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## **FIXTURES**

Saturday, 6 December 2025

Uhlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division

Highworth Town v Mangotsfield United

Cribbs v Lydney Town

Fairford Town v Droitwich Spa

Longlevens v Corsham Town

Roman Glass St George v Cirencester Town

Royal Wootton Bassett Town v Pershore Town

Thornbury Town v Hereford Pegasus

Tuffley Rovers v Worcester Raiders

# FROM THE CHAIRMAN:



Good afternoon and welcome to Glevum Park for this Uhlsport Hellenic League fixture against Worcester Raiders. May I first take this opportunity to welcome our visitors' supporters, committee, management team and players. An extended warm welcome to the match officials who will be facilitating the game today.

We are now officially in the festive season and we have a bumper set of fixtures here at Glevum Park to keep our supporters entertained over the next four weeks. After hosting Worcester Raiders today, we then welcome Droitwich Spa next Saturday in the Challenge Cup. Saturday 20th December we host an inform Lydney Town and then the annual festive cracker on Saturday 27th December, against another very much in-form team with Longlevens visiting us here. Plenty of football to be had, which is great for the club and our supporters.

We have had four positive results over the last four games with two wins and two draws and we hope that renewed consistency continues today against another tough opposition. Two well earned draws against Droitwich last week and Fairford the week before could have been three points on another day, but likewise those are the games in seasons before where we would have probably come away with nothing to show for the effort. The squad is maturing with every game played and are still quite young as a squad for this level of football, so we expect to see the rewards of them maturing over the next couple of seasons.

We have The Blackbridge Charitable Community Benefit Society here today, who do some fantastic work in the local area to support residents both young and old, to improve opportunities for them. We work closely with Jim and the team to support them in anyway we can.

We currently have a promotion on hiring our 1929 Suite at our other site on Tuffley Lane. For further information, please see myself or email <a href="mailto:gm@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk">gm@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk</a>. There is also a page in the programme advertising our Christmas deals.

I hope everyone enjoys this afternoon's hospitality and have a safe journey home.

Thanks,

- Dan Boon

#uptherovers

## 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).

Mustoe achieved an 18<sup>th</sup> place finish at the end of the 2022/23 season, his first full campaign, before achieving a healthy 14<sup>th</sup> place in 2023/24, with a much improved squad. The 2024/25 season ended with further improvement, as Mustoe's squad finished in 11<sup>th</sup> place.

# FROM THE MANAGER:



Good afternoon and welcome to all players, management, officials, and supporters from Worcester Raiders FC.

We come into what will be a tough encounter in good form, unbeaten in four games. Our late but important win against Highworth Town — a side who have consistently been in and around the play-offs in recent seasons — was a real boost. That was followed by two very credible draws against Fairford and Droitwich. What pleased me most was that in neither of those games were we hanging on for a point; in fact, we could easily have won both, although a draw was probably a fair outcome overall.

The Shortwood United cup win was particularly satisfying. Historically during my time here, we've struggled in midweek cup fixtures, and I expected something similar this time given how depleted we were. With no recognised centre-backs available, a number of our U18s stepped in and gained valuable experience, which was great to see.

Today's visitors, Worcester Raiders, look in a strong position, sitting well in the play-off places, with games in hand, so we know we'll have to be at our best. I'm hopeful we can build on our recent momentum and performances and pick up some important points.

As we've seen many times already this season, any scoreline is possible in this league, but with the fixtures ahead we'll be looking to claw back some of the points we feel we probably should have secured earlier in the campaign.

Our squad is a little threadbare at the moment and we are looking to add to it. We've been a bit unlucky with a few departures, and others have chosen to move on in search of more minutes. Our starting XI — and a squad of around 15 or 16 — looks competitive, but depth is a concern, and keeping everyone happy is an ongoing challenge. That's part and parcel of management, and we'll continue to work hard to bring in the right people: players who are committed to the cause and understand that once they get their opportunity, it's their place to lose.

Enjoy the game. Thank you for your support.

