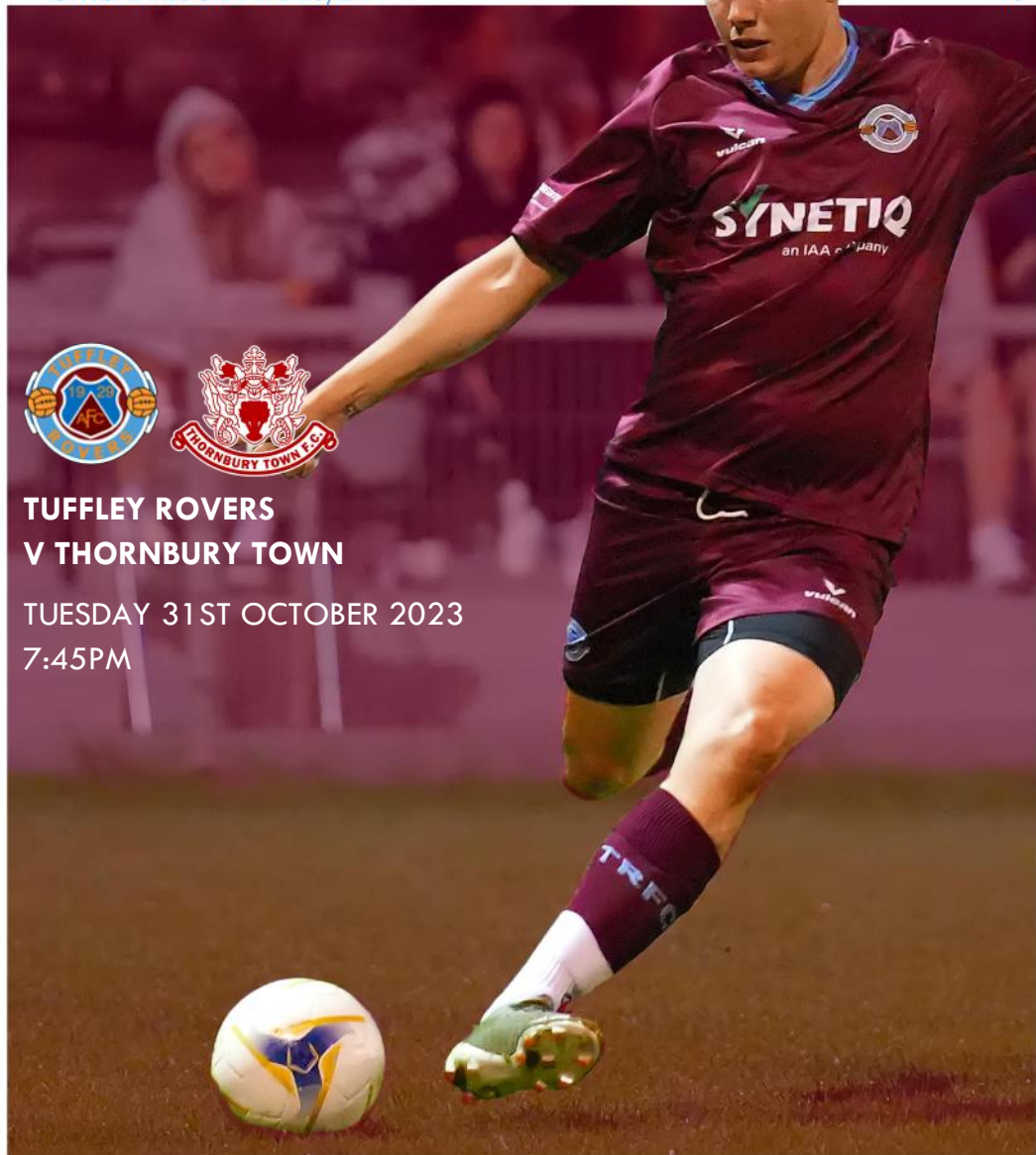


TRFC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 23/24

10



TUFFLEY ROVERS V THORNBURY TOWN

TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2023
7:45PM

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, WISEMAN LIGHTING FLOODLIT CUP






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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

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

I suspect Muzzy will field a much-changed line-up this evening because the Hellenic League programme is relentless between August and November (it only slows down a little after that!) and we seem to have been playing almost constantly over the last few months. Some of our more senior players will probably benefit from the rest and it will also give those who haven't always been starting, as well as those in need of a game plus some youngsters their chance to impress.

