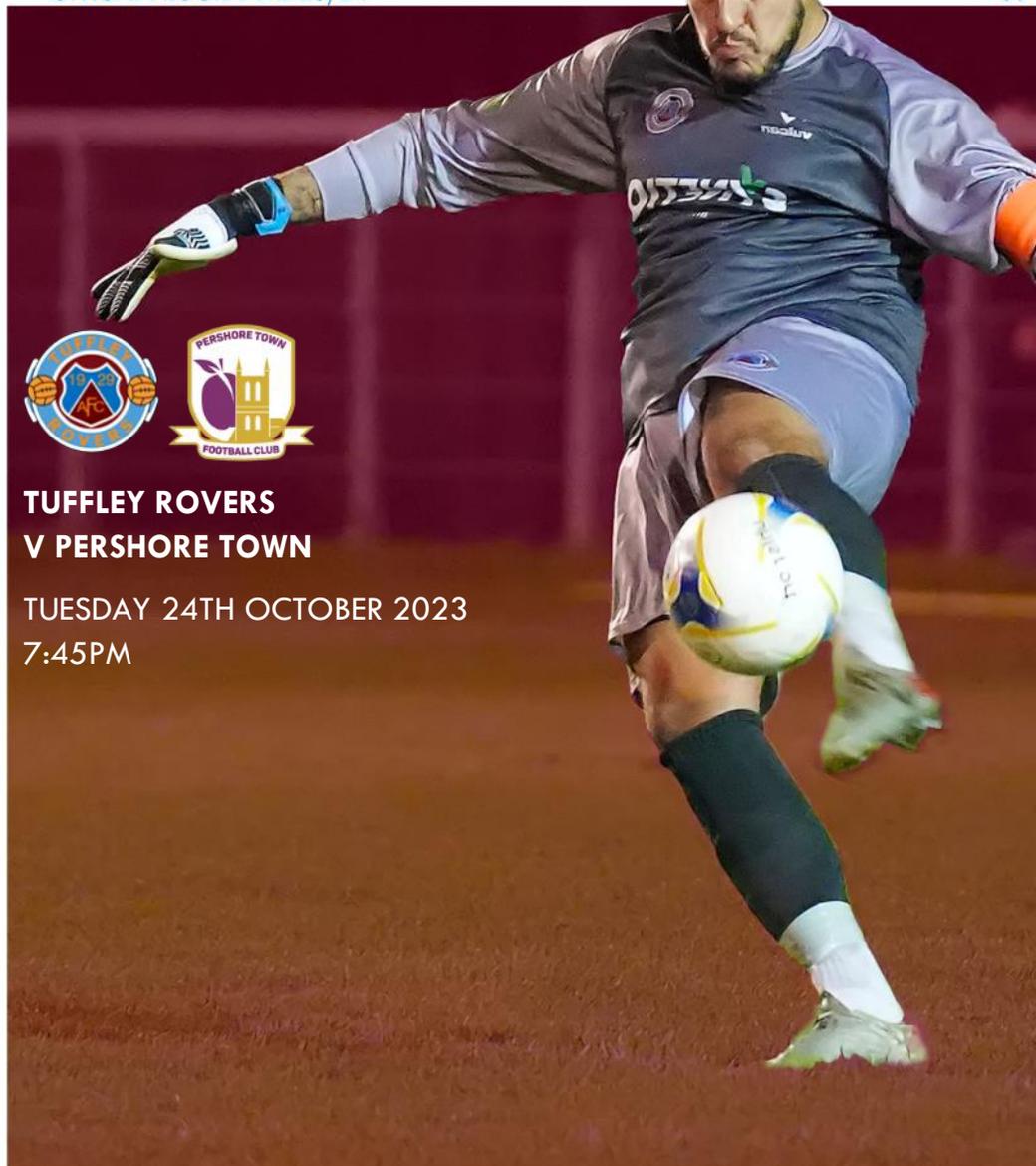


# TRFC



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 23/24

09



## TUFFLEY ROVERS V PERSHORE TOWN

TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2023  
7:45PM

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION





# EDITOR'S COMMENTS



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

A disappointing result on Saturday means we are out of the FA Vase for another season, but it was a good day out for the healthy support we took down to Brockenhurst and I think we represented the club well off the pitch. A good result would have made a really positive difference but it wasn't to be.

