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EDITOR'S COMMENT



Welcome to everyone visiting Glevum Park this afternoon for the visit of Cribbs. I would like to welcome all their players, supporters and officials to our home.

Firstly, thank you to our match-day sponsors, Dreamshed Theatre, for their support of the club. As I said in the last edition of the programme, match-day sponsors are a vital part of our business at the football club and we are delighted that Bill has chosen to support us today.

It is great to welcome Kieran Alder and Dan Beasley into the squad today, having signed from Worcester City and Westfields respectively, and perhaps a sign of the progress that Neil Mustoe is now making, 9 ½ months into his reign. We played Cribbs here approximately 60 days into Muzzy's tenure and a quick look at the squad we fielded on that day should give us all a filip, because we've moved on in giant leaps and bounds. Adding two more quality players to the team is fantastic, but adding someone as gifted – and as familiar to our support – as Kieran is wonderful. I was delighted when I was able to file that registration!

We had success on our last game at Glevum Park, as we beat Fleet Spurs in the FA Vase, and although we suffered a defeat last time we played, away at Hereford Lads Club, there were still plenty of positives to take away from that game. Twelve months ago we started on one of the worst runs in the club's Hellenic League history but I genuinely believe that things are so very much different now that, whatever the result today, we will have a much better season and we can realistically look up, rather than down, despite our current league position.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the club. As others suggest, times are hard for many clubs at or around this level of the game but with a healthy support and the right people influencing our direction of travel, I sincerely hope we are on an upward trajectory.

Whatever the result today, I firmly believe there are good times ahead. In Muzzy (and Ritchie) We Trust!

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

- NEIL

#uptherovers

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT



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

Firstly I hope that the players, management, committee members and supporters of Cribbs had a safe journey up the M5 this afternoon and hope you enjoy the hospitality here today.

We continue to have work carried out on the pitch to remedy the topping up of the drainage lines that will be visible today, and we are hoping over the next few weeks, all apart from a few areas will be completely covered with grass. The drought over the summer months caused our drain lines to drop and although we took a few weeks off, to undertake repair work, sadly we have had a period where the pitch isn't looking as good as it was. We ended up with what amounted to turf hanging over huge deep voids, which were becoming dangerous to play on and the pitch eventually became unsafe. Thank you to AgriPower who, at very short notice, were able to come in and top the drains up with around 50 tonnes of rootzone and sand. The most important part, is that the surface is safe (despite its appearance!) and football can continue, bringing much needed revenue to cover the ever increasing costs that everyone is feeling. Football clubs are businesses effectively and we are not excluded from the added costs and extra bills we are all facing.

Last week we had a disappointing result, although I thought the first thirty minutes or so against Hereford Lads Club was some of the best football we have played this season and we would walk off at half time in the lead, then push on in the second half. However, a late first half goal gave them the impetus and we never really got going in the second half which was frustrating to see.

The league looks tight at both ends, with us only four points off bottom, but only six points from 10th with games in hand on nearly all teams above us. This season will go down to the wire at the top end of the table in my opinion, but we are certainly not looking to be in a scrap for survival like we have been for the last four seasons.

Last Sunday, our Ladies' team played their first ever Women's FA Cup game here, against Paulton Rovers, and put in a spirited performance against a higher league opposition. Sadly, they were the wrong end of a 2-0 result, but they worked hard and did themselves and the club proud in their attempt to cause an upset against the odds. A few injuries during the first half meant that they just couldn't get back into the game after going in at half time 2-0 down. I'm confident that after being promoted into Division One this season, they will have enough to finish higher than their current league position suggests.

Our Development Squad, under the leadership of Dave Cornock and Michael Oakes, have had a great start to the season in Hellenic League, Division Two (West), having won four out of four, and with two games in hand on the teams above them they are well positioned. What was started as a solely development team, designed to help move players from our U18's into Saturday Hellenic League football, has now turned into a very competitive squad that we hope will gain promotion, whilst also nurturing players that will go on to play for our first team. Good luck to the squad at Shortwood United today.

Let's hope for a good crowd here today, with some good football on display and I wish you all a safe journey home.

Many thanks,

Dan
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 MARSH

MANAGER'S COMMENT



Good afternoon and welcome to all players, officials and supporters of Cribbs FC for this afternoon's game.

