

TUFFLEY ROVERS



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TUFFLEY ROVERS V WANTAGE TOWN
SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2023, 3pm






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Rich: 07792188695

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EDITOR'S COMMENT



A warm welcome to everyone visiting Glevum Park this afternoon, as we host Wantage Town in the UHlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division. I sincerely hope their players, supporters and officials enjoy their visit to our home (in every respect, bar the result!).

Results have proved hard to come by this season and we have won just twice in the Premier Division since a Shayne Bradley hat-trick helped us to a 4-2 victory at Alfredian Park way back on 12 November. The second of those victories came at Bradford Town last week and it has helped pull us back to within five points of safety, after we had started to drift away from the teams above us.

Home wins in the league have been harder to come by. Aside from the victory against Hereford Pegasus on 20 December, we have been without a league win at Glevum Park since 13 August. That is a quite astonishing run, given how well we have played at times, but we now have a run of games and we need to capitalise on that, securing as many points as we possibly can, to take us away from the threat of relegation.

The win on Tuesday – albeit on penalties – was a good one and we now have a cup semi-final to look forward to. I personally hope that the opportunity to reach a final will act as a positive incentive for the squad, as the players look to compete for their place in the semi-final team. I think it also helps that we have something to offer a distraction from the challenges we face in the league, albeit potentially only one game. It is a game to look forward to, if nothing else.

After today's game we will face two consecutive home games against Thornbury Town and Mangotsfield United, who are both still in the bottom half of the table. Today's fixture and those two games will undoubtedly have a huge bearing on the direction our season takes. If we could get maximum points, it will be a reward for all the work Muzzy has been putting in. If we fall well short, it could simply confirm our shortcomings despite the efforts of our manager and his coaching team.

I remain optimistic. I hope to be imbued with even more optimism come the end of this afternoon's game. Hope remains.

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

- Neil

#uptherovers

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT



Good afternoon and welcome to Glevum Park. A warm welcome to our opponents Wantage Town today and all their players, management, committee and supporters.

It has been a good few days on the field for the first team, finally getting three points against Bradford Town last Saturday and then on Tuesday night, with a much changed side from Saturday winning on penalties against high-flying Cribbs. A lot will probably be said around Cribbs not playing their strongest team, but likewise we rested a few players and it was great to see a few of the youngsters from our own Development Squad stepping up and doing a great job when they came on, as well as having the bravery to step forward to take their penalties.

Momentum is key now and with our next three games all at home, it is vital that we take maximum points and give ourselves every chance of remaining in this league for next season. Without cursing it, we have not conceded in our last two outings and may we keep that type of defensive record going for as long as possible. We have developed a habit of playing well for a few games and then falling apart, on more than a couple of occasions this season. We hope that the squad realise the importance of maintaining the high standards and commitment to the club that we expect.

Fixtures are coming thick and fast at Glevum Park over the next few weeks so please do keep an eye out on social media as fixtures are being changed quite often throughout the Hellenic League divisions this season, for a variety of reasons.

I hope you all enjoy today and wish you a safe journey home.

Have a great day.

Many thanks,

Dan

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 MARSH

MANAGER'S COMMENT



Good afternoon and welcome to all players officials and supporters of Wantage Town visiting Glevum Park this afternoon.

Well, it has been a good few days' results and performance wise, so hopefully we can complete the week and get another result.

We come into today's game off the back of two clean sheets, and that gives us something to build upon. We still have plenty to do but there seems to be a bit of confidence amongst the group after Saturdays must win at Bradford Town and a win in the Challenge Trophy, albeit not against Cribbs' strongest eleven, but all those lads that played are part of their squad, so they are there for a reason.

Like with any game, you need a bit of luck - something which we seen to have been lacking lately - but I'm always a believer that if we keep doing the right things, luck will even itself out; and hopefully this is starting to happen at the right time.

We have a tough game this afternoon with Wantage sitting in mid-table. They have had a mixed bag of results up to now and so we know that they are going to be tough opponents on their day.

We have one or two players unavailable, with injuries continuing to affect the squad, but that seems to be the norm, every week. We will go into the game confident but fully aware of what we need to do. We need to build on the improvements of the last few weeks. We are good enough to climb the table but need to keep improving and avoid the sort of performance we saw in the Westfields game.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy the game.

