

TUFFLEY ROVERS FC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 23/24

16



MATCH SPONSOR:



TUFFLEY ROVERS V BRIMSCOMBE & THRUPP
TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 2024
7:45PM

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, MARSH SPORT CHALLENGE CUP






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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Good evening to each and every person visiting Glevum Park for tonight's Marsh Sport Challenge Cup tie, including all the players, supporters and officials of Brimscombe & Thrupp, who are always welcome visitors to our home.

I mentioned this in a previous edition of our programme but tonight we welcome the good people of Brimscombe & Thrupp without the man who was so often a visitor to Glevum Park, Allan Boulton, who passed away shortly before the Christmas period. It was an honour for us to visit The Meadow on 30 December, where a minute's applause took place in his memory. He was a good man and he will be missed by many. I am sure that he will live long in the memories of many, not only at tonight's visiting club but across the local football community.

We had a good result at the end of December but we must know that tonight will be a tough encounter and we will need to play very well again this evening if we are to stay in this competition. Sam Prior's sides are always well-drilled and competitive, so I have no doubt they'll arrive here tonight intending to make things difficult for us and with their aspiration to progress to the next stage. We will have to be up for it if we are to keep our hopes of silverware in 2023/24 alive.

As far as we are concerned, the last two results haven't been what we'd want but we are continuing to see evolution, as Muzzy reshapes his squad, and I firmly believe that despite a tough programme in the 4-6 weeks ahead, we can pick up points and climb the UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division table. If Jake Rhodes, who made his return on Saturday, can stay fit we will have a really good group of attacking players to go with a good defensive group. As Muzzy said in a recent interview, we have tended to be strong defensively but having created or taken enough chances to win the number of games that our performances sometimes merit. Jake, Karnell Chambers, Josh Radford, Connor Walters and Brad Bevan have all joined this season and added to those who were (and still are) at the club, we have an attacking group that is better than I can remember in recent years. Fingers crossed they 'click' and we turn performances into points, in a way that perhaps we haven't in the past.

That having been said, we've just gone two games without a goal...! :)

I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

Uhtsport Hellenic League, Premier Division

Cinderford Town v Thornbury Town

Marsh Sports Challenge Cup

Corsham Town v Tytherington Rocks

Fairford Town v Slimbridge

County Cups

Mangotsfield United v FC Bristol

Swindon Supermarine v Royal Wootton Bassett Town

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Good evening and a very warm welcome to Glevum Park. Welcome to our opponents Brimscombe & Thrupp and their players, coaching staff, committee and supporters.

It is only a couple of weeks since we had the pleasure of playing against this evening's opponents and I would like to thank the committee of Brimscombe for the hospitality that they provided us with when we visited them. A great club with great people involved.

Since that game we have lost two league games without scoring, but created plenty of chances against Corsham Town in a game I believe we deserved to get a point from.

Then, on Saturday, we were the wrong side of a 2-0 result, when we simply didn't do enough. On the flip side it was a great visit to Fairford and an opportunity to take a supporter's coach to the game, and an excellent day out it was for all, even if the result wasn't a positive one!

There was one real highlight on the pitch, as it was great to also see Jake Rhodes return from injury and we hope he can now stay fit for the rest of the season.

I hope everyone enjoys the game and hospitality here this evening and a safe journey 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 evening and welcome to all players officials and supporters from Brimscombe and Thrupp FC.

After a good run of results, we have fallen short against two play-off contenders in Corsham Town and Fairford Town losing to both in our most recent league games.

If I'm honest we could, and possibly should, have got a point in each game which shows how far we have come but also how much further we need to go to get where we want to be. For all our endeavours, we got nothing, where both opponents would possibly say they were not at their best but found a way to win.

Tonight offers another challenge in fitness and mindset after a recent win - and a good win -against tonight's opponents. We must have the same approach to win the game tonight.

We were very good a week or so ago and I'm sure Brimscombe will be fired up for this one as much as I would expect us to be.

