

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

TUESDAY 29TH
SEPT 2026

7:45PM KO



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DIVISION





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FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to this evening's game at the R B Walters Estate Agents Stadium at Glevum Park.

A welcome to all here today, notably the players, management team, committee and supporters of Royal Wootton Bassett Town, as well as this evening's match officials.

I'm writing this after watching our 3rds play here on Saturday afternoon and it was a real pleasure to watch them record a comprehensive 5-0 win over Charlton Rovers in their County Cup tie. The most pleasing thing was to see a team comprising many players who are or had been part of our U18s squad. One of our objectives as a club is to increase our retention and progression of players from our Floodlit League side and part of the challenge is to gain commitment to Saturday afternoon football in the first place.

My personal focus isn't so much on the current crop of U18s - although it was great to see Joe Amankwah, Ollie Samuels, James Wilkes and Ammar Ahmed involved – but on the players who have graduated and remain with the club. Marshal Cole-Perkins, Zak Collier and Alex McLaren all have unbroken service, whilst Dayton Fallows and George Graham briefly left before returning. Alongside them on Saturday were two players who were U18s graduates two decades ago, as Paul Smith and Kyle Kennedy learnt the experience and support to what was otherwise a very young team. If someone said “describe what a future first team might look like”, I'd be happy to see an U18 conversion rate that compares favourably to what we saw on Saturday at Glevum Park.

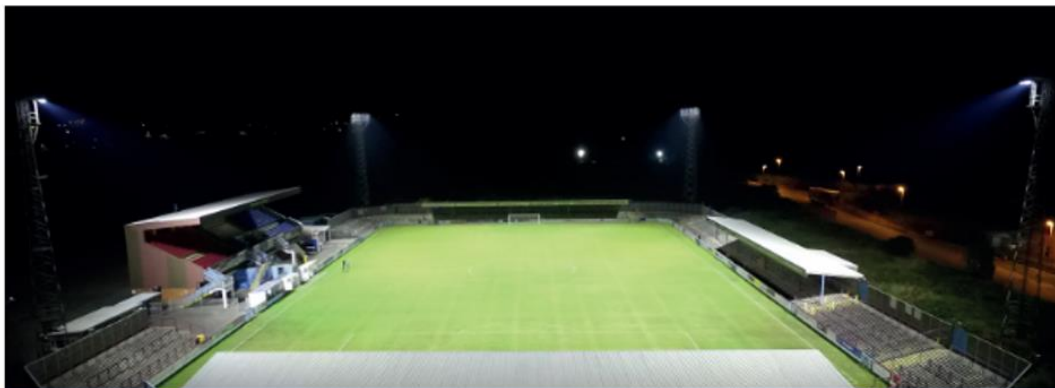
The team also played really good football and that brings me back around to talking conversation about the first team. Muzzy set an objective around our style of play this season and I think everyone would agree that there has been real improvement, and we play some great football at times. There is definitely room for improvement, but I am enjoying watching our young team and the evolution over the past few seasons shows what a great job Muzzy, Liam and the coaching team have been doing.

Tonight's game will be another genuine test of our ability. Royal Wootton Bassett Town are a good club, run by good people and they have a good team. They went through some tough times last season but grew as the campaign progressed, before some positive recruitment in the summer. They will pose a real challenge to us this evening and we will need to be at our best if we are to secure any points. Our record isn't that great against our visitors, so we need to think about getting monkeys off our backs!

I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

Neil

#uptherovers



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FIXTURES

Uhlsport Hellenic League, Premier Division

Tuesday, 29 September 2026

Cirencester Town v Roman Glass St. George

Highworth Town v Longlevens

Malmesbury Victoria v Devizes Town

Pershore Town v Hereford Pegasus

Thornbury Town v Droitwich Spa

Tuffley Rovers v Royal Wootton Bassett Town

Westfields v Stourport Swifts

Wednesday, 29 September 2026

Cribbs v Fairford Town

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Good evening and a warm welcome to the R B Walters Estate Agents Stadium at Glevum Park for this Hellenic League fixture against Royal Wootton Bassett Town. May I firstly take this opportunity to welcome our opposition's supporters, committee, management and players. An extended welcome to the match officials who will be facilitating this afternoon's game.

This is the first fixture the squad have had at our home since the loss here to Hallen on 5th September. It feels like a very long time ago and apart from our FA Vase victory away against Welton Rovers, we have not recorded a win or even a league goal this month so far. I, like every person linked to the club, hope that changes this evening, with goals and three points but Royal Wootton Bassett Town are always a tough opponent and we will need to be in good form to achieve that objective.

