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UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

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V. LYDNEY TOWN



SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 2022, 3pm



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EDITOR'S COMMENT

Welcome to this afternoon's game against Lydney Town. I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone in attendance who has travelled here today.

Today I'd like to take the opportunity to reflect on the season but, more specifically, on the contribution of the off-the-field team, who are ultimately as important as the people on it.

Firstly (and I usually leave this until last!) I have to offer a huge thank you to my wife, Sonia, who works so hard to ensure we can offer food, drink and hospitality to visitors on match-days, whether for the first team, U18s, Development Squad or Ladies' matches. She has a much wider role with the club (too much to list) and has been instrumental in improving our offer to our customers. Thank you to my mother, Pat, for her support and to those who have worked in the bar throughout the season. All vital members of the support team.

A second huge thanks to Dan Boon, who stepped up as Chairman and has made a fantastic contribution to the club, not just here at the ground or on match-days but to the wider business of Tuffley Rovers.

Thank you to Ken Blackburn, who has been instrumental in improving our coaching set-up, and to all our coaches and managers, who give up so much time to help the club provide opportunities to those who play for us. A very specific "thank you" to Craig Darkin, who will leave us at the end of the season to pursue a new life in Greece. We owe Craig a lot because he has shown commitment, loyalty and a whole range of positive attributes during his time at the club. I will miss him from a football perspective but more so for his humanity and decency. He is going to be missed and I hope we see him again one day.

Inevitably I will miss someone from this list, but thank you to Terry Young, Keith Wallington, Chloe Wallington and Pete Gardiner for their help with the gate on first team match-days. Merci to Chris Wood for all his match reports and to Brian Rossiter for thousands of photographs, both of them producing things that will be part of the club's history in years to come. Thank you to Pat Tobin, who always pitches in when needed and has been for years, and to a new volunteer, Steve Bevan, who has taken on responsibility for our social media.

Cheers for all you've done, to each of our sponsors – too many to list on this page – particularly South West Electrical, Ruroc, D&G Contracting and JMJ Fabrications, who have supported our Hellenic League sides during the season.

Finally, thank you to my daughter, Jess, who turns my advance submission into our programme, producing both online and printed versions. She helps me in so many ways – designing advertising for many purposes – and I couldn't produce this journal without her support.

As I say, I will inevitably have missed someone but I genuinely thank everyone who has contributed to this last season. "Thank you" never quite seems enough. If I have missed you... I don't know who you are, I can't remember what you did, but I will look (out) for you, I will find you and I will thank you...or something along the lines of the quote by Liam Neeson!

Thank you to everyone who has supported the fixture this afternoon and to anyone who has backed us this season. It isn't done yet – and we have a lot more games to be played at the ground, including Ladies', Development Squad and U18s games – but this might be my last chance if we don't get a home draw in the cup! I wish you a safe journey home and, in case this is the last time I write during 2021/22, a really great summer period.

– **NEIL** #uptherovers

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

Good afternoon all and a warm welcome to Glevum Park. I write this piece whilst I'm sat enjoying a Red Stripe lager in the Jamaican sun, so slightly more relaxed than normal.

I would like to start by welcoming our opposition players, management, committee and supporters from Lydney Town.

There is absolutely no doubt how important this game is for both teams and gaining any points crucial for both clubs. Today at both ends of the league there are some huge games, but I'm sure our clubs today will also have half an eye on the Calne vs Fairford result.

This season has gone incredibly quick it seems, and I say with some trepidation that this could also be the first season, certainly since my time at the club, that we have not had to call a game off due to a waterlogged pitch, which is a fantastic endorsement in our investment into a new drainage system last summer.

A huge thank you to our match day sponsor today, Severn Signs, who have been a loyal sponsor and supporter of the club for a number of years now.

I hope you all enjoy today's game, I'm sure it is going to be a battle and I will follow the game on Twitter no doubt, hoping to finally be able to know our Hellenic League Premier Division status for next season is secure.

Cheers,

- Dan

Dan Boon
Football Chairman
[#uptherovers](#)

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 MARSH



MANAGER'S COMMENT

Good afternoon all and welcome to all players supporters and officials from Lydney Town.

Well, this is our penultimate game and final home league game of the season and I'm sure it will be another tough encounter, with both teams needing the win to be mathematically sure of their Hellenic League Premier Division status next year. I was not involved in the meeting earlier in the season but what I can gather was not a good day all round which we need to put right today.

We have not had the results we wanted recently but performances and commitment have been there for large parts of the games - but unfortunately we consistently come out of games with narrow defeats.

This, however, is of our own doing, with silly errors and a lack of concentration. Last week against Royal Wootton Bassett Town, we found ourselves 2-0 behind without them having a meaningful attack which sounds bizarre but is a fact.

If I had a pound from every opposition manager/ management team that said we will be alright and "you have been unlucky today" I would be quite a rich man! This is nice to hear, as it shows the progress mentally, that we have grown and how we are set up to be difficult opponents, but in the end it is results that matter and we need to look after our own results.

We have been fortunate that results have gone our way so we hope this afternoon we can take care of the game and get the points we require to mean we are safe for the season.

Thank you for all your support since I took over, we have had some healthy gates, with more interaction with players and supporters after the games which is always good to see.

Enjoy the game.

- Muzz

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. The next season, a much younger side finished a slightly disappointing 11th but with a year's experience gained the Rovers challenged again at the top of the table for most of the next season before finishing 3rd.

The 2010/11 season saw some variable performances in the league, with a final finishing position of 6th, followed by a third place finish in 2011/12. 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.

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**UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION
ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN 3-2 TUFFLEY ROVERS
SATURDAY, 5 MARCH 2022**

Results elsewhere on the day all but guaranteed Tuffley Rovers a position of safety, but they will be left to sweat just a little longer after a disastrous opening five minutes at Royal Wootton Bassett left with a mountain to climb and although they almost did find, Neil Mustoe's side fell to a fifth defeat in six UhlSport Hellenic League games at The Gerard Buxton Stadium.

Rovers arrived at their Wiltshire hosts' venue with a severely depleted squad, as the suspended Warren Mann joined Joe Shutt, Ashley Davies, Sammie Hicks, Aaron Basford, Joshua Aldridge and Ashley Bird in being unavailable to travel. Mustoe was able to recall Lewis Bainbridge, Jacob Geddes and Laurie McNally, as he also handed a first league start to young striker Tomos Shyamapant, who has been prolific for the club's Development Squad and U18s this season.

Whatever Mustoe had expected from the afternoon, it is unlikely he could have predicted what would unfold in the first five minutes of the game.

First, Liam Wright conceded a free-kick near the touchline deep in Rovers territory and John Mills' low cross the front post was met by Bassett's Sam Packer, whose deft touch took the ball way beyond Jack Copland and high into the net to make it 1-0.

Sixty seconds later, Bailey Gallagher broke clear into space and as Copland came rushing out from his area the Rovers man fouled the Bassett forward and was perhaps fortunate to stay on the pitch, with the match officials satisfied that Joel White and Geddes were in a position to ensure the hosts weren't denied an obvious goalscoring opportunity.