- Muzz

#uptherovers









# 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 2025/26 season

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# HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

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Roman Glass St George	22	7	п	2	25	11	9	m	m	25	20	13	4	2	20	31	19	43
Droitwich Spa	20	6	н		59	12	m	m	m	14	17	12	4	4	43	53	41	9
Corsham Town	19	9	2	2	17	12	2	0	4	16	11	Ħ	2	9	33	23	10	32
Worcester Raiders	18	2	2	2	70	6	S	2	2	15	9	10	4	4	35	15	20	34
Cirencester Town	19	2	2	33	28	14	4	m	2	17	12	6	2	2	45	56	19	32
Longlevens AFC	20	7	0	2	23	6	7	4	S	15	18	6	4	7	38	22	11	31
Hereford Pegasus	20	4	н	9	22	52	r2	1	m	19	17	6	2	6	41	45	÷	53
Fairford Town	17	7	9	н	6	60	5	0	m	11	11	7	9	4	56	19	7	22
Westfields	19	4	2	m	18	15	4	1	25	13	24	00		00	31	39	œ	22
Mangotsfield United	19	4	0	4	10	00	m	4	4	41	16	7	4	œ	24	24	0	22
Tuffley Rovers	20	4	0	25	14	15	ю	8	5	12	20	7	m	10	56	35	ο̈́	24
Highworth Town	20	m	m	m	13	12	2	m	9	10	17	2	9	6	23	53	φ	17
Pershore Town	19	3	2	15	10	13	т	1	15	12	21	9	æ	10	22	34	·12	12
Cinderford Town	16	7	4	2	==	10	т	н	4	6	14	50	2	9	20	24	4	70
Lydney Town	20	4	2	9	16	18	1	7	25	00	28	2	4	Π	24	46	-22	19
Hallen	18	3	2	ю	18	16	0	4	9	7	19	м	9	6	25	35	.10	15
Cribbs	19	-	2	7	12	24	2	4	m	12	16	m	9	10	24	40	-16	15
Thornbury Town	19	1	9	m	13	16	2	0	7	9	19	m	9	10	19	35	-16	15
Royal Wootton Bassett Town	19	2	m	4	10	16	1	2	7	12	30	m	2	==	22	46	-24	14

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# 5/26

#### ndividuals who have sponsored the first team squad this season.



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## 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 it is about what some might think could be the Worst-hair in football...

1. Can you name this former Scotland international who sported a ginger afro during the 1980s and became one of the most expensive players in the world when he moved from Coventry City to Nottingham Forest for £1.25M in July 1980?



2. Which USA player made a name for himself in the early 1990s (notably at the 1994 World Cup tournament) due to his interesting facial hair, which included a long, ginger, goatee beard?



3. Can you name the footballer, pictured, who had a top blonde mullet and appeared for Derby County, Everton, Stoke City, Portsmouth and Brighton, amongst other clubs, during the 1980s?



4. Can you name the former Arsenal player pictured who sported one of the 'most interesting' hairstyles of the Premier League era when he played for The Gunners between 2011 and 2013?



5. The Colombian national football team had a difficult experience at the 1994 World Cup, but potentially had an even more difficult time with hair styling! Can you name the three players with distinctive hair pictured who formed part of their squad for that tournament?







This is from a 1969/70 game, with Jimmy Greaves scoring.

This is from the 1970 League Cup Final at Wembley.

## STATISTICS 2025/26

#### Competition

Uhlsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

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

MSCC = Marsh Sports Challenge Cup;

