

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

17 January 2026 3:00PM KO UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION



TUFFLEY ROVERS

VS



ROYAL WOOTTON
BASSETT TOWN





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FROM THE EDITOR:



Welcome to all our visitors to Glevum Park this afternoon, notably the players, management team, committee and supporters of Royal Wootton Bassett Town. Welcome, also, to this afternoon's match officials.

We've got a relatively poor record against today's visitors, so despite our recent good form (one defeat in the last ten games) I am expecting a tough challenge here today. Booner has mentioned in his article today that the Wiltshire club went through a huge transformation during the last pre-season and how well they appear to have done to keep themselves away from the bottom end of the table after all that upheaval. Having watched our game against them earlier in the season I think it is surprising they aren't higher in the table.

Our recent results against Royal Wootton Bassett Town have been an improvement on days gone by, as we won here last season, then won away earlier in 2025/26, but we were thumped 4-0 away at Bassett last year and prior to that we had taken just one point in the previous ten Hellenic League games between the clubs. The aim today must be to build upon the recent success, rather than slip back into the patterns of the past.

We have a cup tie to follow today's game and a place in the last eight of the Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup available to us, if we can get past Cribbs FC, who visit on Tuesday. We already have the draw for the quarter-final and will host either Longlevens or Fairford Town if we can progress. Here is hoping the lads can take us towards that mouthwatering option, as we look to deliver a trophy for the first time in years – there is a long way to go before that is even a genuine prospect but we must have aims like that if we are to continue our steady progress under Muzzy and his management.

Our squad has been a little depleted of late, so it was great to see Preston Mason and Jamie Creed return from injuries last week. It was particularly pleasing to see Preston get the late equaliser that saved as a very welcome and deserved point. Also pleasing was see Callum McGuirk – who epitomises the spirit of our small squad; turning in good performance and staying fit, week in and week out – reach 150 competitive appearances. That is some achievement for someone still only 21 years of age.

Also pleasing has been the signing of Jorell Sanniola, who joined us from Stonehouse Town and appears to be a really astute signing. He's made an impact in each game he's played in so far and scored a first goal last week. Here is hoping he continues to grow and develop at The Rovers.

Growth and development is what we are about, in terms of individuals, the team and the club as a whole. There are times when we take a few steps backwards but if we reflect on our progress over a sustained period there is plenty to be proud of. Long may that continue – including the improved record against Jonathan Aitkenhead's team!

I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil

#uptherovers



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FIXTURES

Saturday, 17 January 2026

UhlSPORT Hellenic League, Premier Division

Cirencester Town v Westfields

Droitwich Spa v Cinderford Town

Hereford Pegasus v Corsham Town

Longlevens v Thornbury Town

Mangotsfield United v Fairford Town

Pershore Town v Cribbs

Tuffley Rovers v Royal Wootton Bassett Town

Worcester Raiders v Lydney Town

Isuzu FA Vase

Downton v Slimbridge

Hallen v Hythe & Dibden

FROM THE CHAIRMAN:



Good afternoon and a warm welcome to Glevum Park for this Hellenic League fixture against Royal Wootton Bassett Town. May I first take this opportunity to welcome our visitors' supporters, committee, management team and players. An extended warm welcome to the match officials who will be facilitating the game today.

Last weekend saw us host Cinderford Town in a very entertaining game which ended in a 2-2 draw and was another game I personally thought, based on the performance, we should have taken all three points from. That takes the squad to only one defeat in the last ten fixtures, which is a fantastic return. Hopefully I won't curse the run by mentioning the form and we can turn a performance into a victory against a team whose quality on the field, is not a reflection of where they are in the league, in my opinion. We have our own experience of what a huge task it is to bring a brand new squad together after an exodus, which is what seems to have happened at Royal Wotton Bassett Town at the end of last season, so credit where it is due to all involved with the club.

Elsewhere today our Thirds are looking to back up last week's victory as they host Kingswood at Kingsway. Our Fourths will be taking on Trident today, looking to continue their title push in Division 4 (North), after a very good win in the league cup last week, against Uley who are pushing for promotion themselves in the league above.

Tomorrow our Ladies' team are in action in the County Cup against Ellwood in a replayed fixture following an error on the match official's behalf, as he declined to allow repeat substitutions (contrary to the rules) when the fixture was played a couple of months ago and we lost 1-0 after substituting one of our key players to attend to a minor injury.

Away from the football, we currently have a promotion on hiring our 1929 Suite. For further information, please see me or email gm@tuffleyroversfc.co.uk.

I hope everyone enjoys the hospitality and the game today here at Glevum Park.