Muzzy

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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 11th, 3rd, 6th and 3rd 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 17th. Mark Pritchett was then appointed as Player/Manager and took the side to consecutive 10th placed finishes, before a 15th 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 17th 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

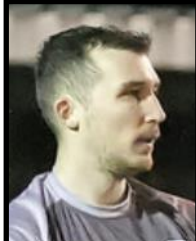


HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

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



Nico Hewson-Barsellotti



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Ashley Davies



Warren Mann



Noah Smerdon

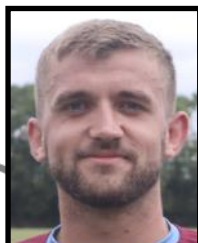


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Macaulay Herbert

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Kieran Alder



Josh Stevens



Demilade Yussuf

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Ryan Dobbins



Tomos Shyapant

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Shayne Bradley



Jack Beardsell



Josh Vallis-Ridler



Neil Mustoe
(Manager, First XI)



Ritchie Warden
(Asst. Manager, First XI)

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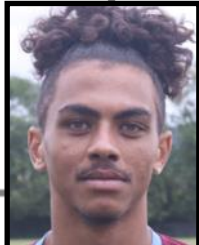


Dave Cornock
(Joint Manager,
Development Squad)





Dan Beasley



Dayton Fallows



Sheldon Herbert



James Reynolds



Yeshaya Lomotey



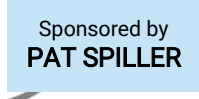
Ellis Danes-Rutherford



Tyrel Roberts



Elijah Weir



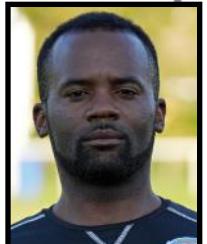
Michael Oakes
(Joint Manager,
Development Squad)



Craig Darkin
(Coach)



Ashleigh Watson
(Physio / Sports Therapist)



Hopeton Francis
(Physio / Sports Therapist)



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WANTAGE TOWN FC – CLUB HISTORY

Wantage Town FC (the 'Fred's') can trace its roots back to 1877, but the established date of 1892 has long been given as the first time the club affiliated to the Berks & Bucks FA. They flitted between the Reading Temperance, Swindon & District, North Berks and Reading & District Leagues prior to the First World War, and the first silverware came in 1903-04 with winning the Swindon Advertiser Cup, a feat repeated in 1907-08 as well as becoming Swindon League Champions and the League Cup winners.

After the 1st World War, the Freds briefly played in the North Berks League, winning the North Berks Cup in 1920 and 1921 and the Championship in 1921-22. After a brief period playing in the Reading & District League with no success they then re-entered the Swindon & District League, winning the Division 2 title in 1931-32, and Division 1 in 1933-34. The Fifties was the most successful period for the Club, winning the S&DL Division 1 in 1952-53 (without losing a game) and the Premier Division in 1955-56, while in 1954-55, the Fred's won no fewer than five cup competitions, including the Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup.

Since joining the Hellenic League in 1956, the Fred's have spent most of their seasons in the Premier Division, winning promotion from Division 1 on six occasions - as runners-up in 1969-70, 1987-88, 1991-92 (where they set a club record of 32 games unbeaten) and 1995-96, and as Champions in 1980-81 and 2003-4. The Reading Senior Cup was won for the first time in 1982-83.

Season 2003/2004 was one of the Fred's most successful. The First Team won Division One East to regain its position in the Premier Division of the Hellenic, and the Reserves finished top of their league, also winning promotion. In 2010-11, the Fred's won the Premier division title, but they were not promoted to the Southern League due to ground grading criteria not being achieved. In the 2012-2013 season, the club achieved the Southern League Ground grading, but finished runners-up to a very strong Marlow side, and again missed out on promotion.

In 2013-2014, the Fred's won the uhsport Hellenic Premier title again, and this time with the appropriate ground grading in place, saw promotion to Division One (South and West) of the Southern League. The Fred's remained in the Southern League for 3 years, before seeing relegation back to the Hellenic League at the end of the 2016-17 season. In 2018-19, the Fred's won the uhsport Hellenic Premier title for the third time and regained their place in the Southern League, this time in the Division 1 Central section. The Reading Senior Cup was won for a further two times, in 2017-18 and 2018-19.

The following two seasons at the higher level were not completed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but they finished bottom at the end of 2021-22 and were relegated back to the Hellenic.

Throughout the years the Club has worked to upgrade the facilities at Alfredian Park. Purchased outright for the princely sum of £500 in 1922; floodlights were introduced in 1996 and new stands in 2012. The club merged with the junior section to become one entity in 2020, and re-introduced a Women's team in 2015, meaning football is now offered from U7s through to adults for players of both genders. The club has a long lease on St Mary's field behind the club, use of the adjacent school field, and another site at Tugwell to accommodate the growing number of teams.

WANTAGE TOWN FC 2022-23 PEN PICS

SQUAD

Ben Holder: Good engine in the centre of the pitch, if he works as hard on it as he does off it, he should have a good season.

Ben Lodge: Electric pace and power for the right wing. Hopefully Gemma can keep that hammy loose so we can see the best of him.

Harvey Scholes: Harv will bring a class, calmness, and maturity to the engine room. Should be fresh every game as loved finding an excuse not to drive.