If you weren't aware, Kieran Alder made his 100th competitive appearance for the club at the weekend and he now becomes the 19th player to reach that milestone in the modern era. That is something to be proud of and it has been great to see Kieran back fit over the past few weeks. It probably felt like he took a century (pardon the pun) to get from 90 to 100 games, and I hope he can make it to 150 a lot quicker! Congratulations to Kieran and thank you.

As others have (or will) say in this edition, we now have to concentrate on improving our league form. That starts tonight and if we can start to steadily accumulate points at home, we should be able to move up the table. We have four out of our next six league games at home we will see if we are capable of doing just that. There are some tough games in that run but we've shown an ability to get points against the top sides, so here is hoping!

There is plenty of positivity at the club and we've just got a new deal with our brewery Molson Coors, which was a good deal for us, including an extension of their sponsorship of the club and the build at our off-site social club is coming along well. We hope that it will be a really positive facility for the local community once completed.

Results on the pitch remain of primary importance, but the key take-away from the paragraph above is that we are a club making progress off the field. That has to be the bedrock and foundation for success at any level of football. As long as we don't stand still – and keep pushing hard to develop the entire club – then there is a great deal to be positive about. If the results on the pitch can improve (even if only steadily) then the future could well be bright. For now, a good performance tonight (and maybe a point or three) would be a good next step!!

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to read this and support our humble football programme. I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil

*#uptherovers*





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## TODAY'S FIXTURES

### Uhtsport Hellenic League, Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup

Calne Town v Worcester City

Cheltenham Saracens v Cinderford Town

Hereford Lads Club v Brimscombe & Thrupp

Slimbridge v Sporting Club Inkberrow

Wantage Town v Abingdon United

### The Isuzu FA Vase

Whitchurch Airport v Worcester Raiders

# CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Good evening and a very warm welcome to Glevum. Welcome to our opponents Pershore Town and their players, management, supporters and committee.

Our FA Vase run came to an end on Saturday against Brokenhurst (from the New Forest way). Sadly, due to personal circumstances I couldn't travel to the game but speaking to some supporters and players afterwards, people were disappointed as they felt we should have performed better than we did.

One rule in the FA competitions that is frustrating for everyone is that you can name seven substitutes in the matchday squad, but can only utilise three. Players travelling a long way and knowing that most will not get any playing minutes, just feels slightly wrong to me, particularly when you can use five in the league.

We move back to league action now and we have a set of tough fixtures starting tonight, and then onto Corsham on Saturday, and then the following Saturday home to Fairford who are doing well this season. If we could pick up 3 or 4 points in this block of games, I believe we would take that return.

I hope everyone enjoys the game and hospitality here tonight and has a safe trip home.

Thanks,

- Dan

*#uptherovers*



# TUFFLEY ROVERS CLUB HISTORY



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

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

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

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

A return to the Gloucestershire County League followed and the club finished a very creditable 4th place (2007/8) but the summer of 2008 saw a number of senior players retire. Over the next few seasons, an evolving squad finished 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).

Since the resumption of full-playing activities, Mustoe has had one full campaign, with the club finishing in 18th place and narrowly avoiding relegation from the Hellenic League Premier Division.

# MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Good afternoon and welcome to Glevum Park, including all players, officials and supporters from Pershore Town.

We get very quickly back into our league campaign after the disappointing result in the FA Vase at the weekend, when the squad travelled to Brockenhurst and came back on the wrong end of a 3-0 scoreline.

Due to a family commitment, I was unable to be there but from what I've heard and been told, it wasn't the performance we were hoping for and the big difference in the game was their front players being better than ours and taking the chances that came their way.

Putting that to one side, we have been on a decent run in the league and we must be positive tonight in our approach if we are going to get a result.

Our squad is looking stronger week by week and competition for places is there, in most areas, and I will need to get the balance right between the starting eleven and the bench, making sure I anticipate which selections will have the best impact against what will be a tough visitor this evening, as Pershore have had a good start to the season on their first season in the Hellenic League Premier Division. They too will be hoping to bounce back after a disappointing home defeat at the weekend in the Vase.

Like always if we are on our game, we can compete with anyone at this level and it is consistency in performance that we are striving for going forward.

I hope you enjoy the game.