Today's opponents will offer us a difficult and very different challenge from last Saturday, as they are one, if not the favourite to be up there – winning the league – come the end of the season. We know we are in for a huge test today.

As I write these notes, Cribbs are sat in second place, without having played a game in midweek and they are currently still unbeaten and on a very good run. Hopefully, we can perform to our best and be competitive for the ninety minutes ahead of us today.

We come into the game off a disappointing result, but not performance, at Hereford Lads Club. I thought we were very dominant in the first 45 minutes last weekend and with a little more composure and quality in the final third we could have been a few goals up at half-time.

The spirit in the squad is good; three wins in four games has helped us get into a better frame of mind and we just need to be conscious that we have played fewer league games than most and we have games in hand, so a few quick results and the table will look a lot healthier and illustrate the progress we feel we have made over the last few months.

I hope you all enjoy the game; we will do our utmost to make you proud of Tuffley Rovers today.

Thanks,

Muzzy

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Bill Cronshaw, Dreamshed's Artistic Director, is an experienced professional actor, director and writer. Contact him on 07771 965985 for more information.

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).

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Working with children and their families living with Heart Conditions

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- **Support children with heart diseases aged 0 – 16.**
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- **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.

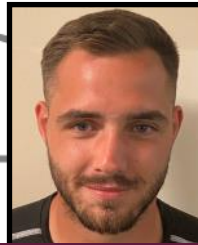


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Brad Poole

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Callum McGuirk



Neil Mustoe
(Manager, First XI)



Ritchie Warden
(Asst. Manager, First XI)

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(Joint Manager, Development Squad)





Luke Hawkins



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Sheldon Herbert



James Reynolds



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Ellis Danes-Rutherford

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Tyrel Roberts

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Matt Butler



Michael Oakes
(Joint Manager,
Development Squad)



Craig Darkin
(Coach)



Ashleigh Watson
(Physio / Sports Therapist)



Hopeton Francis
(Physio / Sports Therapist)



BECOME A SPONSOR

If you'd like to sponsor a player, please email to admin@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk

1. **Seth Locke** - Goalkeeper - joins us for 2022/2023 on loan from Frome Town.
2. **Sonny Harnett-Balkwill** - Defender - an impressive young player in his second season with the club following his move from Hampshire to Bristol.
3. **Josh Bennett** - Defender - an extremely consistent fullback who is in his third season with the club. The side's long throw specialist.
4. **Joe Hillard** - Central Midfield - a summer acquisition from Larkhall Athletic of the Southern League. A strong and calm presence in midfield.
5. **Ryan Crouch** - Central Defender - joined us in 2017/2018 and has been a regular fixture in our defence since.
6. **Ross McErlain** - Central Defender - a Rolls Royce with a left foot wand. Phenomenal scoring record for a defender.
7. **Rudi Mckinnon** - Forward - talented youngster who joins us this season from Yate Town.
8. **George Kellow** - Forward - an elusive striker with a fantastic touch. First joined us in 2015/2016 on loan from Bristol City and returned permanently in 2018/2019.
9. **Jack Fillingham** - Striker - joined us midway through last season from Shepton Mallet where he enjoyed considerable success in front of goal.
10. **Steve Murray** - Forward - joined us for 2020/2021 season from Melksham Town. Fleet of foot and last season's top scorer.
11. **Jake Hodgson** - Midfield - the team's leader, signed from Winterbourne United seven years ago. Manager Luffman has remoulded Jake into an attacking midfielder.
12. **Nick Jones** - Forward - signed from local side Rockleaze Rangers in the summer of 2021. Perpetual motion on the left wing.
14. **Matt Spiller** - Fullback - moved to Cribbs FC from Western League rivals Longwell Green in 2017. An excellent striker of the ball.

15. **Lewis Hedges** - Central Midfield - arrived at the same time as the Skipper and has remained with us since. Keeps things ticking over in the middle.

16. **Ryan Caine** - Central Midfield - an inspired signing from local side Lawrence Weston at the start of last season. Bundle of energy who looked like he had been playing at this level for years.

17. **Aaron Ward-Baptiste** - Defence/Midfield - summer signing who has most recently been playing his football in the U.S. Previously with Bristol Rovers and Taunton Town.