James Foster: Goalkeeper with higher level of experience with a commanding presence when available. Will be looking to keep his appearance record higher than clean sheets this year.

Josh Davies: Direct striker who will run all day, presses well and adds a different option to our attack. Hopefully knows where the onion bag is as well!

Kyle Bestley: One of many Kyles now in the ranks. Doesn't like playing in August but the kitty doesn't mind it. Strong and versatile player.

Kyle Chester: One word for Kyle, nuisance!! Hard to mark and is intelligent when we have the ball. Will be in your face and a pest when we haven't got the ball.

Kyle Pitts: Experienced head in the squad which will be important through the season. Strong in a tackle and steady on the ball.

Lewis Crosbie: Hard working midfielder who keeps the engine room going. Loves a tackle but difficult to get a smile out of him.

Luke Ballard: If he doesn't get at least 5 goals from corners this season he's spinning the wheel. Adds height and strength both defensively and attacking. Calm and tidy on the ball as well.

Luke Whelan: Probably the most professional non-professional I've ever met. Has a vibrating massage machine before games and never picks up a fine! Much better on the pitch though and has been terrific the last few games.

Mark Francis: Hopefully will have as much influence on the pitch as he does off it this season. Unplayable when he gets going.

Michael Miller: The runner of the team, putting in some serious mileage down the flanks. Always last to turn up for training. Late fines incoming.

Ollie Thomas: What he lacks in hair, he will make up for on the pitch. Gives a professional performance week in week out unless Truckfest is on. Still can't believe he's 26.

Tom Wynn Davis: Looks like Harvey Elliot from Liverpool. Very good technical and skilful player who has boosted our attacking options since the departure of Alex Henshall.

Zac Skinner: Tricky and pacey left winger with an eye for goal. Unbelievable signing for the kitty, always has dirty boots.



HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 24 February 2023

Pos	Team	Home										Away										Overall				
		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts		
1	Malvern Town	29	11	4	0	49	18	11	1	2	37	16	22	5	2	86	34	52	71							
2	Cribbs	27	12	1	1	36	4	10	2	1	23	7	22	3	2	59	11	48	69							
3	Westfields	30	8	4	4	22	14	8	3	3	34	16	16	7	7	56	30	26	55							
4	Worcester Raiders	27	8	1	2	32	13	8	4	4	37	21	16	5	6	69	34	35	53							
5	Corsham Town	22	8	2	0	25	3	7	3	2	24	15	15	5	2	49	18	31	50							
6	Roman Glass St George	28	7	2	5	28	18	7	4	3	30	15	14	6	8	58	33	25	48							
7	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	28	7	6	4	29	27	6	1	4	16	10	13	7	8	45	37	8	46							
8	Hereford Pegasus	28	10	1	5	36	25	4	1	7	16	28	14	2	12	52	53	-1	44							
9	Wantage Town	29	4	3	6	21	21	6	3	7	31	31	10	6	13	52	52	0	36							
10	Shrivvenham	29	4	1	10	19	40	6	3	5	17	29	10	4	15	36	69	-33	34							
11	Brimacombe & Thrupp	27	6	2	6	29	23	3	4	6	24	23	9	6	12	53	46	7	33							
12	Mangotsfield United	27	4	2	7	22	30	6	1	7	23	27	10	3	14	45	57	-12	33							
13	Hereford Lads Club	30	8	0	7	25	31	2	3	10	17	31	10	3	17	42	62	-20	33							
14	Longlevens AFC	29	4	4	7	21	26	5	1	8	23	23	9	5	15	44	49	-5	32							
15	Fairford Town	30	5	1	8	20	24	4	3	9	23	31	9	4	17	43	55	-12	31							
16	Lydney Town	27	3	3	6	17	28	4	3	8	16	37	7	6	14	33	65	-32	27							
17	Bradford Town	27	3	2	8	13	27	4	1	9	24	39	7	3	17	37	66	-29	24							
18	Thornbury Town	27	5	1	8	20	25	2	1	10	13	29	7	2	18	33	54	-21	23							
19	Chipping Sodbury Town	25	4	5	4	20	24	1	2	9	12	37	5	7	13	32	61	-29	22							
20	Tuffley Rovers	26	2	1	9	15	35	3	2	9	16	34	5	3	18	31	69	-38	18							

Appearance information

Up to and including Tuesday, 21 February 2023

(includes selected list of former players)

Last Saturday, at Bradford Town, Tomos Shyamapant scored his first competitive goal in first team football at Tuffley Rovers, after a few prolific seasons in our U18s and Development squads, where he has scored 64 times in 67 appearances.



Congratulations on that first goal, Tomos – here is hoping it is the first of many in the claret and blue first team!