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

Att	Scorers	
120	) H Mustoe,	K Chambe

2025							
29/Jul	7:45pm	Cribbs FC		н	2-1	120	H Mustoe, K Chambers
02/Aug	3pm	Hartpury FC	FAC	Α	2-1	104	C Warrington, O Barnes (pen)
09/Aug	3pm	Fairford Town		Н	3-1	129	H Mustoe, K Chambers (2)
12/Aug	7:45pm	Mangotsfield United		н	1-3	140	K Alder
16/Aug	3pm	Flackwell Heath	FAC	Α	0-1	210	=
19/Aug	7:45pm	Hereford Pegasus		н	2-0	136	J Creed (2)
23/Aug	3pm	Longlevens	FAV	н	0-2	206	-
25/Aug	3pm	Longlevens		Α	1-0	310	K Chambers
30/Aug	3pm	Thornbury Town		н	1-2	87	M Herbert
06/Sep	3pm	Corsham Town		Α	0-1	140	-
09/Sep	7:45pm	Lydney Town		Α	4-1	127	O Barnes (2), P Mason, J Creed
13/Sep	3pm	Pershore Town		н	1-2	103	C Walters
20/Sep	3pm	Westfields		Α	2-7	112	O Barnes (pen), C Warrington
27/Sep	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		Α	2-1	85	K Chambers, J Creed
04/Oct	3pm	Cirencester Town		н	0-2	117	F
11/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St George		н	2-3	103	G Valenti, H Mustoe
18/Oct	3pm	Mangotsfield United		Α	1-2	230	K Chambers
25/Oct	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		Α	0-0	121	-
28/Oct	7:45pm	Slimbridge		Α	0-3	174	-
08/Nov	3pm	Cirencester Town		Α	0-3	158	-
11/Nov	7:45pm	Cheltenham Saracens	GFA	Α	2-3	55	H Mustoe, K Alder
15/Nov	3pm	Highworth Town		н	2-1	101	B Bevan, K Chambers (pen)
18/Nov	7:45pm	Eversley & California Reserves	HLCC	н	H-W		-
22/Nov	3pm	Fairford Town		Α	1-1	120	K Chambers
25/Nov	7:45pm	Shortwood United	WLFC	Α	3-2	44	G Valenti, C Warrington, C Walters
29/Nov	3pm	Droitwich Spa		Α	1-1	149	K Alder
06/Dec	3pm	Worcester Raiders		н			
13/Dec	3pm	Droitwich Spa	HLCC	н			
20/Dec	3pm	Lydney Town		н			
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		н			
2026							
10/Jan	3pm	Cinderford Town		н			
13/Jan	7:45pm	Cribbs FC	WLFC	н			
17/Jan	3pm	Thornbury Town		Α			
24/Jan	2pm	Highworth Town		Α			
31/Jan	3pm	Corsham Town		н			
07/Feb	3pm	Hallen		Α			
14/Feb	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		н			
21/Feb	3pm	Westfields		н			
28/Feb	3pm	Worcester Raiders		Α			
14/Mar	3pm	Droitwich Spa		Н			
21/Mar	3pm	Pershore Town		Α			
28/Mar	3pm	Roman Glass St George		Α			
04/Apr	3pm	Cribbs FC		Α			
06/Apr	3pm	Slimbridge		н			
11/Apr	3pm	Hallen		Н			
18/Apr	3pm	Cinderford Town		Α			
							TOTAL ADDELDAMON

Goalscorers			
Karnell Chambers	8	Connor Walters	2
Oli Barnes	4	Gino Valenti	2
Jamie Creed	4	Macaulay Herbert	1
Harley Mustoe	4	Preston Mason	1
Corey Warrington	3	Brad Bevan	1
Kieran Alder	3		

TOTAL APPEARANCES

STARTS

SUBSTITUTE

UNUSED SUBSTITUTE



			_						_				_		_											_				
Merchant, Luke	McLean, Callum	Clifford, Ellis	Simpson, Elijah	Herbert, Macaulay	McGuirk, Callum	Warrington, Corey	Mustoe, Harley	Chambers, Karnell	Bevan, Bradley	Barnes, Oli	Pritchett, Mark	Lynden, Joss	Creed, Jamie	Walters, Connor	Yarmolenko, Vladyslav	Alder, Kieran	Venna, Kaelen	Lander, Daniel	Jones, Zak	Smith, Liam	Mason, Preston	Hoffland, Robin	Valenti, Gino	Kelly, Sam	Kaye, Tom	Hammond, Alex	Shyamapant, Joe	Mayo, Ellis		МоМ
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## **PLAYER PROFILES** 2025/26

#### Luke Merchant Goalkeeper

Club captain who returned to the club in the 2022/23 season, after a Hellenic League Premier Division title winning season at Bishops Cleeve. A great shot stopper, commanding presence and accomplished keeper. Holds the club record for Hellenic League appearances as a keeper.

#### Robin Hoffland Goalkeeper

A long-serving player, despite his age, who acts as a capable back-up to Luke Merchant in goal, whenever needed. Has played for the club's 1sts, 2nds, 3rds, 4ths and 5ths, as well as the U18s and always gives his all. Reliable, in a word.