18. **Charlie Dashfield** - Central Midfield - talented youngster who joined us midway through last season from Cheltenham Town's Academy. After Impressing last year is now loaned to us by Havant & Waterlooville.

19. **Niza Chilufya** - Forward - another player who joined us during last season. A ruthless finisher who has chipped in with regular goals from his frequent cameo appearances.

20. **Gerlando Parrinello** - Defender - come through our under 18s set-up. A talented player across the backline and likely to have a strong season in the Gloucestershire County League for our Reserves.

21. **James Crossley-John** - Defender - another to come through our Under 18s set-up and to feature regularly for our Reserve side in their recent promotion. Popped up with some vital goals.

22. **Bailey Croome** - Forward - joined Cribbs during the summer after scoring 18 goals for Tytherington Rocks in the Hellenic League Division One. Tricky on the ball.

23. **Lynford Bhebhe** - Defender - has been with the club for many years as a young player. A strong tackler who has impressed the boss and earned his place in the 1st XI squad.

24. **David Duru** - Forward - another player to come through our other sides. David is a strong, direct and pacey forward who has been scoring regularly in pre season.

25. **Aaron Greatbanks** - Goalkeeper - joined us last season. Calm presence and League Cup Winner.

HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 5 October 2022

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Malvern Town	11	8	2	1	17	26
2	Cribbs	10	7	3	0	10	24
3	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	11	6	3	2	10	21
4	Westfields	11	6	3	2	4	21
5	Worcester Raiders	10	5	4	1	11	19
6	Corsham Town	10	5	4	1	11	19
7	Hereford Pegasus	11	6	1	4	1	19
8	Bradford Town	10	4	3	3	2	15
9	Wantage Town	10	4	2	4	-1	14
10	Hereford Lads Club	11	4	2	5	-2	14
11	Lydney Town	12	3	3	6	-15	12
12	Roman Glass St George	8	3	2	3	1	11
13	Fairford Town	11	3	2	6	-3	11
14	Shrivenham	8	3	1	4	-5	10
15	Longlevens AFC	10	2	3	5	-1	9
16	Chipping Sodbury Town	9	2	3	4	-8	9
17	Tuffley Rovers	8	2	2	4	-3	8
18	Mangotsfield United	11	2	1	8	-7	7
19	Brimscombe & Thrupp	9	1	3	5	-7	6
20	Thornbury Town	11	1	1	9	-15	4



Appearance information

Up to and including Saturday, 1 October 2022

(includes selected list of former players)



Welcome back to Kieran Alder, who will play his 77th game for us, if he appears in this fixture, and congratulations (if he appears) to Ryan Dobbins, who will be making a 50th appearance for the club, having originally made his debut in the 2015/16 season. It has taken a while, but well done, Dobber!



Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	76	22	Kent, Dominik	138	18
Anson, Shayne	71	4	Lander, Daniel	5	0
Azubilla, Paul	5	1	Lewis, Mason	9	2
Barry, Jordan	3	0	Lomotey, Yeshaya	17	1
Beardsell, Jack	66	13	Mace, Ryley	3	1
Birkett, Henry	51	5	Mann, Warren	472	82
Bradley, Shayne	237	109	McGuirk, Callum	10	0
Butler, Matt	5	1	McNally, Laurie	10	0
Davies, Ashley	170	27	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Dobbins, Ryan	49	9	Nicholls, Scott	13	0
Driver-Dickerson, George	1	0	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Poole, Bradley	4	0
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Pritchett, Mark	130	20
Geddes, Jacob	51	4	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Shyamapant, Tomos	9	0
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Smerdon, Noah	4	1
Haswell, Tristan	97	1	Smith, Liam	28	1
Hawkins, Luke	4	0	Squires, Kieran	68	5
Herbert, Macaulay	225	8	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Hicks, Sammie	13	0	Walker, Harry	67	6
Hill, Sam	120	8	Wallington, Lee	131	4
James, Brett	185	64	Wallington, Mark	220	29
James, Richard	125	40	White, Joel	108	4
John, Harri	42	0	Wright, Liam	123	3
Jones, Elliot	11	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

Uhsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

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

BFCC = Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup;