If the Rovers keeper and his colleagues in claret and blue thought their bacon had been saved, that all changed when Mills stepped up to curl a wonderful free-kick into the top corner of the net, to make it 2-0 with less than five minutes on the clock.

Matt Bennett went close with another effort fifteen minutes in and arguably should have done better when he found himself in space twelve yards out but his shot drifted well wide and Rovers were spared falling further behind.

Rovers did eventually settle into the game, without conjuring any clear chances, and almost fell behind three minutes before the interval, as Mills saw his effort crash against the frame of Copland's goal before the young Tuffley keeper got down to keep out Bennett's follow-up.

That his team went into the half-time break still holding hopes of a comeback was testament to an improved performance, but Mustoe was left to survey the wreckage of an opening period that acted as a



microcosm of Rovers' defensive frailties over the course of the season to date.

When the teams came out for the second period hope was not limited to what was a relatively slender margin in the hosts' favour because a wind that had assisted Royal Wootton Bassett in the first period was now very much at Rovers' backs. Whether they could make good use of it was the matter for debate and the opening stages saw Mustoe's charges fall short of matching the Bassett effort, as Ed Cavanagh and his defence saw off any threat with relative ease.

However, a free-kick awarded eleven minutes into the half brought hope. Few present would argue that Liam Smith's free-kick was an attempt on goal but a well struck ball into the Bassett area was generously assisted by the wind and the ball flew beyond Cavanagh and into the same top corner Mills' free-kick had settled into during the first half. 2-1 to the hosts and it appears to be 'game on'.



If the events in the infancy of this game had been illustrative of Rovers' defensive vulnerability during the season, what came sixty seconds after Smith's goal – his first in Rovers colours – summed up their greatest problem. Another set-piece caused mayhem in their area, as Mills' cross found Macaulay Dodson and although Copland saved the initial attempt on goal, Adam Corcoran was on-hand to bundle the ball home, making it 3-1 in the progress.

Liam Wright seemed supercharged in response to the goal conceded and twice went close with long-range efforts that had Cavanagh scrambling across his goal. Neither effort troubled him but suddenly there was hope that Rovers still had plenty to offer in terms of threatening the Bassett lead.



Yesh Lomotey's appearance from the bench came as a result of Jack Beardsell suffering with a dead leg and it was the Rovers substitute who breathed life into the game, on 79 minutes, as he struck a wonderful effort from 25 yards that dipped and swerved before thumping into the inside of the Bassett goal.

Rovers continued to press thereafter but a mixture of resolute defending from their hosts and some indecision in attacking positions, meant that Mustoe's side ultimately ended on the wrong end of a five goal encounter, but they left with their pride restored as a gutsy second-half display nearly brought them a share of the spoils.

A draw between Calne Town and Lydney Town, as well as defeats for Hallen and Chipping Sodbury Town, meant Rovers stayed 16th in the table and barring a miracle from Calne, who would need to win their remaining four games to have any hopes of avoiding a finish in the relegation places, Rovers should continue to an eighth consecutive season in the Premier Division in 2022/23.

FIRST TEAM SPONSORSHIP

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



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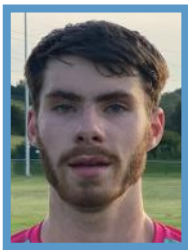
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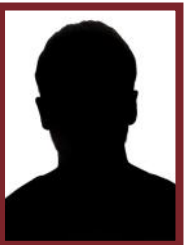
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DAVE STRAIN



ASHLEIGH WATSON

Steve Geddes

BLACKBURN OF THE ROVERS

A word from our Head of Football Development, Ken Blackburn



Good afternoon and welcome to all players and officials of Lydney Town FC, as well as all spectators for both clubs.

We have now come to the business end of the season, and results today for the bottom five Hellenic Premier clubs could have a quite significant say on who goes down. A win for Tuffley Rovers would make us safe with one game to play.

They say results don't lie, but they can be a little misleading! When you lose eight of your last 13 games by the odd goal, it is probably a sign that luck isn't going your way. To be honest we are where we are mainly because of results in the previous twenty-five games, not because of results over the past three months. I have to say there has been more fighting spirit, desire and sheer belief we are good enough to stay in this league since Muzzy (Neil Mustoe) became manager and he has been well supported by Ritchie Warden, and also by the players knowing we have recruited someone of this calibre to the club.

The only thing we asked of Muzzy from the outset was keep us in this league so three more points please...although to be honest I hope Lydney get the results they need after today to stay up.

With this being our last home league game, I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people for all their efforts this last season and before, not least Craig Darkin, our U18s manager and assistant manager to our Development Squad. Most will know of my 20 years association with Gloucester City, and it was during my time there that I recruited Craig as our goalkeeping coach - what an asset he proved to be, so he was one of the first people I contacted when I became involved with Tuffley Rovers. He has gone from strength to strength and developed into a good all-round coach, but most importantly someone who cares about the players and the club. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances he is leaving us at the end of the season to be with his girlfriend and her family in Greece. I want to take this opportunity to say "good luck, big man" and thank you for all your support in both player development and progressing the club going forward. I do hope you stay in touch!

They say timing is everything, so when Dave Cornock stepped down pre-season as third team manager and the Development Squad manager decided to leave at the the same time, it was a no brainer for me to ask Dave to take on the vacant manager job, and he has gone from strength to strength, with his infectious enthusiasm rubbing off on the players.

With a number of players leaving, we relied a lot on our young U18s to step up and I think that was asking too much. Slowly but surely both Dave and his new assistant Michael Oakes (recruited from Fairford, but local lad) managed to bring in some more experienced players, alongside adding in a couple stepping up from the Thirds, which has resulted in them undefeated ten out of there last eleven games, with five home games to go. Very well done guys!

A big thanks, also, to Jim Hart who I recruited to be joint manager of the U18s with Craig, after he stepped down following a brief and disappointing experience with Gloucester City last season. He is another good guy who cares passionately about young player development. He was with me previously at City, before moving on to coach with both Fulham and Chelsea. I thank him for the passion and desire he shows; a commitment to improve and take both the players and Tuffley Rovers forward.

A big thank you aswell to the coaches of the 3rds/4ths/5ths. I know at times they have found it difficult to field a side but we must keep looking forward and with a few players being too old for our U18s next season these guys will play an important role in keeping these players at the club, because it is not all about the first team - all teams below them are the backbone of the club.

Thank you to Pat and Sonia for the food and drink you provide both before, during and after games not just for the first team, but Devs and U18s. You make it a very pleasant and welcoming experience for everyone...not least the hot chocolate for Brian and me at half time!! Thanks also to Luke and our new part-time barmaid Becs in the bar area.

It costs a lot of money to provide for six teams and sponsors play a big part in helping the club provide what is needed, so thanks to all our sponsors this season and before. Hopefully we can attract a few more next season, which I have no doubt will be even more expensive given increases in the cost of living!