Hopefully we will see a freshness to the squad tonight, having had Saturday as a blank fixture weekend, meaning that some players who have been carrying knocks will hopefully have recovered and put the knocks behind them.

The first team squad are here again on Saturday against Cribbs, so it would be good to get a bumper crowd to support us. When we meet Cribbs we will also have one of our youth teams with us for the day, as match-day mascots, which is part of a concerted effort to get the youngsters watching the first team and enjoying a day out.

I hope everyone enjoys the hospitality and the game here this evening, and have yourselves a safe journey home.

Thanks,

Dan

#uptherovers



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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) and has overseen an improvement in each season since that time, culminating in a 10th place finish at the end of the 2025/26 season.

FROM THE MANAGER



Good evening and welcome to all players, officials and supporters of both clubs to The R B Walters Estate Agents Stadium at Glevum Park.

After a great start to the season, based on the fixture schedule handed to us and then how we have performed, things were looking very positive. Now, with three League defeats in a row, you would possibly expect a confidence boost is needed to even begin to get back on track.

The reality is that we actually feel confident in our ability and having gone over the footage from the last three games, following reflection and when you have taken the emotion out of the game, our management team have found positives which we want to use to take us forward.

Trust in the group is high and we want to move forward and progress together. Looking at all results over the first month it looks like a very competitive league and we want to be part of the top half which is possible with the ability we have in our numbers. It is perhaps the mental side we need to manage, meaning we do not get too excited when things are going well and not too down when we find ourselves in a sticky patch. We have two games at home this week which hopefully after a lot of tough away games, we can enjoy being home and get both performances and results in the next two fixtures.

We know our home support will be willing us to get achieve our aims and, as ever, I want to say “thank you” for your support. I hope you enjoy the game.

Muzzy





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- **Support children with heart diseases aged 0 – 16.**
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- **We aim to introduce families with similar experiences so that they can support each other.**

Tuffley Rovers' partner charity for the 2026/27 season



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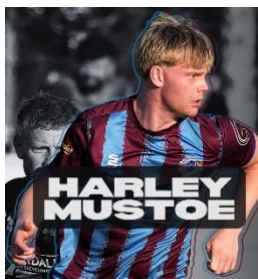
HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 26 September 2026

Overall																			
Home										Away									
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	10	6	1	0	15	3	2	0	1	4	3	8	1	1	19	6	13	25
2	Thornbury Town	10	4	0	1	11	4	3	1	1	7	9	7	1	2	18	13	5	22
3	Cinderford Town	12	2	4	0	13	6	3	0	3	10	11	5	4	3	23	17	6	19
4	Hereford Pegasus	10	5	1	0	12	5	1	0	3	1	7	6	1	3	13	12	1	19
5	Devizes Town	8	5	0	0	12	4	1	0	2	2	3	6	0	2	14	7	7	18
6	Westfields	11	4	0	3	10	9	2	0	2	7	8	6	0	5	17	17	0	18
7	Stourport Swifts	10	3	1	1	12	6	2	1	2	9	11	5	2	3	21	17	4	17
8	Corsham Town	12	3	1	3	12	10	2	1	2	8	12	5	2	5	20	22	-2	17
9	Pershore Town 88	9	3	0	1	10	5	2	1	2	9	10	5	1	3	19	15	4	16
10	Cirencester Town	7	0	2	0	1	1	4	1	0	12	4	4	3	0	13	5	8	15
11	Highworth Town	9	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	3	17	13	4	2	3	18	13	5	14
12	Tuffley Rovers	10	2	0	2	6	3	2	1	3	8	10	4	1	5	14	13	1	13
13	Longlevens	10	2	3	2	9	8	1	0	2	2	5	3	3	4	11	13	-2	12
14	Bradford Town	12	2	0	3	3	7	2	0	5	10	15	4	0	8	13	22	-9	12
15	Mangotsfield United	9	2	1	0	8	3	1	1	4	1	8	3	2	4	9	11	-2	11
16	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	11	2	0	4	6	11	1	2	2	3	5	3	2	6	9	16	-7	11
17	Fairford Town	11	2	2	3	7	11	0	2	2	3	5	2	4	5	10	16	-6	10
18	Malmesbury Victoria	11	2	0	5	14	16	1	0	3	4	9	3	0	8	18	25	-7	9
19	Hallen	11	0	1	3	3	7	2	2	3	8	15	2	3	6	11	22	-11	9
20	Droitwich Spa	9	2	1	2	11	7	0	1	3	1	6	2	2	5	12	13	-1	8
21	Cribbs	10	0	0	3	5	8	1	2	4	8	12	1	2	7	13	20	-7	5