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

2022						Att	Scorers
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			
11/Oct	7:45pm	Lydney Town	WLFC	A			
15/Oct	3pm	Shrivenham		H			
19/Oct	3pm	Worcester Raiders		A			
22/Oct	3pm	Hartpury University	FAV	A			
25/Oct	7:45pm	Fairford Town		H			
29/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		H			
01/Nov	7:45pm	Worcester Raiders		H			
05/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United		A			
15/Nov	7:45pm	Hartpury University	GFA	H			
19/Nov	3pm	Corsham Town		A			
22/Nov	7:45pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp		H			
26/Nov	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		H			
03/Dec	3pm	Bradford Town		H			
10/Dec	3pm	Wantage Town		H			
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		H			
2023							
02/Jan	3pm	Shrivenham		A			
07/Jan	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		H			
14/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		A			
21/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United		H			
28/Jan	3pm	Cribbs FC		A			
04/Feb	3pm	Corsham Town		H			
11/Feb	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		A			
18/Feb	3pm	Bradford Town		A			
25/Feb	3pm	Wantage Town		A			
04/Mar	3pm	Thornbury Town		H			
11/Mar	3pm	Westfields		A			
18/Mar	3pm	Lydney Town		A			
25/Mar	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		H			
01/Apr	3pm	Malvern Town		A			
07/Apr	3pm	Westfields		H			
10/Apr	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		H			
TBC	TBC	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		A			

TOTAL APPEARANCES
STARTS
SUBSTITUTE
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE

Goalscorers

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

	Jones, Elliot	Nicholls, Scott	Mann, Warren	Smerdon, Noah	Lander, Dan	Hicks, Sammie	Wright, Liam	Birkett, Henry	Dobbins, Ryan	Beardsell, Jack	Kent, Dominik	Lewis, Mason	Yussuf, Demilade	Bradley, Shayne	Squires, Kieran	Lomotey, Yeshaya	McGuirk, Callum	Hawkins, Luke	Mace, Ryley	Barry, Jordan	Azubilla, Paul	Butler, Matthew	Herbert, Macaulay	Smith, Liam	Driver-Dickerson, George	Shyamapant, Tomos	Davies, Ashley	MoM
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	U	14	U	U	17													Sammie Hicks
1	2	3	4	5			8	9	7		10	11	18	U		6	12	14	U	U	U							Dan Lander
1	5	2		6	7		8	9	10	11	15	16	4	17	12		3					14						Scott Nicholls
1	2	3	6	5	10		8	9	7	12	11	16	4	17	14							U						Henry Birkett
1	3	2	4		10		8	9	7	12	11		U	6	17	5								15	U			Warren Mann
1	4	3			6	2	8	9	10		11		U		U	7	U						5	12		U		Macaulay Herbert
1	4	2		6		8		9	10		14				7	11	3	16	15	12	5	17						Henry Birkett
1	16			3			8			7	11		10	4	17	12	9					2	5	6	15		14	Henry Birkett
1		3			6		8	10	9	7	11		16		U	12	U					2	5	14			4	Dominik Kent
1		3			6		8	10	9	7	11		16	18		12	U					2	5				4	Ashley Davies
1		3					8	10	9	7	11		16	15	12	6	14					2	5				4	Paul Azubilla

11	8	10	4	5	8	2	11	9	10	9	9	3	7	6	6	10	4	3	1	5	1	7	5	1	0	4	0	0
11	7	10	4	5	8	2	11	9	10	7	8	1	1	4	0	5	2	2	0	4	0	6	1	0	0	3	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	6	2	6	5	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	2	0	3	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

Brad Poole

Goalkeeper

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

Kieran Squires

Defence

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

George Driver-Dickerson

Defence

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

Paul Azubilla

Defence

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

Dan Lander

Defence

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

Ashley Davies

Defence

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

2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

Noah Smerdon

Defence

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

Scott Nicholls

Defence

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

Mason Lewis

Defence

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

Luke Hawkins

Midfield

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

Sammie Hicks

Midfield

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

Dominik Kent

Midfield

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

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

Demilade Yussuf

Midfield

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

Liam Smith

Midfield

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

Henry Birkett

Midfield

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

Warren Mann

Midfield

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

Jack Beardsell

Midfield

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

Shayne Bradley

Forward

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

2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

Tomos Shyamapant

Forward

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

Ryan Dobbins

Forward

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

Yeshaya Lomotey

Forward

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

Matt Butler

Forward

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

Neil Mustoe

Manager

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

Ritchie Warden

Assistant Manager

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



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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 reflect our visitors' good league form and focus on unbeaten starts to the season...