Thanks,

- Dan Boon

#uptherovers

TUFFLEY ROVERS CLUB HISTORY



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mustoe achieved an 18th place finish at the end of the 2022/23 season, his first full campaign, before achieving a healthy 14th place in 2023/24, with a much improved squad. The 2024/25 season ended with further improvement, as Mustoe's squad finished in 11th place.

FROM THE MANAGER:



Good afternoon and welcome to all players, management, officials, and supporters from Royal Wootton Bassett Town FC.

It has been an interesting few weeks, and we go into today's game with just one defeat in our last ten matches. While that run is pleasing, we are very much focused on extending it today and, importantly, pushing for all three points. In the last couple of games, I don't believe our performances have been fully reflected in the points tally we have taken.

What was particularly pleasing last week was the character shown by the group to keep going until the end and secure a late equaliser. The week before, we were punished by a late goal, so to respond in that way showed real resilience and togetherness.

In recent weeks, our goal threat and chance creation have been as strong as they have been all season. We've played some good football at times, while also showing that we can mix it when required. Today we face what I believe is one of the better footballing teams in the league. Our away win earlier in the season had to be hard-fought; there were periods where we were pinned in, and although we weren't under sustained pressure in terms of chances conceded, we saw very little of the ball at times and were wasteful when we did have it.

As with any team in and around the lower end of the table, every result matters as we move past the festive period. Hopefully we can secure the win today, as I still believe we can push for a top-six to top-ten finish and improve on last season's points total. We need belief and confidence going forward, but not overconfidence that costs us our focus.

Where we finish this season will have an impact on recruitment and retention going into next year, so we will be driving hard to keep this momentum going.

Enjoy the game. Thank you for your support.

- Muzz

#upthrovers



HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 10 January 2026

		Home										Away										Overall				
Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS							
1	Roman Glass St George	28	10	1	2	36	12	7	3	5	29	25	17	4	7	65	37	28	55							
2	Droitwich Spa	25	10	1	1	33	14	6	4	3	21	21	16	5	4	54	35	19	53							
3	Slimbridge	22	8	2	1	26	11	8	1	2	28	9	16	3	3	54	20	34	51							
4	Corsham Town	23	8	2	2	22	13	7	0	4	19	12	15	2	6	41	25	16	47							
5	Cirencester Town	25	7	2	4	35	19	6	3	3	21	16	13	5	7	56	35	21	44							
6	Worcester Raiders	23	8	2	2	28	13	5	2	4	17	14	13	4	6	45	27	18	43							
7	Longlevens AFC	22	7	0	3	23	10	3	4	5	17	19	10	4	8	40	29	11	34							
8	Westfields	23	5	2	4	23	20	5	1	6	14	27	10	3	10	37	47	-10	33							
9	Hereford Pegasus	23	5	1	7	26	26	5	1	4	20	19	10	2	11	46	45	1	32							
10	Tuffley Rovers	25	6	1	6	24	19	3	4	5	15	23	9	5	11	39	42	-3	32							
11	Mangotsfield United	24	4	0	6	11	12	4	6	4	18	17	8	6	10	29	29	0	30							
12	Fairford Town	20	2	6	3	11	12	5	0	4	17	13	7	6	7	28	25	3	27							
13	Highworth Town	23	4	5	3	16	13	2	3	6	10	17	6	8	9	26	30	-4	26							
14	Cinderford Town	20	2	4	3	12	14	4	2	5	15	19	6	6	8	27	33	-6	24							
15	Pershore Town	23	3	2	6	10	16	3	3	6	13	23	6	5	12	23	39	-16	23							
16	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	23	3	4	5	13	21	2	2	7	14	31	5	6	12	27	52	-25	21							
17	Thornbury Town	24	2	8	4	18	21	2	0	8	7	24	4	8	12	25	45	-20	20							
18	Lydney Town	24	4	2	6	16	18	1	3	8	11	38	5	5	14	27	56	-29	20							
19	Hallen	22	3	3	4	19	18	0	5	7	9	23	3	8	11	28	41	-13	17							
20	Cribbs	24	1	3	8	13	27	2	4	6	14	25	3	7	14	27	52	-25	16							

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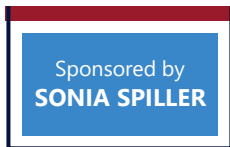
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HOFFLAND**



**ALEX
HAMMOND**



**ELLIS
CLIFFORD**



**JOSS
LYNDEN**



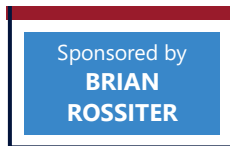
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PRITCHETT**



**MACAULAY
HERBERT**



**ELIJAH
SIMPSON**



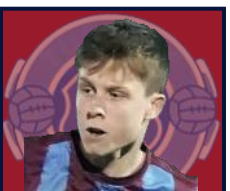
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5/26

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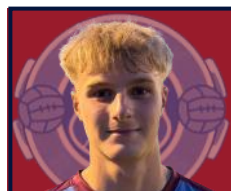
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TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC – 2025/26





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HALF-TIME QUIZ: BREAK FOR FIVE



Grab a cup of tea and something to eat, then spend the five minutes of your half-time break trying to answer these questions. As ever, there is a theme and today it is all about late goals, after Preston Mason's late equaliser last Saturday...