- Muzz

*#uptherovers*

**Andrew Gillespie**  
Director

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# HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 21 October 2023

Pos	Team	Home											Away											Overall
		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	
1	Worcester City	13	6	1	1	26	5	5	0	0	15	5	11	1	1	41	10	31	34					
2	Corsham Town	15	5	1	2	26	9	4	3	0	12	5	9	4	2	38	14	24	31					
3	Worcester Raiders	14	3	3	2	8	8	4	2	0	12	3	7	5	2	20	11	9	26					
4	Highworth Town	13	5	0	0	10	2	3	2	3	13	13	8	2	3	23	15	8	26					
5	Pershore Town	13	3	2	2	14	11	4	1	1	18	8	7	3	3	32	19	13	24					
6	Slimbridge	14	4	1	3	19	19	3	1	2	8	6	7	2	5	27	25	2	23					
7	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	12	3	1	0	6	3	4	0	4	15	17	7	1	4	21	20	1	22					
8	Fairford Town	14	2	3	3	11	13	3	2	1	13	5	5	5	4	24	18	6	20					
9	Hereford Pegasus	14	3	1	3	11	17	3	1	3	13	14	6	2	6	24	31	-7	20					
10	Roman Glass St George	11	1	1	3	8	9	5	0	1	15	4	6	1	4	23	13	10	19					
11	Mangotsfield United	13	4	0	3	15	13	2	1	3	10	8	6	1	6	25	21	4	19					
12	Cinderford Town	13	3	0	3	15	12	2	3	2	12	15	5	3	5	27	27	0	18					
13	Brimscombe & Thrupp	13	2	2	2	10	8	2	2	3	8	13	4	4	5	18	21	-3	16					
14	Westfields	15	4	1	3	17	15	1	0	6	11	18	5	1	9	28	33	-5	16					
15	Hereford Lads Club	13	2	3	0	7	4	1	2	5	7	13	3	5	5	14	17	-3	14					
16	Longlevens AFC	13	2	1	3	8	12	2	1	4	15	19	4	2	7	23	31	-8	14					
17	Tuffley Rovers	13	1	1	4	9	14	2	2	3	6	13	3	3	7	15	27	-12	12					
18	Lydney Town	15	2	0	8	17	30	2	0	3	12	17	4	0	11	29	47	-18	12					
19	Thornbury Town	15	2	1	4	10	13	1	1	6	12	26	3	2	10	22	39	-17	11					
20	Wantage Town	14	1	1	4	6	17	0	0	8	7	31	1	1	12	13	48	-35	4					

# HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

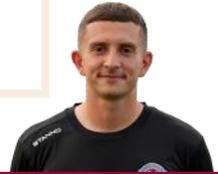
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# On (or around) this day in history...



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 played three times on 24 October, and had plenty of games on the dates either side. We've selected a few to reflect our fortunes on or around this particular date...

## **24 October 2009**

League leaders Tuffley Rovers suffered a heavy 4-0 defeat at home to Highridge United, playing much of the game with ten-men after Leone Cornwall was sent-off. Mitch Kavanagh gave the visitors the lead in the 27th minute and they never looked back, although they were helped as Rovers conceded two late first half goals, in the 44th and 45th minutes, as Craig Liddell and Shane Hobbs extended the margin to 3-0 at the break. Liddell then netted his second, this time from the penalty spot, late in the game to give the visitors a well-deserved three points.

**Squad:** Adam Bennett; Adam Dunsford; Lee Wallington; Marcus Foxwell; James Barton; Ashley Davies; Mark Wallington; Stuart Griffith; Richard James; Nathan Owen; Mark Ford. **Subs used:** Leone Cornwall; Ben Surman; Marcus Goodge.

## **22 October 2011**

Tuffley Rovers took over the top spot in the Gloucestershire County League, courtesy of a 4-1 victory at Chipping Sodbury Town. The man of the match was Rovers' Ryan Parker, who netted a hat-trick and took his season's goal tally to 14 goals in 10 competitive appearances.

Parker opened the scoring in the 22nd minute when he bundled home a Marcus Foxwell cross, then, right on half time, Mike England levelled for the home side from the penalty spot. That took the sides into the interval with the scores level, but three minutes into the second half Parker was played through and scored from the edge of the box to make it 2-1.

Richard James made it 3-1 on the hour mark, when he was put clear to round the keeper and slide the ball home. Parker then completed his hat-trick in the 85th minute with a superb glancing header into the far corner.

