

TUFFLEY ROVERS V WORCESTER RAIDERS TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2022, 7:45pm

NIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION • UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION • UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE P



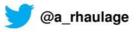


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# EDITOR'S COMMENT



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

We suffered a heavy defeat when we visited Worcester Raiders at the Sixways Stadium a few weeks ago, and that is our joint worst defeat of the season alongside the thumping dished out by Roman Glass St. George on Saturday. Both 5-0 reverses.

The difference between those defeats clearly wasn't the scoreline, it was the manner in which we lost that was the huge difference. At Sixways we weren't beaten by the better side, despite a very spirited display that was ultimately not enough against high quality opposition. On Saturday, the opposition had quality but we lacked the spirit that has been the hallmark of most performances this season. It was poor and Muzzy acknowledges that in his programme note for this evening's game.

We now need to put that behind us and see what comes from tonight's game – hopefully we can secure at least a point – before we move on to what is now a huge game when we visit Mangotsfield United this coming weekend. They sit just above us in the table and we've slipped into the relegation places now, after Longlevens secured a very creditable point against Corsham Town on Saturday.

It shouldn't all be doom and gloom, though. If we can get a couple of wins, the table will open up again and a mid-table place will feel very possible, once again. Could that start tonight? Maybe. It is the "maybe" that keeps every 'David' competing against each 'Goliath'. Here's hoping tonight is our night.

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

In Muzzy We Trust!



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# CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT



Good evening all and a warm welcome to Glevum Park.

A special welcome to the players, management and committee of Worcester Raiders for what is their first visit to us for a competitive fixture.

This game is probably not the fixture we would want after Saturday's poor performance, but if anything, this is a 'free hit' where we are not expected to get anything from this game.

Saturday was, in my view, our worst performance this season, but as I said to Muzzy and some of the players after the game, losing and playing well still has the same points outcome.

The players need to dust themselves down and rally around each other to improve the outcomes moving forward. A true test of a player's character is how they respond when things aren't going well. What they must look to do is go to Mangotsfield United on Saturday and come back with three points.

I hope everyone enjoys the game this evening and have a safe journey home.

Many thanks,

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#uptherovers





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# MANAGER'S COMMENT

Good evening and welcome to all players, officials and supporters from Worcester Raiders.

Firstly, I would like to apologies for the performance on Saturday as we were not able to get going from the start.

Moving on, as we must, we know that tonight's game will be a tough encounter and we will need to be on our game if we are going to be competitive and stand any chance if a result.

We have recently played Worcester Raiders, so we know what we're up against and how they will want to set up. Stopping their threat will be a challenge and I am hoping it is a challenge we relish as a group - we have worked hard and been in most games all season and the next few weeks, starting tonight, we will need to get back that mentality if we are to accumulate the points we need to climb the table.

Thanks again for your support and hope you enjoy the game.

Cheers,

Muzzy

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#### Tuffley Rovers • Club History

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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







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- Organise events and provide socialising opportunities for children to attend.
- We aim to introduce families with similar experiences so that they can support each other.



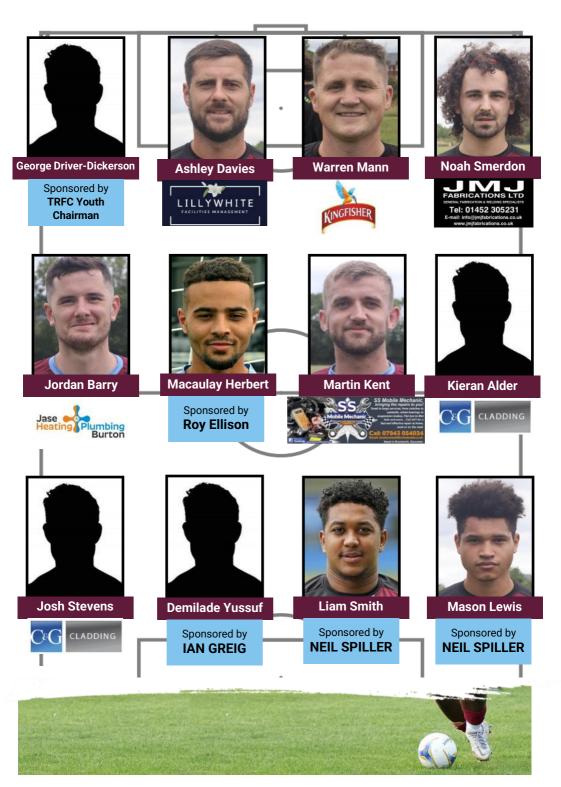
Tuffley Rovers' partner charity for the 2022/23 season



# HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

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









#### UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION TUFFLEY ROVERS 2-4 FAIRFORD TOWN TUESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2022 (ATT: 127)

Tuffley Rovers' home form was almost as worrying as it had been in the previous season, with Fairford Town travelling across the county to meet a home team which had only taken four points from the twelve that had been available from their opening four league fixtures at Glevum Park.