Tonight gives me an opportunity to freshen things up without compromising the fact we want to win and continue on a cup run and go as far as we can.

We have some tough fixtures this month, as they all are in this division, but most fixtures in January will see us up against play-off contenders and although we have had a good run we want to push to finish as high as possible. That will take a togetherness, on and off the pitch, and a will and desire to be better week in week out.

I hope you enjoy the evening and the game.

- Muzz

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Andrew Gillespie
Director

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HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 6 January 2024

| 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 | PTS | |
| 1 | Worcester City | 23 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 39 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 18 | 4 | 1 | 69 | 20 | 49 | 58 | | | | | | |
| 2 | Corsham Town | 26 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 41 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 17 | 6 | 3 | 59 | 23 | 36 | 57 | | | | | | |
| 3 | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | 24 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 11 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 29 | 26 | 15 | 3 | 6 | 45 | 37 | 8 | 48 | | | | | | |
| 4 | Roman Glass St George | 25 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 23 | 22 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 27 | 13 | 14 | 2 | 9 | 50 | 35 | 15 | 44 | | | | | | |
| 5 | Pershore Town | 25 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 32 | 19 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 20 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 62 | 39 | 23 | 42 | | | | | | |
| 6 | Highworth Town | 22 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 20 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 21 | 23 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 41 | 31 | 10 | 39 | | | | | | |
| 7 | Fairford Town | 23 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 16 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 24 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 39 | 26 | 13 | 38 | | | | | | |
| 8 | Slimbridge | 24 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 30 | 29 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 19 | 15 | 11 | 5 | 8 | 49 | 44 | 5 | 38 | | | | | | |
| 9 | Cinderford Town | 21 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 22 | 22 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 42 | 37 | 5 | 34 | | | | | | |
| 10 | Hereford Pegasus | 25 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 28 | 31 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 19 | 24 | 10 | 4 | 11 | 47 | 55 | -8 | 34 | | | | | | |
| 11 | Worcester Raiders | 24 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 15 | 24 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 21 | 17 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 36 | 41 | -5 | 33 | | | | | | |
| 12 | Mangotsfield United | 24 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 24 | 27 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 18 | 12 | 9 | 4 | 11 | 42 | 39 | 3 | 31 | | | | | | |
| 13 | Westfields | 24 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 28 | 24 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 24 | 7 | 4 | 13 | 41 | 48 | -7 | 25 | | | | | | |
| 14 | Tuffley Rovers | 24 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 14 | 23 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 19 | 24 | 7 | 4 | 13 | 33 | 47 | -14 | 25 | | | | | | |
| 15 | Longlevens AFC | 20 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 19 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 22 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 32 | 41 | -9 | 24 | | | | | | |
| 16 | Brimacombe & Thrupp | 19 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 16 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 24 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 31 | 40 | -9 | 23 | | | | | | |
| 17 | Hereford Lads Club | 26 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 17 | 20 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 25 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 28 | 45 | -17 | 22 | | | | | | |
| 18 | Thornbury Town | 24 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 16 | 16 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 18 | 37 | 6 | 4 | 14 | 34 | 53 | -19 | 22 | | | | | | |
| 19 | Lydney Town | 23 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 21 | 34 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 22 | 35 | 5 | 1 | 17 | 43 | 69 | -26 | 16 | | | | | | |
| 20 | Wantage Town | 24 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 13 | 32 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 11 | 45 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 24 | 77 | -53 | 10 | | | | | | |

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Defender

OLI PITT



Midfield

RYAN PONTING



Defender

SAM FOLKES



Midfield

TOM BLACK



Midfield

APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Saturday, 6 January 2024
(includes selected list of former players)

Mark Pritchett is in line to make his 175th competitive first team appearance for Tuffley Rovers – whether that is tonight or in a future game – which will draw him level with former player Dominik Kent, and edge him up the table for all-time appearances (well, since 2007!) and just four appearances from being the outright eighth placed player.