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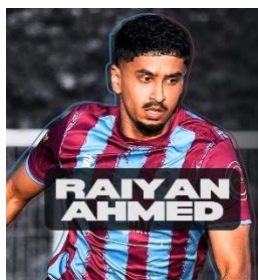
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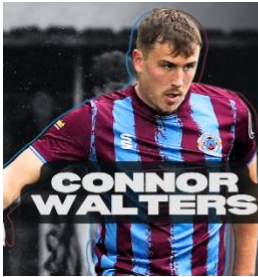
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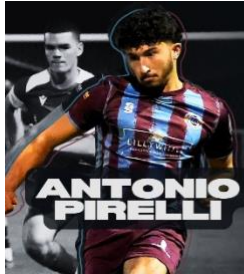
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Half-time Quiz: Break for five

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 all the questions or answers are about football with a Royal connection, given the current International Break for the professional game.

1. Can you name the man pictured, who played for Everton, Manchester City, Bristol City and Norwich City between 1966 and 1982 before having a successful career in management, notably at Oldham Athletic and Everton?



2. Which English League club with a royal connection played their home matches at Elm Park from 1896 to 1998?

3. If we shared this club listing from Wikipedia, can you name the Royal whose page this is taken from?

Senior career*		
Years	Team	Apps (Gls)
2016–2018	Ponte Preta	19 (1)
2018–2019	Atlético Mineiro	23 (1)
2019	→ Betis (loan)	6 (0)
2019–2021	Barcelona	3 (0)
2019–2021	→ Betis (loan)	67 (4)
2021–2024	Tottenham Hotspur	79 (4)
2024–2025	AC Milan	17 (0)
2025–	Flamengo	30 (1)

4. W Faiz Jefri Bolikiah played in England for Newbury AFC between 2006–09, before spells in Portugal and the USA. During his career, he also managed to rack up six international football appearances for which nation?
5. Can you name each of the players below, who collectively make up a Royal group?



Statistics 2026/27

Competition							Merchant, Luke	Ekers, Jacob	Clifford, Ellis	Simpson, Elijah
Uhtsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated										
FAC = FA Cup; FAV = FA Vase; GFA = GFA Challenge Trophy;										
HLCC = Hellenic League Challenge Cup;										
WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup										
Att							Scorers			
2026										
01/Aug	3pm	Cirencester Town	H	1-2	160	K Alder	1	2	3	4
04/Aug	7:45pm	Fairford Town	A	2-2	127	T Browne, R Ahmed	1	7		14
06/Aug	3pm	Swindon Supermarine	FAC A	1-3	256	C Walters (pen)	1	11		5
15/Aug	3pm	Corsham Town	A	4-1	121	C Walters (2), R Williams, C Warrington	1	11		12
18/Aug	7:45pm	Hereford Pegasus	H	3-0	121	P Mason, C Walters, L Blacker	1	11		
22/Aug	3pm	Bradford Town	A	1-0	153	L Blacker	1	11		17
29/Aug	3pm	Roman Glass St George	A	1-4	85	P Mason	1	11		4
31/Aug	3pm	Longlevens	H	2-0	331	C Walters (2)	1	8	U	12
05/Sep	3pm	Hallen	H	0-1	108	-	1	8	15	5
12/Sep	3pm	Welton Rovers	FAV2Q A	5-1	52	H Hulse (2), C Walters (2), J Sammis	1	15	5	12
15/Sep	7:45pm	Westfields	A	0-1	103	-		10	3	
19/Sep	3pm	Thornbury Town	A	0-1	142	-	1	10	3	15
29/Sep	7:45pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	H							
03/Oct	3pm	Cribbs FC	H							
10/Oct	3pm	Rugby Town	FAV1P A							
13/Oct	7:45pm	Cinderford Town	A							
17/Oct	3pm	Pershore Town	H							
20/Oct	7:45pm	Stourport Swifts	A							
24/Oct	3pm	Mangotsfield United	H							
10/Nov	7:45pm	Shortwood United	GFA H							
14/Nov	3pm	Hallen	A							
21/Nov	3pm	Roman Glass St George	H							
26/Nov	3pm	Malmesbury Victoria	H							
06/Dec	7:45pm	Droitwich Spa	H							
12/Dec	7:45pm	Bradford Town	H							
15/Dec	3pm	Highworth Town	A							
26/Dec	3pm	Longlevens	A							
2027										
09/Jan	3pm	Mangotsfield United	A							
16/Jan	3pm	Stourport Swifts	H							
23/Jan	3pm	Devizes Town	H							
30/Jan	3pm	Fairford Town	H							
06/Feb	3pm	Cirencester Town	A							
20/Feb	3pm	Hereford Pegasus	A							
27/Feb	3pm	Cinderford Town	H							
02/Mar	7:45pm	Malmesbury Victoria	A							
06/Mar	3pm	Corsham Town	H							
09/Mar	7:45pm	Westfields	H							
13/Mar	3pm	Droitwich Spa	A							
20/Mar	3pm	Cribbs FC	A							
29/Mar	3pm	Thornbury Town	H							
03/Apr	3pm	Pershore Town	A							
10/Apr	3pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Town	A							
17/Apr	3pm	Devizes Town	H							
24/Apr	3pm	Highworth Town	H							
TOTAL APPEARANCES							10	12	5	10
STARTS							10	11	4	4
SUBSTITUTE							0	1	1	6
UNUSED SUBSTITUTE							0	0	1	

