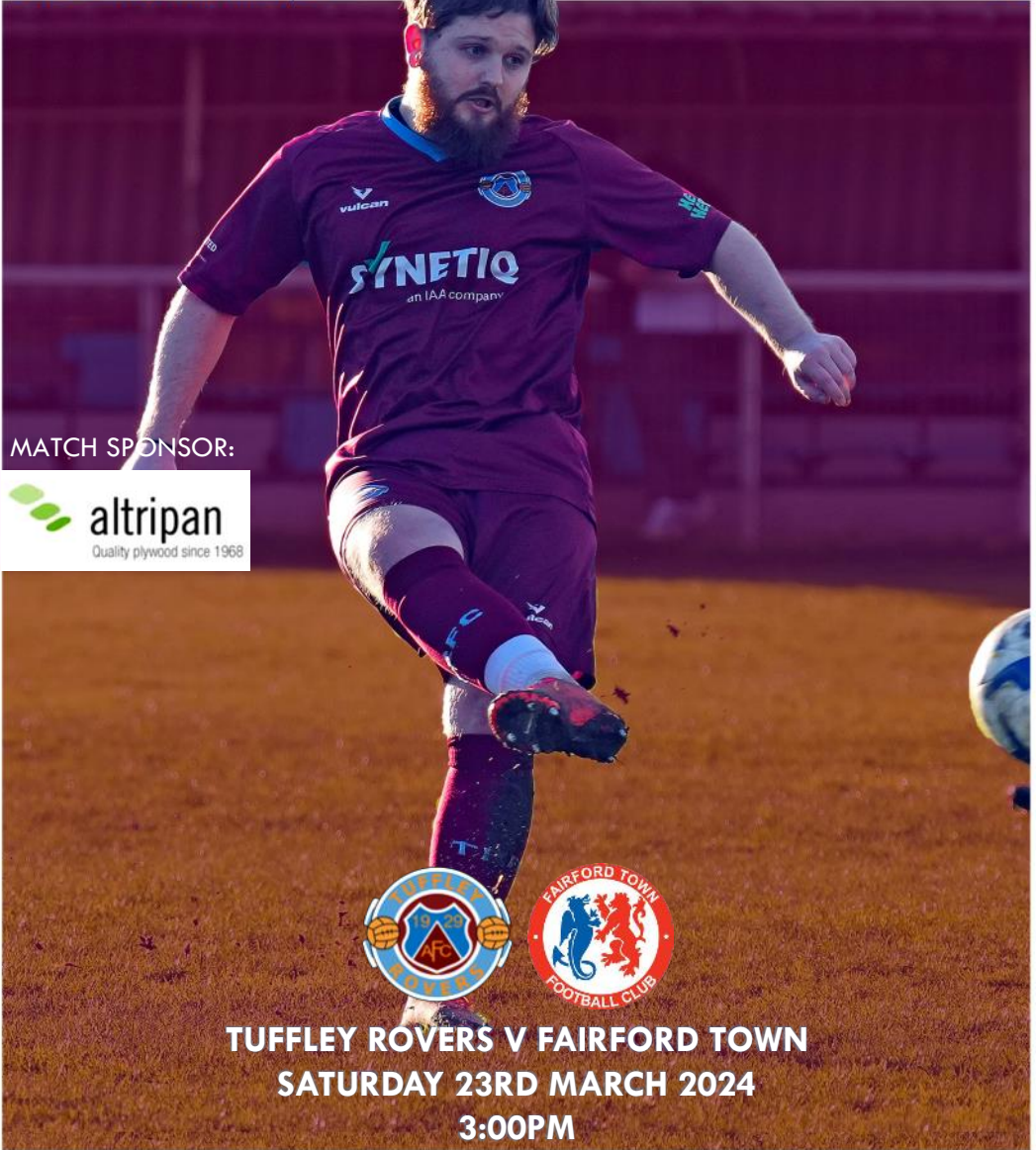


TUFFLEY ROVERS FC

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 23/24

23



MATCH SPONSOR:



TUFFLEY ROVERS V FAIRFORD TOWN
SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2024
3:00PM

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION



EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Welcome to everyone visiting Glevum Park this afternoon for the visit of Fairford Town. I would like to welcome all their players, supporters and officials to our home. A particular warm welcome to all the Fairford squad who once donned the Rovers colours and our former manager, Rich Cox.