Perhaps interestingly - at least for those who like such things! – he is currently 10th in the list of appearances and tenth in the list of goalscorers, with 27 goals in his 174 appearances, to date. Three more goals would take him to eighth in the list of scorers, so maybe a treble over his next five appearances is needed if we'd like to keep a nice symmetry to his place in Tuffley Rovers' history...



| Name | Apps | Goals | Name | Apps | Goals |
|-------------------------|------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|
| Alder, Kieran | 112 | 32 | Lander, Daniel | 43 | 1 |
| Alleyne, Jasper | 1 | 0 | Lomotey, Yeshaya | 58 | 8 |
| Anson, Shayne | 71 | 4 | Mace, Ryley | 19 | 1 |
| Barrett, Alex | 25 | 0 | Marquez Espada, Manolo | 2 | 1 |
| Beardsell, Jack | 72 | 13 | Martin, Jamie | 5 | 2 |
| Bennett, Adam | 85 | 0 | Maher-Goldsmith, Kian | 4 | 0 |
| Bevan, Bradley | 9 | 0 | Mann, Warren | 528 | 85 |
| Birkett, Henry | 114 | 9 | McGuirk, Callum | 71 | 0 |
| Bradley, Shayne | 260 | 117 | Merchant, Luke | 109 | 0 |
| Chambers, Karnell | 9 | 7 | Middlecote, Martin | 88 | 2 |
| Clifford, Ellis | 3 | 0 | Mustoe, Neil | 1 | 0 |
| Cornwall, Leone | 70 | 4 | Payne, Nathan | 2 | 0 |
| Danes-Rutherford, Ellis | 1 | 0 | Perks, Christopher | 92 | 0 |
| Davies, Ashley | 190 | 27 | Poole, Bradley | 8 | 0 |
| Dobbins, Ryan | 87 | 18 | Pritchett, Mark | 174 | 27 |
| Fallows, Dayton | 5 | 0 | Radford, Joshua | 6 | 1 |
| Ford, Mark | 164 | 61 | Rhodes, Jake | 64 | 21 |
| Foxwell, Marcus | 302 | 32 | Roberts, Tyrel | 5 | 0 |
| Griffin, Tyrese | 7 | 0 | Shutt, Joe | 72 | 15 |
| Griffith, Stuart | 129 | 22 | Shyamapant, Tomos | 49 | 3 |
| Hamilton, Courtney | 178 | 6 | Smith, Liam | 64 | 1 |
| Harper-Emerson, Max | 9 | 0 | Squires, Kieran | 90 | 7 |
| Haswell, Tristan | 99 | 1 | Thomas, Peter | 79 | 15 |
| Hoffland, Robin | 7 | 0 | Twyman, Jack | 22 | 0 |
| Holdaway, Matt | 4 | 0 | Victor, Harry | 1 | 0 |
| Herbert, Macaulay | 281 | 10 | Wallington, Lee | 131 | 4 |
| Hicks, Sammie | 48 | 2 | Wallington, Mark | 220 | 29 |
| Hill, Sam | 130 | 9 | Walters, Connor | 33 | 9 |
| James, Brett | 186 | 64 | White, Jake | 19 | 4 |
| James, Richard | 125 | 40 | White, Joel | 126 | 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.