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

Luke Merchant

Goalkeeper

Club captain who returned to the club in the 2022/23 season, after a 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.

Callum McLean

Defence

Impressed at right-back upon signing for the 2025/26 season but has also shown promise playing a central defender, too. Defends well, ultra competitive and comfortable on the ball. An important part of the squad this season.

Will Dijaha-Nsangou

Defence

Young defender who has joined from Slimbridge U18s and made some impressive performances in pre-season. Big, strong and calm on the ball. Looks to be a good signing, with the potential to develop. A genuine prospect.

Eddie Lewis

Defence

Joined on a short-term dual registration from Malvern Town last season, having come through the Cheltenham Town Academy and had previous spells with other local clubs, including Lydney Town. A terrific option at right-back, having re-joined this season, offering attacking and defensive capability.

Zak Ben Ali

Defence

Right-back who joined the club in the summer. Very comfortable on the ball and likes to get forward. Also an option to play in the midfield.

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.

Ryan Williams

Defence

Signed from Slimbridge, adding a powerful presence and calmness on the ball to the Rovers defence. Previously with Rovers as a wide player in the mid-2010s before converting to a central defender during a spells in Wales.

2026/27 PLAYER PROFILES

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 100 appearances at left-back, with an occasional appearance as a centre-back. An improving and emerging talent, developing all the time.

Zak Jones

Defence/Midfield

Joined the club after making his Hellenic League debut at Brimscombe & Thrupp and excelled for the U18s. Versatile, good on the ball and has played Academy football. A regular squad member during 2025/26 so could this be his breakthrough year? Most likely to be an option at right-back but can play higher up the field.

Harley Mustoe

Defence/Midfield

Had gained experience playing County League football for Hardwicke and then 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 or centre-back, looking equally comfortable and very accomplished. Young Player of the Year 2024/25 and Players' Player of the Year 2025/26.

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 who has attracted plenty of attention from other clubs. Added goals to his game during 2025/26 and is emerging as a key part of the Rovers side, whether in a central role or wide.

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, who is also a regular goalscorer. Previously with Neil Mustoe's U18s at Gloucester City reunited at Rovers. Our Vice Captain and a vital member of the squad.

TUFFLEY ROVERS AFC

2026/27 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, usually sitting just in front of the back four. Played academy football during his earlier years, including a spell at Bristol City. Has become a vital part of the squad. Offers leadership in the heart of the team.

Preston Mason **Midfield**

Former Forest Green Rovers Academy player signed from Hereford Pegasus early in the 2025/26 season. Diminutive figure who has been a great addition. Great feet and good energy and usually pops up with an occasional goal! Has become an increasingly important part of the squad.

Jacob Eakers **Midfield**

New signing for 2026/27, joining from Brimscombe & Thrupp, after spells at Stonehouse Town and Gala Wilton. Will add a physical presence but is also good on the ball and has an eye for goal. Capable of playing in other roles if needed, his versatility will be welcome.