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	94	26	James, Brett	185	64
Anson, Shayne	71	4	James, Richard	125	40
Azubilla, Paul	21	1	Jones, Elliot	19	0
Barry, Jordan	4	0	Kent, Dominik	163	19
Beardsell, Jack	72	13	Lander, Daniel	19	0
Beasley, Daniel	20	4	Lewis, Mason	27	3
Bird, Ashley	66	5	Lomotey, Yeshaya	23	3
Birkett, Henry	74	5	Mace, Ryley	8	1
Bradley, Shayne	257	117	Maher-Goldsmith, Kian	1	0
Butler, Matt	5	1	Mann, Warren	493	83
Cornwall, Leone	70	4	McGuirk, Callum	32	0
Danes-Rutherford, Ellis	1	0	McNally, Laurie	10	0
Davies, Ashley	180	27	Merchant, Luke	68	0
Dobbins, Ryan	74	16	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Driver-Dickerson, George	9	0	Nicholls, Scott	14	0
Evans, David	69	0	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Fallows, Dayton	2	0	Poole, Bradley	8	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Pritchett, Mark	135	21
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Geddes, Jacob	51	4	Shyamapant, Tomos	14	1
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Smerdon, Noah	4	1
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Smith, Liam	40	1
Hands, Ben	1	0	Squires, Kieran	84	7
Haswell, Joey	11	2	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Tomkins, Lyndon	1	0
Hawkins, Luke	13	0	Walker, Harry	67	6
Herbert, Macaulay	243	9	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Hicks, Sammie	21	0	Wallington, Mark	220	29
Hill, Sam	120	8	White, Joel	108	4
Hoffland, Robin	4	0	Wright, Liam	124	3
Iddles, Harrison	5	0	Yussuf, Demilade	13	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.

Statistics 2022/23

Competition

Uhisport 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	Jones, Elliot	Nicholls, Scott	Mann, Warren	Smerdon, Noah	Lander, Dan
2022								
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 (2)		
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	H	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	1-1*	74	S Bradley	
01/Oct	3pm	Hereford Lads Club	A	1-2	60	P Azubilla		
08/Oct	3pm	Cribbs FC	H	1-2	64	S Bradley		U
11/Oct	7:45pm	Lydney Town	WLFC	A	4-0	77	J Haswell (2), D Kent, D Beasley	
15/Oct	3pm	Shrivenham	H	1-1	55	K Squires		
19/Oct	3pm	Worcester Raiders	A	0-5	178	-		6
22/Oct	3pm	Hartpury University	FAV	A	0-1	67	-	12
25/Oct	7:45pm	Fairford Town	H	2-4	127	R Dobbins, O.G.		U
29/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St. George	H	0-5	67	-		12
01/Nov	7:45pm	Worcester Raiders	H	1-2	73	S Bradley		3
05/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United	A	2-4	199	S Bradley, D Beasley		5
12/Nov	3pm	Wantage Town	A	4-2	82	S Bradley (3), K Alder		11
15/Nov	7:45pm	Hartpury University	GFA	H	3-2	62	R Dobbins, S Bradley (2)	11
19/Nov	3pm	Meadow Park	BFCC	H	6-2	45	R Dobbins (3), W Mann (pen), K Alder, Y Lomotey	11
22/Nov	7:45pm	Malvern Town	WLFC	A	1-9	104	M Lewis	11
30/Nov	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	A	A-A	83	-		
03/Dec	12noon	Bradford Town	H	4-5	90	O.G., R Dobbins, K Squires, D Beasley		11
06/Dec	7:30pm	Almondsbury FC	GFA	A	2-1	37	R Dobbins, Y Lomotey	3
20/Dec	7:45pm	Hereford Pegasus	H	1-0	61	K Alder		11
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens	H	0-4	373	-		11
2023								
10/Jan	7:45pm	Malvern Town	BFCC	H	0-1	65	-	1
14/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St. George	A	0-5	79	-		3
27/Jan	7:45pm	Cribbs FC	A	0-5	90	-		3
31/Jan	7:45pm	Shrivenham	A	0-1	68	-		3
04/Feb	3pm	Corsham Town	H	0-2	73	-		3
07/Feb	7:45pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	A	1-2	81	D Beasley		4
11/Feb	3pm	Westfields	H	0-7	77	-		4
18/Feb	3pm	Bradford Town	A	4-0	111	K Alder, M Herbert, M Pritchett, T Shyamapant		8
21/Feb	7:45pm	Cribbs FC	GFA	H	0-0**	63	-	8
25/Feb	3pm	Wantage Town	H					
04/Mar	3pm	Thornbury Town	H					
07/Mar	7:45pm	Mangotsfield United	H					
11/Mar	3pm	Westfields	A					
18/Mar	3pm	Lydney Town	A					
21/Mar	7:45pm	Corsham Town	A					
25/Mar	3pm	Hereford Lads Club	H					
28/Mar	7:45pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	H					
01/Apr	3pm	Malvern Town	A					
10/Apr	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town	H					
15/Apr	3pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp	H					
18/Apr	7:45pm	Chipping Sodbury Town	A					