Fairford Town seem to have had an excellent season, all credit to them, and are still in the hunt for a play-off place at the time of writing. Our season didn't start so well but when you look at the form table over the past 15 league games, our visitors have 26 points and we have 22. That, I hope, is a sign in relation to our direction of travel, and although we are nowhere near a play-off place, it should give us some optimism for a good end to the season.

This is the second in a run of four home games to end our season, which started with a 2-2 draw against Westfields on Tuesday evening. If someone had seen the first 20 minutes of that game and then left, they might have wondered how Westfields got a draw; by contrast, anyone who only watched the second half of the game might have wondered how we got a point. The really interesting thing for me was that we showed a resilience and determination to stay in the game that hasn't always been part of our DNA in previous years, but it wasn't a complete shock because we have improved massively as the season has developed.

Since we last played Fairford Town on 6 January (a game they won 2-0) we haven't lost any game by more than one goal, and eleven league games have brought us sixteen points, with just three defeats. It isn't sensational but it is a real shift in the right direction, for which Muzzy and the players deserve huge credit.

On the field improvements need to be underpinned by good infrastructure off the field. Today we welcome many of our sponsors to Glevum Park for our annual Sponsors' Day and their support is pivotal to any success we have across the entire club. Anyone running a Step 5 club will know this isn't possible without sufficient investment and generous support from local businesses. Thank you to each and every one of you attending today. I hope we can reward your support with a good performance today.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to read this and support our humble football programme. I hope everyone enjoys the game. Safe travels home.

- Neil

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

Brimscombe & Thrupp v Worcester City

Cinderford Town v Roman Glass St George

Corsham Town v Hereford Lads Club

Longlevens v Wantage Town

Lydney Town v Pershore Town

Slimbridge v Hereford Pegasus

Westfields v Highworth Town

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS



Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to Glevum. Firstly, we welcome our friends from Fairford Town here today for what is a rearranged fixture. The original game was abandoned ten minutes before kick-off a few months back due to a biblical amount of rain falling in the half hour before the game was supposed to get underway.

It still continues to rain frequently (has it ever stopped raining!??!) but I'm very hopeful, at the time of writing, that you'll be reading this with a game about to be played!

We are hoping for a good crowd today, with a number of friends joining the crowd here at Glevum Park this afternoon.

Today is our dedicated Sponsors' Day, where we have the opportunity to bring all of our main sponsors together and say thank you for their ongoing support. Like most clubs we rely on the generosity of local businesses and individuals to enable us to continue with making football as affordable as possible for our players and members, whilst giving the organisations that support us as much exposure as possible.

Our sponsors here today are listed below, so hopefully an opportunity for networking or any supporters looking for any services that they may provide:

Synetiq - SYNETIQ is one of the UK's leading vehicle salvage, dismantling and recycling companies, formed to become the most innovative and trusted business in the industry.

Altripan UK - Europe's leading and independent importer for quality plywood and panel products.

A&R Light Haulage - Family run light haulage business based in Gloucester, fully insured, range of vehicles available 24 hours a day.

Lillywhite Facilities Management - Lillywhite Facilities Management is an established provider of professional solutions in the facilities management industry.

Precision Builders - Precision Builders Ltd is a building company, specialising in extending and renovating people's homes.

Keith Rhodes - Keith Rhodes Machinery Installations Ltd provide a complete solution for all your transport and lifting needs.

Brabow Engineering - Leading UK precision machining company. They have a team of 20 highly skilled precision engineering staff and addition to investment in the latest CNC machining technology, the company has gone from strength to strength.

Gloucester Engineering Training - Gloucestershire Engineering Training have been designing and delivering engineering training programmes for large and small employers since 1977. They are the only training facility in the country managed by professionals from within Manufacturing & Engineering industries.