1. Can you name the Wigan Athletic player (pictured) who scored a late winner to secure the FA Cup for his club, against Manchester City, in the 2013 Final?



2. Which player scored the latest ever Premier League goal when he netted a winner for Newcastle United against Leeds United on 7 January 2026?

3. The player pictured scored a late winner in the 2014 World Cup Final, as his 113th minute goal took Germany to victory over Argentina. Can you name the player?



4. Can you name Manchester United's two late, late goalscorers as they won the Champions League Final in 1999?

5. Pictured below are three late goalscorers on a particular occasion (all in the same game). Can you name them and can you name the game that became known as the "Five minute final", as well as the teams and final score?



Quiz Answers: (1) Ben Watson; (2) Harvey Barnes; (3) Mario Gotzke scored the winner for Germany in 2014; (4) Alan Sunderland – all three scored in the closing minutes of the 1979 FA Cup Final, with Manchester United recovering from 2-0 down to equalise, scoring in the 86th and 88th minutes, only for Alan Sunderland to score an 89th minute winner for Arsenal.

STATISTICS 2025/26

Competition

Uhlsport 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

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup					Att	Scorers	
2025							
29/Jul	7:45pm	Cribbs FC		H	2-1	120	H Mustoe, K Chambers
02/Aug	3pm	Hartpury FC	FAC	A	2-1	104	C Warrington, O Barnes (pen)
09/Aug	3pm	Fairford Town		H	3-1	129	H Mustoe, K Chambers (2)
12/Aug	7:45pm	Mangotsfield United		H	1-3	140	K Alder
16/Aug	3pm	Flackwell Heath	FAC	A	0-1	210	-
19/Aug	7:45pm	Hereford Pegasus		H	2-0	136	J Creed (2)
23/Aug	3pm	Longlevens	FAV	H	0-2	206	-
25/Aug	3pm	Longlevens		A	1-0	310	K Chambers
30/Aug	3pm	Thornbury Town		H	1-2	87	M Herbert
06/Sep	3pm	Corsham Town		A	0-1	140	-
09/Sep	7:45pm	Lydney Town		A	4-1	127	O Barnes (2), P Mason, J Creed
13/Sep	3pm	Pershore Town		H	1-2	103	C Walters
20/Sep	3pm	Westfields		A	2-7	112	O Barnes (pen), C Warrington
27/Sep	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		A	2-1	85	K Chambers, J Creed
04/Oct	3pm	Cirencester Town		H	0-2	117	-
11/Oct	3pm	Roman Glass St George		H	2-3	103	G Valenti, H Mustoe
18/Oct	3pm	Mangotsfield United		A	1-2	230	K Chambers
25/Oct	3pm	Hereford Pegasus		A	0-0	121	-
28/Oct	7:45pm	Slimbridge		A	0-3	174	-
08/Nov	3pm	Cirencester Town		A	0-3	158	-
11/Nov	7:45pm	Cheltenham Saracens	GFA	A	2-3	55	H Mustoe, K Alder
15/Nov	3pm	Highworth Town		H	2-1	101	B Bevan, K Chambers (pen)
18/Nov	7:45pm	Eversley & California Reserves	HLCC	H	H-W	-	-
22/Nov	3pm	Fairford Town		A	1-1	120	K Chambers
25/Nov	7:45pm	Shortwood United	WLFC	A	3-2	44	G Valenti, C Warrington, C Walters
29/Nov	3pm	Droitwich Spa		A	1-1	149	K Alder
06/Dec	3pm	Worcester Raiders		H	4-0	90	B Bevan (2), K Alder (2)
13/Dec	3pm	Droitwich Spa	HLCC	H	2-1	83	K Alder, K Chambers
20/Dec	3pm	Lydney Town		H	3-0	149	C Warrington, H Mustoe, K Chambers (pen)
27/Dec	3pm	Longlevens		H	1-2	253	S Kelly
2026							
03/Jan	3pm	Thornbury Town		A	3-3	153	O.G., E Clifford, O.G.
10/Jan	3pm	Cinderford Town		H	2-2	172	J Sanniola, P Mason
17/Jan	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town		H			
20/Jan	7:45pm	Cribbs FC	WLFC	H			
24/Jan	2pm	Highworth Town		A			
31/Jan	3pm	Corsham Town		H			
07/Feb	3pm	Hallen		A			
21/Feb	3pm	Westfields		H			
28/Feb	3pm	Worcester Raiders		A			
14/Mar	3pm	Droitwich Spa		H			
21/Mar	3pm	Pershore Town		A			
28/Mar	3pm	Roman Glass St George		A			
04/Apr	3pm	Cribbs FC		A			
06/Apr	3pm	Slimbridge		H			
11/Apr	3pm	Hallen		H			
18/Apr	3pm	Cinderford Town		A			