We saw a few younger lads given a chance in the previous round, at home to Stonehouse Town and it didn't do us much harm, as we recorded a thumping 5-1 victory. Ellis Clifford, Tyrel Roberts and Dayton Fallows all featured that evening and didn't look out of place, so if they get their chance tonight, I am sure they'll add quality and some youthful enthusiasm!

Bringing players through from our U18s and Development Squad is so important for a club like Tuffley Rovers. We need players who have an attachment/affinity to the club, which will hopefully add that extra bit of passion that can turn a reasonable side into a strong side. I've spoken previously about the important role our senior players have to play in the development of the playing squad, but we also need to ensure that our youth section are helping develop players who are capable of playing at first team level. Dave Cornock plays an important role in that pathway and has Rovers in his veins, meaning he conveys his passion and we hope that then has a really positive impact on our future.

For now, we've got a good blend. I'm sure Muzzy will hope to have our first choice playing squad (if such a thing exists) ready to go when we host Fairford Town on Saturday, but if he finds any player is missing or unavailable, you might just see someone tonight who wants to stake a claim to be part of that team. The future is bright.

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 & Happy Halloween!

- Neil

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

Uthsport Hellenic League, Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup

Lydney Town v Worcester Raiders

Pershore Town v Longlevens

County Cup fixtures

Corsham Town v Westbury United

Wantage Town v Milton United

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

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

We had a fantastic result last Tuesday night at Glevum Park when our first team pulled off a surprise win against Pershore Town, a team that have had a good start to the season and are expected to be one of the stronger teams this season.

On Saturday we then visited high flying Corsham Town and the squad played very well, especially in the second half when the shape was changed. Corsham seemed very nervous in the latter stages, and the way our lads conducted themselves, they certainly did the club proud at a time when it would have been easy to act differently. The home management and players behaved in a very different way, that they clearly felt was appropriate but it was one of the worst ways I've ever witnessed a match official being treated at a game.

We move on to cup action this evening and I expect it will be a chance for the first team management to give an opportunity to some younger players at the club, mixed with some players coming back from injury or looking for some much-needed game time. Whatever the line-up, we hope for a good performance and result.

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

Thanks,

- Dan

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TUFFLEY ROVERS CLUB HISTORY



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

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

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

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

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

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

The first season saw a struggle against relegation, ultimately resulting in the resignation of Warren Evans as manager, before the club retained their status due to a vacancy in the league, after finishing 17th. Mark Pritchett was then appointed as Player/Manager and took the side to consecutive 10th placed finishes, before a 15th place finish in 2018/19. Two pandemic affected seasons then passed, with Pritchett leaving the club part-way through. Rich Cox took over as Manager for a single season, but resigned midway through 2021/22 after a disastrous run of results. Former Manchester United player Neil Mustoe then took over, steering the club away from danger (finishing in 17th place).

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 Thornbury Town.

Looking back over the last week, points wise it has been a relatively successful one. If you had said we could get three points from the two games playing 2nd and 5th in the league I think we would have all taken it a week ago.

Unfortunately, despite the positives, our winning league run came to an end away at Corsham on Saturday. We went with a game plan which has served us well in several big games this season and had some sort of freshness and pace to come off the bench. However, after a bright start it became evident that it wasn't working and we needed to get it at half-time to address some tactics and new game plan. What we showed in the second half was something I was happy with - the teams spirit and belief to not only stay in the game but take it to Corsham meant we arguably had the better of the half.

Tonight, gives an opportunity to freshen things up, rest a few and give minutes to others who need it, whilst also bringing in some young talent and lads who have been performing consistently for our Development Squad and who deserve the opportunity to gain some experience at this level.

That said, this is still a game we want to win and I want to have a run in all competitions this season, so the team playing is one I believe is more than capable of winning tonight and hopefully progressing to the next round.