Statistics 2023/24

| Competition | | | | | | | | Merchant, Luke | Hill, Sam | Mann, Warren |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|------|-----|---------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| Uhsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated | | | | | | | | | | |
| FAC = FA Cup; FAV = FA Vase; GFA = GFA Challenge Trophy; | | | | | | | | | | |
| MSCC = Marsh Sports Challenge Cup; | | | | | | | | | | |
| WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Att | Scorers | | | | | |
| 2023 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01/Aug | 7:45pm | Worcester City | A | 0-0 | 487 | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 05/Aug | 3pm | Aylesbury Vale Dynamos | FAC | H | 2-2 | 124 | S Hicks, J Rhodes | | | 3 |
| 12/Aug | 3pm | Hereford Lads Club | A | 0-2 | 108 | - | 1 | 1 | 3 | |
| 15/Aug | 7:45pm | Hereford Pegasus | H | 3-4 | 103 | J Rhodes, M Pritchett, T Shyamapant | 1 | 1 | 11 | |
| 19/Aug | 3pm | Evesham United | FAC | A | 0-2 | 247 | - | 1 | 2 | U |
| 22/Aug | 7:45pm | Worcester Raiders | A | 1-1 | TBC | T Shyamapant | 1 | 15 | | |
| 26/Aug | 3pm | AEK Boco | FAV | A | 1-1* | 69 | S Hill | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 28/Aug | 3pm | Longlevens | H | 0-2 | 271 | - | 1 | 17 | 14 | |
| 02/Sep | 3pm | Westfields | A | 0-4 | 102 | - | | | | |
| 09/Sep | 3pm | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | H | 1-2 | 74 | C Walters | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 12/Sep | 7:45pm | Stonehouse Town | WLFC | H | 5-1 | 108 | C Walters (3), W Mann, M Marquez-Espada | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 19/Sep | 7:45pm | Lydney Town | A | 3-2 | 87 | M Pritchett (2), J Martin | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 23/Sep | 3pm | Malmesbury Victoria | FAV | A | 0-0** | 108 | - | 1 | 1 | |
| 26/Sep | 7:45pm | Cinderford Town | H | 0-0 | 157 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 30/Sep | 3pm | Slimbridge | A | 1-4 | 128 | C Walters | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 03/Oct | 7:45pm | Worcester City | H | 2-4 | 224 | H Birkett, Jake White | 1 | 2 | 10 | |
| 07/Oct | 3pm | Thornbury Town | A | 1-0 | 98 | M Pritchett | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 14/Oct | 3pm | Wantage Town | H | 3-2 | 67 | K Alder, C Walters, J Rhodes | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 21/Oct | 3pm | Brockenhurst | FAV | A | 0-3 | 166 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 24/Oct | 7:45pm | Pershore Town | H | 2-1 | 72 | J Rhodes (2) | 1 | 1 | | |
| 28/Oct | 3pm | Corsham Town | A | 0-2 | 162 | - | 1 | 1 | 3 | |
| 31/Oct | 7:45pm | Thornbury Town | WLFC | H | 2-2*** | 68 | C Walters, Y Lomotey | | | |
| 18/Nov | 3pm | Mangotsfield United | H | 0-3 | 89 | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 21/Nov | 7:45pm | Stonehouse Town | GFA | A | 0-1 | 90 | - | 12 | 3 | |
| 25/Nov | 3pm | Roman Glass St George | A | 2-3 | 55 | Jake White, K Alder | 1 | 1 | | |
| 28/Nov | 7:45pm | Hereford Lads Club | MCC | A | 1-0 | 48 | K Alder | 1 | 1 | |
| 09/Dec | 3pm | Slimbridge | H | 2-3 | 112 | K Chambers, C Walters | 1 | 16 | 2 | |
| 16/Dec | 3pm | Thornbury Town | H | 1-1 | 71 | K Chambers | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 19/Dec | 7:45pm | Slimbridge | WLFC | H | 1-2 | 81 | J Radford | | | U |
| 23/Dec | 3pm | Wantage Town | A | 3-2 | 168 | K Chambers, J White (2) | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| 26/Dec | 3pm | Longlevens | A | 3-1 | 227 | C Walters, K Chambers (pen), K Alder | 1 | U | 2 | |
| 30/Dec | 3pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | A | 5-1 | 112 | K Chambers (3, pen), K Alder, H Birkett | 1 | 12 | 2 | |
| 2024 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01/Jan | 3pm | Corsham Town | H | 0-1 | 125 | - | 1 | U | 3 | |
| 06/Jan | 3pm | Fairford Town | A | 0-2 | 83 | - | 1 | 1 | 3 | |
| 09/Jan | 7:45pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | MCC | H | | | | | | |
| 16/Jan | 7:45pm | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | A | | | | | | | |
| 20/Jan | 3pm | Mangotsfield United | A | | | | | | | |
| 27/Jan | 3pm | Roman Glass St George | H | | | | | | | |
| 31/Jan | 7:45pm | Highworth Town | A | | | | | | | |
| 03/Feb | 3pm | Pershore Town | A | | | | | | | |
| 06/Feb | 7:45pm | Fairford Town | H | | | | | | | |
| 10/Feb | 3pm | Hereford Lads Club | H | | | | | | | |
| 17/Feb | 3pm | Hereford Pegasus | A | | | | | | | |
| 20/Feb | 7:45pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | H | | | | | | | |
| 24/Feb | 3pm | Worcester Raiders | H | | | | | | | |
| 02/Mar | 3pm | Westfields | H | | | | | | | |
| 08/Mar | 7:45pm | Lydney Town | H | | | | | | | |
| 12/Mar | 7:45pm | Highworth Town | H | | | | | | | |
| 16/Mar | 3pm | Cinderford Town | A | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|
| TOTAL APPEARANCES | 29 | 11 | 24 |
| STARTS | 29 | 6 | 23 |
| SUBSTITUTE | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| UNUSED SUBSTITUTE | 0 | 2 | 2 |