Antonio Pirelli **Midfield**

Recent signing from Stonehouse Town, capable of playing anywhere down the left-hand side of the pitch. Good feet, rapid and has already shown glimpses of his talent. Looks to be a great signing based upon early performances.

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; a goalscorer at home wide or in the middle. Finished 24/25 as top scorer with over 20 goals.

Leighton Blacker **Forward**

New signing and a quick, powerful forward, capable of playing in a central role or out wide. He has previous Hellenic League experience, including spells at Slimbridge and Fairford Town. A great addition to our attacking line-up.

Connor Walters **Forward**

Returning to the club for 2026/27 after a spell away at Stonehouse Town. A popular player who usually features out wide and is strong, quick footed and full of trickery. A welcome returnee who has played over 100 times for the club.

Raiyan Ahmed **Forward**

A new signing and a great addition to the squad. Lightning face, skilful and an eye for goal. Has previous experience with Slimbridge, Westfields and Pershore Town and will offer a genuine attacking threat.

Neil Mustoe **Manager**

Appointed as Manager in January 2022 and has overseen consistent improvement. Spent many years as a professional at Manchester United, Wigan Athletic, Cambridge United, Stevenage and Yeovil Town, before over 350 appearances for Gloucester City. A character in the dugout!

Liam O'Neill **Assistant Manager**

Appointed as Assistant Manager in 2023, after a spell as Manager at Frampton United. 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, proving a popular member of the management team.

Andrew Moody **GK Coach**

Joined in the 2025/26 season as our goalkeeping coach after previous experience with Shortwood United and other local clubs.

Marcus Foxwell **Coach**

With over 300 first team appearances, Marcus has returned to the club as our U18s manager this season but will hold a dual role as first team coach, too. A Rovers legend!

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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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-Gravensande 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 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 the club reaching the 3rd Round of the FA Vase for the first time in our 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, 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 that 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. Collier then stood down but quickly reappeared at Fairford with virtually all the team leaving to join him. Former player Jonny Aitkenhead took over as our manager, his first managerial post, supported by Dan Atkin. With the squad having followed the previous manager it was a major rebuild with the focus being on youth. A difficult start to the season saw the team struggling at the wrong end of the table but an excellent run in the new calendar year saw safety achieved, finishing nine points above the drop zone. The side will look to build on that second half of last season and hopefully be competing at the other end of the table this coming season.



ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN PLAYER PROFILES



Joshua Sawyer - Goalkeeper

Highly rated young keeper who came through Chippenham Town's Academy - and was included in their National League South squad last season, travelling with the team on a handful of occasions as backup keeper. Also played for Cirencester Town last season in the Hellenic.



Jack Coward - Defence

Joined Bassett from Bradford Town last season making 22 appearances and scoring twice. Previously also with Calne Town and Devizes Town. After an impressive first senior season with Bassett, he is set to be vice club captain for the 2026-27 Season.



Kian McNally - Defence

A tough tackling, technical defender who joined Bassett last season. Plays at either left back or centre half. Previously with Hungerford Town, Cirencester Town and Malmesbury Victoria. Held down a regular place in the starting 11 last season scoring twice in 36 appearances.



George Cook - Midfield

Promising young midfielder who signed for Bassett last season. A clever wide player, with skill and good pace, he made an impression with the Development team in the Wilts League before making the step up to the First Team. Made 19 appearances last season, with one goal to his name.



Rudi Hopkins - Midfield/Forward

Left-sided winger who joined last season. Last season's Manager's Player of the Year scoring 11 goals in 41 appearances. Previously featured for the Swindon Town Foundation C8 team - including the 23-24 side that won the Community & Education Football Alliance Cup - and Fairford Town.



Henri Parry-Williams - Midfield

Central midfielder who joined Bassett last season making 25 appearances. Spent time in Southampton's Academy as a youth and then Chippenham Town's Academy and was a part of their side that won the Copa Catalunya tournament, scoring in the final and voted club Player of the Tournament.



Freddie Wyatt - Forward

A talented young forward who made four substitute appearances for Bassett last season and will now be pushing for more game time. Strong and skilful, Wyatt is a product of Chippenham Town's Academy and also had short spells with Devizes Town and Melksham Town last season.



Alfie Presley - Forward

It is a welcome back to fans favourite Alfie Presley for Season 2026-27. The forward, who spent last season with Fairford Town and Corsham Town, has picked up five Player of the Year awards in his previous spells with Bassett, having netted 89 goals in 156 appearances. This season's captain.