We have had a few wins at home recently and need to keep this run going and start making Glevum Park a place where teams don't like to come.

I hope you enjoy the game.

- Muzz

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Director

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HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 28 October 2023

Pos	Team	Home						Away						Overall					
		P	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	16	6	1	2	28	9	4	3	0	12	5	10	4	2	40	14	26	34
3	Worcester Raiders	15	3	3	2	8	8	4	3	0	15	6	7	6	2	23	14	9	27
4	Highworth Town	13	5	0	0	10	2	3	2	3	13	13	8	2	3	23	15	8	26
5	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	13	4	1	0	8	4	4	0	4	15	17	8	1	4	23	21	2	25
6	Pershore Town	14	3	2	2	14	11	4	1	2	19	10	7	3	4	33	21	12	24
7	Fairford Town	15	2	3	3	11	13	4	2	1	15	6	6	5	4	26	19	7	23
8	Slimbridge	14	4	1	3	19	19	3	1	2	8	6	7	2	5	27	25	2	23
9	Cinderford Town	14	3	0	3	15	12	3	3	2	15	15	6	3	5	30	27	3	21
10	Mangotsfield United	14	4	1	3	18	16	2	1	3	10	8	6	2	6	28	24	4	20
11	Hereford Pegasus	14	3	1	3	11	17	3	1	3	13	14	6	2	6	24	31	-7	20
12	Roman Glass St George	12	1	1	4	8	12	5	0	1	15	4	6	1	5	23	16	7	19
13	Longlevens AFC	14	3	1	3	10	13	2	1	4	15	19	5	2	7	25	32	-7	17
14	Brimmscombe & Thrupp	13	2	2	2	10	8	2	2	3	8	13	4	4	5	18	21	-3	16
15	Westfields	16	4	1	4	18	17	1	0	6	11	18	5	1	10	29	35	-6	16
16	Tuffley Rovers	15	2	1	4	11	15	2	2	4	6	15	4	3	8	17	30	-13	15
17	Hereford Lads Club	14	2	3	0	7	4	1	2	6	8	15	3	5	6	15	19	-4	14
18	Lydney Town	16	2	0	8	17	30	2	0	4	13	19	4	0	12	30	49	-19	12
19	Thornbury Town	16	2	1	4	10	13	1	1	7	13	28	3	2	11	23	41	-18	11
20	Wantage Town	15	2	1	4	8	18	0	0	8	7	31	2	1	12	15	49	-34	7

HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

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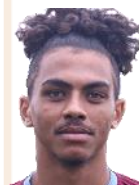


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Blast from the past...

this feature, we today look back on a previous game against today's opposition. Today we look back to Thornbury Town's visit on 10 September 2019....

BANBURY LITHO HELLENIC LEAGUE FLOODLIT CUP	
TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2019 - 7.45PM KICK OFF	
TUFFLEY ROVERS	V THORNBURY TOWN
Goalkeepers: David Bevan Tommy Houghton (Keeper)	1
Alex Avenell	2
Duncan Sarwarer	3
Ben Pritcher	4
Mark Pritchett	5
Haroldy Herbert (Capt.)	6
Paul Carter	7
Warren Mason	8
Jack Beardsell	9
Ross Langworthy	10
Dominik Kent	11
Lewis Bambridge	12
Niall Priday	13
James Stokes	14
Ross Graham	15
Jeremiah Mowu	16
Jack Phillips	17

Goalkeepers:	Manager:
Neil Priday	Alan Robinson
Paul Carter	Keith Tac
Alan Robinson	Other Managers:
Alan Robinson	Neil Priday
Alan Robinson	Paul Carter

Officials: Alan Robinson: Referee Keith Tac: James Bambridge



BANBURY LITHO HELLENIC LEAGUE FLOODLIT CUP TUFFLEY ROVERS 6-1 THORNBURY TOWN TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2019

This Floodlit Cup tie was an opportunity for the hosts to build on recent good league form whereas the visitors had no reason to be fearful of their short trip to Gloucester after starting their new league season with a 3-2 win over Clanfield 85 and a 5-3 defeat by Malvern Town, both at home. Having already been knocked out of the Challenge Cup at Adderbury Park, but having progressed in the Vase at the expense of Cheltenham Saracens, Thornbury would see this as a decent chance to make progress in another knock-out competition.