There are a number of players and coaches that have moved on since the end of last season - that happens in football, for whatever reason, and that's life, but the one thing that does stay constant is the club...Tuffley Rovers. Hopefully we can retain our existing coaches and add where needed, so that we can make sure we do not spread ourselves too thin and avoid asking too much of them and risk burn out. It is essential all coaches have a family life and get much needed rest and retain their enthusiasm, just like players. I look on our coaches as a team, being able to step up and down as and when needed, for the good of the players and the club; they must park any egos outside the dressing room door. People make places, and we have some good guys involved.

Last and not least thanks to Booner and Spiller for their role as the unsung heroes behind the scenes, and for allowing me to continue to help in my role at this club, and hopefully give the benefit of my football experience. When I joined I wanted to make Tuffley Rovers the "go to" club in the area, and build from below, because the future of most clubs with no playing budget are the young players coming through and good player recruitment. We want them to play for the club for all the right reasons, and it feels like a case of "so far, so good"....but watch this space, as the real hard work will be done in the summer.

Fail to Prepare...Prepare to fail, is my motto!

I hope you enjoy the game and have a safe journey home.

- KEN BLACKBURN

Head of Football Development

Tuffley Rovers FC

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

(up to and including fixtures played on Tuesday, 8 March 2022)

POS	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Bishops Cleeve	34	24	8	2	42	80
2	Westbury United	33	22	7	4	44	73
3	Cribbs	36	22	5	9	40	71
4	Malvern Town	35	20	8	7	36	68
5	Bradford Town	34	20	5	9	35	65
6	Corsham Town	35	19	8	8	28	65
7	Brimscombe & Thrupp	34	19	5	10	30	62
8	Westfields	34	17	8	9	19	59
9	Longlevens AFC	35	18	4	13	12	58
10	Roman Glass St George	35	18	2	15	16	56
11	Fairford Town	35	15	5	15	4	50
12	Hereford Lads Club	34	14	4	16	2	46
13	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	34	13	6	15	-10	45
14	Thornbury Town	34	9	8	17	-23	35
15	Shrivenham	34	9	5	20	-46	32
16	Tuffrey Rovers	36	8	5	23	-48	29
17	Chipping Sodbury Town	36	8	4	24	-44	28
18	Lydney Town	35	7	6	22	-32	27
19	Calne Town	34	5	4	25	-59	19
20	Hallen	35	3	5	27	-46	14



Appearance information

Up to and including Saturday, 5 March 2022

Another season is quickly drawing to a close, with no certainty that this won't be our final programme, so it provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge some of the appearance milestones that our players have reached during the course of the 2021/22 season. Lewis Bainbridge, Jack Beardsell and Joe Shutt all made it to 50 appearances during the current campaign, whilst Dominik Kent, Joel White and Liam Wright all made it to 100 appearances. Congratulations to those players, with huge thanks to them for commitment to the club.

That all pales into the shade when compared to Warren Mann reaching 450 appearances during the season. A modern-day record and a rare feat – perhaps never to be surpassed – in the modern game, given how often players move on. Here is hoping Warren can move to, or close to, 500 appearances before the end of the next season. Hopefully his conversion to a full-back will help him in achieving this and more.

It has been an odd season, in many respects, and (before today) we've seen 27 players make a competitive first team debut - some going no further - with Aaron Basford, Josh Aldridge and Liam Smith going past 20 appearances. Here is hoping they can be the next group to reach the 50 appearance milestone.

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Aldridge, Josh	26	0	Kent, Dominik	122	16
Bainbridge, Lewis	61	10	Lawrence, Isaac	24	1
Basford, Aaron	35	5	Lawrence, Jamal	10	4
Beardsell, Jack	53	10	Ledger, Dan	1	0
Bird, Ashley	62	5	Lomotey, Yeshaya	8	0
Bradley, Shayne	230	106	Mann, Warren	458	82
Brain, Callum	5	0	Marszalek, Jerzy	2	0
Butler, Matt	3	0	McKinnon, Rudi	22	1
Clark, Adam	13	0	McNally, Laurie	9	0
Copland, Jack	30	0	Mendes, Sam	22	0
Davies, Ashley	166	27	Morgan, Harry	25	3
Denness-Barrett, Brennan	15	6	Nicholls, Scott	2	0
Ellis-Clark, Dion	16	1	Parsisson, Jake	1	0
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Price, Lucas	23	2
Geddes, Jacob	47	4	Pritchett, Mark	130	20
Greenhouse, Daniel	2	0	Ramsey, Will	7	1
Greenslade, Harvey	6	3	Rhodes, Jake	74	24
Hailwood, Ben	3	0	Romais, Billy	5	0
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Shutt, Joe	67	15
Haswell, Tristan	97	1	Shyamapant, Tomos	4	0
Herbert, Macaulay	218	8	Smith, Liam	20	0
Hicks, Sammie	5	0	Spencer, Tom	4	0
Hill, Sam	120	8	Swales, Josh	7	1
Hunt, Ollie	7	1	Walker, Harry	67	6
Idowu, Jerry	14	0	Wallington, Lee	131	4
James, Brett	184	63	Wallington, Mark	220	29
James, Richard	125	40	White, Joel	103	4
John, Harri	37	0	Woodall, Archie	13	1
Jones, Xander	11	0	Wright, Liam	119	3
Jordan, Scott	1	0	Yussuf, Demilade	7	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 2021/22

Competition

Uhsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

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

BFCC = Banluein Sports Challenge Cup;

