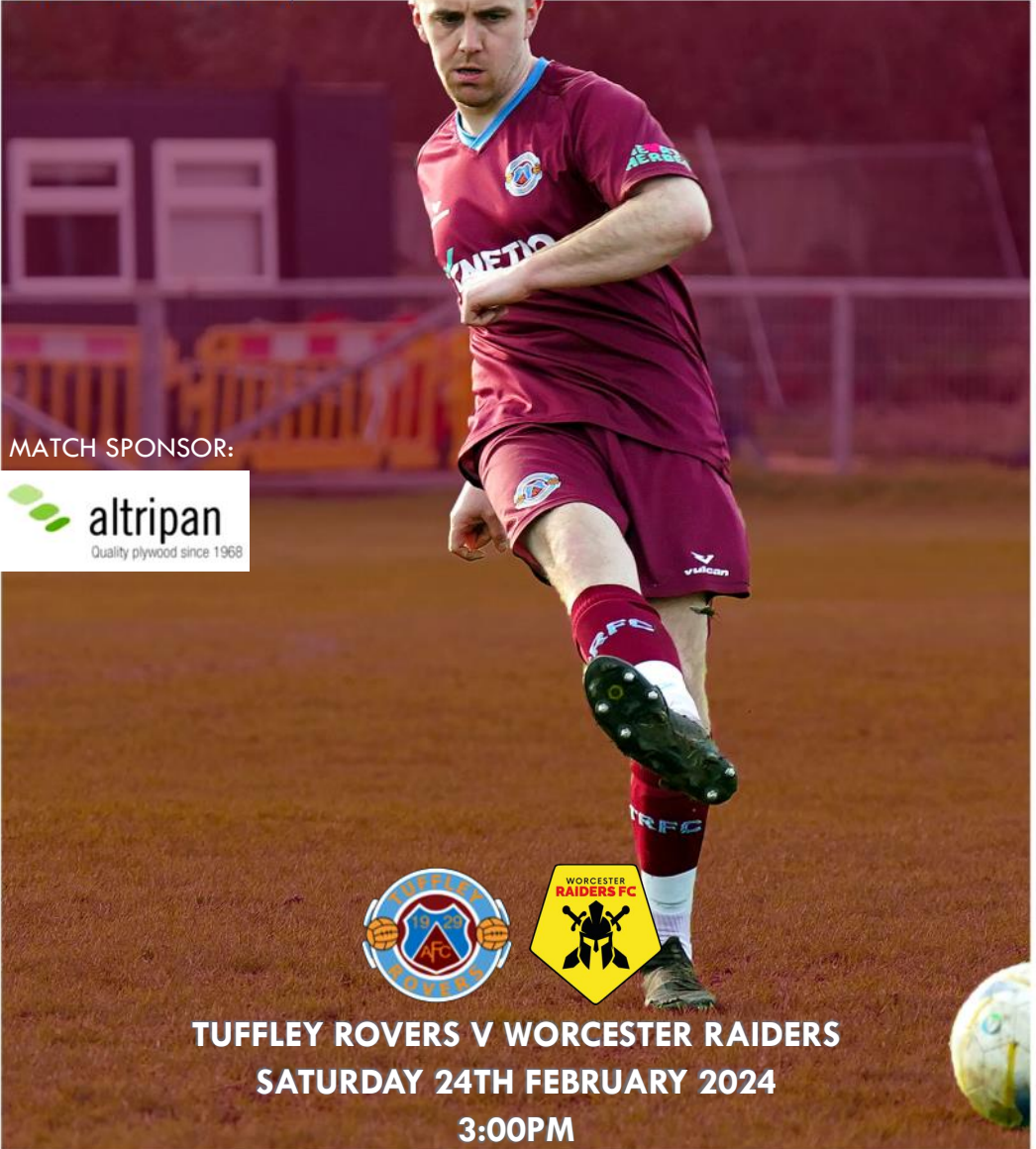


TUFFLEY AFC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 23/24

19



MATCH SPONSOR:



TUFFLEY ROVERS V WORCESTER RAIDERS
SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2024
3:00PM

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION





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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

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

I tried to be positive in my last programme note, when we hosted Hereford Lads Club, and ditching my usual dour persona appeared to be doing the trick. Then a 3-0 lead counted for nothing as the game was abandoned, so I took my positivity to Hereford Pegasus and it counted for nothing.