Goalscorers

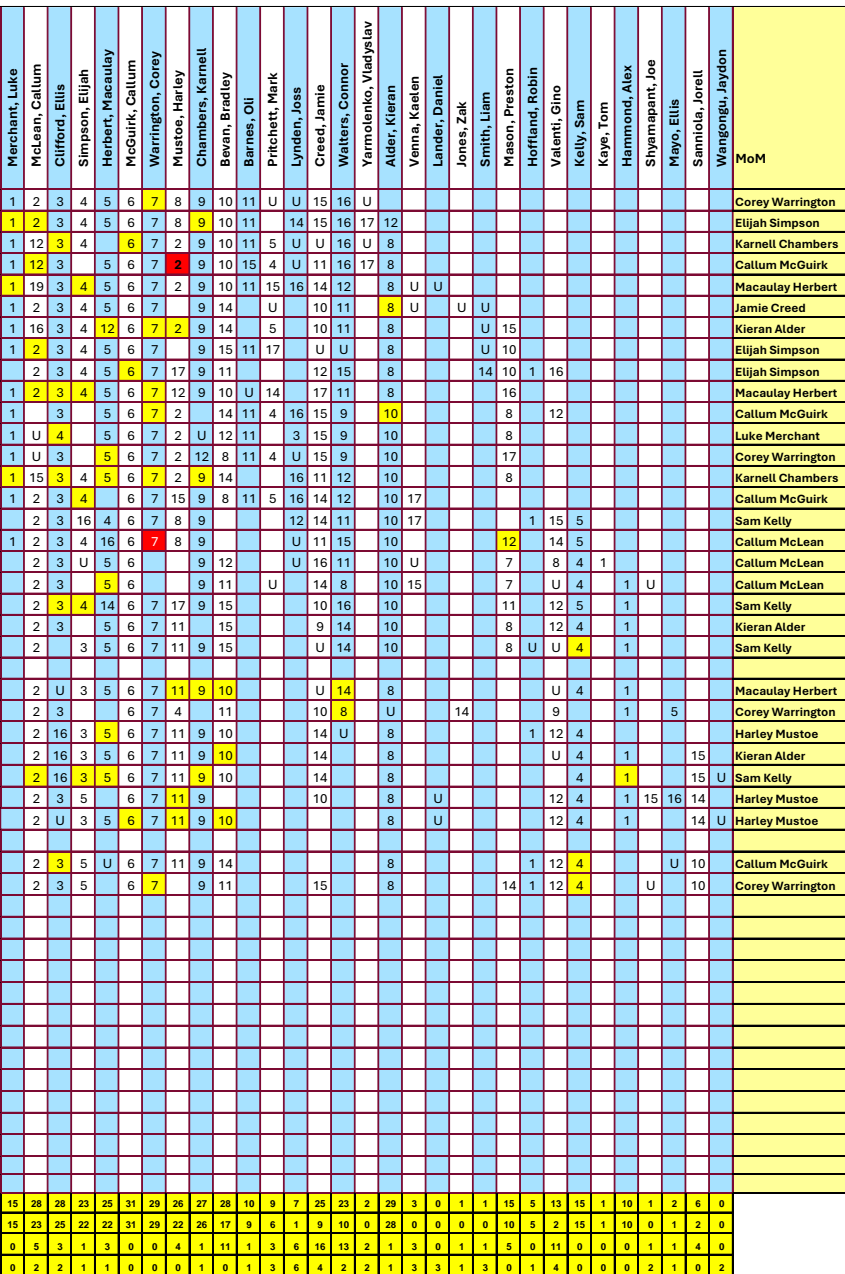
Karneli Chambers	10	Connor Walters	2
Kieran Alder	6	Preston Mason	2
Harley Mustoe	5	O.G.	2
Oli Barnes	4	Macaulay Herbert	1
Jamie Creed	4	Jorell Sanniola	1
Corey Warrington	4	Sam Kelly	1
Brad Bevan	3	Ellis Clifford	1
Gino Valenti	2		

TOTAL APPEARANCES

STARTS

SUBSTITUTE

UNUSED SUBSTITUTE



PLAYER PROFILES 2025/26

Luke Merchant

Goalkeeper

Club captain who returned to the club in the 2022/23 season, after a Hellenic League Premier Division title winning season at Bishops Cleeve. A great shot stopper, commanding presence and accomplished keeper. Holds the club record for Hellenic League appearances as a keeper.