1. Manchester United started the 1985/86 English First Division season with ten consecutive victories, and were unbeaten in the first fifteen league game. Despite that emphatic start, they only finished fourth in the division. Who won the League title that season?

2. This Chelsea team (pictured) went through their first 14 league games without defeat, but in which Premier League season?



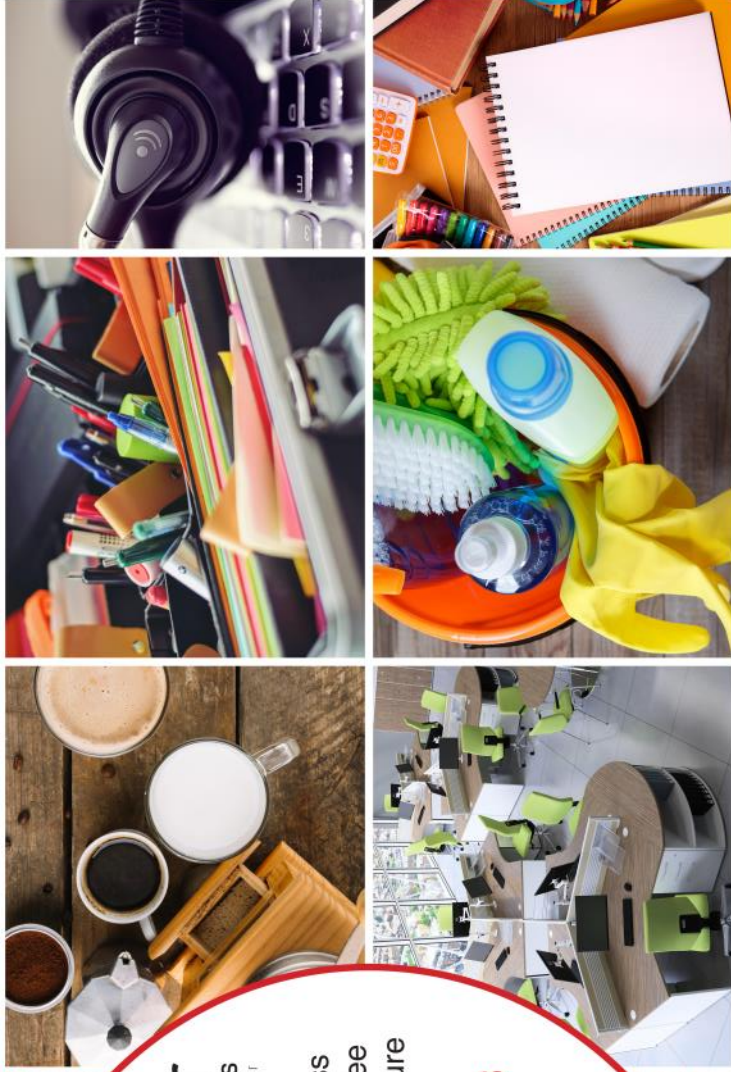
3. There are some unbeaten runs that don't necessarily begin at the start of the season. Arsenal's "Invincibles" went 49 games without defeat, across two seasons, but that isn't the best unbeaten run in European football, with two other clubs eclipsing that run, including Bayern Munich going 53 games without defeat, between 2012 and 2014. Which Italian (Serie A) side holds the record, having gone 58 games unbeaten between 1991 and 1993?

4. Who is the captain pictured lifting the 1979 European Cup trophy for Nottingham Forest, after the team had started the 1978/79 season with a 25 game unbeaten run?



5. In Scotland, Rangers and Celtic have both gone unbeaten for a full season on two occasions. In which season did this last happen?

Quiz Answers: (1) Liverpool; (2) 2014/15; (3) AC Milan; (4) John McGovern; (5) Rangers were the last to achieve this feat in 2020/21.