So, today we welcome Worcester Raiders to Glevum Park; a side we have never won against in a competitive fixture and who have scored 8 times against us, with only two goals in our favour. We seem to have a poor record against them, so no positivity here. Well, not in writing at least!

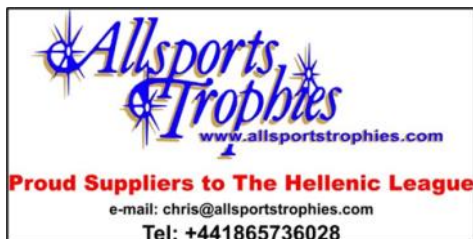
The weather seems to have been consistently poor in recent weeks (or is it months?) so we've hit a path where you never know if a game will go ahead. At the time of writing (the Thursday evening before the game) we've had a deluge of rain throughout the day but when I checked the pitch at 7:30pm it wasn't far off being ready for the game, although a little soggy, so that will be my optimism for this week's note – I am hopeful you'll be reading this and then enjoying the game of football.

Getting the game on will be important to our U15s Whites team today, as they are taking part in a sponsored cycle covering the distance from Gloucester to their end-of-season tour destination, the Isle of Wight. They'll be outside the bar today, trying to cover the distance to the Isle and back (260 miles), and hopefully raise enough money to help fund some of the costs associated to the trip. If you have any spare change I'm sure they'd appreciate the support.

I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil

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SPONSORS OF TUFFLEY ROVERS 2023/24 SEASON

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Uhtsport Hellenic League, Premier Division

Brimscombe & Thrupp v Roman Glass St George

Cinderford Town v Hereford Lads Club

Longlevens v Pershore Town

Lydney Town v Hereford Pegasus

Mangotsfield United v Royal Wootton Bassett Town

Thornbury Town v Corsham Town

Wantage Town v Slimbridge

Westfields v Worcester City

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to Glevum Park. Welcome to our opponents Worcester Raiders and their players, coaching staff, committee and supporters.

It's been a quiet period of late for our first team, with no midweek fixtures since the abandoned game against Hereford Lads Club. Last weekend was a disappointing loss to Hereford Pegasus where we were much the better team in the first half, yet didn't continue that in the second half. A few missed chances from us, ended up costing us the game and leaving us without a point.

We move on to today and I am sure it will be an entertaining game for everyone here watching. The last time both teams met here it was quite the spectacle, although the visitors left with the three points after scoring a late winner, so hoping for a better result today.

After today we have a comparatively busy period at Glevum Park, with this match followed by an U18s fixture on Monday, then a visit by Westfields next Saturday. Here is hoping the weather is kind and we can get through all of those games.

I hope you enjoy the game and hospitality here today and have 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 afternoon and welcome to all players, officials and supporters from Worcester Raiders.

A late goal conceded last week at Hereford Pegasus ended another positive little run that we had been on and, disappointingly, it was a performance and game that I believe we should have got something from.

Today's opponents will offer another tough encounter and mathematically they can still make the play-offs, although with the games they have left it is looking like it may be a tough rather than probable outcome.

Our game earlier in the season had a bit of late drama, where we got a late equaliser on an evening against what was thought to be at that time one of the teams challenging for the title, only for a late injury (and thankfully was not as serious as it could have been), with approximately 40 seconds to play, meaning the game was abandoned.

In the end the League decided the result should stand and it was a great point for us at that stage of the season.

Since December we have made an addition or two, had a few injured players return and had barely any injuries to deal, and our form and performances have had a huge uplift.

We have 8 games left, with 7 at home, and I would love to get 6 wins, which would then match our highest points tally since our return to the Hellenic League Premier Division. Progression is what we are after and even if we don't achieve that aim, we are in line to get more points than in recent seasons and just want to see out the season with momentum and positivity.