#### Macaulay Herbert Defence

Our second longest-serving member of the squad. 'Macca' came through our U18s and is solid and dependable; an excellent defender who has been getting better with every season that passed. Has made over 300 first team appearances, despite several injuries punctuating each season.

#### Callum McLean Defence

New signing, who has impressed at right-back in pre-season and could prove to be a great addition to the squad. Tough tackling and comfortable on the ball. Came through the U18s at local rivals Longlevens.

#### Elijah Simpson Defence

Player under Neil Mustoe at Gloucester City U18s and joined from Brimscombe & Thrupp for 2024/25. Comfortable on the ball when in possession, shows a turn of pace, and good defensively. One of the leaders in the squad.

#### Daniel Lander Defence

Rarely a regular starter but a player who gives his all when selected and never lets his manager down. Now has over 50 first team appearances to his name and is a solid, dependable member of the squad.

#### Mark Pritchett Defence

Tasted Hellenic League title success at Bishops Cleeve. Previously at Rovers as Player / Manager before stepping away from the role in 21/22. Offers a no nonsense, old-fashioned approach in each game and is a threat in the opposition box.

#### Ellis Clifford Defence

Came through the U18s squad, after joining from Gloucester City's youth set-up. Made a breakthrough in 2023/24 and has now amassed almost 60 appearances at left-back. An improving and emerging talent.

#### Sammie Hicks Defence/Midfield

Now in his fifth season at the club, after spells at Gloucester City and Cinderford Town. Injuries have hampered his progress but he remains a reliable and very versatile member of the squad, capable of filling in at full-back, in midfield or in the No.10 role.

#### Harley Mustoe Defence/Midfield

Has gained experience playing County League football for Hardwicke and has held down a regular first team spot after making his debut as a substitute in our first game of 2024/25. Most comfortable in midfield but has played at full-back and looked very accomplished. Young Player of the Year 2024/25.

#### Callum McGuirk Defence/Midfield

Signed from Longlevens in 2022, where he'd largely been used at full-back, he is a hardworking midfielder, who looks comfortable on the ball. Played academy football during his earlier years, including a spell at Bristol City. Has become a vital part of the squad.

#### Corey Warrington Midfield

Signed at the start of 2024/25 after excelling at Northern Senior League side Tredworth Tigers during 2023/24. A highly energetic midfielder who likes to get on the ball and is well regarded in local football. A real talent.

#### Warren Mann Midfield

Our longest serving player with 543 competitive games at Step 7 and above over a 20 year period. The player opposition players, officials and supporters love to hate! Has played in all positions over the last few seasons and happy to play wherever needed.

#### Liam Smith Midfield

Has Southern League experience. Calm in possession and possesses a good passing range, although injuries have limited his progress.

#### Kieran Alder Midfield/Forward

Returned to the club in 2022/23, after spells with Cinderford, Bishops Cleeve and Worcester City; and overcame injuries to return to his best. Gifted No.10, whose work rate is as noticeable as his work on the ball - a creative player. Previously with Neil Mustoe's U18s at Gloucester City reunited at Rovers.

#### Karnell Chambers Forward

Experienced at a higher level, this is a player who Neil Mustoe was delighted to sign in November 2023. Previously at Gloucester City, Hungerford Town, North Leigh, as well as a spell overseas, and is a goalscorer equally at home wide or in the middle. Finished 24/25 as top scorer for the Firsts with over 20 goals.

#### Oliver Barnes Forward

Signed from Westfields in December 2024, a prolific goalscorer at Hellenic League level and will offer a different option in attack. Previously with Brimscombe & Thrupp, Oli had time out due to injury over the past two seasons, but is now looking sharp as we move into 2025/36.

#### Vlad Yarmoloenko Forward

Ukrainian who joins from Brimscombe & Thrupp, having previously been at Longlevens. A little raw but has pace to burn and could be a great signing. Has impressed during pre-season.

#### Connor Walters Forward

Wide player who joined from Gala Wilton in 2023/24. Strong and full of trickery, he had a fantastic start to his first season and contributed goals, as well as being a threat to opposition defences. Has an eye for goal, although will hope to improve his goals per game ratio this season.