Alex Hammond

Goalkeeper

Join the club in late-October following a serious injury to Luke Merchant and has been a fantastic replacement. Had previously been with Mangotsfield United and is studying at Hartpury. Is a good all-round keeper, with safe hands, good shot stopping and can play with his feet.

Robin Hoffland

Goalkeeper

A long-serving player, despite his age, who acts as a capable back-up to Luke Merchant in goal, whenever needed. Has played for the club's 1sts, 2nds, 3rds, 4ths and 5ths, as well as the U18s and always gives his all. Reliable, in a word.

Callum McLean

Defence

New signing, who has impressed at right-back in pre-season and could prove to be a great addition to the squad. Tough tackling and comfortable on the ball. Came through the U18s at local rivals Longlevens.

Elijah Simpson

Defence

Player under Neil Mustoe at Gloucester City U18s and joined from Brimscombe & Thrupp for 2024/25. Comfortable on the ball when in possession, shows a turn of pace, and good defensively. One of the leaders in the squad.

Sam Kelly

Defence

A cultured, ball playing centre-half who can also play at full-back, who has been a great addition to the squad. Joined from Hartpury after a season at Longlevens in 2024/25. Has impressed since donning the claret and blue this season.

Mark Pritchett

Defence

Tasted Hellenic League title success at Bishops Cleeve. Previously at Rovers as Player / Manager before stepping away from the role in 21/22. Offers a no nonsense, old-fashioned approach in each game and is a threat in the opposition box.

Macaulay Herbert

Defence

Our second longest-serving member of the squad. 'Macca' came through our U18s and is solid and dependable; an excellent defender who has been getting better with every season that passed. Has made over 300 first team appearances, despite several injuries punctuating each season.

Ellis Clifford

Defence

Came through the U18s squad, after joining from Gloucester City's youth set-up. Made a breakthrough in 2023/24 and has now amassed almost 60 appearances at left-back. An improving and emerging talent.

Harley Mustoe

Defence/Midfield

Has gained experience playing County League football for Hardwicke and has held down a regular first team spot after making his debut as a substitute in our first game of 2024/25. Most comfortable in midfield but has played at full-back and looked very accomplished. Young Player of the Year 2024/25.

Callum McGuirk

Defence/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. Has become a vital part of the squad.

Corey Warrington

Midfield

Signed at the start of 2024/25 after excelling at Northern Senior League side Tredworth Tigers during 2023/24. A highly energetic midfielder who likes to get on the ball and is well regarded in local football. A real talent.

Liam Smith

Midfield

Has Southern League experience. Calm in possession and possesses a good passing range, although injuries have limited his progress.

Mason Preston

Midfield

Former Forest Green Rovers Academy player recently signed from Hereford Pegasus. Diminutive figure who already looks to be a great addition. Great feet and good energy!

Warren Mann**Midfield**

Our longest serving player with 543 competitive games at Step 7 and above over a 20 year period. The player opposition players, officials and supporters love to hate! Has played in all positions over the last few seasons and happy to play wherever needed.

Kieran Alder**Midfield/Forward**

Returned to the club in 2022/23, after spells with Cinderford, Bishops Cleeve and Worcester City; and overcame injuries to return to his best. 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.

Karnell Chambers**Forward**

Experienced at a higher level, this is a player who Neil Mustoe was delighted to sign in November 2023. Previously 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. Finished 24/25 as top scorer for the Firsts with over 20 goals.

Jorell Sanniola**Forward**

New signing in December 2025 from Stonehouse Town and looks to be a talented young lad. Tall and quick, he is comfortable on the ball and is a natural wide player, who will be looking for a chance to break into the starting line-up.

Gino Valenti**Forward**

Wide player who joined the club last season and made a handful of first team appearances, before becoming a regular squad member this term. Pacy and good on the ball. A good finisher, who will weigh in with goals when he has the chance.