**Squad:** Mark Harris; Marcus Foxwell; Lee Wallington; Richard James; Callum Preece; Kacey Johnstone; Mark Wallington; Liam Harding; Shayne Bradley; Ryan Parker; Jonathan Meadows. **Subs used:** Dean Gorman; Courtney Hamilton; Warren Mann.

## **25 October 2014**

Tuffley Rovers took on Carterton in the first round of the Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup and came away with a well-deserved victory. Having lost the previous week, against Shortwood United, Rovers were looking for a good start and their wish was met, as Shayne Bradley latched onto Stu Griffiths' through ball and shot instantly, rifling the ball beyond Harry Ellis in the Carterton goal, who appeared to be caught off guard, and flat footed, by the early strike.

The lead did not last long, as Reece Bayliss' free-kick was sweetly struck beyond the despairing dive of Aaron Taylor, to restore parity on 20 minutes. Any fears that Rovers would enter the game with the game so finely balanced were eased, moments before

the interval, as Shayne Bradley met a corner kick and although his initial shot struck the woodwork, it fell to Brett James, who despatched the ball beyond Ellis to make it 2-1.

Warren Mann netted his first goal of the season, on 73 minutes, collecting the ball on the right-hand side of the box and dancing in-field before striking the ball beyond Ellis from 20 yards.

Just four minutes later Sam Drew's well-directed but speculative effort evaded the grasp of the unfortunate Ellis and dribbled through his legs and over the line, to make it 4-1. In the closing minutes, Carterton gained a consolation goal, as Dan Bishop drove the ball home from 12 yards.

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

## **24 October 2015**

Tuffley Rovers recorded their second win in four UHlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division games and their seventh point in four games, as they comfortably outclass the division's bottom team, Wokingham & Emmbrook FC, at Glevum Park on Saturday. Kick-off was delayed by 15 minutes after the visitors were delayed in heavy traffic on the M4 and joint manager Matt Eggleston was forced to come out of retirement to start at centre-half, with outfield player starting Tom McNelly in goal, as regular keeper Sean Woodward didn't arrive in time for the start of the fixture.

It was still 0-0 by the time Woodward did make an appearance and it remained that way until a minute before the interval, Niall Morgan squared to Jordan Fletcher, who finished from close range to give Rovers the lead.



Early in the second half Morgan turned Dan Carter inside and out, before bending the ball round a covering defender and into the bottom corner of the Wokingham net. Then, just two minutes later, on 49 minutes, Mann produced a precision pass to set Brett James free on goal and he produced a composed finish to make it 3-0.



James added his second, and Rovers' fourth, as ran onto Tristan Haswell's pass to cut inside his marker and slot the ball home to make it 4-0.

**Squad:** Aaron Taylor; Liam Wright; Tristan Haswell; Kieran Squires; Glenn Gittins; Stuart Griffith; Brett James; Warren Mann; Jordan Fletcher; Niall Morgan; Walt Greenwood. **Subs used:** Anthony Herrin; Liam Pinnock.

## **24 October 2020**

After three weeks without football, following the impact of a positive Covid test, Tuffley Rovers returned to action with a defeat that left them near the foot of the UHlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division table but was full of a spirit that promised better days to come, as they pushed Fairford Town hard before the visitors left with all three points.

Dan Bailey opened the scoring for Town on 19 minutes, then former Rover Ross Langworthy made it 2-0 on 55 minutes, as the visitors showed a potency in attack that Rovers had been lacking. However, on the hour mark Luke Soule got a goal back but it wasn't enough and Fairford left with all three points, despite a plucky effort from Rich Cox's side.

**Squad:** Luke Merchant; Miles Ferguson; Antoine Thompson; Jake Rhodes; Macaulay Herbert; Ollie Hunt; Dominik Kent; Henry Birkett; Luke Soule; Felix Miles; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Will Higgins; Joe Shutt; Rudi McKinnon.