Travis Perkins - Travis Perkins is part of Travis Perkins plc and the UK's largest supplier of building materials to the building and construction industry.

Dreamshed Theatre - Dreamshed Theatre was established in 2003 by Bill Cronshaw with the aim to stage a range of productions in a variety of locations whilst providing opportunities for both professional and amateur actors.

The Service Centre - Motor vehicle maintenance and repair services based on Bristol Road in Gloucester.

MS Roofing - All aspects of roofing installations, Facias, guttering and Velux windows installation.

We also welcome **Heart Heroes**, our dedicated charity partner for many years now and an organisation that was set up by the amazing Kelly Cornish. Heart Heroes offers support for over 800 families with children affected by heart conditions. They work closely with children's cardiac wards and services to ensure that no family has to face their difficult journey alone, and their support programme includes transport to hospital appointments, social events and meet-ups, professional counselling and a diverse range of activities for children designed to celebrate abilities not disabilities, from drumming to meditation. Heart Heroes' work is funded by the generosity of their supporters, through grants from charitable foundations.

As well as our fantastic sponsors, I must also remember our small and loyal band of volunteers who make the running of Tuffley Rovers on a day-to-day basis possible.

Today's game promises to be a tough one. Fairford Town are flying high and aiming for a play-off place, whilst we have continued a good run of form. This is always a special fixture, not least because we usually see a few former players in the opposition squad and their bench are a good bunch who always stop for a beer after the game; win, lose or draw.

Please make the most of the hospitality and facilities today and if you need any assistance, please see a member of staff or committee member. I hope everyone enjoys the game and hospitality here this afternoon and has a safe trip home.

Thanks,

- Dan

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MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Good afternoon and welcome to Glevum Park, including all players, officials and supporters from Fairford Town.

We go into today's game in high spirits, after a hard-earned draw against Westfields on Tuesday night, which extends our unbeaten league run at home since New Year's Day.

Today we welcome some good friends and acquaintances in Fairford Town, with many of their management team familiar faces from my past and I'm sure there are many more friendships throughout the squads.

Fairford have had a strong season, although there has been a bit of a wobble of late and until Tuesday's win they had gone four games without victory. Despite that, they still have a chance of reaching the play offs and to extend their season for a few more games.

We, however, will do our best to get a performance and result which keeps us heading towards a points tally higher than in recent years, so a win today would be a big victory.

There have not been too many teams this season who have done the 'double' over us and we hope we can stop today's opponents recording that achievement.

After injuries and suspensions took their toll in midweek, we should have a few players back and fresh. If we can perform I hope you will see an entertaining game and good spectacle for all...and hopefully we take the three points on offer!

Here is to an entertaining game, one I hope you enjoy.

- **Muzz**

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Andrew Gillespie
Director

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HELLENIC LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