BLFC = Banbury Litho Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

		Att	Scorers	Parisson, Jake	Bainbridge, Lewis	Swales, Joshua	Geddes, Jacob	Herbert, Macaulay	Kent, Dominik	Shutt, Joe	Wright, Liam	Lawrence, Jamal	Mendes, Sam	Price, Lucas	
2021															
03/Aug	7:45pm	Thornbury Town	A L 1-2	134	J Lawrence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
08/Aug	3pm	Windsor FC	FAC H W 3-2	193	J Swales, D Kent, A Basford	16	3	4	5	8	17	7	10	1	1
14/Aug	3pm	Corsham Town	A L 0-2	60	-	2	3	4	8	7	10	15	U	1	
21/Aug	3pm	Flackwell Heath	FAC H D 2-2	78	M Herbert, L Price	3	15	4	5	8	11	7	10	1	
24/Aug	7:45pm	Flackwell Heath	FACr A L 0-6	139	-	2	9	U	5	6	7	10	1	1	
28/Aug	3pm	Shrivenham	A L 2-3	65	O.G., W Mann	3	6	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	
30/Aug	3pm	Longlevens	A D 2-2	87	D Ellis-Clark, A Basford	5	8	2	10	1	1	1	1	1	
04/Sep	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town	A W 3-2	52	L Bainbridge, A Basford, B Denness-Barrett	3	8	7	10	1	1	1	1	1	
08/Sep	7:45pm	Calne Town	A W 2-1	92	L Bainbridge, B Denness-Barrett	3	8	7	U	12	1	1	1	1	
11/Sep	3pm	Malmesbury Victoria	FAV A W 4-2	83	H Morgan (2), L Price, L Bainbridge	2	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
18/Sep	3pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp	A L 1-5	102	B Denness-Barrett	2	8	7	U	14	1	1	1	1	
25/Sep	3pm	Fleet Spurs	FAV H W 3-2	82	O.G., J Shutt, J Geddes	10	4	6	7	2	U	1	1	1	
02/Oct	3pm	Bradford Town	H W 1-0	71	J Shutt	11	4	6	7	2	1	1	1	1	
05/Oct	7:45pm	Malvern Town	A D 3-3	174	J Lawrence, J Shutt, A Woodall	4	6	7	2	14	1	1	1	1	
09/Oct	3pm	Hereford Lads Club	A L 1-9	106	B Denness-Barrett	4	6	7	14	1	1	1	1	1	
12/Oct	7:45pm	Calne Town	H D 1-1	87	J Lawrence	11	4	6	7	9	1	1	1	1	
16/Oct	3pm	Bishops Cleeve	A D 0-0	70	-	3	4	6	7	12	1	1	1	1	
19/Oct	7:45pm	Chipping Sodbury Town	H W 3-1	56	B Denness-Barrett (2), L Bainbridge	3	4	6	7	9	16	1	1	1	
23/Oct	3pm	Street FC	FAV H L 1-4	70	A Basford	11	4	6	7	5	10	U	1	1	
26/Oct	7:45pm	Westfields	A W 1-0	142	J Lawrence	4	6	7	12	9	17	1	1	1	
30/Oct	3pm	Westbury United	H L 0-3	79	-	12	4	6	7	11	1	1	1	1	
03/Nov	7:45pm	Roman Glass St. George	A L 1-4	40	J Shutt	11	4	7	3	U	8	1	1	1	
06/Nov	3pm	Thornbury Town	H L 1-3	55	O.G.	3	6	7	5	10	1	1	1	1	
09/Nov	7:45pm	Malvern Town	H L 0-3	133	-	4	6	7	14	1	1	1	1	1	
13/Nov	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	H L 0-1	66	-	4	12	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	
16/Nov	7:45pm	Cheltenham Saracens	GFA H L 2-5	66	D Kent, J Shutt	11	4	6	7	10	1	1	1	1	
20/Nov	3pm	Cribbs FC	A L 0-3	68	-	4	10	7	12	16	9	1	1	1	
30/Nov	7:45pm	Fairford Town	H L 0-1	73	-	4	8	7	3	1	1	1	1	1	
04/Dec	3pm	Lydney Town	A L 0-4	77	-	4	10	14	3	1	1	1	1	1	
18/Dec	3pm	Corsham Town	H L 0-3	81	-	11	4	8	7	3	9	1	1	1	
27/Dec	1pm	Longlevens	H L 0-1	331	-	11	5	10	2	9	7	1	1	1	
2022															
03/Jan	3pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp	H L 2-6	168	W Ramsey, L Bainbridge	11	4	8	3	9	7	1	1	1	
08/Jan	3pm	Shrivenham	H W 3-2	59	H Greenslade (2), D Kent	10	4	8	12	3	15	U	1	1	
11/Jan	7:45pm	Roman Glass St. George	H L 0-3	125	-	10	4	8	12	3	15	6	U	1	
15/Jan	3pm	Bradford Town	A L 1-7	116	J Geddes	12	4	8	7	10	1	1	1	1	
22/Jan	3pm	Bishops Cleeve	H D 2-2	100	H Greenslade, A Basford	4	7	12	2	U	1	1	1	1	
29/Jan	3pm	Hereford Lads Club	H W 3-1	94	J Geddes, W Mann (pen), J Shutt	U	4	10	7	2	1	1	1	1	
05/Feb	3pm	Hallen	H L 1-2	113	W Mann (pen)	14	4	6	7	2	1	1	1	1	
12/Feb	3pm	Westfields	H L 0-1	56	-	10	7	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	
19/Feb	3pm	Westbury United	A L 1-2	102	J Shutt	12	4	10	2	1	1	1	1	1	
22/Feb	7:45pm	Hallen	A W 2-1	75	J Beardsell (2)	4	10	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
26/Feb	3pm	Cribbs FC	H L 0-1	67	-	10	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	
05/Mar	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	A L 2-3	95	L Smith, Y Lomotey	8	4	U	7	3	1	1	1	1	
12/Mar	3pm	Lydney Town	H	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
19/Mar	3pm	Fairford Town	A	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
28/Mar	7:45pm	Newent Town	BFCC A	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	

Goalscorers	Goals	Player	Goals
Shutt, Joe	7	Morgan, Harry	2
Denness-Barrett, Brennan	6	Price, Lucas	2
Bainbridge, Lewis	5	Beardsell, Jack	2
Basford, Aaron	5	Swales, Josh	1
Lawrence, Jamal	4	Herbert, Macaulay	1
Kent, Dominik	3	Ellis-Clark, Dion	1
O.G.	3	Woodall, Archie	1
Greenslade, Harvey	3	Ramsey, Will	1
Geddes, Jacob	3	Smith, Liam	1
Mann, Warren	3	Lomotey, Yeshaya	1

STARTS	1	23	6	33	4	40	34	24	7	10	1
SUBSTITUTE	0	5	1	0	0	1	5	4	2	9	1
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	2	5

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

Jack Copland

Goalkeeper

A hugely talented young goalkeeper who was a mainstay of the club's U18 campaign in the 2020/21 FA Youth Cup. Terrific handling and shot stopping ability is equally matched by his excellent distribution, from the hand or with the ball at his feet. 2021/22 is his breakthrough season and so far it is going well, as he is now undoubtedly first choice between the sticks!

Will Ramsey

Defence

Signed from Cheltenham Town, where he was previously a scholar, until the end of the season. Consistent and hard-working, Rambo has been a great addition to the squad. Good going forward, too, and capable of lending his support to the attacking play.

Liam Wright

Defence

Returned to the club recently, after spells away at Bishops Cleeve and then Cinderford Town. Capable of playing in midfield or in the back four, Liam is now seen as an energetic part of our squad. A ball player but incredibly hard-working and other with a powerful shot from distance.

Jacob Geddes

Defence

A rising star for Rovers, after joining the club in 2020. Immediately held down a regular place in the first team, aged just 16 years of age, showing a maturity beyond his years. Joined after leaving Cheltenham Town and is a tough, uncompromising defender, but also good in possession. A natural leader; now captain in Macaulay Herbert's absence.

Joel White

Defence

Rejoined the club from Frampton United, having spent a couple of seasons with Slimbridge, in the Southern League. A commanding presence and hugely influential in our young squad. Calm on the ball, fantastic in defence; one of the leaders we need to support the development of our squad amidst some of the challenges during this campaign.