- *Tuffley Rovers won 4-1 on penalties
- ** Tuffley Rovers won 4-3 on penalties
- ***Tuffley Rovers won 5-4 on penalties

Goalscorers

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Walters, Connor | 9 | Birkett, Henry | 2 |
| Chambers, Karnell | 7 | Hicks, Sammie | 1 |
| Rhodes, Jake | 5 | Marquez Espada, Minolo | 1 |
| Alder, Kieran | 5 | Mann, Warren | 1 |
| Pritchett, Mark | 4 | Martin, Jamie | 1 |
| White, Jake | 4 | Lomotey, Yeshaya | 1 |
| Shyamapant, Tomos | 2 | Radford, Joshua | 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.

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.

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.

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 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.

Tyrese Griffin

Defence

Recently signed from Hartpury University. Left-sided player who is comfortable on the ball and works hard for the team. Can play further forward.

2023/24 PLAYER PROFILES

Dan Lander

Defence

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

Sam Hill

Defence

A full-back who returned to the club this season, after living in Dubai in recent years. Has now made over 130 appearances for the club and offers intelligence and leadership amongst other attributes. Not a frequent goalscorer but offers a good option from set-pieces and is comfortable on the ball, as well as hardworking, meaning he can't offer an option higher up the pitch.

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!

Max Harper-Emerson

Defence/Midfield

Joined in 2023 - 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 injury problems behind him and challenge for a regular place in the side.

Jake White

Midfield

Signed from Longlevens, where he had a short spell after time at Roman Glass St. George and Weston-Super-Mare. Offers more of an attacking option than several of his rivals for the place in the middle of the park and is a regular goalscorer.

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.

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

2023/24 PLAYER PROFILES

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.

Jack Twyman

Midfield

'Twy' has played at a good level, with plenty of Southern League experience at Slimbridge and Yate Town. Calm on the ball, creative, destructive...has all the qualities of a top midfielder.

Joshua Radford

Forward

Another recent signing from Hartpury University who is a pacy wide player who has previously been at Tiverton Town. Likely to create and convert goals if his early performances are a sign of things to come.

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.

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. Quick, strong and full of trickery, this mercurial talent could be a really fantastic addition to the Rovers squad. A goalscoring threat but also works hard for the team.

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.

Karnell Chambers

Forward

Experienced at a higher level, this is a player who Neil Mustoe was delighted to sign in November 2023. Has previously been at Gloucester City, Hungerford Town, North Leigh, as well as a spell overseas, and is a goalscorer equally at home wide or in the middle.

Brad Bevan

Forward

Recent signing from Fairford Town. Incredibly hardworking and tenacious, a real team player. Runs all day and although he isn't a prolific goalscorer is already looking like an excellent signing. Can play wide or down the centre.