Up to and including 21 March 2024

| | | Home | | | | | | | | | | | Away | | | | | | | | | | | Overall | |
|-----|----------------------------|------|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|------|---|----|----|----|-----|----|---|----|----|----|---------|----|
| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | W | D | L | F | A | GD | PTS | |
| 1 | Corsham Town | 33 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 42 | 14 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 30 | 14 | 22 | 8 | 3 | 72 | 28 | 44 | 22 | 8 | 3 | 72 | 28 | 44 | 74 |
| 2 | Worcester City | 28 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 47 | 11 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 40 | 12 | 23 | 4 | 1 | 87 | 23 | 64 | 23 | 4 | 1 | 87 | 23 | 64 | 73 |
| 3 | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | 35 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 30 | 19 | 10 | 1 | 6 | 31 | 28 | 21 | 4 | 10 | 61 | 47 | 14 | 21 | 4 | 10 | 61 | 47 | 14 | 67 |
| 4 | Slimbridge | 34 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 33 | 34 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 38 | 21 | 18 | 6 | 10 | 71 | 55 | 16 | 18 | 6 | 10 | 71 | 55 | 16 | 60 |
| 5 | Fairford Town | 36 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 28 | 25 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 30 | 21 | 17 | 9 | 10 | 58 | 46 | 12 | 17 | 9 | 10 | 58 | 46 | 12 | 60 |
| 6 | Highworth Town | 30 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 32 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 25 | 26 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 57 | 34 | 23 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 57 | 34 | 23 | 57 |
| 7 | Cinderford Town | 31 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 21 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 29 | 17 | 5 | 9 | 59 | 50 | 9 | 17 | 5 | 9 | 59 | 50 | 9 | 56 |
| 8 | Roman Glass St George | 32 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 29 | 27 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 33 | 20 | 17 | 2 | 13 | 62 | 47 | 15 | 17 | 2 | 13 | 62 | 47 | 15 | 53 |
| 9 | Worcester Raiders | 37 | 5 | 3 | 11 | 23 | 35 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 35 | 22 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 58 | 57 | 1 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 58 | 57 | 1 | 53 |
| 10 | Hereford Pegasus | 35 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 40 | 41 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 27 | 29 | 14 | 6 | 15 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 14 | 6 | 15 | 67 | 70 | -3 | 48 |
| 11 | Mangotsfield United | 34 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 31 | 35 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 7 | 14 | 55 | 51 | 4 | 13 | 7 | 14 | 55 | 51 | 4 | 46 |
| 12 | Pershore Town | 32 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 36 | 31 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 35 | 24 | 13 | 6 | 13 | 71 | 55 | 16 | 13 | 6 | 13 | 71 | 55 | 16 | 45 |
| 13 | Westfields | 35 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 37 | 29 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 28 | 36 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 65 | 65 | 0 | 13 | 6 | 16 | 65 | 65 | 0 | 45 |
| 14 | Tuffrey Rovers | 35 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 26 | 30 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 25 | 31 | 11 | 8 | 16 | 51 | 61 | -10 | 11 | 8 | 16 | 51 | 61 | -10 | 41 |
| 15 | Brimcombe & Thrupp | 28 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 23 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 21 | 35 | 9 | 6 | 13 | 42 | 58 | -16 | 9 | 6 | 13 | 42 | 58 | -16 | 33 |
| 16 | Longlevens AFC | 33 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 13 | 32 | 5 | 2 | 10 | 29 | 39 | 9 | 4 | 20 | 42 | 71 | -29 | 9 | 4 | 20 | 42 | 71 | -29 | 31 |
| 17 | Hereford Lads Club | 33 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 28 | 34 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 11 | 26 | 7 | 7 | 19 | 39 | 60 | -21 | 7 | 7 | 19 | 39 | 60 | -21 | 28 |
| 18 | Thornbury Town | 33 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 20 | 29 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 20 | 44 | 7 | 5 | 21 | 40 | 73 | -33 | 7 | 5 | 21 | 40 | 73 | -33 | 26 |
| 19 | Lydney Town | 34 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 25 | 42 | 4 | 1 | 13 | 32 | 55 | 7 | 3 | 24 | 57 | 97 | -40 | 7 | 3 | 24 | 57 | 97 | -40 | 24 |
| 20 | Wantage Town | 32 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 16 | 37 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 12 | 57 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 28 | 94 | -66 | 4 | 2 | 26 | 28 | 94 | -66 | 14 |

HELLENIC LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP

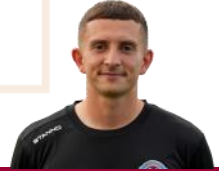
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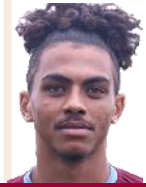


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On (or around) this day in history...



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 programme feature that allows us

Since those records began, we've had a few games around 23 March, although none on that date, and we have selected some of those to reflect upon our fortunes on this this particular date...

22 March 2008

A Ben Surman penalty, in the 60th minute, proved enough to help Tuffley Rovers move into third place in the Gloucestershire County League table, and close the gap on leaders' Hardwicke, who lost for only the second time in the 2007/08 season. Hardwicke had plenty of chances in the first half, hitting the crossbar on two occasions, but Rovers were the side up for the game and sealed the three points courtesy of Surman's second-half penalty kick.