Louis Spalding - Defence

Player returning to Bassett for the 2026-27 season. The talented left back previously made 95 appearances and scored 13 goals for Bassett between 2022 and 2025, winning two Player of the Year awards. After recovering from a long-term injury, he impressed at Fairford Town last season.



Ollie Smith - Defence

Highly talented full back who came through the Bassett youth system. Standout performer for the Dev team in 24-25, his first year of senior football, winning the club's Young Player of the Year. A first team regular last season and joint winner of Supporters Player of the Year.



Harry Messenger - Midfield

Messenger is a highly talented young defender who re-joins Bassett on loan from Chippenham Town. With Bassett last season, he earned the Players' Player of the Year award, producing a number of eye-catching performances. Capable of playing either in central midfield or across the back line.



Jack Hobson-McVeigh - Midfield

Another player returning to the club, the classy experienced Kiwi midfielder had a three-year spell with Bassett previously, scoring 16 goals in 104 games. Spent last season with Malmesbury Vics and Fairford Town. The former New Zealand youth international is something of a set piece specialist.



Tommy Ouldrige - Midfield

Yet another player returning to the club. In his previous spell with Bassett spanning from 2020 to 2025 he racked up 169 appearances, scoring 27 goals and established himself as a fans favourite who was Players' Player of the Year in 2024-25. A warm welcome back to a brilliant individual on and off the pitch.



Ed Taylor - Midfield

Chippenham Town Academy graduate, who made his first team debut for the Bluebirds in Season 2024-25 actually against Bassett. Successful first season with Bassett in 2025-26 saw him joint Supporters' Player of the Year, making 42 appearances, scoring three goals in an impressive first season.



Nat Bell - Forward

Strong, aggressive young attacking player who came through the RWBT Youth Section. Capable of playing either through the middle or out wide who rejoined Bassett last season from Calne Town. Returning from an unfortunate broken leg that curtailed his 2025-26 Season.



Finnlay Hopkins - Forward

Highly talented forward who re-joined Bassett last season after a brief spell at Fairford Town. Enjoyed a hugely impressive season with Bassett in 2024-25, scoring six goals and providing numerous assists in 45 appearances winning the club's Young Player of the Year. Previously with Swindon and Shrivenham.

**Joah Hall - Midfield**

A highly sought-after central midfielder who joins Bassett this season from Fairford Town. Winner of Fairford's Supporters' Player of the Year last season and their Young Player of the Year in 2024-24. Also boasts Southern League experience with Highworth Town and Cribbs.

**Ben Cleary - Forward**

Last season's top goalscorer who is looking to make the step up to the Southern League with Slimbridge this season, but who has dual-signed with RWBFC for the 2026-27 Season.

**Joey Warren - Defender**

A player who has been with Bassett since a six year old. A talented, hardworking young defender who is looking to break into the Men's First Team this season. Warren spent his entire youth career with Bassett - including being a part of Bassett's successful U18 sides who finished as runners-up in three consecutive seasons.

**Harrison Edwards - Midfield**

Energetic, all action midfielder with an eye for goal, who joins Bassett this season from Fairford Town. Made his breakthrough in senior football with Highworth Town, before joining Fairford where he spent the past three seasons, scoring twelve goals.

**Miguel Alves - Midfield**

Midfielder who joined Bassett last season after returning from a long-term injury. Natural leader who always looks for his team to be on the front foot. A product of Chippenham Town's academy with Southern League experience at Highworth, North Leigh and Evesham.

Management Team

**Jonathan Aitkenhead - Manager**

Youth section graduate and former senior player, appointed as manager in May 2025, his first managerial role. Spent his entire youth career with Bassett, joining as an U10, before progressing into senior football with the club, making his debut in 2007-08. Spent most of his career in the Hellenic Premier with Shivenham, Highworth and Bassett.

**Dan Atkin - Assistant Manager**

A former youth section player who became Bassett's Men's First Team Assistant Manager in 2025-26. He had rejoined the club the previous season in a coaching capacity in the youth section before taking on the role of assistant to the Development Team partway through the campaign.

**Gary Eggleton - Coach**

Joined Bassett in Season 2025-26 as goalkeeper coach. After beginning his playing career with New College, Eggleton spent the 2006-07 and 2007-08 seasons with Bassett, featuring primarily for the Reserves while making a few First Team appearances. He spent a number of years with Highworth Town and also featured for Shivenham in the Hellenic League.