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CRIBBS HISTORY

Cribbs Football Club (Cribbs FC) are currently in their 65th season since they were founded back in London in 1958 as 'Sun Life Assurance'. The Bristol team was established in 1976 when Sun Life first relocated to Bristol. Initially they ran two teams in the Bristol and Avon League, playing at Dundridge Farm. However, when the Cribbs Causeway (now The Lawns) ground was opened in 1978, the 1st team were promoted straight to the Avon Premier Combination League where they stayed for 20 years until they eventually won promotion to the Gloucestershire County League by winning the re-named Bristol Premier Combination in the 1999/2000 season.

In the 1998/1999 season the 1st team finished runners up to Roman Glass St George in both the Combination & Premier Combination League Cup. In 1997/1998 the 1st team also finished runners up, after a replay, to Ridings High in the GFA Senior Amateur Cup.

The club adopted the name of AXA Sun Life FC at the end of the nineties following the merger of the AXA Equity & Law and Sun Life Assurance Society, and became AXA FC in 2002. At the end of the 2010-2011 season, following the acquisition and merger of AXA Sun Life & Friends Provident, we became the Cribbs Friends Life Football Club. At the end of June 2013, with the closure of the companies Cribbs Friends Life Sports & Social Club and with the creation of the new volunteer run, Cribbs Sports & Social Club at "The Lawns", we renamed ourselves as Cribbs Football Club.

Today the Club runs three Saturday sides, spread across the Hellenic League, Gloucestershire County League and Bristol Premier Combination.

On a Sunday we ran a successful side in the Regional League for many years (who won the Gilbert Pullin Sunday Cup in 2003/2004 & 2013/2014 season and were runners up in 2006/2007 season) and continue to run a Vets side in the Casuals League. In addition, we have an Under 18's team in the Bristol Premier Combination U18's league.

The club's 3rd team managed at the time by current Cribbs media man, Nick Veale, won the GFA Minor Cup in the 2004/2005 season when beating Winterbourne United's 3rd team in a tight and tense final where the "evergreen" goalkeeper John Hembrow was man of the match.

The 1st team reached the semi final stage of the Les James League Cup on three occasions since joining the county league in the 2000/2001 season. They unfortunately lost on all three occasions, against Ellwood on penalty kicks in March 2005, 2-1 against Highridge United in March 2006 and against Hardwicke, 1-0 in 2008.

At the start of 2007/2008 season the football club embarked on an ambitious change of direction that they hope would lead to their 1st team being a regular top 3 side in the Gloucestershire County League, and possibly higher.

At the end of the 2010/2011 season, under the tutelage of Gavin Tufton (in his second spell in charge) and assisted by Matt Shaughnessy, the 1st team finished runners up in the Gloucestershire County League. Unfortunately, promotion to the Toolstation Western league wasn't possible as the league champions, Brimscombe & Thrupp, had applied and been granted promotion to the Hellenic League.

With planning permission having been granted for floodlights to be installed and stands to be built, the 1st team went one better in the 2011/2012 season and completed the league championship & league cup double (the first time it had been happened).

This was obviously a fantastic achievement and meant the highly anticipated promotion to the next level of the pyramid system and entry into the Toolstation Western League for the start of the 2012/2013 season.

The floodlights & stand were installed in August 2012 and the lights were first used for the 1st team's home league game against Hengrove Athletic on 16th October 2012.

The 2011/2012 season was probably the most successful year in the club's history with not only the 1st team completing the double and gaining promotion as in addition the 2nd team gained promotion to the Premier Division of the Bristol Premier Combination.

The 2012/2013 season continued in the same vein with the 1st team finishing 8th in their first season in the Western League and the 3rd & 4th teams being promoted. In addition, the U18 side won their league and came runners up in the League Cup Final.

2013/2014 season was another good season for the club with the 1st team finishing 5th in Western League One and qualifying for the next season's FA Cup whilst being runners up in the Les Phillips Cup Final. The 3rd team won promotion again and the Sunday team won the Gilbert Pullin League Cup.

2014/2015 was yet another successful season for the club with the 1st team finishing in 3rd place in Division One after a very hard fought & close battle with Barnstaple Town & Welton Rovers for the major honours. This was enough to secure promotion to the next step of the pyramid, the Western League Premier Division.