Squad: Mark Harris; Ben Surman; Robert Cook; Stephen Summerell; Jon Corbett; Mark Patterson; Gary Cornwall; Mark Wallington; Adam Hacker; Nathan Owen; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Michael Oakes; Marcus Foxwell, Peter Thomas.

26 March 2011

Bishops Cleeve Reserves hosted Tuffley Rovers in the Gloucestershire County League, and it was the visitors who went home with the three points, securing a 2-1 win, despite being reduced to ten men following Lee Wallington's dismissal. Joe Mogg had given the home side the lead in the 60th minute but two goals in the space of two minutes won the game for Rovers. Richard James netted the first in the 72nd minute and Mark Wallington got the winner two minutes later.

Squad: Christopher Perks; Ashley Davies; Lee Wallington; Richard James; Richard Workman; Liam Harding; Mark Wallington; Shayne Bradley; Mark Ford; Scott Jones; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Joshua Flounders.

21 March 2015

Courtney Hamilton scored what proved to be the ultimately decisive goal, on his first league start since 7 February, as Tuffley Rovers survived a second-half scare against Hellenic League Division One (West) bottom side Letcombe, to record a sixth successive league win and all but secure a top three finish, closing the gap on league leaders Longlevens and second placed Lydney Town in the process.



Young keeper Nick Sheppard was given a first team debut, with Aaron Taylor injured, and Rovers took an early lead through Warren Mann as they started well. When Brett James made it 2-0 and then Hamilton added a third before the interval, it looked to be a good afternoon for Warren Evans' side.

Dan Hoskin pulled a goal back straight after the interval, and then Tom Stone scored on 71 minutes, to set-up a nervy finish. Rovers held out and kept their promotion hopes very much alive.

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

26 March 2016

Caretaker Player/Manager, Shayne Bradley, guided his Tuffley Rovers side to their first Hellenic League Premier Division win since 30 January 2016, scoring what proved to be the decisive



goal from five, as his relegation threatened team brought home a vital three points against bottom of the table Wokingham & Emmbrook.

Both sides shared possession and whilst Aaron Taylor, in the Rovers goal, had to produce a smart stop early on to keep the scores level, Glenn Gittins, Bradley and Davies all went close to opening the score for the Tuffley side. As confidence grew, it was Rovers who opened the scoring, on 16 minutes, when the in-form Jordan Fletcher scored his fifteenth of the season, and his ninth goal in his last ten appearances, when he pounced on a loose ball and scored past Sean Woodward, in the Wokingham goal, from close range.

The game was finely balanced and both sides mustered a series of half-chances, without either keeper being particularly troubled, until the last ten minutes of the first period, when Rovers struck twice in quick succession. First, Mark Wallington was fortunate to find himself with the opportunity to tap the ball home from close range and then, moments later, Bradley headed home, from a Warren Mann corner, despite a desperate attempted clearance that almost kept the ball out.



Two second-half goals from the visitors made for a nervy finish but Bradley's goal proved decisive and secured a vital three points for the Glevum Park side.

Squad: Aaron Taylor; Macaulay Herbert; Tristan Haswell; Shayne Bradley; Kieran Squires; Glenn Gittins; Ashley Davies; Mark Wallington; Jordan Fletcher; Brett James; Warren Mann. **Subs used:** Liam Wright; Ryan Williams.

25 March 2017

Tuffley Rovers looked on course to record a league double over high-flying Flackwell Heath, until they conceded two late, late goals to succumb to defeat at Wilks Park.

Regular keeper Dave Evans was unavailable, at short notice, so Player/Manager Mark Pritchett was forced to don the gloves. Despite playing into a strong breeze in the first half, Rovers started the game well and after having marginal territorial advantage, they took a deserved lead, on 12 minutes, as full-back Sam Hill took advantage of a free-kick award, 20 yards out, to bend the ball around the Flackwell Heath wall and into the bottom corner of Thomas Mason's goal, to make it 1-0.

Sheridan Campbell equalised for the hosts, before Ben Tunnicliff restored Rovers' advantage just before the interval. That looked to be enough for Pritchett's side but a late twist, with goals from Dan Rapley and Joe Blount, secured all three points for the hosts.