* Tuffley Rovers won 4-2 on penalties

** Tuffley Rovers won 7-6 on penalties

TOTAL APPEARANCES	19	9	31	4	19
STARTS	19	7	30	4	17
SUBSTITUTE	0	2	1	0	2
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE	0	0	0	0	6

Goalscorers

Bradley, Shayne	11	O.G.	2
Dobbins, Ryan	8	Mace, Ryley	1
Beasley, Daniel	4	Smerdon, Noah	1
Alder, Kieran	4	Butler, Matt	1
Beardsell, Jack	3	Azubilla, Paul	1
Lewis, Mason	3	Mann, Warren	1
Kent, Dominik	2	Herbert, Macaulay	1
Haswell, Joey	2	Pritchett, Mark	1
Squires, Kieran	2	Shyamapant, Tomos	1
Lomotey, Yeshaya	2		

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 has been 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.

Elliot Jones

Goalkeeper

Signed on a dual registration from Gloucester City, where is a highly rated member of the U19s squad, Elliot joined on the eve of the season and made a solid start in the early season games. Calm, commanding, offers good distribution and has been a good addition to the squad. An exciting prospect who we hope to see regularly in the side this 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 this season has proved a shrewd acquisition. Thunderous tackling, powerful in the air and has a terrific long-throw that could add a dimension to our play.

Paul Azubilla

Defence

Joined from local side Gloucester Athletic this season, after requesting a trial in the summer. Impressed in the pre-season 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.

Ryley Mace

Defence

After time served in the U18s and then Development Squad has started to feature in the first team. Plenty of potential, whether at full-back or in a more attacking role.

Macaulay Herbert

Defence

Now the second longest-serving member of the first team, 'Macca' came through our U18s and is a solid, dependable; an excellent defender who has been getting better with every season that passed. Has now made over 200 first team appearances but has only recently returned following a lengthy absence with a serious shoulder injury.

2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

Ashley Davies

Defence

In his 3rd spell with the club. Has had spells away at Hardwicke, Shortwood United & Cinderford Town but returned briefly last and now raring to go in 2022/23! Was Neil Mustoe's 1st signing last season; an incredible coup. Brings class on the ball, a physical presence, leadership and a wonderful work ethic to the squad - his influence will be of huge value to the club.

Scott Nicholls

Defence

A member of our hugely successful 2020/21 FA Youth Cup squad, Scott 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. Tall, athletic and comfortable on the ball will be looking to collect more first team appearances this season.

Warren Mann

Midfield

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; usually the opposition support's least favourite player!

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.

Callum McGuirk

Midfield

Signed from Longlevens, where he'd largely been used at full-back, he is a hard-working midfielder, who looks comfortable on the ball. Previously spent time at Rovers, where he featured in our U18s squad. Will look to make an impact in 2022/23 but his versatility could also be an important asset.

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

Mason Lewis

Midfield

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.

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.

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.

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.

Kieran Alder

Midfield

Recently returned to the club after spells with Cinderford Town, Bishops Cleeve and Worcester City. A gifted No.10, whose work rate is as noticeable as his talent on the ball. Scored once in every four games during his previous spell with the club and scored eight league goals for Cleeve in their title winning season in 2021/22. Previously part of Neil Mustoe's U18s side at Gloucester City and now reunited with him at Rovers.

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 Lomotoy

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.

Dan Beasley

Forward

Recent signing from Westfields, who already looks to be a great acquisition. Strong, holds the ball up well, has an electric turn of pace and shows plenty of composure in front of goal.

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.

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!

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.



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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 the questions or answers are all about European football after an interesting week in the Champions League and Europa League for English clubs...

1. Can you name the three occasions when a club has won a European trophy when the final was held at the home stadium of their opponents?

2. Who is pictured stooping to head home the winning goal in the 1979 European Cup Final between Malmo FF and Nottingham Forest?