# Statistics 2023/24

## Competition

Uhtsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

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

BFCC = Bluefin Sports Challenge Cup;

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

Att Scorers

2023							
01/Aug	7:45pm	Worcester City		A	0-0	487	-
05/Aug	3pm	Aylesbury Vale Dynamos	FAC	H	2-2	124	S Hicks, J Rhodes
12/Aug	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		A	0-2	108	-
15/Aug	7:45pm	Hereford Pegasus		H	3-4	103	J Rhodes, M Pritchett, T Shyamapant
19/Aug	3pm	Evesham United	FAC	A	0-2	247	-
22/Aug	7:45pm	Worcester Raiders		A	1-1	TBC	T Shyamapant
26/Aug	3pm	AEK Boco	FAV	A	1-1*	69	S Hill
28/Aug	3pm	Longlevens		H	0-2	271	-
02/Sep	3pm	Westfields		A	0-4	102	-
09/Sep	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		H	1-2	74	C Walters
12/Sep	7:45pm	Stonehouse Town	WLFC	H	5-1	108	C Walters (3), W Mann, M Marquez-Espada
19/Sep	7:45pm	Lydney Town		A	3-2	87	M Pritchett (2), J Martin
23/Sep	3pm	Malmesbury Victoria	FAV	A	0-0**	108	-
26/Sep	7:45pm	Cinderford Town		H	0-0	157	-
30/Sep	3pm	Slimbridge		A	1-4	128	C Walters
03/Oct	7:45pm	Worcester City		H	2-4	224	H Birkett, Jake White
07/Oct	3pm	Thornbury Town		A	1-0	98	M Pritchett
14/Oct	3pm	Wantage Town		H	3-2	67	K Alder, C Walters, J Rhodes
21/Oct	3pm	Blackfield & Langley	FAV	A	0-3	166	-
24/Oct	7:45pm	Pershore Town		H			
28/Oct	3pm	Corsham Town		A			
31/Oct	7:45pm	Thornbury Town	WLFC	H			
04/Nov	3pm	Fairford Town		H			
11/Nov	3pm	Highworth Town		A			
14/Nov	7:45pm	Stonehouse Town	GFA	H			
18/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United		H			
21/Nov	7:45pm	Brimmscombe & Thrupp		H			
25/Nov	3pm	Roman Glass St George		A			
02/Dec	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		A			
09/Dec	3pm	Slimbridge		H			
16/Dec	3pm	Thornbury Town		H			
23/Dec	3pm	Wantage Town		A			
26/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		A			
30/Dec	3pm	Brimmscombe & Thrupp		A			
2024							
01/Jan	3pm	Corsham Town		H			
06/Jan	3pm	Fairford Town		A			
13/Jan	3pm	Highworth Town		H			
20/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United		A			
27/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St George		H			
03/Feb	3pm	Pershore Town		A			
10/Feb	3pm	Hereford Lads Club		H			
17/Feb	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		A			
24/Feb	3pm	Worcester Raiders		H			
02/Mar	3pm	Westfields		H			
08/Mar	7:45pm	Lydney Town		H			
16/Mar	3pm	Cinderford Town		A			

\*Tuffley Rovers won 4-1 on penalties

\*\* Tuffley Rovers won 4-3 on penalties

TOTAL APPEARANCES
STARTS
SUBSTITUTE
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE

## Goalscorers

Walters, Connor	6	Hicks, Sammie	1
Pritchett, Mark	3	Hill, Sam	1
Rhodes, Jake	3	Martin, Jamie	1
Shyamapant, Tomos	2	Marquez-Espada, Manolo	1
Mann, Warren	1	Alder, Kieran	1



## TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

### **Luke Merchant**

### **Goalkeeper**

Returned to the club last season, after a Hellenic League Premier Division title winning season at Bishops Cleeve, and was in sensational form. A great shot stopper, commanding presence and accomplished keeper. Should surpass Bruce Perks' record number of appearances for a keeper (at Step 7 and above) this season.

### **Dan Lander**

### **Defence**

Debut in 2022/23 after returning to the club following a spell at Quedgeley Wanderers. A great club man, who gives his all in every game. Offers height, strength and determination at centre-half. He knows his role in the side and rarely lets the team down. A real competitor, who gives his all in every game, and

### **Macaulay Herbert**

### **Defence**

Now the second longest-serving member of the first team, 'Macca' came through our U18s and is solid and dependable; an excellent defender who has been getting better with every season that passed. Has now made over 250 first team appearances, despite several injuries punctuating each season. If he can stay fit could be the second highest appearance maker in the modern era.

### **Alex Barrett**

### **Defence**

Joined during pre-season 2023/24 and has settled in well, offering an option at left-back. Good defensively, very competitive and carries a threat going into the opposition half. Previously with Shortwood United; now looking to step up into Helleic League, Premier Division football. Impressed during pre-season and hopes are high for the season ahead.