Brad Bevan**Forward**

Signed from Fairford Town in 2023/24. Incredibly hardworking, tenacious, a real team player. Runs all day and although not a prolific goalscorer has been a good signing, who regularly contributes a goal. Can play wide or down the centre and is a clever player who has become a vital part of the squad.

Jamie Creed**Forward**

Signed on a dual registration basis from County League side Gala Wilton last season, he is an old fashioned striker – tall, good with his back to goal and already a regular goalscorer. Still only 17, he is attached to Gloucester City, too, and has the potential to be a star in the future.

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. Still in the formative stage of his coaching journey but offers great support to Muzzy and is an important presence in the first team set-up.

Kayleigh Brown**Physio**

Joined in 2025/26 and a good addition to the first team set-up. Also works with the Cheltenham Town Ladies' squad.

Andrew Moody**GK Coach**

Another new addition for the 2025/26 season, joining as our goalkeeping coach after previous experience with Shortwood United and other local clubs.

Alex Butler**Coach**

Joined in 2023/24 after previous experience in local football. Mr Reliable and a really positive influence in the dressing room on match-days.

Tim Hall**Coach**

Formerly with Muzzy at Gloucester City U18s, Tim brings valuable experience and insightful analysis to the coaching team.

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APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Saturday, 10 January 2026

(includes selected list of former players)

Last week we confirmed Callum McGuirk would be making his 150th competitive first team appearance against our opposition on that day, Cinderford Town. He becomes the 14th player to meet that number in our modern day records and the 6th member of our current squad to have done so. Ahead of him are two players fast approaching milestones worthy of acknowledgement, with Macaulay Herbert just five appearances away from 350 games and Kieran Alder three games short of 200 appearances and three goals short of 50.

It is arguable that much of our improvement in recent years has been built on a stability in the playing squad and it is players like Callum, Macca and Kieran who are the heart of that success.



Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Alder, Kieran	197	47	Lander, Daniel	51	1
Barnes, Oli	22	9	Lynden, Joss	7	0
Bennett, Adam	85	0	Mann, Warren	543	85
Bevan, Bradley	94	14	Mason, Preston	15	2
Birkett, Henry	127	10	Mayo, Ellis	2	0
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	McLean, Callum	28	0
Chambers, Karnell	91	49	McGuirk, Callum	150	0
Clifford, Ellis	85	1	Merchant, Luke	171	0
Creed, Jamie	33	6	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Mustoe, Harley	62	9
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Ford, Mark	164	61	Pritchett, Mark	223	29
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Rhodes, Jake	75	25
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Sanniola, Jorell	6	1
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Shyamapant, Joe	1	0
Hammond, Alex	10	0	Simpson, Elijah	59	0
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Smith, Liam	107	1
Hoffland, Robin	18	0	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Herbert, Macaulay	345	11	Valenti, Gino	17	3
Hicks, Sammie	67	2	Venna, Kaelan	3	0
Hill, Sam	130	9	Wallington, Lee	131	4
James, Brett	186	64	Wallington, Mark	220	29
James, Richard	125	40	Walters, Connor	109	19
Jones, Zak	1	0	Warrington, Corey	64	4
Kent, Dominik	175	21	White, Joel	140	4
Kaye, Tom	1	0	Wright, Liam	124	3
Kelly, Sam	15	1	Yarmolenko, Vladyslav	2	0

NB: The figures are correct for all league competitions from season 2007/08, when Tuffley Rovers returned to the County League (Step 7) and include all competitive games since the start of the 2013/14 season. There are some gaps in the information relating to cup games prior to the start of the 2013/14 campaign. This period is currently subject to a thorough review and there may be some variation to statistics in due course.

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN CLUB HISTORY



Situated six miles from Swindon, Wootton Bassett Town Football Club was first established in 1882, making the club one of the oldest in Wiltshire. The club's early achievements came in the Wiltshire Senior Cup, making the final in both 1902-3 and 1903-4, although losing both. The club folded for a period pre-World War 1 before re-forming in the Calne & District League when it began playing at the Gerard Buxton Sports Ground which had been donated by a local dignitary for sporting activities within the town and opened in 1930.

Early successes included winning the Calne & District League in 1930-31, having finished runners-up the previous season, and then again in 1934-35. Following a move up to the Wiltshire League Division 2 promotion was earned again the following season and the team then remained in the top division in the county until the outbreak of war. After the war Wootton Bassett Town F.C. recommenced in the County League with limited success until 1958-59 when they won their first Wiltshire League title. In 1987-88 the Wiltshire League Division 1 title was won, elevating the club into the Hellenic League, where they have remained ever since. The club finally won the Wiltshire Senior Cup in 1998-99 and repeated this achievement in 2000-01. The club have had three spells in the Hellenic Premier and the current spell in the topflight commenced after gaining promotion back in 2012-13. The highest finish in the history of the club, was fourth spot in 2023-24, just missing out on promotion to the Southern League after losing to Cinderford Town in the play-off final.