Laurie McNally

Defence

Another product of the club's successful Under 18s side and another player of whom much is expected this season. Competent in either full-back position and also capable of playing at centre-half, Laurie is one of the most natural defenders at the club, but also extremely capable on the ball. Previously at Forest Green Rovers Academy.

2021/22 PLAYER PROFILES

Lewis Bainbridge

Midfield

Joined the club at the start of the 2019/20 season and now entering his 3rd season as a Rovers player. A former Gloucester City youngster who joined as a really promising wide player but now amongst our most versatile players and being deployed to fill any gap in the line-up. Abundant energy and dangerous in an attacking position, also weighing in with some important goals.

Sam Mendes

Midfield

Former Slimbridge player, who graduated from Cheltenham Town as a youngster. Very gifted and capable of drifting past opponents, creating chances and weighing in with. Joined in 2021, after a spell at County League side Hardwicke and already looking a key player for the team. An enigmatic talent.

Ashley Davies

Midfield

Returns to the club for a third spell, having previously been the Club Captain at Cinderford Town. Neil Mustoe's first signing and an incredibly coup. Brings class, leadership and a wonderful work ethic to the squad and his influence will be of huge value to the club.

Dom Kent

Midfield

A product of the Gloucester City U18 squad, Dom is now amongst our longest serving players and a fixture in the squad. A talented midfielder, who is good on the ball, industrious and quick, but also incredibly tenacious, whether looking to retain possession or win the ball back. Ended 2019/20 as Players' Player and Manager's Player.

Warren Mann

Midfield

By far our longest serving player and entering his nineteenth season in the first team squad, 'Wazza' might lack some of his former pace, but is hugely committed and massively experienced asset, bringing passion and excellent technique; he's constantly involved in every game. Practical joker on and off the field - usually the opposition support's least favourite player!

Jack Beardsell

Midfield

Re-signed in October on a transfer from Fairford Town, having previously played for the club 33 times, scoring 8 goals. A mercurial talent who is capable of producing some high quality goals. Needs to add consistency to his game and we're hoping that is second spell with the club is the time that he realises his full potential.

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

2021/22 PLAYER PROFILES

Demilade Yussuf

Midfield

Just sixteen years old but captain of our U18s squad and already collecting regular first team appearances. Strong, calm on the ball and incredibly hard-working, Demi was previously at Cheltenham Town and is a real talent. One to watch in future years.

Harry Morgan

Midfield

'Spanish Harry' is another player who joined the club whilst at Hartpury Uni but is staying at the club after completing his studies. Joined late in the active season (2020/21). Tidy on the ball and industrious off it, on his day a pivotal figure in the squad.

Joshua Aldridge

Midfield

Signed on a Work Experience arrangement from Cheltenham Town, Josh has previously had trials with Tottenham Hotspur and it is evident that he is incredibly talented. Comfortable on the ball and fast becoming a key member of the Rovers squad.

Sammie Hicks

Midfield

Signed mid-February to bolster the squad following Neil Mustoe's appointment as manager, on a dual registration agreement with Cinderford Town. 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.

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 missing the start of the season. Offers experience and capable of dropping into the back four when needed.

Lucas Price

Forward

An excellent summer signing from Bishops Cleeve, Lucas is lightning fast, energetic and has an eye for goal. Impressed in pre-season with his ability to quickly turn defence into attack and is as industrious, as likely to make a recovering challenge

as he is to conjure a shot on goal.



Harvey Greenslade

Forward

Initially signed on a six week Work Experience arrangement from Bristol Rovers and began his spell in style, with two goals on debut, including a first minute opener. Pacy, industrious, committed and a fantastic addition to the squad on the early evidence.

Aaron Basford

Forward

Another addition to the 2021/22 squad, 'Bash' has been with Step 4 side Evesham United in recent seasons but was lured to the club in the summer. A hard-working, hugely talented youngster – formerly with Cheltenham Town – who has a good goalscoring record.

Ashley Bird

Forward

Another returning player, who struggled to secure a regular starting berth under Mark Pritchett and eventually left the club. Signed by Rich Cox but didn't return to the side until his former mentor, Neil Mustoe, took the reins. His industry, strength and running power will set the mark for others to follow. Great to have him back.

Jamal Lawrence

Forward

A former professional with Cheltenham Town, who briefly played in the Football League, before spells at National League side's Hungerford Town and Gloucester City. Returned to play for Rovers after two years away from the game and will be looking to add both goals and intelligent link-up play to our young squad.

Joe Shutt

Forward

Small in stature but capable of making a big impact, 'Shutty' joined from Chipping Sodbury Town in 2019 and has become a firm favourite with the Rovers support. Quick, skillful, full of energy and hard-working, he has already contributed goals on a regular basis and has attracted attention from higher league clubs.

Neil Mustoe

Manager

Recently appointed as interim first team manager, following Rich Cox's resignation. 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.



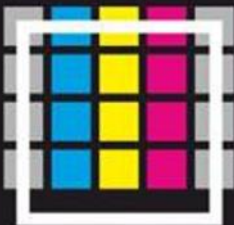
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Half-time quiz: Break for five

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, we ask questions about final games....

1. Who rather famously made his last ever competitive appearance in English football as a player during Newcastle United's 3-1 win over Brighton & Hove Albion, in a Football League Division Two fixture on 17 May 1984, before going on to become a manager at domestic and international level?

2. When Arsenal played their final home game at Highbury Stadium on 7 May 2006 they initially trailed 2-1, courtesy of goals from Paul Scharner and David Thompson, but eventually ran out 4-2 winners, with a hat-trick added to Robert Pires' opening goal. Who were the opponents on that occasion and which player got three goals for Arsenal?

3. Who is the goalkeeper pictured, who played over 1,250 competitive games between 1990 and 2015, scoring 131 goals in the process, with his final appearance in December 2015 for Sao Paulo?