Even allowing for the fact that their two home defeats had

come against the clubs sitting first and second in the table, the trend of not winning home matches badly needed fixing. Fairford had been beaten in four of their six away fixtures so far and only Hereford Pegasus, Lydney Town, Wantage Town and Chipping Sodbury Town had conceded more goals on their travels, so those statistics might give Rovers some hope that this would be the evening on which their fortunes would change when it came to picking up home points.

Rovers' home woes continued, but Fairford's away figures look a lot better after a stunning second-half comeback in which they turned an interval deficit into a comfortable two-goal victory which moved them into the top half of the table level on 17 points with two other clubs but ahead of them both on goal-difference.

Archie Brennan got the game in motion for Fairford at the kick-off and the visitors were the first to show any attacking intent when full-back Callum Preece's cross from the right flashed across the goalmouth with Ross Langworthy just failing to reach it as he dived forward to try to meet the ball and deflect it into goal. Three minutes later and following a corner on the left the other full-back, Kyle Parker, had a shot which home goalkeeper Elliot Jones saved.

Langworthy had a shot blocked and from a right-wing corner taken by Rowan Doyle a header came in which was blocked and scrambled clear by the Rovers defence.



On twenty minutes Warren Mann was fouled on the left, which caused a yellow card to be shown to the offender (Brennan). Henry Birkett's resulting free-kick was sent towards the far post, where Ryan Dobbins had escaped his marker to deflect the ball into the bottom corner of the net being guarded by Joe Wright.

Although Fairford were seeing more of the ball, Rovers were looking to add to their lead and it nearly happened when Dobbins sent Daniel Beasley away down the right but the shot, although well-hit, was gobbled up by Wright.

Town's Josh Bryan was treated on the pitch after being injured and in the closing minutes of the first half the visitors were given a free-kick on the left mid-way inside their own half after Langworthy had been fouled. It was launched deep into the

Rovers half and resulted in another free-kick being awarded about 35 yards out. As the ball reached the Rovers' six-yard box Jones made a decision to come out and punch the ball to safety, a tactic he employed quite a few times on this cold evening on a pitch which was still showing the after-effects of the heavy rain at the weekend.

Whatever was said at half-time certainly galvanized the visitors because within ten minutes of the re-start they had not only wiped out Tuffley's fragile lead but gone ahead themselves. Brad Bevan and George Peare were the beneficiaries of some lacklustre defending by the hosts. Peare then watched a shot fly over the bar as Fairford started to take control of the game.

Numerous changes were made during the third quarter of the match. For Rovers, Paul Azubilla's evening ended when he was escorted off after being injured and Dominik Kent came on to replace him. Shayne Bradley came on for Luke Hawkins not long after. The changes made by Fairford were more productive with Jay Simpson and Danny Gudger coming on for Doyle and Peare. Shortly before those changes were made, Beasley missed a great chance to equalise when he headed Warren Mann's cross narrowly wide.

Home pressure was mounting, however. Beasley escaped his marker and made a strong run down the Fairford right-hand side. His fierce cross was slashed into his own net by the unfortunate Parker. There were fifteen minutes left and there was hope that the hosts could amass some points.



Mason Lewis came on for Dobbins and was almost immediately through on goal, only to be scythed

down by goalkeeper Wright, who was relieved to see that a flag had been raised by the assistant referee for offside.

A few minutes later and Fairford were ahead again. Gudger raced away down the right and caused chaos by sending a firm cross into the middle, which forced Jones to make a good stop but the ball ran kindly for ex-Rover Langworthy and he prodded the ball into an unguarded part of the net.

Rovers nearly hit back quickly but Wright denied Beasley at the expense of a corner.

In added-time Town's victory was sealed when Gudger was again the creator down the right and this time his cross was steered home by his fellow-substitute Simpson.