It was the hosts who cruised their way through to the next round of the Floodlit Cup after a commanding first-half performance which brought four goals without reply. Two more goals were added in the second period with only a penalty-kick bringing visitors Thornbury any reward from what turned out to be a chastening evening for them.

Rovers started positively and nearly went ahead in the opening moments when Jack Beardsell's good work on the right led to a square pass which Dominik Kent dragged narrowly wide of the Thornbury goal. There was an early break in play when the visitors' captain Toby Bennett went down injured and when play resumed an enormous kick by Scot MacLeod was chased deep into the Tuffley half by Craig Lancaster but Macaulay Herbert snuffed out the danger. Thornbury's next attack was nearly profitable; two quick passes from Lancaster and Jim Brock left Asher Budd in space, with only Alex Avenell to beat, but he wasted the opportunity by shooting into the side-netting.

Rovers heeded this warning and were soon ahead themselves. Ross Langworthy chased a ball down the right channel and regained possession after briefly losing control of the ball. As he moved inside he saw Jack Beardsell in space and threaded the ball through to him. Beardsell took one touch, looked up and hammered a scorching drive into the top corner well out of MacLeod's reach. The early lead was doubled only three minutes later. Rovers won a

corner on the right which Paul Carter floated in with his usual dead-ball accuracy and Beardsell rose unchallenged to plant a firm header into the back of the net.

Thornbury were being pulled apart on both flanks and it wasn't a surprise that the opening two goals were quickly followed by two more. Both were crosses headed into goal by Langworthy thanks to sublime deliveries from Ben Pricor on the left and Beardsell on the right. Langworthy, in a rich run of scoring form, nearly had a first-half hat-trick when he ran from halfway and cut inside a defender but hit his shot over the bar.

A nasty clash of heads between Beardsell and Thornbury's Ollie Rawnsley led to both players being treated on the pitch and the referee called for a short water-break while that was happening. When play resumed Rovers continued to press forward with Jeremiah Idowu having a shot turned away for a corner and Kent again shooting narrowly wide.

The Thornbury players looked shell-shocked as they headed for the dressing-rooms at half-time but there was little respite for them after the second half started, at which point they brought on Luke Franklin and he would soon be joined by Dan Bright. MacLeod was having a very busy evening and reacted brilliantly to save Kent's follow-up after initially saving from Langworthy. But the next significant action came at the other end when referee Alan Robinson awarded Thornbury a penalty-kick as Pricor, played into trouble by Jack Phillips' pass across the area, felled an opposition player as he attempted to clear. Lancaster didn't hang about and buried the spot-kick straight down the middle leaving Avenell knowing that he would probably have saved if he hadn't moved slightly out of the way.

Rovers' four-goal lead was soon restored, however. Beardsell received the ball on the left following a corner on the right, spotted Mark Pritchett in space and played the ball carefully towards his central-defender. Pritchett's control was perfect and he turned and lashed the ball left-footed into the net before MacLeod had properly sensed the danger.

In the wake of Tuffley's fifth goal the hosts brought on Lewis Bainbridge for Idowu and, shortly afterwards, Jake Rhodes for Kent. But it was the final substitute who made the next telling contribution. Within seconds after coming on, for Beardsell, seventeen-year-old Niall Priday was in a perfect position to steer Bainbridge's pass into the net after a quite wonderful run by the provider from wide on the right.

This was an evening when Tuffley's defence was never seriously tested. The central-defensive pairing of Pritchett and Herbert have certainly had more difficult matches but to their sides both full-backs, Isaac Lawrence and Pricor, played with composure and maturity with the latter in particular nearly always available to help create meaningful attacks down the left in the second half.