**Nick Warren - Coach**

Joined Bassett's Men's First Team coaching staff in Season 2024-25 under Sam Collier after managing the club's U18 Floodlit team. Been with the club for more than a decade, beginning as a manager in Bassett's youth section. His U18 side twice finished as runners-up in 21-22 and 22-23 and numerous players have made the step up from the U18s into Bassett's men's teams

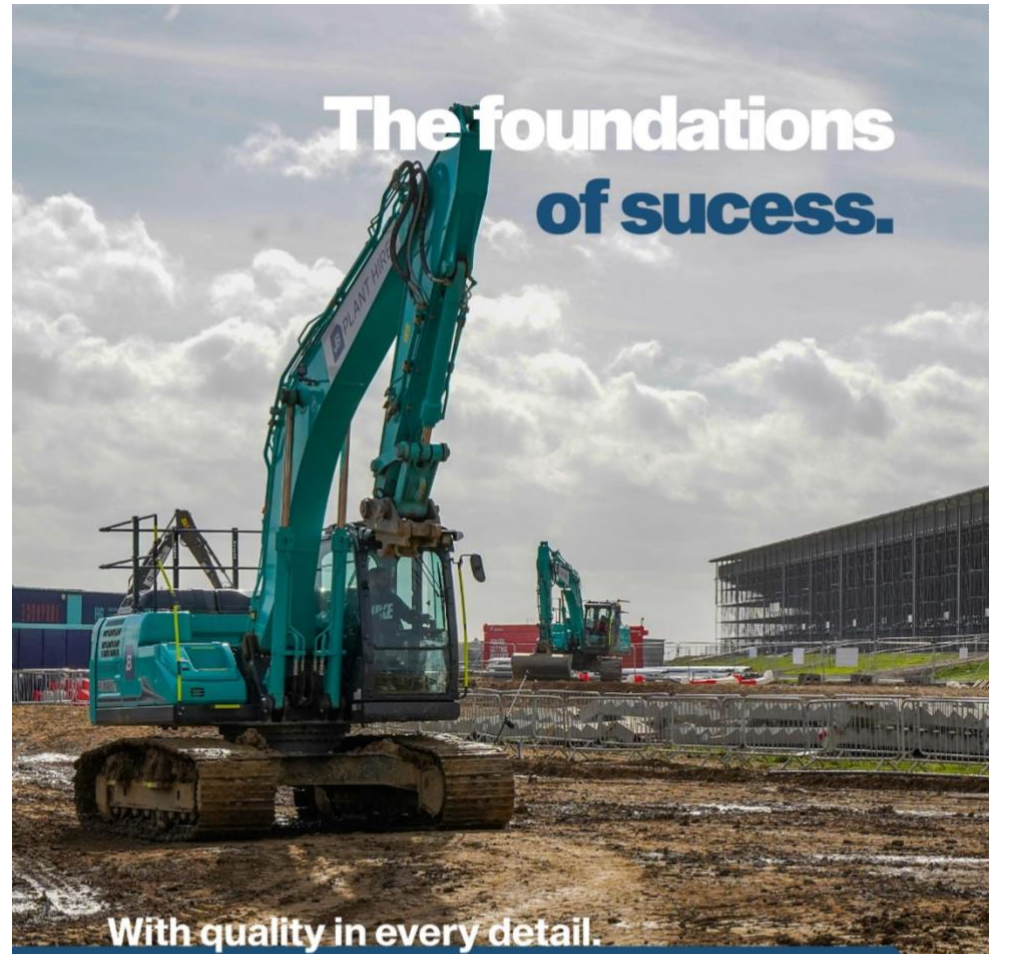
Therapist Team

**Kara Gregory - Therapist**

Experienced sports therapist who has been with the club for over a decade and a half, helping Bassett's Men's First Team ever since Paul Burke was manager. Possesses a Higher National Diploma in Sports and Exercise Therapy and a BSc in Sports Conditioning and Coaching.

**Hannah Tubbs - Therapist**

In her second season with the club Hannah is an experienced sports massage therapist and personal trainer; currently in her third year at university studying towards her BSc Hons in Sports Therapy with a view to then completing a master's in physiotherapy.