Fairford deserved to win this match because they were unlucky to be behind at the interval but really upped their game after it. Substitutions can be crucial and Town's were more successful in that both Gudger and Simpson were key to their team's turnaround in the closing stages of the match.

Rovers have two more home matches in the coming days. With this latest defeat they badly need to start picking up points again <u>very</u> quickly.

# HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

# Up to and including 29 October 2022

20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	Ħ	10	9	00	7	6	5	4	ω	2	1	Pos		
Thornbury Town	Tuffley Rovers	Mangotsfield United	Longlevens AFC	Lydney Town	Chipping Sodbury Town	Shrivenham	Brimscombe & Thrupp	Fairford Town	Bradford Town	Hereford Lads Club	Wantage Town	Roman Glass St George	Corsham Town	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	Worcester Raiders	Westfields	Hereford Pegasus	Malvern Town	Cribbs	Team		
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## Appearance information

#### Up to and including Saturday, 29 October 2022

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



Congratulations to Dayton Fallows, who made his debut for the first team at the weekend, aged just sixteen years of age. What an achievement for a player who is incredibly well regarded by the coaches in our U18s and Development Squad set-up.

Whilst Dayton might well return to playing most of his football with our development sides, we certainly have high hopes that this is the first of many first team appearances.



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Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	82	22	John, Harri	42	0
Anson, Shayne	71	4	Jones, Elliot	18	0
Azubilla, Paul	12	1	145	19	
Barry, Jordan	4	0	Lander, Daniel	7	0
Beardsell, Jack	71	13	Lewis, Mason	16	2
Beasley, Daniel	5	1	Lomotey, Yeshaya	17	1
Birkett, Henry	57	5	Mace, Ryley	4	1
Bradley, Shayne	244	110	Mann, Warren	477	82
Butler, Matt	5	1	McGuirk, Callum	16	0
Cornwall, Leone	70	4	McNally, Laurie	10	0
Davies, Ashley	174	27	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Dobbins, Ryan	55	10	Nicholls, Scott	13	0
Driver-Dickerson, George	3	0	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Fallows, Dayton	1	0	Poole, Bradley	4	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Pritchett, Mark	130	20
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Geddes, Jacob	51	4	Shyamapant, Tomos	9	0
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Smerdon, Noah	4	1
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Smith, Liam	28	1
Haswell, Joey	3	2	Squires, Kieran	74	6
Haswell, Tristan	97	1	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Hawkins, Luke	6	0	Walker, Harry	67	6
Herbert, Macaulay	232	8	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Hicks, Sammie	13	0	Wallington, Mark	220	29
Hill, Sam	120	8	White, Joel	108	4
James, Brett	185	64	Wright, Liam	124	3
James, Richard	125	40	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

Uhlsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

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

BFCC = Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup;

2022							
03/Aug	7:45pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp		А	0-0	143	
06/Aug	3pm	Slimbridge	FAC	н	1-2	186	R Mace
09/Aug	7:45pm	Malvern Town		н	1-3	124	R Dobbins
13/Aug	3pm	Lydney Town		н	4-0	84	J Beardsell (2), M Lewis (
17/Aug	7:45pm	Fairford Town		А	1-4	90	N Smerdon
29/Aug	3pm	Longlevens		А	0-0	222	
03/Sep	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		А	1-4	50	M Butler
13/Sep	7:45pm	Newent Town	WLFC	н	2-1	65	S Bradley (2)
17/Sep	3pm	Thornbury Town		А	2-0	47	J Beardsell, D Kent
24/Sep	3pm	Fleet Spurs	FAV	н	1-1*	74	S Bradley
01/Oct	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		А	1-2	60	P Azubilla
08/Oct	3pm	Cribbs FC		н	1-2	64	S Bradley
11/Oct	7:45pm	Lydney Town	WLFC	А	4-0	77	J Haswell (2), D Kent, D E
15/Oct	3pm	Shrivenham		н	1-1	55	K Squires
19/Oct	3pm	Worcester Raiders		A	0-5	178	
22/Oct	3pm	Hartpury University	FAV	A	0-1	67	-
25/Oct	7:45pm	Fairford Town		н	2-4	127	R Dobbins, O.G.
29/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		н	0-5	67	
01/Nov	7:45pm	Worcester Raiders		н			
05/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United		A			
12/Nov	3pm	Wantage Town		A			
15/Nov	7:45pm	Hartpury University	GFA	н			
19/Nov	3pm	Meadow Park	BFCC	н			
22/Nov	7:45pm	Malvern Town	WLFC	A			
25/Nov	7:45pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		н			
29/Nov	7:45pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		A			
03/Dec	3pm	Bradford Town		н			
06/Dec	7:45pm	Brimscombe & Thrupp		н			
10/Dec	3pm	Wantage Town		н			
13/Dec	7:45pm	Corsham Town		А			
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		н			
2023	opin	Longiovorio					
02/Jan	3pm	Shrivenham		А			
07/Jan	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		н			
14/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St. George		A			
21/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United		н			
28/Jan	3pm	Cribbs FC		A			
04/Feb	3pm	Corsham Town		н			
11/Feb	3pm	Chipping Sodbury Town		A			
18/Feb	3pm	Bradford Town		A			
04/Mar	3pm	Thornbury Town		н			
11/Mar	3pm	Westfields		A			
18/Mar	3pm	Lydney Town		A			
25/Mar	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		Н			
01/Apr	3pm	Malvern Town		А			
07/Apr	3pm	Westfields		Н			
10/Apr	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		н			