I hope you can enjoy the game.

- Muzz

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Andrew Gillespie
Director

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Tuffley Rovers' partner charity for the 2023/24 season

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HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 20 February 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	26	11	3	1	47	11	10	1	0	34	10	21	4	1	81	21	60	67					
2	Corsham Town	29	11	2	2	41	13	8	5	1	23	11	19	7	3	64	24	40	64					
3	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	30	9	3	2	24	13	10	0	6	31	28	19	3	8	55	41	14	60					
4	Fairford Town	31	7	5	4	24	21	9	4	2	29	13	16	9	6	53	34	19	57					
5	Roman Glass St George	30	8	2	7	29	27	8	0	5	29	17	16	2	12	58	44	14	50					
6	Slimbridge	30	6	2	6	30	33	9	3	4	35	20	15	5	10	65	53	12	50					
7	Highworth Town	26	8	2	1	24	8	6	3	6	24	25	14	5	7	48	33	15	47					
8	Worcester Raiders	33	4	3	11	21	34	9	3	3	28	19	13	6	14	49	53	-4	45					
9	Mangotsfield United	31	5	4	6	29	31	8	1	7	24	16	13	5	13	53	47	6	44					
10	Hereford Pegasus	31	8	2	7	37	36	5	3	6	22	27	13	5	13	59	63	-4	44					
11	Cinderford Town	25	6	0	4	23	18	7	4	4	25	23	13	4	8	48	41	7	43					
12	Pershore Town	29	6	2	8	34	28	6	4	3	30	20	12	6	11	64	48	16	42					
13	Westfields	30	8	2	5	33	24	3	3	9	23	32	11	5	14	56	56	0	38					
14	Tuffley Rovers	30	3	2	7	16	24	6	4	8	23	28	9	6	15	39	52	-13	33					
15	Hereford Lads Club	30	6	5	6	24	26	1	2	10	11	25	7	7	16	35	51	-16	28					
16	Longlevens AFC	28	4	2	9	13	29	4	1	8	22	29	8	3	17	35	58	-23	27					
17	Brimmscombe & Thrupp	23	3	2	6	14	19	4	3	5	21	28	7	5	11	35	47	-12	26					
18	Thornbury Town	29	5	2	6	17	24	2	2	12	20	43	7	4	18	37	67	-30	25					
19	Ludney Town	29	3	1	11	23	40	3	1	10	26	45	6	2	21	49	85	-36	20					
20	Wantage Town	28	2	1	10	13	33	1	0	14	12	57	3	1	24	25	90	-65	10					

HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

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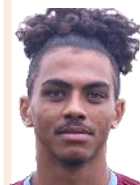


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On (or around) this day in history...



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

Since those records began, we've only had one game on 24 February (although what a fantastic result that was!!), but there have been other fixtures around the date that we have selected to reflect on our fortunes on or around this particular day...

23 February 2008

Tuffley Rovers returned from their Gloucestershire County League tie against Henbury with a 3-2 victory, thanks to a late goal by Gary Cornwall. Another Gary, Clark, had given Henbury the lead but Rob Cook levelled for the visitors. Cornwall then put Tuffley in front only for Henbury to hit back through Pat Mathison, before a late goal stole the show for Tuffley.

Squad: Mark Harris; Robert Cook; Marcus Foxwell; Mark Patterson; Ben Surman; Gary Cornwall; Jon Corbett; Mark Wallington; Peter Thomas; Martin Middlecote; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Stephen Summerell.

25 February 2012

Ellwood hit back from a goal down at home to league leaders Tuffley Rovers to take all three points in the Gloucestershire County League. The game was held up for some time after Rovers' Stuart Griffith was carried off with a serious injury but was eventually finished in the home side's favour.