So, Rovers won their first home match of 2018-19 at the fourth attempt. A year earlier that first home victory didn't come until the eighth game so at least that awful statistic was not threatened with a repeat. With twelve goals scored in their last three matches Tuffley again proved that they have plenty of options in attack. Defensively they looked pretty solid too although not as tested as they are likely to be in most league games. Thornbury will have learned much from this evening as well. The scoreline does not flatter them because it was one-way traffic for most of the evening, but they kept their heads up and worked hard and, even in defeat, showed encouraging signs which ought to help them in the weeks ahead.

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 had a few games on 31 October (and one other memorable game on a close date) that we have selected to reflect on our fortunes on this particular date...

31 October 2009

DRG Stapleton remained top of the Gloucestershire County League table after fighting back to gain a 1-1 draw at home to Tuffley Rovers. The visitors took the lead in the 5th minute as Ben Wood fired home from close range and this side continued to have the better of the first half.

Two changes at the break had the desired effect for the hosts, as Martin Nicholls ran through to shoot past keeper Adam Bennett in the 55th minute. The home side finished with ten men after goalscorer Nicholls was dismissed for a second bookable offence but neither side could find a breakthrough and the points were shared.

Squad: Adam Bennett; Adam Dunsford; James Barton; Richard James; Ashley Davies; Ben Wood; Victor Webb; Mark Wallington; Marcus Goodge; Mark Ford; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Christopher Lee.

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 Aaron Taylor's efforts in goal and a highly industrious effort from the rest of the team, helped Rovers return from the longest away journey of the season 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 67th minute penalty kick saved, 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.

26 October 2021

Tuffley Rovers produced a display full of resilience, tenacity and opportunism to record a memorable win away at Westfields; a side who hadn’t previously lost a home Hellenic League side since joining the competition at the start of the 2019/20 season.

Goalkeeper Jack Copland kept Rovers in the game with some excellent saves and handling during the first period and although Westfields dominated possession and held a territorial advantage throughout the second period, to the extent that the half was akin to a siege on their goal, the game was to take a decisive twist on 85 minutes, as Rich Cox’s side produced the decisive moment in the game.

After successfully defending a succession of set-pieces, Rovers broke and Jamal Lawrence latched onto substitute Sam Mendes’ through ball, used all his experience to hold off a challenge and then hammered a rising shot beyond Ian Havard and into the roof of the Westfields net to secure a memorable win for Rovers in the dying moments.



Squad: Jack Copland; Archie Woodall; Warren Mann; Jacob Geddes; Joel White; Dominik Kent; Joe Shutt; Joshua Aldridge; Jamal Lawrence; Aaron Basford; Brennan Denness-Barrett. **Subs used:** Liam Wright; Liam Smith; Sam Mendes.

Statistics 2023/24

Competition

Uhlspport 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	2-1	72 J Rhodes (2)
28/Oct	3pm	Corsham Town		A	0-2	162 -
31/Oct	7:45pm	Thornbury Town	WLFC	H		
04/Nov	3pm	Fairford Town		H		
14/Nov	7:45pm	Stonehouse Town	GFA	A		
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		
TBC	TBC	Highworth 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
Rhodes, Jake	5	Hill, Sam	1
Pritchett, Mark	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 Hellenic 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 3rd (or 4th!) 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 2nd 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, and as it is Halloween night this evening, we thought we'd look at questions and answers relating to some of football horrors...

1. Which club had a horror run during the 2002/03 Premier League season, as they went 20 games without a win, finding themselves relegated, before a return to the Premier League in 2005/06 saw them lose 9 consecutive games at one point during the season, including racking up an overall total of 20 consecutive Premier League defeats across the two seasons?

2. Who was the West German goalkeeper responsible for this horror challenge on France's Patrick Battiston in the 1982 World Cup semi-final?



3. In 1995/96 Scottish side Dumbarton had a horrible season, playing 36 league games, winning just three, drawing two and losing 31. They won their opening two games, under Murdo MacLeod, but he then left for Partick Thistle and his replacement, Jim Fallon, had a nightmare. He stayed on as manager until his 50th game in November 1996, but probably has one of the worst win ratios ever. What was Fallon's win %?