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Appearance Information

Up to and including 19 September 2026
(includes selected list of former players)

We had a week off since our last fixture at Thornbury Town and it has hopefully given the players some time to refresh and recuperate after a busy start to the season. Hellenic League seasons pack in many games and it is probably a sign of the expectations on our players that Ellis Clifford recorded his 100th competitive appearance for the first team, only a couple of months after his 20th birthday, when he appeared against Welton Rovers in the FA Vase and 3 years to the day since his debut.

Ellis made a first appearance for Neil Mustoe's side on 12 September 2023, in a Floodlit Cup win over Stonehouse Town at Glevum Park, aged 17 and that was the first of 14 appearances in his debut season, with a regular starting place secured for the last six games. Since then he has gone on to be a first team regular, with 43 appearances in 2024/25, 40 more in 2025/26 and only a rare injury lay-off prevented him reaching 100 appearances earlier than the 12 September 2026 return against Welton.



Name	Apps	Goals	Name	Apps	Goals
Ahmed, Ralyan	3	1	Kent, Dominik	175	21
Alder, Kieran	217	51	Kovacevic, Alexander	1	0
Allen-Ezequiel, Jerry	1	0	Lander, Daniel	52	1
Amankwah, Joe	2	0	Lewis, Eddie	21	0
Anson, Shayne	72	4	Mann, Warren	544	85
Ben Ali, Zakariya	6	0	Mason, Preston	39	6
Bennett, Adam	85	0	McLean, Callum	50	0
Bevan, Bradley	107	15	McGuirk, Callum	174	0
Birkett, Henry	127	10	Merchant, Luke	181	0
Blacker, Leighton	9	2	Middlecote, Martin	88	2
Bradley, Shayne	260	117	Mustoe, Harley	84	14
Browne, Theo	2	1	Perks, Christopher	92	0
Chambers, Karnell	105	58	Pirelli, Antonio	9	0
Clifford, Ellis	102	1	Pritchett, Mark	225	29
Davies, Ashley	190	27	Samuels, Ollie	1	0
Djiaha-Nsangou, Will	1	0	Sanniola, Jorell	20	2
Dobbins, Ryan	87	18	Simpson, Elijah	82	1
Eakers, Jacob	12	0	Smith, Liam	107	1
Ford, Mark	164	61	Squires, Kieran	90	7
Foxwell, Marcus	302	32	Thomas, Peter	79	15
Griffith, Stuart	129	22	Tyler, Deshay	1	0
Hamilton, Courtney	178	6	Venna, Kaelan	3	0
Haswell, Tristan	99	1	Wallington, Lee	131	4
Herbert, Macaulay	345	11	Wallington, Mark	220	29
Hill, Sam	130	9	Walters, Connor	120	27
James, Brett	186	64	Warrington, Corey	87	7
James, Richard	125	40	White, Joel	140	4
Jones, Zak	12	0	Williams, Ryan	29	2
Kaye, Tom	2	0	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

vs

**ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN**

Luke Merchant ©	1	Josh Sawyer
Eddie Lewis	2	Ollie Smith
Callum McLean	3	Louis Spalding
Ryan Williams	4	Tommy Ouldrige
Harley Mustoe	5	Jack Coward
Callum McGuirk	6	Josh Blyth
Corey Warrington	7	Joah Hall
Jacob Eakers	8	Ed Oatley
Connor Walters	9	Alfie Presley ©
Preston Mason	10	Henri Parry-Williams
Antonio Pirelli	11	Harrison Edwards
Leighton Blacker	12	George Cook
Elijah Simpson	14	Miguel Alves
Zak Ben Ali	15	Freddie Wyatt
Zak Jones	16	Ed Taylor
Will Dijaha-Nsangou	17	Jack Hobson-McVeigh
Kieran Alder	18	Joe Shutt
Raiyan Ahmed	19	Kian McNally
Jorell Sanniola	20	Toby Parker

Neil Mustoe	Manager	Jonny Aitkenhead
Liam O'Neill	Assistant Manager	Dan Atkin
Kayleigh Brown (Physio)	Other Occupants	Nick Warren (Coach)
Marcus Foxwell (Coach)		Gary Eggleton (GK Coach)
Andrew Moody (GK Coach)		Hannah Tubbs (Physio)
Tim Hall (Coach)		
Matt Pearce (Analyst)		

Officials: Sam Walker; Martin Pates; Ian Hamilton**Rovers' colours:** Claret & Blue shirts; Claret shorts; Claret & White socks (GK: Orange)**RWBT colours:** Blue shirts; Blue shorts; Yellow socks (GK: Pink)