The progress of the club continued on an upward trend during the 2015/2016 season with the First XI finishing a respectable 15th in their first Step Five season. The Reserve team were runners up to Mendip Broadwalk in a thrilling finale to the Premier Division of the Bristol Premier Combination. The 3rd team also finished runners up in Division One of the Bristol & District league which as a result meant promotion to the Senior Division for the 2016/2017 season. The Sunday team won the Regional League Cup. The Under 18's also won their league and were runners up in the league cup.

The outstanding progression of the club continued in the 2016/2017 season with the 1st team finishing 8th in only their 2nd season in the Premier Division of the Toolstation Western League and again finishing runners up in the Les Phillips Cup, whilst the Reserve team won both the Bristol Premier Combination League and the League Cup.

Our Sunday team finished runners up in both the Premier Division of the Bristol Regional League and the Gilbert Pullin Trophy. Finally, the U18's (*after a play off*) finished runners up in the Central Division of the Bristol Combination league and won the League Cup.

In the 2017/2018 season the 1st team finished 11th, 2nds were runners up, 3rds mid table and the 4th team finished 4th place. The under 18s finished 3rd and the Sunday team once again finished in runners up in the Bristol Regional League.

The last completed football season prior to the pandemic, saw the 1st XI finish eighth in the Toolstation and secured silverware by winning the GFA Challenge Trophy in 2018/2019. In the same season, our 2nd XI secured an unprecedented treble of the Bristol Premier Combination League, League Cup and GFA Senior Amateur Cup. The 3rd XI continued to make progress and started the curtailed the 2020/2021 in the Bristol Premier Combination Division One.

In 2021/2022, our current manager, Richard Luffman, led the 1st XI to their highest ever Step 5 finish as we secured 4th position in the Hellenic League Premier Division following a lateral move from the Western League. He also delivered silverware as we defeated Hereford Pegasus in the League Cup.

With our excellent junior section (Shire Colts/Shire-Cribbs) also continuing to thrive, we are hope the progression of the football club continues for many years to come.

The club is well known for the tremendous facilities. Bristol Rovers used the ground as their training base for many years prior to their recent move up the A38 to their new facility in Hortham. The England Under 21 side then managed by Peter Taylor trained at the ground in 1997 and played a warm-up match against a Cribbs FC (then AXA) side prior to their game with Italy. There have also been two games televised on Sky Sports Soccer AM programme between Cribbs FC (then AXA) teams & celebrity sides.



THE ISUZU FA VASE, SECOND QUALIFYING ROUND
TUFFLEY ROVERS 1-1 FLEET SPURS
Tuffley Rovers win 4-2 on penalties
SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2022

This was a repeat, at the same stage of the competition, of a fixture played one year less a day earlier, in which the Wessex League visitors had acquitted themselves well but were still on the wrong end of a 2-3 scoreline.

The Spurs had endured a torrid time in their initial season in the Wessex League (2021-22), finishing in 18th position in Division One but earning a reprieve from relegation. Things didn't improve at the start of 2022-23, so they arrived in Gloucester still seeking their first league point after seven successive defeats in which they had conceded twenty-four goals. Their hosts had made a decent start to a new campaign, picking up eight points from seven matches. Although Rovers play one level higher than Fleet, memories of last season's encounter suggested that this would be another tight cup-tie.

This was an interesting game to witness. Despite Tuffley playing at a higher level than Fleet, there was no real sign of the porous defending which had seen the Hampshire club leak so many goals in their opening league matches this season. There were times when the hosts looked to be in the ascendancy, particularly in the closing stages of the first half, but Fleet's defending was disciplined and determined as Rovers tried to cancel out the lead which the visitors had taken just before the half-time interval.

The match kicked off nearly an hour late because of a very delayed journey which the Spurs had undertaken. The opening exchanges suggested that the two teams were pretty evenly-matched, with both teams winning early corners and both goalkeepers called upon to make fairly routine saves. Jack Beardsell was an enthusiastic and willing runner down the right-hand channel and across the other side of the field Ryan Goddard was doing much the same thing for the visitors.

Nearing the mid-point of the first half, when a corner was blocked and fell loose in the box, Ashley Davies struck a ferocious shot against the Fleet crossbar and shortly afterwards Beardsell's shot was clutched gratefully by Fleet keeper Joe Hill. Down at the open end a free-kick by Larry Biggs was deflected and Eliot Jones had to twist and stretch his fingers to their utmost limit to flick the ball up and over the crossbar.