Warren Mann had given Tuffley the lead on 30 minutes and they held on until the 50th minute, when Jamie Addis levelled for the home side. Ellwood ultimately snatched all three points in the 85th minute when another Addis, Matt, netted the winner.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Marcus Foxwell; Dan Gorman; Richard James; Liam Harding; Stuart Griffith; Mark Wallington; Courtney Hamilton; Shayne Bradley; Mark Ford; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Macaulay Herbert; Jordan Cooper.

21 February 2015

Tuffley Rovers returned from Carterton with a 6-1 victory in the UHlsport Hellenic League, Division One (West), boosting their hopes to win the league in the process. Goals from Kieran Squires, Jordan Fletcher, Macaulay Herbert, Brett James, Shayne Bradley and a Marcus Foxwell penalty ensured Warren Evans' side returned from Oxfordshire with all three points.

Squad: Aaron Taylor; Marcus Foxwell; Kieran Squires; Sam Drew; Macaulay Herbert; Ashley Davies; Jordan Dowdeswell; Warren Mann; Jordan Fletcher; Mark Ford; Brett James. **Subs used:** Stuart Griffith; Shayne Bradley; Courtney Hamilton.

25 February 2017

Tuffley Rovers secured a valuable point, as they recovered from a contentious penalty award to come from behind and hold seventh placed Binfield to a draw, at Glevum Park.

Liam Ferdinand converted that first-half penalty to give the visitors the lead and they looked the more likely to add to the scoring as the game progressed. However, midway through the second period Rovers levelled when Warren Mann showed good strength to win the ball, before crossing to Shayne Bradley. Although the veteran striker couldn't direct the ball goalwards, he did win the ball, which looped over to Jamie Goodwin and he headed the ball into the bottom corner of the Binfield net, from 10 yards, to level scores.



Both sides had chances to win the game but it ultimately ended all square.

Squad: Dave Evans; Sam Hill; Tristan Haswell; Shayne Anson; Jack Overthrow; Ben Tunnicliff; Jake Burns; Ashley Davies; Shayne Bradley; Ryan Dobbins; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Macaulay Herbert; Jamie Goodwin; Harry Walker.

24 February 2018

Despite playing almost 50 minutes with ten men, Tuffley Rovers made it three league wins in a row, as they recovered from going a goal down to defeat Ascot United 2-1.



Dominic Sullivan scored after 22 minutes, with a header that was deflected into the net, before Courtney Hamilton was then sent-off after a clash with Ryan Cooper in the midfield. Rovers' keeper Dave Evans then made a series of good saves and his efforts were rewarded shortly before half-time when Shayne Bradley scored direct from free-kick to equalise.



Rovers then defended courageously, with Evans continuing to thwart Ascot's attacking efforts when the defensive line was broken, before Ashley Bird's cross/short looped over Tim Amouri in the Ascot goal to secure all three points for Mark Pritchett's side.

Squad: Dave Evans; Shayne Anson; Ryan Davis; Joel White; Macaulay Herbert; Courtney Hamilton; Cameron Williams; Kieran Alder; Shayne Bradley; Warren Mann; Ashley Bird. **Subs used:** Harry Walker; Sam Hill.

22 February 2020

A brace from Callum Ebanks and a goal from Jake Rhodes ensured that Tuffley Rovers returned from Brackley Town Saints with all three points and recorded a third consecutive win in all competitions in the process.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Isaac Lawrence; Ben Pictor; Mark Pritchett; Macaulay Herbert; Jake Rhodes; Joe Shutt; Dominik Kent; Warren Mann; Callum Ebanks; Jack Beardsell. **Subs used:** Ashley Bird; Lewis Bainbridge; Harri John.