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 we look at questions and answers relating to the name Marsh...

1. The only player with the surname Marsh to have played international football for England was Rodney Marsh. How many caps did he win between November 1971 and January 1973?

2. Mike Marsh (pictured) played for Liverpool between 1987 and 1993. He then went on to play for West Ham United, Coventy City, Turkish club Galatasaray, and Southend United before retiring due to injury. He made just over 100 appearances for Liverpool before the manager used him as part of the deal to bring Julian Dicks to Anfield. Which manager was it, who later signed Marsh for another of his clubs?



3. Not quite 'Marsh' but from which club did Jesse Marsch join Leeds United as their manager in 2022?

4. Which National League club, who used to have an associated team in the Hellenic League, until 2018, play their home fixtures at Marsh Lane?

5. Back to the most famous footballer with the surname in question, Rodney Marsh, to finish. He played for five clubs and he is pictured below in the kits of each club, three in England, one in Ireland and one in the US. Can you name them all?



Quiz Answers: (1) Nine caps; (2) Graeme Souness; (3) Red Bull Salzburg; (4) Oxford City; (5) a – Fulham / b – Queens Park Rangers / c – Manchester City / d – Cork Hibernians / e – Tampa Bay Rowdies.



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Brimscombe & Thrupp – History



Brimscombe A.F.C. was founded in 1886 – the same year as the Gloucestershire Football Association!

The G.F.A. friendlies were played until the competitive league was formed in 1890. In 1902 the Stroud League was founded and Brimscombe were its first winners. Just after the First World War the Northern Senior League appeared. Its first season was 1922 and once again Brimscombe were the very first champions. Football was interrupted during the Second World War (1939–1945) but the game continued at 'The Meadow' where matches between the Army, Navy, Air Force and a team called 'Brimscombe Wanderers' took place.

When the Gloucestershire County League was first formed in 1968/9, Brimscombe – affectionately known as "The Lilywhites", were again founder members, along with other local sides Forest Green Rovers and Stonehouse Town. In 1973/4 The Lilywhites, amid some controversy, found themselves back in the Senior League, just failing by one vote to secure a place in the Hellenic League.

It was at this time the Club experienced a difficult period and in the late 1970's Brimscombe and Thrupp amalgamated to secure both Club's futures. The Club hit a purple patch in the 1980's and won the Senior League Division One and Two and the County Cup all in the space of three seasons, eventually being promoted back to the County League and finishing 4th in 1987. There then followed many years of varying fortunes for the club including relegation to the lower leagues. However, in 2008 there were major changes to the Club Committee and the Football Management which immediately brought a successful period for the club.

In season 2008/9 the First Eleven managed by Phil Baker were Runners-up to Longlevens and were promoted once again into the County League for the third time in its History.

In 2011 Brimscombe & Thrupp F.C. won the Gloucestershire County League for the first time and gained promotion to the Hellenic League under Phil Baker. Since promotion major redevelopments of the ground have taken place including an extension to the clubhouse and the installation of floodlights.

Season 2012/13 saw Brimscombe & Thrupp F.C. win the UHlsport Hellenic League Division 1 West and gain acceptance into the Premier League. More ground improvements were undertaken which included a new 100 standing/100 seating stand and further walkways around the pitch.

Season 2013/14 saw Brimscombe & Thrupp F.C. playing in the highest league in the clubs history, the ground improvements were complete with the new stand finished and other improvements made. The club experienced its first ever F.A. Vase football and were quite successful reaching the first round proper. The season was also made memorable with the First XI winning three cup finals – those being the Stroud & District Charity Cup, the Hellenic League Flying Press Floodlit Cup and the Hellenic League Supplementary Cup.

Season 2014/15 was another historic occasion with the side playing in the F.A. Cup for the first time in its history.