#

Squad: Mark Pritchett; Sam Hill; Tristan Haswell; Macaulay Herbert; Shayne Anson; Ben Tunnicliff; Jamie Goodwin; Courtney Hamilton; Warren Mann; Jake Burns; Cam Williams. **Subs used:** Ryan Williams; Tommy Callinan Jnr.

23 March 2019

Tuffley Rovers secured a valuable league point as they held visitors Flackwell Heath to a 1-1 draw in their UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division fixture at Glevum Park.

Mo Ceesay headed home Sodike Anyadike-Thompson's cross with half-time approaching, but Mark Pritchett's side levelled the scores before the interval, as Joel White smashed home an unstoppable half-volley, after Kieran Alder's free-kick came to him in the Heathens' area, and that was the way the scores remained until the final whistle sounded some 45 minutes later.

Squad: Luke Merchant; Luke Payne; Rhys Davies; Mark Pritchett; Macaulay Herbert; Joel White; Kieran Alder; Dominik Kent; Warren Mann; Luke Troke; Brett James. **Subs used:** Jake Rhodes.

Rovers continued to shade possession in the half, with Fairford limited to brief forays into the hosts' territory, and it looked like Pritchett's goal would separate the two sides at half-time, until the dying moments of the first period, when an over-zealous tackle from Shayne Anson left the referee with little option but to award the visiting team a penalty-kick. Although Evans got a hand to the resultant effort, by Milhench, he was unable to keep it out and Fairford Town drew level with virtually the last kick of the first-half.

The second half started at a much slower pace, with far less goalmouth action, although it remained a competitive affair, with both sides trading possession. With 62 minutes gone, Fairford Town thought they had taken the lead, only for Levi Cox's header, from an excellent cross by Ben Saunders, to be ruled out for offside. This narrow escape seemed to revitalise the hosts and Mann looked to test Mitchell again, but his long range effort bent narrowly wide of the Fairford goal.

As the game wore on, the chances became fewer and farther between, with Dan Reynolds' effort, which drifted well wide of Evans' goal, on 89 minutes, the first chance in some time, before Cox forced the Rovers captain into a save, as the game moved into injury time.

In the dying moment, Harry Walker produced a neat, flicked header that eluded Aitkinhead's attempts to clear, but Wright, who had been industrious wide on Rovers' right, skewed his volley well wide of Mitchell's goal, as the last effort in the 90 minutes came and went.

The first period of extra-time almost started with an instant goal, only for substitute Will Tunnicliff to be denied by the frame of the Fairford Town goal. Nathan Blackford was then presented with a great opportunity to put his side in front for the first time, but Evans saved well to block his shot from 10 yards.

By now, the game had become increasingly tight, with players on both sides looking to avoid making a game-ending error, and chances were limited. Mann, who had been fantastic all night, had one final opportunity, but his shot, from 20 yards, span two yards wide of Mitchell's goal.

With no goals in the thirty minutes extra-time, the game went to a penalty shoot-out. Rovers, who had missed all their spot-kicks in a County Cup defeat earlier in the season, managed to score their first four efforts, with Fairford Town missing their second, so that Pritchett stepped up knowing that his effort would secure a place in the final, an opportunity he wasn't go to waste, as he hammered his penalty low into the bottom corner of Mitchell's goal, to secure his side's place in this season's Supplementary Cup Final.

Rovers' line-up: *Dave Evans; Shayne Anson, Tristan Haswell; Mark Pritchett; Macaulay Herbert; Courtney Hamilton; Liam Wright; Jack Overthrow; Harry Walker; Warren Mann; Jamie Goodwin. Subs used:* Will Tunnicliff; Marcus Foxwell; Brett James.