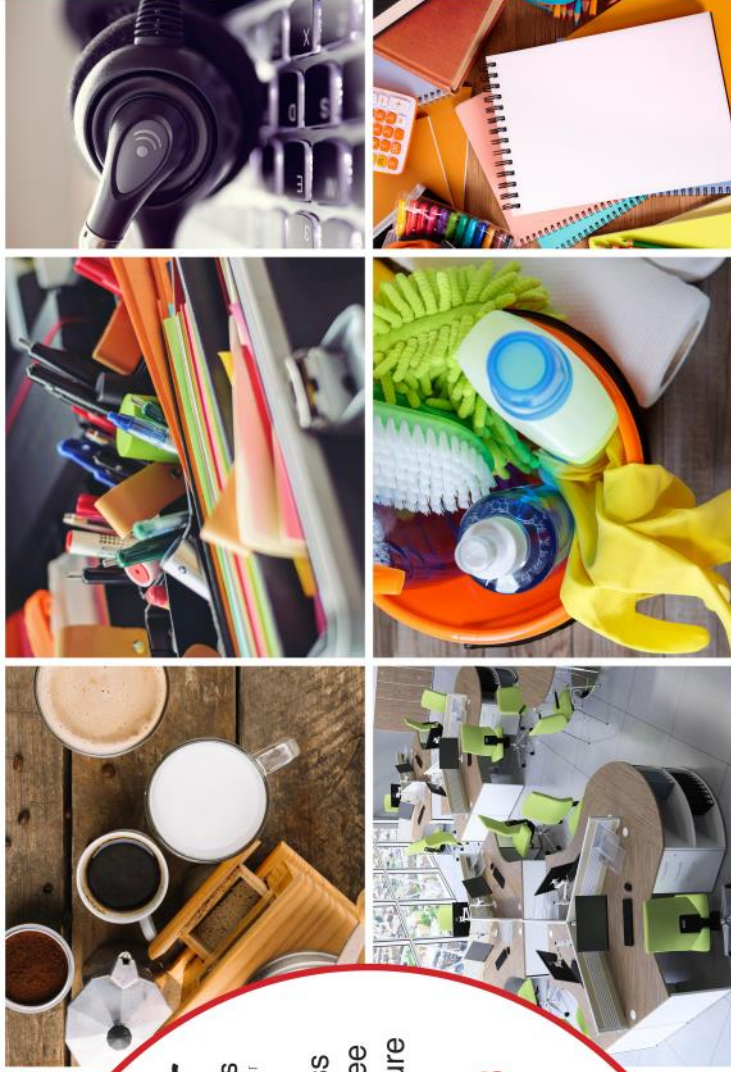


4. Which legendary English manager won a trophy on his final game at the club he is most synonymous with, albeit the 1992/93 Nottinghamshire County Cup with a 3-0 win over Notts County?

5. Sir Alex Ferguson oversaw his 1,500th and final game as Manchester United manager on 19 May 2013 and it turned out to be a thriller, as United drew 5-5 with West Bromwich Albion. Three players are pictured – one scored a hat-trick; one netted his 26th goal of the season; and one scored his final goal for his club before leaving during the following season. Who are the players?



Quiz Answers: (1) Kevin Keegan; (2) Arsenal beat Wigan Athletic 4-2, with Thierry Henry netting a hat-trick in the process; (3) Rogerio Centi; (4) Brian Clough; (5) From L to R - 26th Goal: Robin Van Persie / Hat-trick: Romelu Lukaku / Final (and second) goal: Alex Buttner.



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**UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION
TUFFLEY ROVERS 0-1 CRIBBS
SATURDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2022**



Cribbs FC was one of five clubs transferred to the Hellenic League's Premier Division after playing in the truncated 2020-21 season in the Western League's top division. Their record when that season was cut short was seven wins and two draws from twelve matches, an identical record to the team Tuffley Rovers had played just seven days earlier, Westbury United. Only Bradford Town from this formerly Western League quintet had a better record than Cribbs when the latter arrived in Gloucestershire for what would be Rovers' penultimate home league match of the season.

The club based in the Bristol suburb of Henbury had made an impressive start to life in the Hellenic because only Westbury, Corsham, Malvern, Bradford and League-leaders Bishops Cleeve had gathered more away points than Cribbs, whose nine victories on the road included a 5-4 success at Malvern and a 5-0 win at Shrivenham as well as a 4-3 loss at Cleeve, against whom they had also scored three times in their home fixture.

So Cribbs, one-time league-leaders themselves early in the season, arrived at Glevum Park in good form having only failed to score in three of their thirty-three league matches so far and, ominously for Rovers, those blanks had all come in home fixtures. Only the division's Top Two had scored more times than Cribbs; only Calne had scored fewer goals than Tuffley.

As it was, a late, deflected goal cruelly deprived Rovers of a point which they would have richly deserved for a defiant and disciplined defensive display against in-form Cribbs, whose narrow victory kept them in touch with the clubs who will contest the end-of-season play-offs.

The sun was shining weakly on a chilly afternoon in Gloucester as visitors Cribbs got the match under way kicking up the slope towards the end of the ground where the dressing-rooms are situated.

It was the hosts who nearly took an early lead after Aaron Basford had been fouled on the left. Sammie Hicks took the resulting free-kick which was fumbled by Aaron Greatbanks in the visitors' goal and he was fortunate that no Tuffley forward was following up to pounce on the rebound.

When Cribbs had their first serious attack down the right Steve Murray passed to George Kellow whose shot was saved at the expense of a corner.

Tuffley's Dominik Kent was injured midway inside the Cribbs half but was able to continue after receiving treatment on the pitch.

The wind was making it difficult for both teams to pass the ball accurately but despite this disadvantage Harri John and Ashley Bird combined to set Joe Shutt free on the right. Shutt retained the ball for several seconds before dancing past a defender and getting a cross in but Hicks, finding space beyond the far post, was unable to get a clean shot away.



The play was becoming rather scrappy until the closing moments of the first period when Kellow found himself running clear on goal and rounded Jack Copland in the home goal only to then inexplicably miss the target completely with the goal gaping in front of him. Then when Tuffley won another free-kick on the left, again taken by Hicks, Greatbanks punched the ball away to safety.

In the second half referee Nat Wormleighton's yellow card seemed to spend more time being waved in the air than in his pocket. Josh Bennett was cautioned for bringing down Kent with an over-zealous challenge before Jack Beardsell received the same punishment for the latest of a number of fouls he had committed. Not long after this incident Ryan Cainey was also booked for a foul on Bird. The same fate befell Shutt for fouling Nick Jones and his team-mate Warren Mann would also be later cautioned for foul play.



Cribbs brought on Charlie Dashfield and Bevan Cross and would also bring on Javier Biazquez for Bennett. Rovers' response was to send on Tomos Shyamapant who had been scoring goals for fun in their Under-18 team but who was unable to make much of a contribution to this match because the visiting defenders were so hard to get the better of.

The pressure from Cribbs was growing with Rovers only making occasional forays into their half of the field. Copland made a stupendous save from an overhead kick by Steve Murray which looked as if it was going to break the deadlock until the young goalkeeper flew to his right to turn the ball away for a corner.

The breakthrough came inside the final five minutes. Cribbs' captain Jake Hodgson tried a speculative shot from the left-hand side of Tuffley's penalty-area and the ball was deflected up and over a goalkeeper whose handling had been faultless all afternoon; he had no chance to reach the ball after it had ricocheted up and out of his reach.

Immediately after the goal Shutt dragged a left-footed shot wide and Rovers then won a series of corners without being able to make any of them count.

Despite a number of bookings this wasn't a match which got out of the referee's control. Both teams needed the points for quite different reasons. Cribbs have now scored in eighteen successive away league matches this season but Tuffley can feel aggrieved that the gutsy way they kept Cribbs out for so long was not rewarded with at least a point, the point which would have virtually guaranteed their safety.

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've only played twice on 12 March but there are a few notable games that have been played around this particular date ...

13 March 2010

Tuffley Rovers kept a third consecutive clean sheet in the Gloucestershire County League, going five games unbeaten in the process, as an Ed Weyman brace proved enough to bring back all three points from a visit to Berkeley Town. It might have been 3-0 but Victor Webb missed a penalty for the second time in two games.