The hosts' pressure was slowly mounting. Henry Birkett's inviting cross from the right was headed goalwards by Beardsell but even this close-range effort did not go in thanks to heroic defending. Then a sumptuous pass by Ryan Dobbins sent Beardsell clear on goal but he could only drag his shot wide from a really favourable position. A minute or two later the same player clattered into the Fleet goalkeeper but the referee did not deem that it had been a malicious challenge and the game restarted almost immediately.

It only takes a second to score a goal and just before the interval Harry White proved that as Fleet broke quickly and he rounded the onrushing Jones, before tucking the ball home and wheeling away in celebration. It was hard on the hosts who had just had a good period themselves, but for all their attacking superiority Rovers went in one down at the break.

Soon after play resumed Davies was clattered by Nick Holmes and the two players squared up to each other but it was goalscorer White who received a caution for delaying the restart. Then home 'keeper Jones was injured in a bizarre incident after a speculative shot had been deflected up in the air and struck the woodwork as the 'keeper desperately tried to catch the ball but instead ended up in a heap on the ground, having collided with the frame of the goal.

White was somewhat subdued after receiving his caution so it wasn't a surprise when he was replaced by Gavin Francis. Fleet also brought on Jordan Wynter.

Rovers responded by sending on the hugely-experienced Shayne Bradley and shortly afterwards Fleet's Connor Knight was cautioned for wasting an inexcusable amount of time preparing to take a throw-in.

The hosts were still knocking on the door but it just wouldn't open. Dobbins turned his defender to get a shot in but his effort went over.

Then, suddenly, the game changed in an instant. Warren Mann found space on the left, slipped his marker and his inch-perfect chip found Bradley waiting at the far post to plant an unstoppable header into the net. Time was nearly up and this critical moment by two of the most experienced players on the pitch was greeted with enthusiasm on and off the playing surface.

The clock ran down without another serious chance being created at either end although there was enough time for Mann to incur the referee's wrath, for a foul deep in Spurs' territory, and receive a yellow card.

So, to penalties. Tuffley's first spot-kick, from Bradley, was saved but Fleet's second and fourth soared high in the general direction of the city-centre. Mann, Beardsell and Dobbins held their nerve to tuck their kicks away before it was left to a Rovers' substitute, Kieran Squires, to drive a neat left-footed shot into the net and ensure Tuffley's progression into the next round of the Vase.

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Previously against today's opposition at Glevum Park

The last time we hosted today's visitors in a competitive fixture at Glevum Park back in February saw us push one of the title challengers all the way, before they scored a late, late winner to deny Rovers a crucial point....

MATCH REPORT: 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 Shrevenham 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 Caine 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.



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TUFFLEY ROVERS

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

CRIBBS

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



Elliot Jones	1	Rob Brown
Paul Azubilla	2	Sonny Harnett-Balkwill
Ryley Mace	3	Josh Bennett
Ashley Davies	4	Joe Hillard
Macaulay Herbert ©	5	Ryan Crouch
Kieran Squires	6	Ross McErlain
Dominik Kent	7	George Kellow
Henry Birkett	8	Jack Fillingham
Ryan Dobbins	9	Steve Murray
Jack Beardsell	10	Jake Hodgson ©
Mason Lewis	11	Nick Jones
Daniel Lander	12	Matt Spiller
Shayne Bradley	14	Lewis Hedges
Kieran Alder	15	Ryan Cainey
Callum McGuirk	16	Aaron Ward-Baptiste
Luke Hawkins	17	David Duru
Liam Smith	18	Bailey Croome
Yeshaya Lomotey	19	Charlie Dashfield
Daniel Beasley	20	Dillan Kerr
Tomos Shyamapant	21	Sam Stayt
Brad Poole	GK	Aaron Greatbanks

Neil Mustoe **Manager** Richard Luffman

Ritchie Warden **Asst. Manager** Aaron Still

Ashleigh Watson (Physio) **Other Occupants** Jack Richardson (Coach)
 Craig Darkin (Coach) Ben Waters (Coach)
 Simon Hartley (Physio)

Officials: Roger Smith; Gary Stonham; Ian Hamilton.

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