Since the onset of the new millennium the club has expanded significantly, with the establishment of a thriving Youth Section, a very successful Ladies Section and a Veteran's Section. The club now operates 33 teams from under 7s upwards. All now play their games at the relocated Gerard Buxton Sports Ground, which opened in the summer of 2015 and with the Royal title now included within the name, Royal Wootton Bassett Town continues to thrive as a key part of the community. This growth led to the club being awarded Charter Standard Development Club status by the Football Association in 2008 before this was upgraded to Community Club status a year later, the

first club in Wiltshire to achieve this.

International ties have also been established with Dutch amateur side FC 's-Gravenzande who sides from the club's Youth Section visit each year.

In 2020-21 the club had good cup runs in both the FA Cup and the FA Vase, as well as the Hellenic League end of season cup competition. In the FA Cup the club equalled their best performance in the competition, reaching the 2nd Qualifying Round, losing narrowly to a late winner against National League South side Oxford City. The club also equalled their best showing in the FA Vase. In the Bluefin Insurance Cup competition, they safely progressed from the group stages and then won two knockout games to reach the semi-final but just fell short against eventual winners Kidlington, going down 2-1 in the semi. Whilst doing well in the cup competitions the side never really got going in the league. It was a similar story in 2021-22 with the best form again being shown in the cups with Royal Wootton Bassett Town reaching the 3rd Round of the FA Vase for the first time in the club's history, eventually losing a tight game to Hamworthy. 2022-23 saw Sam Collier in charge of the First Team for his fifth season with a new assistant in the shape of experienced striker Alan Griffin. It would prove to be a successful season with the team achieving their then highest ever position, finishing in fifth place in the Premier Division which was then exceeded the following season with that fourth place finish and play-off final. 2024-25 saw the team again go close to making the play-offs, but they never really made up for a bad start to the season eventually finishing in seventh place. The current season sees a new management team in place after Sam Collier stood down before taking a position at Fairford Town. Former player Jonny Aitkenhead is the new manager, his first managerial post, supported by Dan Atkin and another former player Rob Hopkins. With virtually all of last season's team departing, focus this season will be on youth with some excellent prospects signed in what should be an exciting season for the club.

N (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 this 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 previous game on 17 January, so we've included that in this review alongside a handful of other games around the date, to reflect on our fortunes over the years

17 January 2012

Tuffley Rovers exited the GFA Challenge Trophy courtesy of a comprehensive 6-0 defeat away at Bristol Manor Farm.

Rovers had beaten Henbury and Slimbridge to reach the third round of the 2011/12 competition but were overpowered by their Western League Premier Division hosts, as Doug Foxwell's team were beaten for only the second time in eleven games.

Squad: Unfortunately, this is one of thirteen games since the start of the 2007/08 season where the club records are not complete. If you have any details that could help fill the gap in our history, please get in touch.

12 January 2013

Tuffley Rovers extended their lead at the top of the Gloucestershire County League, as a Shayne Bradley brace and a goal from Mark Ford proved enough to secure a 3-1 win at Berkeley Town.

Squad: Chris Perks; Elliot King; Michael Oakes; Richard James; Marcus Foxwell; Courtney Hamilton; Mark Wallington; Shayne Bradley; Warren Mann; Nathan King; Rutendo Makovma. **Subs used:** Jonathan Meadows; Mark Ford; Marcus Salter.



19 January 2019

Without a Hellenic League win since they defeated their hosts Virginia Water 6-1 on 6 October 2018, Mark Pritchett's Tuffley Rovers missed a terrific opportunity to complete a league double on this occasion, but did extend their unbeaten run in the league competition to three games, as they returned from Berkshire with a 1-1 draw.

Lorenzo Di Felici opened the scoring for the hosts, with a rasping 25 yard drive that gave Luke Merchant little chance, before a moment of controversy, when Rovers played on as Di Felici went down with a hamstring injury, ended as Warren Mann converted Will Dawes' cross from close range. Waters' Louis Sanders was sent-off moments later for a robust challenge on Mann, who had been at the centre of the controversial moment.

Despite having a one-man advantage, Rovers couldn't capitalise and the points were shared.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Luke Payne; Rhys Davies; Joel White; Macaulay Herbert; Henry Birkett; Warren Mann; Kieran Alder; Will Dawes; Shayne Bradley; Brett James. **Subs used:** (None).