#### Brad Bevan Forward

Signed from Fairford Town in 2023/24. Incredibly hardworking, tenacious, a real team player. Runs all day and although not a prolific goalscorer has been a good signing, who regularly contributes a goal. Can play wide or down the centre and is a clever player who has become a vital part of the squad.

#### Jamie Creed Forward

Signed on a dual registration basis from County League side Gala Wilton last season, he is an old fashioned striker – tall, good with his back to goal and already a regular goalscorer. Still only 17, he is attached to Gloucester City, too, and has the potential to be a star in the future.

#### Neil Mustoe Manager

Appointed as Manager in January 2022, took the club away from relegation fears in 2021/22, before successfully battling against relegation in 2022/23. 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.

#### Liam O'Neill Assistant Manager

Appointed as Assistant Manager in 2023, after a spell as Manager at Frampton United. Still in the formative stage of his coaching journey but offers great support to Muzzy and is an important presence in the first team set-up.

#### Mike De-Bear Physio

Joined in 2024/25 and a great signing off the pitch. Has experience working at EFL clubs and is a fantastic member of the backroom staff.

#### Alex Butler Coach

Joined in 2023/24 after previous experience in local football. Mr Reliable and a really positive influence in the dressing room on match-days.





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## APPEARANCE INFORMATION

#### Up to and including Saturday, 29 November 2025 (includes selected list of former players)

Last season we failed to score against Worcester Raiders in our two league meetings, as they ran out 2-0 winners at Sixways and then recorded a 1-0 win here at Glevum Park when they visited for our first game of 2025. So, the last time we scored was when Karnell Chambers scored a brace here in an Ŭhlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division fixture on 24 February 2024, when the visitors were held to a 2-2 draw. Karnell is one of five players in our squad on that occasion who will potentially feature in today's game, with the others being Kieran Alder, Callum McGuirk, Macaulay Herbert and Mark Pritchett. Those five have 985 combined first team appearances before today, as well as 131 goals between them.



Connor Walters would have added to those statistics but his time with The Rovers ended this week, as he accepted an approach from Stonehouse Town and transferred there. Connor made 109 appearances for us, scoring 19 times, and made a really positive contribution over three seasons, rarely missing a game. Unfortunately, he has struggled to hold down a place this season and the time came for him to seek regular football away from Glevum Park. We wish him well and offer a huge thanks for his contribution over the past three seasons.

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	191	44	Lander, Daniel	51	1
Barnes, Oli	22	9	Lynden, Joss	7	0
Bennett, Adam	85	0	Mann, Warren	543	85
Bevan, Bradley	89	12	Mason, Preston	14	1
Birkett, Henry	127	10	Mayo, Ellis	1	0
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	McLean, Callum	22	0
Chambers, Karnell	85	47	McGuirk, Callum	144	0
Clifford, Ellis	80	0	Merchant, Luke	171	0
Creed, Jamie	29	6	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Mustoe, Harley	57	8
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Mustoe, Neil	1	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Pritchett, Mark	223	29
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Rhodes, Jake	75	25
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Simpson, Elijah	53	0
Hammond, Alex	6	0	Smith, Liam	107	1
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Hoffland, Robin	16	0	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Herbert, Macaulay	342	11	Valenti, Gino	12	3
Hicks, Sammie	67	2	Venna, Kaelan	3	0
Hill, Sam	130	9	Wallington, Lee	131	4
James, Brett	186	64	Wallington, Mark	220	29
James, Richard	125	40	Walters, Connor	109	19
Jones, Zak	1	0	Warrington, Corey	58	3
Kent, Dominik	175	21	White, Joel	140	4
Kaye, Tom	1	0	Wright, Liam	124	3
Kelly, Sam	9	0	Yarmolenko, Vladyslav	2	0

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.



## WORCESTER RAIDERS CLUB HISTORY

Worcester Raiders were formed in 2001 as a youth club, joining the Worcester & District Football League in 2009 upon the formation of a senior side. In 2013, Worcester Raiders joined the West Midlands (Regional) League Division Two, gaining promotion in their first season in the league system.

In 2019, Worcester Raiders won Division One, gaining promotion to the Premier Division. Worcester Raiders entered the FA Vase for the first time in 2020–21. At the end of the 2020–21 season the club were transferred to Division One of the Hellenic League.