Statistics 2023/24

Competition

UHLsport Hellenic Premier Division, unless stated

FAF = FA Cup; FAV = FA Vase; GFA = GFA Challenge Trophy;

MSSC = Marsh Sports Challenge Cup;

WLFC = Wiseman Lighting Floodlit Cup; SC = Supplementary Cup

| | | | | Att | Scorers | Merchant, Luke | Hill, Sam | Mann, Warren | Pritchett, Mark | | |
|-------------|--------|----------------------------|------|-----|---------|---|---|--------------|-----------------|-----|-----|
| 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01/Aug | 7:45pm | Worcester City | A | 0-0 | 487 | - | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 05/Aug | 3pm | Aylesbury Vale Dynamos | FAC | H | 2-2 | 124 | S Hicks, J Rhodes | | 3 | 4 | |
| 12/Aug | 3pm | Hereford Lads Club | A | 0-2 | 108 | - | 1 | | 3 | 4 | |
| 15/Aug | 7:45pm | Hereford Pegasus | H | 3-4 | 103 | J Rhodes, M Pritchett, T Shyamapant | 1 | | 11 | 4 | |
| 19/Aug | 3pm | Evesham United | FAC | A | 0-2 | 247 | - | 1 | 2 | U 4 | |
| 22/Aug | 7:45pm | Worcester Raiders | A | 1-1 | TBC | T Shyamapant | 1 | 15 | | 4 | |
| 26/Aug | 3pm | AEK Boco | FAV | A | 1-1* | 69 | S Hill | 1 | 2 | 7 | U 4 |
| 28/Aug | 3pm | Longlevens | H | 0-2 | 271 | - | 1 | 17 | 14 | 4 | |
| 02/Sep | 3pm | Westfields | A | 0-4 | 102 | - | | | | 4 | |
| 09/Sep | 3pm | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | H | 1-2 | 74 | C Walters | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 12/Sep | 7:45pm | Stonehouse Town | WLFC | H | 5-1 | 108 | C Walters (3), W Mann, M Marquez-Espada | 1 | 1 | 2 | U 4 |
| 19/Sep | 7:45pm | Lydney Town | A | 3-2 | 87 | M Pritchett (2), J Martin | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 23/Sep | 3pm | Malmesbury Victoria | FAV | A | 0-0** | 108 | - | 1 | | 4 | |
| 26/Sep | 7:45pm | Cinderford Town | H | 0-0 | 157 | - | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 30/Sep | 3pm | Slimbridge | A | 1-4 | 128 | C Walters | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 03/Oct | 7:45pm | Worcester City | H | 2-4 | 224 | H Birkett, Jake White | 1 | 2 | 10 | 4 | |
| 07/Oct | 3pm | Thornbury Town | A | 1-0 | 98 | M Pritchett | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 14/Oct | 3pm | Wantage Town | H | 3-2 | 67 | K Alder, C Walters, J Rhodes | 1 | | 2 | | |
| 21/Oct | 3pm | Brockenhurst | FAV | A | 0-3 | 166 | - | 1 | | 2 | 4 |
| 24/Oct | 7:45pm | Pershore Town | H | 2-1 | 72 | J Rhodes (2) | 1 | | | 4 | |
| 28/Oct | 3pm | Corsham Town | A | 0-2 | 162 | - | 1 | | 3 | 4 | |
| 31/Oct | 7:45pm | Thornbury Town | WLFC | H | 2-2*** | 68 | C Walters, Y Lomotey | | | | |
| 18/Nov | 3pm | Mangotsfield United | H | 0-3 | 89 | - | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 21/Nov | 7:45pm | Stonehouse Town | GFA | A | 0-1 | 90 | - | 12 | 3 | 4 | |
| 25/Nov | 3pm | Roman Glass St George | A | 2-3 | 55 | Jake White, K Alder | 1 | | | 4 | |
| 28/Nov | 7:45pm | Hereford Lads Club | MCC | A | 1-0 | 48 | K Alder | 1 | | 4 | |
| 09/Dec | 3pm | Slimbridge | H | 2-3 | 112 | K Chambers, C Walters | 1 | 16 | | 2 | |
| 16/Dec | 3pm | Thornbury Town | H | 1-1 | 71 | K Chambers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 19/Dec | 7:45pm | Slimbridge | WLFC | H | 1-2 | 81 | J Radford | | | U 4 | |
| 23/Dec | 3pm | Wantage Town | A | 3-2 | 168 | K Chambers, J White (2) | 1 | 2 | | 4 | |
| 26/Dec | 3pm | Longlevens | A | 3-1 | 227 | C Walters, K Chambers (pen), K Alder | 1 | U | 2 | 4 | |
| 30/Dec | 3pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | A | 5-1 | 112 | K Chambers (3, pen), K Alder, H Birkett | 1 | 12 | 2 | 4 | |
| 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 01/Jan | 3pm | Corsham Town | H | 0-1 | 125 | - | | 1 | U | 3 | 14 |
| 06/Jan | 3pm | Fairford Town | A | 0-2 | 83 | - | 1 | | 3 | 4 | |
| 09/Jan | 7:45pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | MCC | H | 1-2 | 51 | B Bevan | 1 | | | |
| 16/Jan | 7:45pm | Royal Wootton Bassett Town | A | 0-1 | 78 | - | 1 | | 8 | 4 | |
| 20/Jan | 3pm | Mangotsfield United | A | 1-1 | 174 | K Alder | 1 | | 2 | 4 | |
| 27/Jan | 3pm | Roman Glass St. George | H | 2-1 | 78 | O.G., K Alder | 1 | | | 4 | |
| 31/Jan | 7:45pm | Highworth Town | A | 0-0 | 96 | - | 1 | | | 4 | |
| 03/Feb | 3pm | Pershore Town | A | 2-0 | 91 | J White, J Rhodes | | | | 3 | 4 |
| 17/Feb | 3pm | Hereford Pegasus | A | 1-2 | 73 | H Birkett | 1 | | | 4 | |
| 24/Feb | 3pm | Worcester Raiders | H | 2-2 | 113 | K Chambers (2) | | | | 3 | 4 |
| 08/Mar | 7:45pm | Lydney Town | H | 3-2 | 132 | K Alder (2), J Rhodes | | | | 3 | 4 |
| 12/Mar | 7:45pm | Brimscombe & Thrupp | H | 3-0 | 63 | K Chambers (2), B Bevan | | | | 3 | 4 |
| 16/Mar | 3pm | Cinderford Town | A | 2-3 | 130 | M Pritchett, J Radford | | | | 2 | 4 |
| 19/Mar | 7:45pm | Westfields | H | 2-2 | 85 | K Chambers (2) | | | | 2 | 4 |
| 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 | 28 | 35 |
| STARTS | 35 | 6 | 27 | 34 |
| SUBSTITUTE | 0 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| UNUSED SUBSTITUTE | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