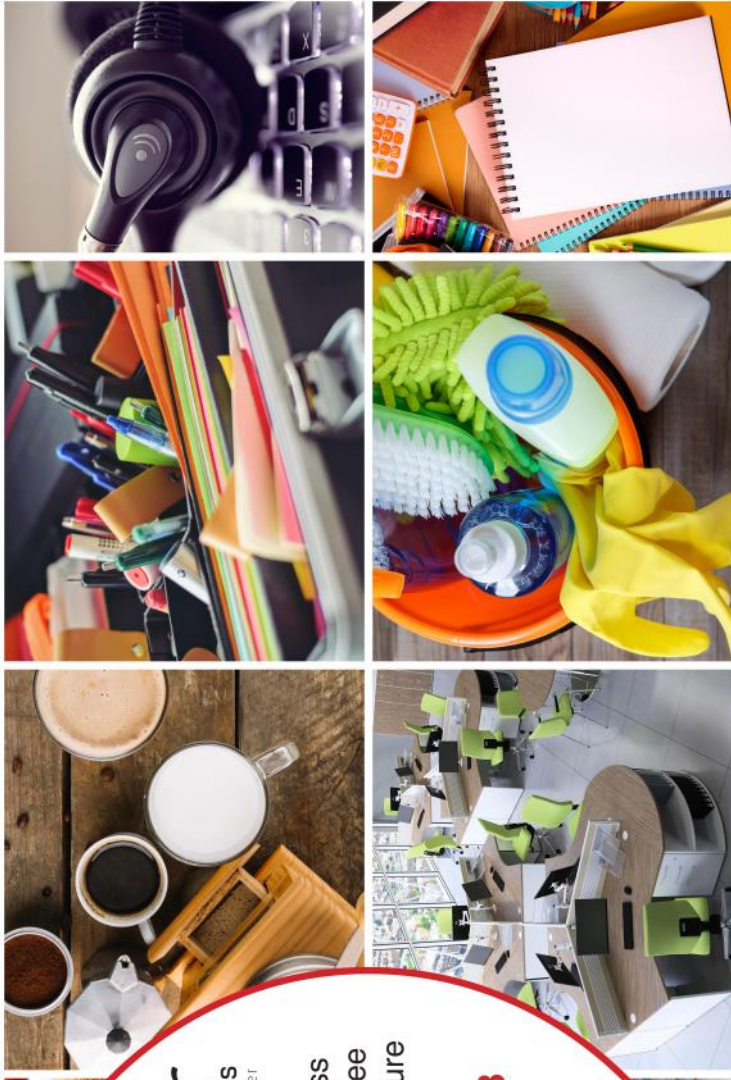
3. Cristiano Ronaldo holds the record for the number of appearances in UEFA club competitions, with 197. Lionel Messi is one of four current players with over 165 appearances. Two goalkeepers complete the list, one Spaniard is a former Liverpool keeper and one is an Italian who is now back with his first professional club. Can you name those two keepers?

4. There have been four occasions on which a club has won a European trophy when the final was played at their home stadium – can you name them?

5. The record attendance for a European Cup fixture came in a 1970 tie between two British clubs as 136,505 spectators watched Celtic defeat Leeds United 2-1 in the semi-final. Who did Celtic go on to play in the final, which they lost 2-1 aet?



Quiz Answers: (1) 1984 – Liverpool beat Roma / 2005 – CSKA Moscow beat Sporting Lisbon / 1957 – Real Madrid beat Fiorentina / 1965 – Inter Milan beat Benfica / 1982 – Barcelona beat Standard Liege / 2002 – Feyenoord beat Borussia Dortmund; (5) Feyenoord.
(2) Trevor Francis; (3) Pepe Reina & Gianluigi Buffon; (4) 1957 – Chelsea beat Bayern Munich; (2) Trevor Francis; (3) Pepe Reina & Gianluigi Buffon; (4) 1957 – Real Madrid beat Fiorentina / 1965 – Inter Milan beat Benfica / 1982 – Barcelona beat Standard Liege / 2002 – Feyenoord beat Borussia Dortmund; (5) Feyenoord.



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Previously against today's opposition at Glevum Park

The last time we hosted today's visitors in a Premier Division fixture at Glevum Park in November 2018, the two sides played out a less than a memorable 0-0 draw...

HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION TUFFLEY ROVERS 0-0 WANTAGE TOWN SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2018

Wantage arrived in Gloucester in seventh place in the Hellenic Premier Division table after having beaten Ascot United 2-1 at Alfredian Park seven days earlier. Hosts Tuffley had drawn with Ascot in their previous home fixture but had since suffered a demoralising defeat at Fairford which had left them far too close for comfort near the bottom of the table with only Abingdon United beneath them, the club they would be visiting in their next away game in midweek. The performance a fortnight earlier against Ascot had been encouraging and even though it was a much-changed Rovers team several of the squad would remember the midweek evening in March when Chris Jackson's added-time header had secured all three points for Wantage at Glevum Park in a narrow 2-1 victory.

A gritty defensive display saw Rovers take a point and avoid defeat for only the third time in eight home league matches this season. It was a useful point for Wantage too and both clubs climbed one place in the table after a draw which although without goals was still an absorbing contest to witness.