Squad: Adam Bennett; Marcus Foxwell; Lee Wallington; Richard James; Leone Cornwall; Ashley Davies; Victor Webb; Danny Wallington; Mark Wallington; Edward Weyman; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Oliver Everitt; Stuart Griffith; Mark Ford.

15 March 2011

In a game under floodlights at Glevum Park Tuffley Rovers ran out 4-3 winners against Hanham Athletic, as goals from Neil Griffiths, Scott Jones and two from Richard James secured the points by the odd goal in seven.

The game came a week after Rovers' triumph in their County Cup semi-final against Lydney Town and was the perfect recovery form a 3-1 defeat on their last Gloucestershire County League outing against Yate Town Reserves.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Marcus Foxwell; Mark Pritchett; Richard James; Neil Griffiths; Martin Middlecote; Jon Corbett; Kyle Kennedy; Scott Jones; Shayne Bradley; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Lee Wallington; Jamie Harper; Ben Surman.

12 March 2013

Tuffley Rovers returned to the top of the Gloucestershire County League as they beat fellow Gloucestershire side Frampton United 3-1 at Glevum Park. Goals from Dorian Colling, Richard James and Marcus Foxwell proved enough to take Rovers above Southmead CS Athletic, as well as seeing off the threat of a Frampton side who began and ended the day 7th in the table.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Elliot King; Marcus Foxwell; Michael Oakes; Leone Cornwall; Courtney Hamilton; Mark Wallington; Warren Mann; Dorian Colling; Nathen King; Richard James. **Subs used:** Lee Brinkworth; Stuart Griffith.

14 March 2015

Marcus Foxwell scored a penalty, and the only goal for the game, to help Tuffley Rovers secure all three points at home to Tytherington Rocks, making it thirteen league games unbeaten in the process, as Warren Evans' side kept up their push for promotion from the UHlsport Hellenic League Division One (West).

Squad: Aaron Taylor; Marcus Foxwell; Kieran Squires; Ashley Davies; Sam Drew; Stuart Griffith; Jordan Dowdeswell; Warren Mann; Shayne Bradley; Jordan Fletcher; Brett James. **Subs used:** Mark Ford; Courtney Hamilton; Kieran Tracey.

12 March 2016

In what could only be summarised as the archetypal 'relegation six-pointer', Tuffley Rovers surrendered tamely against a Bracknell Town side who started the day a point ahead of their hosts, in a game which marked Shayne Bradley's first game in the dugout for a Hellenic League fixture, following Warren Evans' resignation as manager.



Keeper Jake Underwood was an emergency signing, after injuries had left Bradley without a recognised No.1, but he was helpless as an Adam Cornell hat-trick in the first half put the visitors in control. Kieran Squires pulled a goal back, heading home Mark Wallington's free-kick on 55 minutes, but Cornell got his fourth of the game, before James Suarez and Declan Kirby added to the score, making it 6-1 on a day to forget for Bradley's relegation troubled side.

Squad: Jake Underwood; Marcus Foxwell; Kieran Squires; Glenn Gittins; Macaulay Herbert; Mark Wallington; Ryan Williams; Warren Mann; Jordan Fletcher; Carl Cresswell; Brett James. **Subs used:** Mark Ford; Tristan Haswell; Walt Greenwood.

14 March 2017

Mark Pritchett's Tuffley Rovers squad recorded a first win in five competitive games as they progressed in the Hellenic League Supplementary Cup, courtesy of a 3-1 win at Abingdon United.



John Dennis gave the hosts the lead early in the game, before Jamie Goodwin restored parity with a terrific effort from 25 yards. Will Tunncliff then gave Pritchett's side the lead, before a late goal from Tristan Haswell, his first in 78 appearances, finished off the scoring with 11 minutes remaining.



Squad: Mark Pritchett; Marcus Foxwell; Tristan Haswell; Macaulay Herbert; Jack Overthrow; Ben Tunncliff; Jamie Goodwin; Courtney Hamilton; Warren Mann; Liam Wright; Will Tunncliff. **Subs used:** Sam Hill; Shayne Anson.

Previously against today's opposition at Glevum Park

The last time we hosted today's visitors in a competitive fixture at Glevum Park it was a little under one year ago, on 17 April 2021, as Lydney Town arrived to feature in the last home game of the 2020/21 season, a Hellenic League Challenge Cup, Group Stage fixture.

Tuffley Rovers 0-2 Lydney Town

Uhsport Hellenic League Challenge Cup, Group Stage

17 April 2021



Both teams were aware that, having lost their opening Group One matches in midweek, another defeat would make it extremely difficult for them to finish in one of the top two positions in this group.

After a fairly sedate first half, Lydney took control in the second and that pressure was rewarded with goals in the 70th and 78th minutes.

The day of Prince Philip's funeral saw a respectful minute's silence observed pre-match before Lydney kicked-off playing towards the dressing-room end. The visitors went straight on the attack in the opening minute with Ash Palmer breaking down the right and feeding Matty Board, whose shot flew over Adam Clark's crossbar. Palmer was soon involved again when one of his trademark long-throws was headed behind for a corner but the flag-kick was headed away from danger.

It took Rovers a dozen minutes to put together an attack, when Harri John found Luke Soule down the right, but the latter's cross was easily gathered by Rich Thomas in the visitors' goal. Tuffley's right-back Miles Ferguson went down with an injury but was able to continue without needing treatment on the pitch.

The ball seemed to be constantly in midfield during the second quarter of the match with neither team showing enough trickery to unlock the other defence. High balls forward were being comfortably headed away by the central defenders. On what was a rare foray into a penalty-area Declan Morley-Lyne set up a good chance for Ruben Fahiya but the No.11's tame shot went wide of Clark's right-hand post and the first half ended with neither goalkeeper having had a serious shot to save.



The opening goal nearly came for the hosts early in the second half but Thomas raced off his line quickly before Lewis Bainbridge could capitalise on a ball played behind Lydney's defence. Then Rudi McKinnon broke through into open space but couldn't find a team-mate with a pass.

At the other end Jack Rutter danced across Rovers' penalty-area to find room for a shot, to which Clark responded with a stunning save low down to his right.

As the half progressed, the midfield was once again becoming very congested, as both teams prepared to make changes. Rovers brought Joe Shutt and Dominik Kent on for Warren Mann and Bainbridge while Lydney countered by introducing Finnan and Keelan Hamblett.

All these changes didn't really change the pattern of play but a goal did soon come. When Lydney won a corner on the left, Lydney captain Jordi Sheen took it and, when the ball was only half-cleared, it fell to Jack Rutter on the right and he lashed a fierce shot high into the net from the edge of the six-yard box.



With just under a quarter of an hour left Lydney were awarded a penalty-kick. Morley-Lyne placed the ball carefully before nearly bursting the net with a fierce shot past Clark's left-hand side. A minute later the only really nasty challenge of the afternoon saw players from both teams form a melee which the referee had to sort out quickly before it got any worse.