In July 2020, English Premiership Rugby Union club Worcester Warriors confirmed the club would move into Sixways Stadium. Worcester Warriors' co-owners Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham became joint majority owners of Worcester Raiders in the process.

In the 2021–22 season, Worcester Raiders finished second behind Studley FC. Despite a 3-0 loss to Hereford Pegasus in the play-off final, but they were promoted to the Premier Division of the Hellenic League following the closure of Walton Casuals FC in the Southern League Premier (South), leading to a reprieve for Merthyr Town and Cinderford Town, and Raiders being promoted.

Season 2022-2023 saw Worcester Raiders finish 4th in the Hellenic League Premier Division, which is the highest ever position in the club's history. That season also saw Raiders enter the FA Cup for the first time ever, with the team winning the first two rounds, against Daventry and Malvern Town, before getting knocked out by Worksop.



## ON (OR AROUND) THIS DAY IN HISTORY...

Current records date back, fairly accurately, to the 2007/08 season and although there are a few gaps stopping us having a full set of data, it gives us the opportunity to include this programme feature that allows us to reflect on days gone by and fixtures on, or around, today's date.

Since those records began, we've had four games on 6 December which we've reviewed to reflect on our fortunes over the years, alongside a couple of games on or around this date....

#### 6 December 2008

After three games unbeaten, Tuffley Rovers' stuttering campaign in the Gloucestershire County League took an unwelcome turn as a second half scoring spree ensured Ellwood took all three points away from Glevum Park.

Ellwood opened the scoring on the verge of half time when Byron Ramford scored after a goalmouth scramble following a corner to give the visitors the lead.

In the second half further goals came from Daryl Addis in the 67th minute with Mike Nelson adding a third on 84 minutes and Addis completing a brace in the dying seconds.

**Squad:** Adam Bennett; Marcus Foxwell; Lee Wallington; Jamie Harper; Martin Middlecote; Philip Crabb; Richard Stevenson; Peter Thomas; Mark Wallington; Patrick Boyd; Warren Mann. **Subs used**: Stuart Griffith; Robert Cook; Christopher Lee.

#### 6 December 2014

Tuffley Rovers secured an impressive victory over Hook Norton – and revenge for a 3-1 defeat earlier in the season – although they did it the hard way in this Hellenic League, Division One (West) fixture, as they fell behind early on, to Sam Grant's opener.

Moments before the interval, Rovers levelled as Mark Ford netted from close range after Shayne Bradley's effort had been blocked on the line.

An error from Norton's Kurt Fox saw Ford get his second shortly after the restart and they took control of the game on 67 minutes, as Marcus Foxwell scored from the edge of the box, then Brett James made it 4-1. In the closing moments Jordan Dowdeswell made it 5-1 and Warren Evans' side were left to reflect on a good afternoon and a valuable three points.

**Squad:** Aaron Taylor; Marcus Foxwell; Kieran Squires; Macaulay Herbert; Glenn Gittins; Stuart Griffith; Jordan Dowdeswell; Ashley Davies; Shayne Bradley; Mark Ford; Brett James. **Subs used:** Michael Devlin.

#### 5 December 2015

Warren Evans' Tuffley Rovers progressed to the next round of the Hellenic League Challenge Cup, with a hard fought victory, away at Milton United, as they battled the conditions, as well as a well-drilled opposition, before coming away with a morale boosting victory.

Mark Ford scored twice, after 13 and 35 minutes, before a stunning Liam Wright strike, from all of 25 yards, after he'd picked the ball up in midfield, looked to have settled the tie.

The visitors were reduced to ten-men early in the second period but continued their brave fight and pulled a goal back on 65 minutes when Niall Hodgkins headed home from close range. That proved to be the end to the scoring and Rovers ran out 3-1 winners.



**Squad:** Aaron Taylor; Walt Greenwood; Tristan Haswell; Callum Preece; Macaulay Herbert; Liam Wright; Brett James; Ashley Davies; Jordan Fletcher; Mark Ford; Stuart Griffith. **Subs used:** Junior Mbika; Warren Mann.

#### 6 December 2017

In a quite extraordinary game, Tuffley Rovers twice fought back to claim all three points from their visit to Royal Wootton Bassett Town on Wednesday evening, with a Warren Mann goal, deep into injury time, enough to secure a vital win in atrocious conditions.