\* Tuffley Rovers won 4-2 on penalties



Goalscorers Bradley, Shayne 4 Mace, Ryley 1 Beardsell, Jack Smerdon, Noah 1 3 Lewis, Mason 2 Butler, Matt 1 Kent, Dominik 2 Azubilla, Paul 1 Haswell, Joey 2 Beasley, Daniel 1 Dobbins, Ryan 2 Squires, Kieran 1 0.G. 1

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#### TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

#### Elliot Jones

#### Goalkeeper

Signed on a dual registration from Gloucester City, where is a highly rated member of the U19s squad, Elliot joined on the eve of the season and made a solid start in the early season games. Calm, commanding, offers good distribution and has been a good addition to the squad. An exciting prospect who we hope to see regularly in the side this season.

#### **Kieran Squires** Defence

Previously with the club from 2014/15 to 2017/18 but then spent time at Slimbridge, Longlevens and Hardwicke, before dropping down to play local league football. Returned to the club 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

New signing, but a familiar surname for those who remember his father's spell playing at the club. Signed from Slimbridge, where he'd played U18s football; looking foe progression to first team football. Naturally a full-back, who looks confident on the ball; tenacious off it. A talented cricketer, too.

#### Paul Azubilla

#### Defence

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

#### Dan Lander

#### Defence

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

#### **Ryley Mace**

#### Defence

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

#### Macaulay Herbert

#### Defence

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

#### 2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

#### **Ashley Davies**

#### Defence

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

#### Warren Mann

#### Midfield

Midfield

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

#### Sammie Hicks

#### 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 a talented midfielder, who is good on the ball, industrious and quick across the ground but also incredibly tenacious, whether looking to retain possession or win the ball back. Has often sacrificed his natural attacking instinct to play in a deeper midfield

#### role but still retains a healthy goals per game ratio.

#### Callum McGuirk

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

#### Mason Lewis

#### Midfield

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



#### TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

#### Liam Smith

#### Midfield

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

#### Luke Hawkins

#### Midfield

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

#### Henry Birkett

#### Midfield

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

#### **Kieran Alder**

#### Midfield

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

#### 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.

#### **Ryan Dobbins**

#### Forward

Another returning player, who started out at the club's Stroud League sides, before a successful period in the Reserves' squad was followed by a prolific spell at County League side Gala Wilton. Then moved back into Hellenic League football, where he played for Cheltenham Saracens, before a return to Glevum Park this season. Has the potential to contribute goals, but his al-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.

#### 2022/23 PLAYER PROFILES

#### 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.

#### Dan Beasley

#### Forward

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

#### Shayne Bradley

#### Forward

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

#### **Tomos Shyamapant**

#### Forward

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

#### Neil Mustoe

#### Manager

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

#### **Ritchie Warden**

#### Assistant Manager

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







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### Half-time quiz: Break for five

Grab a cup of tea and something to eat, then spend the five minutes of your half -time break trying to answer these questions. As ever, there is a theme and today the questions and answers. Raiders is perhaps more synonymous with American sport, whilst Gloucester and Worcester often appear difficult for our friends in the US to pronounce correctly. So, tonight five questions on challenging names!

1. Arsenal fielded numerous goalkeepers in the years that immediately followed David Seaman's departure in 2003. Jens Lehmann initially took on the role but when he left it started a conveyor belt of keepers, including Lukasz Fabianski and a much harder to pronounce Polish keeper, who took Fabianski's place. Can you name him?