Statistics 2023/24

Competition							Merchant, Luke	Hill, Sam	Mann, Warren	Pritchett, Mark
Uhtsport 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										
2023										
Date	Time	Home	Away	Competition	Score	Goals	Assists	Penalties	Red Cards	Yellow Cards
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	Brockenhurst	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	2-2***	68	C Walters, Y Lomotey			
18/Nov	3pm	Mangotsfield United	H	0-3	89	-				
21/Nov	7:45pm	Stonehouse Town	GFA	A	0-1	90	-			
25/Nov	3pm	Roman Glass St George	A	2-3	55	Jake White, K Alder				
28/Nov	7:45pm	Hereford Lads Club	MCC	A	1-0	48	K Alder			
09/Dec	3pm	Slimbridge	H	2-3	112	K Chambers, C Walters				
16/Dec	3pm	Thornbury Town	H	1-1	71	K Chambers				
19/Dec	7:45pm	Slimbridge	WLFC	H	1-2	81	J Radford			
23/Dec	3pm	Wantage Town	A	3-2	168	K Chambers, J White (2)				
26/Dec	3pm	Longlevens	A	3-1	227	C Walters, K Chambers (pen), K Alder				
30/Dec	3pm	Brimcombe & Thrupp	A	5-1	112	K Chambers (3, pen), K Alder, H Birkett				
2024										
01/Jan	3pm	Corsham Town	H	0-1	125	-				
06/Jan	3pm	Fairford Town	A	0-2	83	-				
09/Jan	7:45pm	Brimcombe & Thrupp	MCC	H	1-2	51	B Bevan			
16/Jan	7:45pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	A	0-1	78	-				
20/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United	A	1-1	174	K Alder				
27/Jan	3pm	Roman Glass St. George	H	2-1	78	O.G., K Alder				
31/Jan	7:45pm	Highworth Town	A	0-0	96	-				
03/Feb	3pm	Pershore Town	A	2-0	91	J White, J Rhodes				
17/Feb	3pm	Hereford Pegasus	A	1-2	73	H Birkett				
24/Feb	3pm	Worcester Raiders	H							
02/Mar	3pm	Westfields	H							
08/Mar	7:45pm	Lydney Town	H							
12/Mar	7:45pm	Brimcombe & Thrupp	H							
16/Mar	3pm	Cinderford Town	A							
23/Mar	3pm	Fairford Town	H							
29/Mar	3pm	Hereford Lads Club	H							
06/Apr	3pm	Highworth Town	H							

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

TOTAL APPEARANCES	35	11	27	34
STARTS	35	6	26	33
SUBSTITUTE	0	5	1	1
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE	0	2	2	2

Goalscorers	Goals	Assists	Penalties
Walters, Connor	9	Mann, Warren	1
Chambers, Karnell	7	Martin, Jamie	1
Alder, Kieran	7	Lomotey, Yeshaya	1
Rhodes, Jake	6	Hicks, Sammie	1
White, Jake	5	Radford, Joshua	1
Pritchett, Mark	4	Hill, Sam	1
Birkett, Henry	3	Bevan, Brad	1
Shyamapant, Tomos	2	O.G.	1
Marquez Espada, Minolo	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, and today we thought we'd look at questions and answers relating to abandoned games, after our visit to Sixways earlier this season....

1. Why was the Argentinian fifth tier fixture between Claypole and Victoriano Arenas abandoned during the second half of their fixture in March 2011?

2. Can you name the two clubs pictured, right, whose game was abandoned in 2006, one of a few Premier League games ever to be abandoned due to the weather?



3. When Scotland visited Estonia in October 1996, for a World Cup qualifier, how long did the game last before it was abandoned?

4. In December 1997 a Premier League fixture between Wimbledon and Arsenal was abandoned during the second half, which was initially attributed to a floodlight failure, before a criminal investigation identified the game as one sabotaged by illegal activity by a far east gambling syndicate. At which ground was this game taking place before the lights were switched off?



5. Many of you might remember the abandonment of the “Battle of Bramall Lane” in the Championship on 16 March 2002, but can you name the three players pictured whose dismissals ultimately contributed to the fixture being abandoned with Sheffield United reduced to six fit players against West Bromwich Albion?



a -



b -



c -

Quiz Answers: (1) Every player was sent-off, as were most coaching staff, as 36 red cards were shown following a brawl; (2) Wigan Athletic v Watford; (3) 3 seconds – Scotland kicked off but Estonia didn't turn up, so the game ended abruptly; (4) Selhurst Park; (5) a – Simon Tracey, b – George Santos, c – Patrick Suffo.