### **Joel White**

### **Defence**

The return of 'Digger' is a massive boost and the former Rovers captain is back playing after a season managing Gloucestershire Northern Senior League, Brockworth Albion. Can play in midfield but has developed into a fantastic centre-half, who is one of the team's leaders and most dependable players.

### **Mark Pritchett**

### **Defence**

Another player who tasted Hellenic League title winning success at Bishops Cleeve during his time away. Previously at Rovers as Player/Manager before stepping away from the role during pre-season in 2021/22. Now back at the club his father

## 2023/24 PLAYER PROFILES

had great success at, offering a no nonsense, uncompromising, good old-fashioned performance in every game, whilst also offering a threat in the opposition box.

### **Warren Mann**

### **Defence/Midfield**

Our longest serving player and has now made over 500 appearances for the Rovers first team 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!

### **Ashley Davies**

### **Defence/Midfield**

In his 3rd spell with the club. Has had spells away at Hardwicke, Shortwood United & Cinderford Town but returned in 2021/22! Was Neil Mustoe's 1st signing and an incredible coup. Brings class on the ball, a physical presence, leadership and a wonderful work ethic to the squad - his influence is of huge value to the club.

### **Sammie Hicks**

### **Defence/Midfield**

A wonderful footballer, who finally seems to be overcoming some of the injury challenges that had previously restricted his appearances, both at Cinderford Town and then at Rovers. Talented midfielder, who can also play at the back or in more advanced positions. Could be a vital member of the squad, if he can stay fit.

### **Max Harper-Emerson**

### **Defence/Midfield**

Another new signing, who can play at full-back or in midfield. Has been with a number of clubs in Gloucestershire, including Slimbridge and Shortwood United. An industrious player with a turn of speed who will hopefully put some injury problems behind him and challenge for a regular place in the side.

### **Jack Twyman**

### **Midfield**

A new signing and one that could be a real coup! Injuries have taken their toll over the years, but 'Twy' has played at a good level, with plenty of Southern League experience at Slimbridge and Yate Town. Has been managing at County League Hardwicke over the past couple of seasons but we're now hoping some of his injury problems are behind him and he can make a successful return to

## TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

playing. Calm on the ball, creative, destructive...has all the qualities of a top midfielder.

### Dayton Fallows

#### Midfield

One of a crop of youngsters who could breakthrough this season. Mature beyond his years, he came through the youth section and has shown he is good on the ball and hard-working. This could be a vital season in his development as a future first team player. One to watch in 2023/24 and beyond.

### Callum McGuirk

#### Midfield

Signed from Longlevens in 2022, where he'd largely been used at full-back, he is a hard-working midfielder, who looks comfortable on the ball. Played academy football during his earlier years, including a spell at Bristol City. Was originally with the Rovers, where he featured in our U18s squad. His versatility is a big attribute but he'll be keen to secure place in the midfield positions.

### 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 two injury hit campaigns in 2021/22 and 2022/23. Offers experience and capable of dropping into the back four when needed.

### Henry Birkett

#### Midfield

Now in a 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 4<sup>th</sup>!) spell with Rovers, after a fairly nomadic life in Hellenic League & County League football. Great energy, good passing ability, hard-working and contribute goals, as well as good delivery from set-pieces. Has become an increasingly influential member of the team and won Manager's Player of the Year in 2022/23.

### Jake White

#### Midfield

Recent signing from Longlevens, where he had a short spell after time at Roman Glass St. George and Weston-Super-Mare. Will be looking to add some creativity and composure in the middle of midfield – a more attacking option than several of his rivals for the place in the middle of the park.

### Tomos Shyamapant

#### Forward

Has been a consistent goalscorer for both the U18s and Development Squad over 3 seasons. Highly rated; a genuine prospect. Natural finisher, looking to build on a run in the first team last season.

## 2023/24 PLAYER PROFILES

### Kieran Alder

#### Forward

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

### Connor Walters

#### Forward

Wide player who joined from Gala Wilton in the summer and made a really positive impression. Quick, strong and full of trickery, this mercurial talent could be a really fantastic addition to the Rovers squad. A goalscoring threat who will be looking to tie down a regular starting place.

### Jake Rhodes

#### Forward

In his 2<sup>nd</sup> spell with the club, having signed in the summer, following spells with Bishops Cleeve and Shortwood United. An all-round centre-forward who can hold the ball up, create chances for others, and is good finisher. Very strong in the air, so will add a new dimension to Rovers' attack.