2. Who is the 32 year old Manchester City played pictured, who was born in Germany to Turkish parents and started his career at VfL Bochum?





3. Who is the Greek footballer pictured, who has had spells at AEK Athens, Genoa, AC Milan, Werder Bremen, Borussia Dortmund and Olympiacos, either side of three seasons with Arsenal?

4. For which German League team did Polish international Jakub Błaszczykowski play his club football between 2007 and 2016?

5. "That's a challenge, I know", said Ashley Cole during the draw for the 2019/20 Europa League draw; but which Turkish side did he find it difficult to pronounce on that occasion? Was it:

(a) Konyaspor (b)

(b) İstanbul Başakşehir

(c) Beşiktaş

**Quiz Answers:**(1) Wojciech Szczęsny; (2) Ilkay Gündoğan; (3) Sokratis Papastathopoulos; (4) Borussia Dortmund; (5) It was Istanbul Basaksehir – after heʻd already struggled with Stade Rennais (France) and Espanyol (Spain)!!



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# On (or around) this day in history...

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

Since those records began, we've only had a couple of games on 1 November but we have had a few across 31 October and this date that we have selected to reflect on our past fortunes...both good and bad!

#### 1 November 2011

Tuffley Rovers held their place at the top of the Gloucestershire County League table, as an own goal and Shayne Bradley double proved enough to see off the threat of sixth place Bristol Academy in an absorbing encounter at Glevum Park.

The victory came despite Rovers being reduced to ten men, following the dismissal of Johnny Meadows after he collected two cautions, and took Doug Foxwell's side to their seventh win in eight league fixtures.

*Squad:* Mark Harris; Marcus Foxwell; Lee Wallington; Callum Preece; Kacey Johnstone; Mark Wallington; Liam Harding; Johnny Meadows; Shayne Bradley; Ryan Parker; Warren Mann. *Subs used*: Courtney Hamilton; Michael Oakes.

#### 1 November 2014



A long trip to Plymouth Parkway in the first round of the FA Vase ended in disappointment, as Warren Evans' side left Bolito Park on the wrong end of a 4-1 scoreline that ended their participation in the 2014/15 competition.

Evans had reason to be grateful to keeper Aaron Taylor, who produced a fantastic performance to keep his side in the game, and they looked to be in with a shout when Shayne Bradley pulled

a goal back midway through the second period, to make it 2-1, but Parkway ultimately produced a strong enough performance to see off the threat from Rovers and seal their place in the second round of the competition.

*Squad:* Aaron Taylor; Marcus Foxwell; Kieran Squires; Ashley Davies; Macaulay Herbert; Sam Drew; Steve Bick; Warren Mann; Shayne Bradley; Stuart Griffith; Brett James. *Subs used:* Jordan Dowdeswell, Mike Devlin.



#### 31 October 2015

A severely depleted Tuffley Rovers side secured what could prove to be an invaluable point against high-flying Ascot United; a result they probably could not have imagined after they started the game with only two recognised defenders, thanks to injuries and unavailability, with Stu Griffith and Walt Greenwood forced into defensive roles, as Warren Evans fielded an unfamiliar starting line-up. Heroic defending from Griffith, skipper Callum Preece, Greenwood and Tristan Haswell, backed up by AaronTaylor's efforts in goal and a highly industrious effort



with a point that was hard earned but incredibly well deserved.

*Squad:* Aaron Taylor; Walt Greenwood; Tristan Haswell; Callum Preece; Stuart Griffith; Anthony Herrin; Brett James; Warren Mann; Jordan Fletcher; Mark Ford; Ryan Williams. *Subs used:* Junior Mbika.

#### 31 October 2017

Brett James scored twice, his first goals since early-September, as Tuffley Rovers made it past Division One Clanfield to progress in the Perpetua Press Floodlit Cup. James' goal four minutes before the interval, after Kieran Alder's free-kick caused problems for the hosts' defence, was enough to separate the sides at the interval.

Warren Mann saw a 67<sup>th</sup> minute penalty kick saved, as Rovers hunted, largely in vain, for a second goal, but James added his second scoring four minutes later, to take the game away from a spirited Clanfield side.



*Squad:* Eric Edge; Sam Hill; Liam Wright; Mark Pritchett; Joel White; Courtney Hamilton; Brett James; Kieran Alder; Ashley Bird; Mark Ford; Warren Mann. *Subs used:* Shayne Bradley; Alex O'Leary.