The club continued to go from strength to strength during season 2015/16 and saw the team end in fifth position, its highest league finish in its history. The upgrade of the club continues with works being carried out as required by Step 5 football.

2016/17 was another great season for the club when we appeared in three cup semi finals and saw the club have their best FA cup to date, eventually losing in the third qualifying round at Weymouth.

Season 2017/18 saw Brimscombe & Thrupp win the GFA Trophy for the first time in its history and finish sixth place in the League.

Season 2018/19 saw us reach our highest league position in the clubs history, however, second place was not enough to see us gain promotion.

Season 2019/20 was virtually wiped out by the Covid pandemic which affected all levels of football throughout the country this continued into season 2020/21 which also had restrictions put on us.

Season 2021/22 gave us a season with Covid restrictions which in most cases were lifted, it was in this season we once again made the GFA Cup final, however, disappointingly lost, but once again we finished the season in a creditable ninth place.

Season 2022/23 again saw us finish in 9th place.



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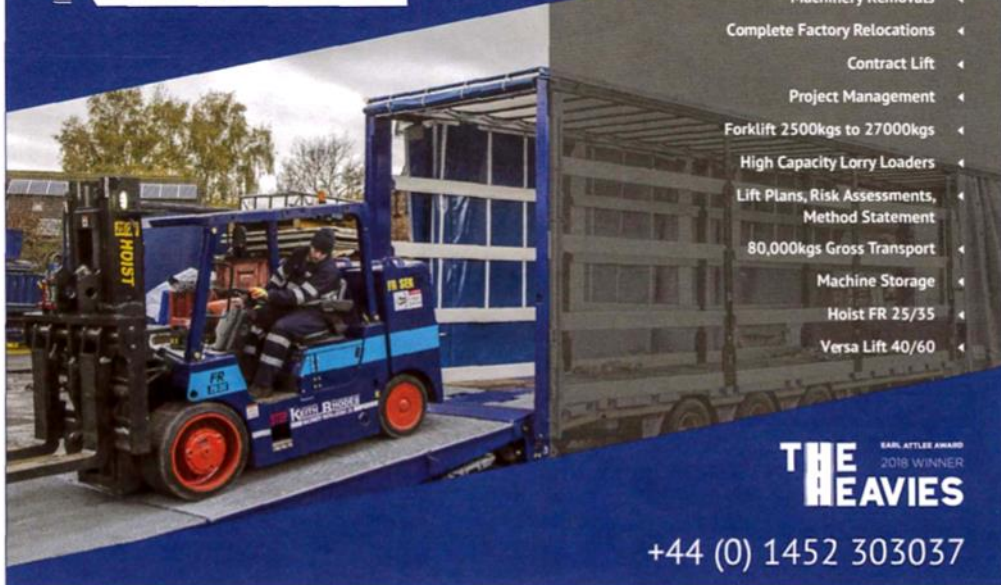
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TUFFLEY ROVERS



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

Luke Merchant ©

Sam Hill

Alex Barrett

Joel White

Macaulay Herbert

Callum McGuirk

Jake White

Henry Birkett

Connor Walters

Bradley Bevan

Karnell Chambers

Liam Smith

Tomos Shyamapant

Daniel Lander

Warren Mann

Mark Pritchett

Joshua Radford

Jack Twyman

Harry Victor

V



BRIMSCOMBE & THRUPP

White shirts; Blue shorts; Blue socks (GK: Green).

Jordan Schofield

Callum Preece

Josh Jones

Ben Deakin ©

Jack Bartman

Elijah Simpson

Jack Freeman

Dean Turner

Jack Hughes

Ollie Pitt

Sam Folkes

Jonty Welch

Jack Freeman

Jamie Bremner

Liam Harper

Jay Stratford

Tom Black

Harlie Price

Ryan Ponting

Neil Mustoe

Liam O'Neill

Sam Tandy (Physio)

Alex Butler (Coach)

Tim Hall (Coach)

Manager

Asst. Manager

Other Occupants

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Tim Wilkins

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Tom Tidy (Physio)

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