After a competitive opening to the game Rory Sproule gave Bassett the lead in the 26<sup>th</sup> minute and again on the half hour mark, before Rovers fought their way back into the game, with Shayne Bradley scoring with a header to make it 2-1 at the interval.

Kieran Alder found space to make it 2-2 on 65 minutes, but Rovers fell behind again when Shayne Anson turned the ball into his own net. Rovers were not beaten, though, and after Alex O'Leary had seen a gust of wind curl his corner kick into the Bassett goal, to make it 3-3, creating the platform for Mann to take centre-stage with a late, late winner.

**Squad:** Eric Edge; Sam Hill; Liam Wright; Shayne Anson; Joel White; Courtney Hamilton; Brett James; Kieran Alder; Shayne Bradley; Ashley Bird; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Will Emery; Alex O'Leary; Marcus Foxwell

#### 10 December 2019

Two footballing clichés operated in tandem at the HDAnywhere Stadium on Tuesday evening, as a game of two halves well and truly proved that football is a funny old game of cup football!

Mark Pritchett scored a hat-trick and Joe Shutt got another goal, as Rovers roared into a 4-0 lead, but the hosts fought back to secure a 4-4 draw with a 95<sup>th</sup> minute injury time goal.

Pritchett was then dismissed at the end of the game but his side didn't let him down and secured a 4-1 win on penalties, with Luke Merchant saving two of the three Malvern efforts he faced.

**Squad:** Luke Merchant; Harri John; Ben Prictor; Mark Pritchett; Isaac Lawrence; Jake Rhodes; Joe Shutt; Tyreece Briscoe; Warren Mann; Dominik Kent; Jeremiah Idowu. **Subs used:** Sam Hill; Adam Bloomfield; Lewis Bainbridge.

#### 6 December 2022

Tuffley Rovers progressed in the GFA Challenge Trophy as they battled through tough conditions, against dogged opponents, to win 2-1 away at Almondsbury FC.

Neil Mustoe selected Robin Hoffland in goal, with Luke Merchant absent, recalled Ashley Davies and handed opportunities in the starting XI to Yeshaya Lomotey, Sammie Hicks and Mason Lewis, all of whom had made regular appearances from the bench during the course of the season to date.

The plethora of changes potentially contributed to a disjointed performance against Step 6 Almondsbury, in a game played on a heavy pitch, but goals from Ryan Dobbins and Lomotey were enough to help Rovers progress to the next round.

**Squad:** Robin Hoffland; George Driver-Dickerson; Warren Mann; Kieran Squires; Ashley Davies; Henry Birkett; Sammie Hicks; Kieran Alder; Mason Lewis; Yeshaya Lomotey; Joey Haswell. **Subs used:** Liam Smith; Dominik Kent; Ryan Dobbins.



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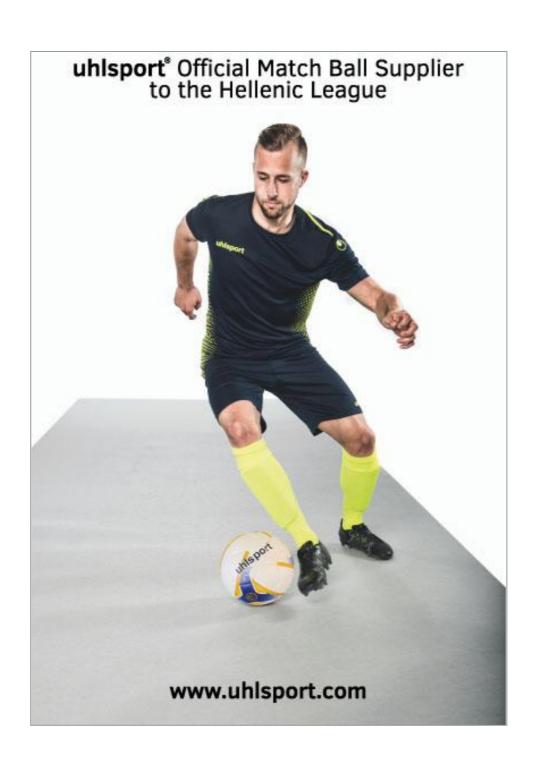
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