Wantage kicked off playing towards the dressing-room end and certainly had the better of the early exchanges, a pattern which would continue for most of the match as they dominated both possession and territory. Sammy Doodoo was caught offside in an early Tuffley break but most of the action was at the other end, as two early Wantage corners came to nothing, but when a third came in from the left Kane Winman was unable to make a clean catch under pressure and was relieved to watch Brett James clear the ball out of danger. Rovers did soon win a corner of their own, which was taken short to Henry Birkett who then whipped a cross in which was taken comfortably by Wantage 'keeper Curtis Meare.

Damien Robertson, out on the right, passed inside to Steve Robertson, whose shot was blocked and when the latter Robertson had another attempt on goal the ball was deflected behind for yet another Wantage corner. When this flag-kick came in it was headed into goal but the referee had already blown for a free-kick in Tuffley's favour, as Brad Cox fouled White. Damien Robertson then broke away on the left but Liam Thomas made an excellently-timed tackle to avert any danger.

The other Wantage Robertson, Steve, then headed a cross from the left narrowly wide of Winman's left-hand post before Jim Glover headed another cross up and wide of goal.

As the half progressed, Jack Phillips was lectured by the referee after committing a foul and shortly afterwards Dadoo received a yellow card for deliberately delaying a free-kick.

Wantage were pressing high up the pitch and it was proving hard for Tuffley to put any attacking moves together. It seemed that every time they got the ball away it was coming straight back at them and these tactics were leaving Brett James and Dominik Kent quite isolated on the wings and they were both constantly having to drop back to try and win possession.

As the first half reached its conclusion another Wantage header from a corner went narrowly over the bar and the first period ended with neither goalkeeper having had to make a serious save.

The second half followed the pattern of the first, with Wantage putting some neat moves together and Tuffley continuing to defend with discipline. Brett James did manage to find some space on the left but was tripped for which defender Dan Comer was cautioned by the referee. A Wantage free-kick at the other end was driven over the bar by Jack Dunmall, during a period of prolonged Wantage pressure, which also saw Matt Cheetham shoot over and Steve Robertson shoot narrowly wide.

Wantage brought on Harvey Scholes for Damien Robertson and Connor Mattimore for Jim Glover, but the second period was becoming a far more even affair and Dadoo went down in the visitors' penalty-area but claims for a penalty-kick were waved away.



Shortly afterwards, Rovers made two substitutions of their own with Harry Walker coming on for Sam Hill, who had been treated for an injury moments earlier, and Ryan Dobbins coming on for Brett James.

The changes in personnel made by both teams did not affect the flow of the game with Wantage continuing to work hard to make a breakthrough and Rovers defending with discipline and, occasionally, desperation to keep them out. When the final whistle came it was probably greeted with relief in both camps. Tuffley had worked hard to keep their clean sheet and Wantage had worked hard to create a goal which had always looked likely but which ultimately never came. Defeat would have been hard on either team so a draw was a fair reflection of how the game had unfolded.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES FIRST XI



4 March 2023, 3pm
Tuffley Rovers v Thornbury Town
Uhsport Hellenic League, Premier Division



7 March 2023, 7:45pm
Tuffley Rovers v Mangotsfield United
Uhsport Hellenic League, Premier Division



11 March 2023, 3pm
Westfields v Tuffley Rovers
Uhsport Hellenic League, Premier Division



14 March 2023, 7:45pm
Lydney Town v Tuffley Rovers
Uhsport Hellenic League, Premier Division



21 March 2023, 7:45pm
Corsham Town v Tuffley Rovers
Uhsport Hellenic League, Premier Division



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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 a new programme feature that allows us to reflect on days gone by and fixtures on, or around, today's date.

Since those records began, we have played a couple of competitive fixtures on 25 February, so we've highlighted those, as well as selecting a few from around the date to reflect on our fortunes during this time of the year...

23 February 2008

Tuffley Rovers returned from their Gloucestershire County League tie against Henbury with a 3-2 victory, thanks to a late goal by Gary Cornwall. Another Gary, Clark, had given Henbury the lead but Rob Cook levelled for the visitors. Cornwall then put Tuffley in front only for Henbury to hit back through Pat Mathison, before a late goal stole the show for Tuffley.

Squad: Mark Harris; Robert Cook; Marcus Foxwell; Mark Patterson; Ben Surman; Gary Cornwall; Jon Corbett; Mark Wallington; Peter Thomas; Martin Middlecote; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Stephen Summerell.

25 February 2012

Ellwood hit back from a goal down at home to league leaders Tuffley Rovers to take all three points in the Gloucestershire County League. The game was held up for some time after Rovers' Stuart Griffith was carried off with a serious injury but was eventually finished in the home side's favour.