### Yeshaya Lomotey

#### Forward

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

### Neil Mustoe

#### Manager

Appointed as Manager in January 2022, took the club away from relegation fears in 2021/22, before successfully battling against relegation in 2022/23. Spent many years as a professional at Manchester United, Wigan Athletic, Cambridge United, Stevenage and Yeovil Town, before over 350 appearances for Gloucester City. Previous coaching experience with City before a spell away from the game until his appointment with The Rovers.

### Liam O'Neill

#### Assistant Manager

Appointed as Assistant Manager in 2023, after a spell as Manager at Frampton United. Liam is still in the formative stage of his coaching journey but will offer great support to Muzzy.

### Sam Tandy

#### Physio

New for 2023/24 and son of legendary Gloucester City physio Ade Tandy. Can play as a keeper!



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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 in this edition, given Pershore Town's positive start to the 2023/24 season, we look at questions and answers relating to teams doing well after promotion...

1. Which club was promoted to the Premier League for the 2008/09 season and recorded wins against Newcastle United, Arsenal, Tottenham Hotspur, West Ham United and West Bromwich Albion in a successful period before the end of October, but ultimately slipped down the table, eventually finishing 17th and one point clear of relegation?

2. The 1982/83 Football League Division One season saw newly promoted Watford, under the management of Graham Taylor, finish second in the top tier behind champions Liverpool. Who is the player pictured, who contributed 27 league goals that season?



3. Luton Town are back in the top flight this season but which was the last season they were playing in the National League, before their ascent up the divisions, culminating in a promotion via the play-offs at the end of 2022/23?

4. Which German club won the Bundesliga in 1997/98 on the first season back in the top division after promotion, becoming the first team in German history to achieve that feat?

5. In which year did Nottingham Forest win the Football League Division One title for the first (and only) time, having been promoted from Division Two at the end of the previous season and which of these players pictured played in 40, 41 and 42 of their games, respectively?



**Quiz Answers:** (1) Hull City; (2) Luther Blissett; (3) 2013/14; (4) Kaiserslautern; (5) Forest won the league in 1977/78 and the players pictured are Peter Withe, Kenny Burns and John Robertson, the last being an ever-present.



Travis Perkins

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# HISTORY



Pershore Town FC was established in 1988 by the merger of three clubs: Pershore United, Pershore Rec Rovers and Pershore Bullets.

The newly formed club joined the Midland Football Combination in 1989, initially in Division Two, where we were crowned champions at the first attempt. The following season saw The Plums promoted again, this time to the Premier Division.

In the 1993/94 season, Pershore Town were crowned Midland Combination Premier Division champions whilst also reaching the final qualifying round of the FA Cup, featuring on the BBC before a 3-1 loss at home to Yeading.

After the club's title win, Pershore Town were among the founding members of the newly formed Midland Football Alliance, where a six-year stay would be ended in relegation back to the Midland Combination.

In 1998, Pershore Town absorbed Worcester Athletic.

Ahead of the 2019/20 season, Pershore had applied to join the Hellenic Football League but the application was unsuccessful, and the club was placed in the West Midland Regional League instead. That said, at the end of 2020/21 season, Pershore Town were transferred to Division One of the Hellenic League.

Following a managerial change in November 2021, Pershore Town secured three cups by the end of 2020/21. For the very first time in the club's history, Pershore Town lifted the Worcestershire Senior Cup in front of over 1,000 at Bromsgrove Sporting's Victoria Ground following a penalty shoot-out victory over Worcester City.

Beating Bromsgrove Sporting and Redditch United, placed three leagues above Pershore Town, along the way Pershore's name was on the lips of many football fans in Worcestershire. Adding to the Worcestershire Senior Cup, The Plums were to go on and to be named Smedley Croke Memorial Cup winners following a 1-0 win over Malvern Town.

Elsewhere a demolition job was completed on Roman Glass St George of the Hellenic Premier League to secure the Supplementary League Cup at Bishops Cleeve. Ahead of the 2022/23 season, Pershore Town absorbed much of Eckington Juniors to expand on The Plums Youth Setup: creating a pathway from Youth Football to Senior Football.