Rovers defended better than they had earlier in the week with the same back four starting against Lydney as against Bishops Cleeve four days earlier, but in midfield and up front, nothing much was happening until the final few minutes when Shutt worked hard to keep possession in the Lydney penalty-area but couldn't get a shot away. Then Isaac Lawrence burst through and fired in a terrific drive from twenty-five yards only to see Thomas fly high and wide to his left to make an acrobatic save.

Lydney worked hard to reverse the defeat they had suffered at Longlevens on Wednesday but Rovers, despite having some really talented footballers in their senior squad, seem to be struggling for form and confidence which probably isn't too surprising considering how long it has been since they have played anything that could be called a competitive match before this week.

Lydney Town FC • Club History



Although Lydney is one of the main towns of the Forest area the Severnsiders have always led a very nomadic existence. With the town very much a Rugby stronghold the football club has always found it difficult to exist and although the club can trace its roots back to 1911 it never has had a sound base. The club competed in the local leagues until 1952 when they were elected to the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League. In 1969 the club folded due to lack of committee. In 1971 the soccer lovers of the town pulled together and the club re-formed and in 1974 the appointment of Harold Elliott as player/coach saw many players from Lydney Juniors introduced with the resulting effect of promotion to Senior League Division One in 1976. During this period the club switched from Bathurst Park onto the Recreation Ground using the changing facilities at the neighbouring Cricket Club.

In 1979-80 after twice finishing Runners-Up they finally lifted the Senior League Division One Championship. Applications to the County League were unfruitful so the club turned to the Hellenic League, where the club held its own, but after 4 seasons the huge financial burden of the League forced the club to return to the Senior League. A dispute with the Cricket Club saw the club move back onto Bathurst Park and following this Secretary Roger Sansom, who had been elected in 1975 and who is still secretary to this day, investigated the possibility of building a clubhouse on the Recreation Ground. Unfortunately on the pitch the downward spiral continued and the club found itself back in the NGL. The players thankfully stayed together and they bounced back into the Senior League the following season. Ambitious plans to have our own clubhouse were still in the pipeline and a clubhouse was opened on Lydney Recreation Trust in 1990. In 1995 the club did the double by winning Division Two and the Forest Green Supporters Trophy, a feat they repeated in 1996-97.

In 2003-04 Manager Peter Elliott, who along with Roger Sansom are the longest serving members of the club with 40 plus years service, guided the club to the Final of the League Cup and the Senior Amateur Cup but in 2004 due to work commitments Peter decided to step down. The club turned to Stuart Liddington to take the helm and with Peter being persuaded to assist him they forged a very successful partnership. The addition of Pete Macklin from Cinderford Town, Danny Clarke ex-Oxford United, Matthew Timmins from Whitecroft and the return of Mark Saunders from Australia gave the club a real boost. Pete, Danny and 'Matty' provided the missing link in the goalscoring department scoring over 70 goals between them, Danny leading the way with 32 goals. The Senior League title was secured with 4 games to go and they did the double by lifting the Senior Amateur Cup. The season was complete with the news of acceptance into the County League a prize denied to them some 25 years ago. The clubs County League campaign started in unconvincing fashion with only 4 points from 3 home games but a 20 game unbeaten run saw the club take over as league leaders at the start of 2006, a position they held for the remainder of the season. Scoring goals was very much the key to winning as 87 goals proved, 'Matty' Timmins finishing the leagues leading goal scorer with 28 goals. This success was beyond the clubs wildest dreams and gave the club the opportunity of a return to the Hellenic League after 22 years. A steady start saw the club 12 points behind the leaders in October but a 6 game winning streak at the end of the year saw the club take over as leaders at the start of January. The critical game came in mid-April with fellow title contenders Trowbridge Town visiting 'The Rec'. In front of a crowd of 305 goals from Danny Clarke and Mark Crabbe secured victory and a 5 point cushion. With 3 games to go the Title was won at Malmesbury when Danny Bishop came off the subs bench to score 2 late goals and give the club an unprecedented 3rd title in as many seasons. The squad had certainly exceeded all expectations and can quite easily be classed as the best in the clubs history. Ambitious plans for the required improvements to gain promotion were put forward and accepted by the League allowing the club to play at the highest level in its history.

A steady start was overshadowed by events off the pitch when despite gaining planning permission for erection of floodlights the club became embroiled in a sea of red tape with their landlords. To continue playing in the Premier Division an agreement was reached to use Cinderford Town and Harrow Hill for home games. Despite these off the pitch issues an unbeaten league run of 11 games placed them in the top half of the table. Despite finishing in 10th position the club were unable to satisfy the April deadline imposed by the league and were forced to be relegated back into Division One (West).

With relegation came the inevitable loss of players who wished to play at a higher level of football and the club decided to pin its future hopes on the youth of the town. Mark Lee, who had joined the club from County League side Ellwood, took on the role of Player/Manager. In 2014-15 they finished runners up to Tytherington Rocks but despite finishing in a promotion position ground development had not been completed by the March 31st deadline and a further season in Division One followed. Determined that such a situation would not happen again further development work followed to ensure the necessary G grading but disappointingly after all the clubs efforts the club finished in third spot which would not necessarily ensure promotion. As luck would have it circumstances led to the club being offered a place in the Premier Division which they readily accepted but this again meant further development was needed to obtain an F Grading and this was attained in 2016 with the installation of a 2nd stand. In 2016-17 silverware came the clubs way via the Floodlit Trophy beating Flackwell Heath on penalties after the game finished 3-3. Last season the club finished in 11th position but Manager Mark Lee decided to step down after 8 years in charge and the clubs search for a new manager started. The club turned to ex-Town forward Richard Kear. Lydney born Richard joined Cheltenham Town as a youth player but on his release he played on the Non League circuit. In 2013-14 he rejoined the club from Westfields. Unfortunately family commitments saw Richard step down at the end of last season. To replace Richard the club has been fortunate to regain the services of Stuart Liddington who as previously recorded was the clubs most successful manager guiding Lydney into the Hellenic League in 2006 and it is hoped that he will once more bring success to the club.

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TUFFLEY ROVERS

V

LYDNEY TOWN

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

White & Black shirts; Black shorts; Black
socks (GK: Red).

Jack Copland

1

Richard Thomas

Liam Wright

2

Liam Sheppard

Laurie McNally

3

Tristan Murphy

Jacob Geddes

4

Morgan Pratt

Joel White ©

5

Sam Elliott

Harri John

6

Matty Board

Dominik Kent

7

Jordan Sheen

Liam Smith

8

Keelan Maguire-Hamblett

Tomos Shyamapant

9

Declan Morley-Lyne

Lewis Bainbridge

10

Ross Lindsay

Jack Beardsell

11

Jake Morgan

Ashley Bird

12

Charlie Powell

Sammie Hicks

14

Lewis Thompson

Ashley Davies

15

Jared Liddington

Demilade Yussuf

16

Jamie Addis

Aaron Basford

17

Finnan Maguire-Hamblett

Joshua Aldridge

18

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