#### 31 October 2020

In what proved to be their final game before the Covid pandemic once again interrupted a playing season, Tuffley Rovers produced a late comeback that first appeared to have secured them a point against fellow strugglers Ardley United, but ultimately led to a wonderful 2-1 victory as Warren Mann – who was subsequently sent-off after receiving a second caution for his celebration – netted an injury time winner.

After the hosts had taken a first-half lead through Caelan Isaac, the game appeared to be going their way until Ollie Hunt headed home Mann's free-kick with only three minutes remaining.

If Rich Cox thought Hunt's goal had secured a valuable point on the road, he was delighted to take



away all three just a few minutes later, as Mann swung the ball into the goal from a wide



position in the dying moments of the game, sparking celebrations that ultimately saw him dismissed but so late in the game as to leave little time for the Oxfordshire side to take advantage of any numerical advantage.

*Squad:* Luke Merchant; Miles Ferguson; Antoine Thompson; Jake Rhodes; Macaulay Herbert; Ollie Hunt; Will Higgins; Harry Morgan; Luke Soule; Dominik Kent; Warren

Mann. Subs used: Kieran Tracey; Henry Birkett; Rudi McKinnon.



# WORCESTER RAIDERS CLUB HISTORY

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

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

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

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



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#### UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION TUFFLEY ROVERS 0-5 ROMAN GLASS ST. GEORGE SATURDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2022 (ATT: 67)

October 2022 is a month that Rovers' boss Neil Mustoe will largely want to forget. In the last game of a month that has seen his side secure just a single point from six Hellenic League Premier Division fixtures - as well as losing against lower division opposition in the FA Vase – his side produced a poor performance that saw them thumped 5-0 and end the afternoon in one of the two relegation places.

There is a long way to go in the season and performances in the previous two months will provide the Rovers faithful with plenty of hope, but this was a desperately poor performance against an in-form side more than capable of dismantling their opposition. An afternoon that started brightly, with Rovers equal in most areas for the first ten minutes, stuttered and then failed as some lamentable defending and a lack of cutting edge put paid to any hopes of taking at least a point.

Mustoe's plans weren't aided by the loss of Kieran Squires, who had been in terrific form prior to a concussion injury sustained in the midweek defeat against Fairford Town, and he was also without Henry Birkett, Callum McGuirk, Luke Hawkins and a host of other longer-term absentees, including Sammie Hicks and Liam Smith.

The visitors arrived at Glevum Park on a run of four consecutive wins and they comfortably made it five by the end of the afternoon. They fielded Josh Williams in their line-up, after he'd signed from Shepton Mallett earlier in the week, and he ended the day with a brace, although his first owed as much to some calamitous play from Rovers as it did to the striker's tenacity.

Roman Glass had the first chance of any note, in the 8<sup>th</sup> minute, but Owen Woodhouse's header went well wide as he met former Rover Miles Ferguson's floated cross.

Just three minutes later, Lewis Gilchrist opened the scoring. The Glass ball-player saw an initial effort from the edge of the box blocked by Macaulay Herbert, but the ball was recovered by Dominic Anderson-Gordon, whose cross was deflected into the path of Aiden Sanfelice, before being rolled into the path of Gilchrist. Herbert

once again threw himself in front of the shot, from an almost identical position, but could only watch in despair as the ball took a huge deflection and went into the opposite corner of Elliot Jones' goal, to make it 1-0.



Falling behind to an unfortunate deflection is one thing. The second goal, coming less than four minutes later, perhaps summarised why Rovers find themselves in such a perilous position.

A long ball upfield was overhit and offered Williams no alternative other than to apply pressure as Ashley Davies rolled the ball back towards Jones. Davies' pass was dreadful and Jones' attempt to recover, rather than perhaps seeing the ball run out for a corner, only resulted in him gifting Williams with a goal that was a gift for any striker, let alone one making a first appearance in new colours. 2-0 after fifteen minutes wasn't necessarily an accurate representation of the game to that point, but it was a sign of Roman Glass' increasing control on the game.

Within five minutes of that goal, Rovers' skipper Warren Mann received a caution for something akin to a rugby tackle on Shaquille Smith who had, until that point, already given the left-back a fairly torrid afternoon.

As the half wore on, a couple of long distance efforts aside Rovers were defending resolutely enough to have hopes of going into the interval without any further score.