Warren Mann had given Tuffley the lead on 30 minutes and they held on until the 50th minute, when Jamie Addis levelled for the home side. Ellwood ultimately snatched all three points in the 85th minute when another Addis, Matt, netted the winner.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Marcus Foxwell; Dan Gorman; Richard James; Liam Harding; Stuart Griffith; Mark Wallington; Courtney Hamilton; Shayne Bradley; Mark Ford; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Macaulay Herbert; Jordan Cooper.

23 February 2013

Tuffley Rovers missed the chance to take over the top spot in the Gloucestershire County League, as they suffered only a third defeat of the 2012/13 campaign, against Longlevens.

There were no goals in the first 45 minutes, with the visitors taking the lead in the 62nd minute Dave Rich given the opportunity to net from the penalty spot, and although Chris Perks dived the right way he failed to prevent the ball going in. A second goal for Longlevens six minutes later, this time from a corner headed home by Josh Westcarr, gave the home side an uphill task to try and get back into the game. The nearest Rovers came to scoring was in the dying minutes from a Nathen King header that was brilliantly pushed around the post by the visitor's keeper.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Marcus Foxwell; Antoine Thompson; Leone Cornwall; Richard James; Michael Oakes; Mark Wallington; Courtney Hamilton; Warren Mann; Mark Ford; Stuart Griffith. **Subs used:** Elliot King; Nathen King; Jonathan Meadows.

25 February 2017

Tuffley Rovers secured a valuable point, as they recovered from a contentious penalty award to come from behind and hold seventh placed Binfield to a draw, at Glevum Park.

Liam Ferdinand converted that first-half penalty to give the visitors the lead and they looked the more likely to add to the scoring as the game progressed. However, midway through the second period Rovers levelled when Warren Mann showed good strength to win the ball, before crossing to Shayne Bradley. Although the veteran striker couldn't direct the ball goalwards, he did win the ball, which looped over to Jamie Goodwin and he headed the ball into the bottom corner of the Binfield net, from 10 yards, to level scores.



Both sides had chances to win the game but it ultimately ended all square.

Squad: Dave Evans; Sam Hill; Tristan Haswell; Shayne Anson; Jack Overthrow; Ben Tunncliff; Jake Burns; Ashley Davies; Shayne Bradley; Ryan Dobbins; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Macaulay Herbert; Jamie Goodwin; Harry Walker.

24 February 2018

Despite playing almost 50 minutes with ten men, Tuffley Rovers made it three league wins in a row, as they recovered from going a goal down to defeat Ascot United 2-1.

Dominic Sullivan scored after 22 minutes, with a header that was deflected into the net, before Courtney Hamilton was then sent-off after a clash with Ryan Cooper in the midfield. Rovers' keeper Dave Evans then made a series of good saves and his efforts were rewarded shortly before half-time when Shayne Bradley scored direct from free-kick to equalise.



Rovers then defended courageously, with Evans continuing to thwart Ascot's attacking efforts when the defensive line was broken, before Ashley Bird's cross/short looped over Tim Amouri in the Ascot goal to secure all three points for Mark Pritchett's side.

Squad: Dave Evans; Shayne Anson; Ryan Davis; Joel White; Macaulay Herbert; Courtney Hamilton; Cameron Williams; Kieran Alder; Shayne Bradley; Warren Mann; Ashley Bird. **Subs used:** Harry Walker; Sam Hill.

22 February 2020

A brace from Callum Ebanks and a goal from Jake Rhodes ensured that Tuffley Rovers returned from Brackley Town Saints with all three points and recorded a third consecutive win in all competitions in the process.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Isaac Lawrence; Ben Pictor; Mark Pritchett; Macaulay Herbert; Jake Rhodes; Joe Shutt; Dominik Kent; Warren Mann; Callum Ebanks; Jack Beardsell. **Subs used:** Ashley Bird; Lewis Bainbridge; Harri John.



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

Luke Merchant	1
Callum McGuirk	2
Ryley Mace	3
Mark Pritchett	4
Macaulay Herbert	5
Sammie Hicks	6
Henry Birkett	7
Warren Mann ©	8
Ryan Dobbins	9
Harrison Iddles	10
Tomos Shyamapant	11
Daniel Lander	12
Dominik Kent	14
Liam Smith	15
Kieran Squires	16
Ashley Davies	17
Yeshaya Lomotey	18

Neil Mustoe **Manager**

Ritchie Warden **Asst. Manager**

Ade Tandy (Physio) **Other Occupants**

WANTAGE TOWN

Green & White shirts; Green shorts; White socks (GK: Pink).



James Foster
Ben Dodd
Joshua Davis
Kyle Bestley
Kyle Pitts
George Walters
Ben Lodge
Michael Miller
Thomas Wynn-Davis
Luke Whelan
Harvey Scholes
Kyle Cross
Daniel Hannaby
Denzel Tengwana
Thomas Jeffreys
Mark Francis
Rhys Wells

James Keller

Matt Biddle

Chris Collin (Physio)

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