After winning the Smedley Croke Cup and Worcestershire Senior Invitation cup in the 21/22 season. 'The Plums' were victorious in the Hellenic Challenge cup in 22/23 season also coming runners up in the Smedley Croke cup to Lye Town and Wiseman Floodlit cup to Mangotsfield Town. To top of a great season for Pershore Town they were promoted from the Hellenic Division 1 to the Hellenic Premier league in the 22/23 season. After a decision by the management team at the end of the 22/23 season they decided to step down and Pershore Town recruited a new manager for the first team in June 2023.

# APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Saturday, 21 October 2023  
(includes selected list of former players)



Another week, another appearance milestone! This time we congratulate Kieran Alder, who made his 100th competitive first team appearance on Saturday, albeit the achievement being slightly tainted by a 3-0 defeat that saw us exit the Isuzu FA Vase against Brockenhurst.

Kieran made his debut in the 2017/18 season, after joining the club following a spell under Neil Mustoe and Ken Blackburn at Gloucester City U18s, making his debut in a 1-0 defeat to Longlevens, at Glevum Park, on 10 October 2017. All of his 29 appearances in that debut season were starts, which isn't a bad statistic for an 18 year old in his first season in adult football!

The following season saw 13 goals in 44 appearances and he scored 4 in 3 games in 2019/20 before leaving the club for a chance at Southern League Cinderford Town, before a spell at Bishops Cleeve. He returned to Rovers last year and scored 5 in 19, before injury ruined his season. Hopefully he is now back and ready to help us with a steady supply of goals!

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	100	28	Lomotey, Yeshaya	52	7
Anson, Shayne	71	4	Mace, Ryley	19	1
Barrett, Alex	16	0	Marquez Espada, Manolo	2	1
Beardsell, Jack	72	13	Martin, Jamie	5	2
Bennett, Adam	85	0	Maher-Goldsmith, Kian	4	0
Birkett, Henry	102	8	Mann, Warren	519	85
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	McGuirk, Callum	57	0
Clifford, Ellis	1	0	Merchant, Luke	97	0
Cornwall, Leone	70	4	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Danes-Rutherford, Ellis	1	0	Mustoe, Neil	1	0
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Payne, Nathan	2	0
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Fallows, Dayton	4	0	Poole, Bradley	8	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Pritchett, Mark	162	27
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Rhodes, Jake	60	19
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Roberts, Tyrel	4	0
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Harper-Emerson, Max	7	0	Shyamapant, Tomos	37	3
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Smith, Liam	54	1
Hoffland, Robin	5	0	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Holdaway, Matt	4	0	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Herbert, Macaulay	270	10	Twyman, Jack	16	0
Hicks, Sammie	46	2	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Hill, Sam	126	9	Wallington, Mark	220	29
James, Brett	185	64	Walters, Connor	19	6
James, Richard	125	40	White, Jake	7	1
Jones, Elliot	21	0	White, Joel	122	4
Kent, Dominik	175	21	Wilton, Joe	2	0
Lander, Daniel	36	1	Wright, Liam	124	3

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.







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# TUFFLEY ROVERS



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

Luke Merchant ©

Warren Mann

Alex Barrett

Mark Pritchett

Macaulay Herbert

Jack Twyman

Callum McQuirk

Kieran Alder

Tomos Shyamapant

Yeshaya Lomotey

Connor Walters

Henry Birkett

Liam Smith

Sammie Hicks

Jake White

Jake Rhodes

Daniel Lander

Tyrel Roberts

Ashley Davies

Max Harper-Emerson

Sam Hill

V



# PERSHORE TOWN

Blue shirts, Blue shorts; Blue socks (GK: Green & Black).

Eddie Cox

Dan Baldwin

Matt Nutt

Max Black

Jyrel Bojang

Jordan Adams ©

Joshua Willis

Sam Clark

Aidan Clark

Scott Hammond

James Baldwin

Ben Johns

Sean Brain

Petar Tonchev

James Clarke

Sean Cooke

Alfie Bloomer

Jake Bloomer

Toby Nicoll

Steve Webb

Scott Loader

Neil Mustoe

Liam O'Neill

Sam Tandy (Physio)

Alex Butler (Coach)

Tim Hall (Coach)

**Manager**

**Asst. Manager**

**Other Occupants**

Lewis Marston

Louis Andrews

Matt Finnegan (Coach)

James Rushton (Physio / Coach)

**Officials:** Mark Forman; Marek Machowski; Luke Rees