4. Fernando Torres missed an open goal for Chelsea against Manchester United on 18 September 2011, as his side slipped to a 3-1 defeat at Old Trafford. He had scored in the 46th minute but the miss continued his miserable start at Chelsea, after signing in January 2011. How many goals did Torres score in 172 appearances for The Blues?



5. Can you name these players with names you'd think might have some relationship to Halloween?



(a)



(b)



(c)

Quiz Answers: (1) Sunderland; (2) Harald Schumacher; (3) 4%; (4) Torres scored 45 goals for Chelsea; (5) Jonathan Spector (Spectre!); Peter Fear; and Nassim L'Ghoulil



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THORNBURY TOWN CLUB HISTORY



It is understood that football has been played in Thornbury from around 1898 and formerly known as Thornbury Sports became Thornbury Town FC in the early 1970's.

1968-69 we became founder members of the Gloucestershire County League and spectator figures in excess of 500 were regularly recorded. In 1971 the club finished third in the Gloucestershire County League and was accepted into the Western League. However, due to difficulties in bringing the facilities up to the leagues required standards were unable to take the next step up. Relegation to the Bristol Premier Combination League unfortunately followed in 1976-77.

The following 20+ years saw Thornbury Town strive to regain their former status, never really threatening to take the Premier Combination title. The only success during these lean years was reaching the final of the GFA Senior Amateur Cup in 1985-86 and 1989-90 unfortunately on both occasions loser's medals were received.

During the late 1990's, the Club maintained its strong focus on developing local talent and this eventually bore fruit in 1999 when the final of the Stroud Charity Cup was reached, losing narrowly to Dursley Town. 2001-02 season saw the management team of Dave Wiffill and Steve Burbage take the reins, which brought instant success winning the Bristol Premier Combination title by 13 points and a return to the Gloucestershire County League. This followed a run of thirteen consecutive league wins a club record, which still stands to this day. The league and cup double eluded the club when they were defeated by Sea Mills in the League Cup Final.

In preparation for the return to County League football the summer of 2002 saw a lot of hard work undertaken on the Mundy facilities with the building of dug-outs, improved drainage and revamping of the dressing rooms. All this work appeared to have been worth while with the club establishing itself back in the Gloucestershire County league with a creditable 7th league position for the next three seasons. Silverware did come our way in 2003-04 when we defeated Taverners on penalties, after a 2-2 draw, to lift the Stroud Charity Cup. The 2003-04 season, also saw the formation of an Under-18's side in order to maintain Youth development within the club and they gained entry to the Gloucester County Youth League.

Following a number of indifferent seasons when relegation back to the Bristol Premier Combination league was only just averted in 2006-07, a new management committee and first team management were appointed. Dave Lippiatt took over as first team manager, coming to the club from Sea Mills Park bringing with him Carl

Derosa as his assistant. With an initial three / four year strategy, which came to fruition during the 2009-10 season when after a steady first half to the season a tremendous winning run of ten league games saw the Surridge Gloucestershire County League title won for the first time in the clubs history. 2010 also saw the milestone achievement of the long awaited coming together of the two local football clubs "Thornbury Town FC" and "Thornbury Falcons FC" now under one club management umbrella of Thornbury Town FC without losing the heritage and identity of Thornbury Falcons. This will further enhance the long term development within the local community for junior, youth and senior football.

In the 2010-11 season the final of the Les James Cup Final was reached, which resulted in a penalty shoot-out disappointment against Henbury Town. 2013-14 saw the U18's in their highest league position in the Gloucestershire County Youth League finishing runners-up, which was a tremendous achievement for the team and managers Simon Pirie and Mark Franklin.

The 2014-15 season was a very successful season finishing 4th in the league and winning the Les James Cup for the first time in the Club's history. Andy Davies continued to produce a team of quality which resulted in a third 4th-place in a row in Season 2016-17. 2017-18 saw the club finally succeed in their quest win the Gloucestershire County League. After a lot of work behind the scenes to gain planning permission for the required ground improvements, the club were accepted into the Hellenic League for the first time in our history.