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WORCESTER RAIDERS CLUB HISTORY

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

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

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

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

Season 2022-2023 saw Worcester Raiders finish 4th in the Hellenic League Premier Division, which is the highest ever position in the club's history. That season also saw Raiders enter the FA Cup for the first time ever, with the team winning the first two rounds, against Daventry and Malvern Town, before getting knocked out by Worksop.

APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Saturday, 17 February 2024

(includes selected list of former players)

It has been hard to find much to write about appearances of late, given how few games we've played (well, completed!). Since we last produced a programme, for the abandoned home fixture against Hereford Lads Club, we've only played once, so there isn't much to report!

One interesting fact is there is only one Tuffley Rovers player who has played in all three previous competitive Hellenic League Premier Division fixtures against Worcester Raiders. Any idea who it might be? I'll give you a clue – he has the highest number of appearances for an outfield player without scoring a goal. There is one other player who has been in all three squads previously, starting twice and as an unused substitute in the other game, and that is none other than Daniel Lander, who played in both games in 2022/23 but didn't get onto the pitch for the game earlier this season.

Did you guess the only player who has played in all the previous games? It was Callum McGuirk.

Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	118	34	Lander, Daniel	44	1
Alleyne, Jasper	1	0	Lomotey, Yeshaya	58	8
Anson, Shayne	71	4	Mace, Ryley	19	1
Barrett, Alex	26	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	16	1	Mann, Warren	531	85
Birkett, Henry	121	10	McGuirk, Callum	77	0
Blackford, Callum	1	0	Merchant, Luke	115	0
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Chambers, Karnell	15	7	Mustoe, Neil	1	0
Clifford, Ellis	7	0	Payne, Nathan	2	0
Cornwall, Leone	70	4	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Danes-Rutherford, Ellis	2	0	Poole, Bradley	8	0
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Pritchett, Mark	180	27
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Radford, Joshua	12	1
Fallows, Dayton	5	0	Rhodes, Jake	70	22
Ford, Mark	164	61	Roberts, Tyrel	5	0
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Shutt, Joe	72	15
Griffin, Tyrese	7	0	Shyamapant, Tomos	51	3
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Smith, Liam	69	1
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Harper-Emerson, Max	9	0	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Twyman, Jack	23	0
Hoffland, Robin	7	0	Victor, Harry	2	0
Holdaway, Matt	4	0	Walker, Harry	67	6
Herbert, Macaulay	286	10	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Hicks, Sammie	51	2	Wallington, Mark	220	29
Hill, Sam	130	9	Walters, Connor	38	9
James, Brett	186	64	White, Jake	24	5
James, Richard	125	40	White, Joel	132	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.



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TUFFLEY ROVERS



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

Luke Merchant ©

Callum McQuirk

Jake White

Mark Pritchett

Joel White

Henry Birkett

Liam Smith

Kieran Alder

Joshua Radford

Jake Rhodes

Karnell Chambers

Warren Mann

Macaulay Herbert

Bradley Bevan

Liam Smith

Connor Walters

Ellis Clifford

Sammie Hicks

Daniel Lander

Harry Victor

V



WORCESTER RAIDERS

Grey shirts; Grey shorts; Grey socks (GK: Purple).

Thomas Hayward

Kurtis Wood

Vanny Silva

Jack Horrell

Jordan Stoddart

Tyler Donaldson

Harry Stratford

Dan Cottrill

Connor Deards

Jordan Murphy ©

Zaq Hussain

Dale Edwards

Sam Judge

Oliver Taylor-Bradley

Dan Reka

Jade Ferron

Curtis Townley

Jack Cresswell

Kyri Kourouyianni

Blake Kindred

Neil Mustoe

Manager

Jordan Lewis/ Glen Sitch

Liam O'Neill

Asst. Manager

Sam Tandy (Physio)

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Alex Butler (Coach)

Andrew Cornes (Coach)

Tim Hall (Coach)

Mark Wright (GK Coach)

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