21 January 2020

Tuffley Rovers' hopes of progression in the GFA Challenge Trophy came to an end on a

foggy night as they lost 2-1, away at Bitton, despite a brave effort against a side competing across a number of competitions.

Rovers lead through Joe Shutt's somewhat fortuitous effort, but Harrison Kyte scored twice in the closing moments of the game to give Bitton an advantage they wouldn't surrender, despite Mark Pritchett's late effort striking the frame of their goal.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Sam Hill; Ben Pricor; Mark Pritchett; Macaulay Herbert; Harri John; Joe Shutt; Dom Kent; Warren Mann; Jake Rhodes; Lewis Bainbridge. **Subs used:** Charlie Holliday; Ashley Bird; Joshua Bird.

15 January 2022

Despite a bright start to this fixture, with the score 0-0 after 18 minutes and Tuffley Rovers putting in a positive performance, the final scoreline from this visit to Bradford Town showed the difference between the two clubs, with the hosts moving up the table and Rovers immersed in a relegation battle that recently appointed manager Neil Mustoe would hope to avoid.

The damage, on an afternoon that was otherwise competitive in spells, was done by a 45 minute spell between the first and sixth goals of the afternoon, as the hosts produced a ruthless demonstration of finishing, albeit against a defence which was, at times, as porous as the final scoreline might suggest.

A controversial penalty decision allowed Ross Lye to give Town the lead and then 90 seconds later it was 2-0, as George Box ran through to score. Jake Brown made it 3-0 after 27 minutes, before he and Box each got a second before the half-time interval to make it 5-0.

Box completed his hat-trick on 58 minutes and then Chris Walton scored a 7th Town goal with 12 minutes remaining. Jacob Geddes managed to head home a corner from Josh Aldridge in the dying moments of the game to provide some consolation to the Rovers travelling support.

Squad: Jack Copland; Will Ramsey; Warren Mann; Jacob Geddes; Tom Spencer; Joshua Aldridge; Joe Shutt; Dominik Kent; Ashley Bird; Jack Beardsell; Harvey Greenslade. **Subs used:** Lewis Bainbridge; Demilade Yussuf; Aaron Basford.



18 January 2025

Tuffley Rovers' first game of 2025 ended in a narrow defeat against play-off chasing Worcester Raiders, as Ben Sanogo's low strike from the edge of the box in the second half proved enough to seal the three points.

Neil Mustoe's Rovers came into the game off the back of an excellent 3-0 win away at Cirencester Town, which was the perfect response to a chastening Boxing Day defeat against Longlevens, and more than matched their visitors in this closely fought fixture at Glevum Park.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Callum McGuirk; Ellis Clifford; Elijah Simpson; Macaulay Herbert; Dean Turner; Corey Warrington; Oli Barnes; Karmell Chambers; Kieran Alder; Brad Bevan. **Subs used:** Connor Walters; Harley Mustoe; Liam Smith; Warren Mann.

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<div>  <div> <div>TUFFLEY</div> <div>ROVERS</div> </div> </div>	Robin Hoffland	1	Lewis Clark
	Callum McLean	2	Olly Smith
	Ellis Clifford	3	Kian McNally
	Sam Kelly	4	Lewis Hayward
	Elijah Simpson	5	Jack Coward
	Callum McGuirk	6	Harry Messenger
	Corey Warrington	7	George Cook
	Kieran Alder ©	8	Miguel Alves
	Karnell Chambers	9	Ben Cleary
	Jorell Sanniola	10	Nat Bell
	Harley Mustoe	11	Finn Hopkins
	Brad Bevan	12	Gabriel Reivers
	Jamie Creed	14	Rudi Hopkins
	Gino Valenti	15	Harvey Fox
	Macaulay Herbert	16	Henri Parry-Williams
	Ellis Mayo	17	Ciaran Walsh
	Joe Shyamapant	18	Lewis Thorne
	Preston Mason	19	Jake Love
	Alex Hammond	20	Ed Taylor
	Luke Merchant	21	Callum Godfrey
Claret & Blue shirts; Claret shorts; Claret & White socks (GK: Orange)		Green shirts; Green shorts; Green & Black socks (GK: Gold)	
Neil Mustoe		MANAGER	Jonny Aitkenhead
Liam O'Neill		ASST. MANAGER	Dan Atkin
Kayleigh Brown (Physio) Andrew Moody (GK Coach) Alex Butler (Coach) Tim Hall (Coach)		OTHER OCCUPANTS	Nick Warren (Coach) Rob Hopkins (Coach) Gary Eggleton (GK Coach) Hannah Tubbs (Physio)
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