Our first season in the Hellenic League saw us finish a creditable 3rd in Div 1 West and win the Supplementary Cup. 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 seasons were ruled null and void due to the Coronavirus pandemic with the team poised to gain promotion. A restructuring of the football pyramid has placed us in the Hellenic Premier Division. With a management team of Richard Joyce and Gary Kemp in place we look forward to the season ahead and wish all teams the best of luck in their endeavours.



APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Saturday, 28 October 2023
(includes selected list of former players)

We had a debutant on Saturday, as Tyrese Griffin (pictured) made a first competitive first team appearance - and a first appearance in any fixture for Rovers - after joining the club from Hartpury University FC. He became the eleventh debutant this season, and the 34th player used across all our fixtures. He made a good impression in his first outing, so here is hoping it is the first of many! Good luck and welcome to the club, Tyrese.



There is a likelihood that we will see a much changed squad this evening, with a few of the club's promising youngsters getting a run out and although it might not mean we have any further debutants, it will probably be one of those evenings where the entire squad's total all-time appearances don't add up to match our veteran, record appearance making player Warren Mann. Here is hoping one of them is still here to make their 500th appearance in a few years' time!

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	102	28	Lander, Daniel	37	1
Anson, Shayne	71	4	Lomotey, Yeshaya	54	7
Barrett, Alex	17	0	Mace, Ryley	19	1
Beardsell, Jack	72	13	Marquez Espada, Manolo	2	1
Bennett, Adam	85	0	Martin, Jamie	5	2
Birkett, Henry	104	8	Maher-Goldsmith, Kian	4	0
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	Mann, Warren	520	85
Clifford, Ellis	1	0	McGuirk, Callum	58	0
Cornwall, Leone	70	4	Merchant, Luke	99	0
Danes-Rutherford, Ellis	1	0	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Mustoe, Neil	1	0
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Payne, Nathan	2	0
Evans, David	69	0	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Fallows, Dayton	4	0	Poole, Bradley	8	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Pritchett, Mark	164	27
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Rhodes, Jake	62	21
Griffin, Tyrese	1	0	Roberts, Tyrel	4	0
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Shyamapant, Tomos	39	3
Harper-Emerson, Max	8	0	Smith, Liam	56	1
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Hoffland, Robin	5	0	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Holdaway, Matt	4	0	Twyman, Jack	18	0
Herbert, Macaulay	272	10	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Hicks, Sammie	46	2	Wallington, Mark	220	29
Hill, Sam	126	9	Walters, Connor	21	6
James, Brett	185	64	White, Jake	9	1
James, Richard	125	40	White, Joel	122	4
Jones, Elliot	21	0	Wilton, Joe	2	0
Kent, Dominik	175	21	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.

2023/24 FIRST XI SQUAD PHOTO

thanks to Brian Rossiter





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TUFFLEY ROVERS



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Robin Hoffland

Max Harper-Emerson

Tyrese Griffin

Ellis Clifford

Daniel Lander

Liam Smith

Callum McGuirk

Kieran Alder

Tomos Shyamapant

Henry Birkett ©

Connor Walters

Dayton Fallows

Sammie Hicks

Jack Twyman

Yeshaya Lomotey

Tyrel Roberts

Jake White

Jake Rhodes

Warren Mann

Luke Merchant

Mark Pritchett

V



THORNBURY TOWN

White shirts, White shorts; White socks (GK: Orange).

Mackenzie Welsh

Luke Garrett

Marcus Wormwell

Nathan Sage ©

Shomali Sengor

Luke Garbacz

Stanley Wyatt

Luke Franklin

Harry Brock

James Brock

Joe McLaughlin

Harry Walton

Joe Guest

Rich Lee

Fraser Moss

Dan Parry

Ollie Rawnsley

Tom Sage

Matt Toghil

Rudy Stilgoe

Tom Webb

Neil Mustoe

Liam O'Neill

Sam Tandy (Physio)

Alex Butler (Coach)

Tim Hall (Coach)

Manager

Asst. Manager

Other Occupants

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Gary Kemp

Jon Cannings (GK Coach)

Toby Bennett (Coach)

Debbie Brock (Physio)

Officials: Peter Doolan; Steve Cook; Graham Pugh