As it was, almost on the stroke of half-time, Gilchrist swung a beautiful pass into the area and Williams rose highest to produce a looping header that went over Jones, who was almost on his line, and into the net, making it 3-0 and making Mustoe's halftime teamtalk a great deal harder.



As it was, the Rovers boss chose to make

just one change at half-time, introducing Paul Azubilla for Mason Lewis, and rejigging his formation in an effort to combat Glass' domination in midfield. Within 90 seconds of the re-start any plans were in tatters after Mann received his second caution for a trip on Smith, as the visitors broke but both players were well away from the ball.

Rovers had lost their captain and shortly after they lost their vice-captain, as Herbert was forced off with a hamstring injury. He was withdrawn and replaced by Dan Lander, whilst Davies was taken off, after picking up a dead leg, to be replaced by sixteen year old debutant Dayton Fallows.

On 70 minutes it became 4-0. Substitute Nathan Hughes turned Jack Beardsell inside out and was afforded what seemed like an unlimited amount of time to find his pass, rolling the ball into Anderson-Gordon, who finished from close range.

It was another substitute, Louis Ward, to finish the scoring for the afternoon, as his low shot went around the wall and into the corner of Jones' net.

Mustoe will not relish facing one of the division's form teams, Worcester Raiders, in his next fixture but will feel confident that his side will struggle to play as poorly as they did on this occasion.









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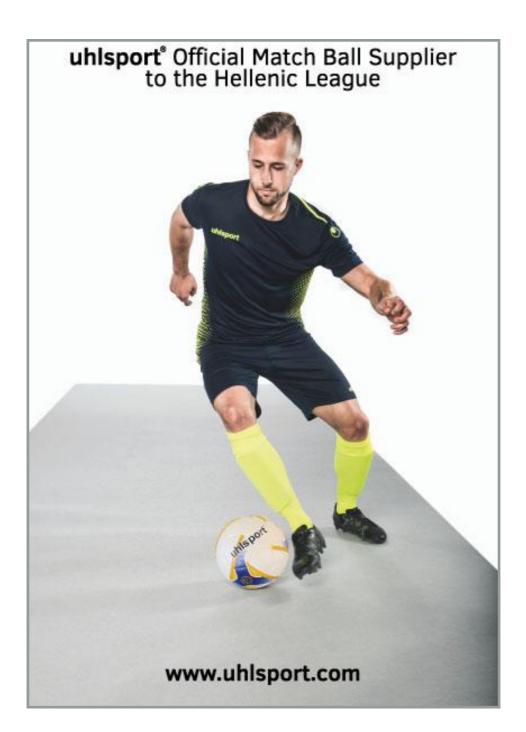
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**WORCESTER RAIDERS** 

Yellow shirts; Yellow shorts; Yellow

socks (GK: Pink).

## TUFFLEY ROVERS

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

laret & White Socks (GR. Orange).		SOCKS (GR. PHIK).
Elliot Jones	1	Ryan Young
Paul Azubilla	2	Samuel Carey
Warren Mann ©	3	Syrus Warren-Paul
Ashley Davies	4	Brogan Halpin
Daniel Lander	5	Jay Sauntson
Dominik Kent	6	Ethan Patterson 🖂 🔶
Jack Beardsell	7.	Jade Ferron 💦 🔨 🛃
Dan Beasley	8	Harry Stratford 🥾 🗳
Ryan Dobbins	9.	Joe Billingham ©
Kieran Alder	10 、	Jordan Murphy
🥠 🖌 🧑 Mason Lewis	11	saac Cooper 💊 💊 💦 🏹
Callum McGuirk	12	Luke Gaffney
Shayne Bradley	<b>14</b>	Vanylson Silva
Luke Hawkins	15	Louis Monaghan
Yeshaya Lomotey	16	Harrison Yates
Tomos Shyamapant	<b>17</b> ·	James Timmins
Dayton Fallows	18	Shay Willock
Jordan Barry	<b>19</b>	Roland Krol 🛛 🖌 💊 🦉
Brad Poole	GK	Christian Harris
Neil Mustoe	Manager	Karl Gormley
Ritchie Warden 🔺	sst. Manager	Tyrone Henderson; Danny Scheppel
Ashleigh Watson (Physio) <b>Ot</b>	her Occupants	Mark Whitehouse (Coach) Matt Clements (GK Coach) Dan Walker (Physio)

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