Goalscorers

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|------------------------|---|
| Chambers, Karnell | 13 | Radford, Joshua | 2 |
| Walters, Connor | 9 | Martin, Jamie | 1 |
| Alder, Kieran | 9 | Lomotey, Yeshaya | 1 |
| Rhodes, Jake | 7 | Hicks, Sammie | 1 |
| White, Jake | 5 | Mann, Warren | 1 |
| Pritchett, Mark | 5 | Hill, Sam | 1 |
| Birkett, Henry | 3 | Marquez Espada, Minolo | 1 |
| Shyamapant, Tomos | 2 | O.G. | 1 |
| Bevan, Brad | 2 | | |

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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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.



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Fairford Town History

Fairford Town Football Club was formed in 1891 and for many years played in the Cirencester & District League against local teams with varying degrees of success.

After the second world war the club joined the Swindon & District League, winning the Premier Division in both 1964/65 and 1968/69, also winning the Advertiser Cup in the same years, and in 1962/63 won the Gloucestershire Junior Cup.

Success in the Swindon & District League was followed by election to the Hellenic League in 1970, only missing promotion from the first division on goal average at the first attempt, the club were also beaten finalists in that year's division one Challenge Cup.

The following year, 1971/72 saw Fairford win the Hellenic first division and division one Challenge Shield, whilst the reserve side won the Gloucestershire County Minor Cup, the Advertiser Cup and finished runners-up in the Swindon & District Division One.

The successful run continued and Town were the beaten finalists of 1972/73 in the Premier Division Cup, only to be relegated back to Division One in 1973/74.

Fairford Town were again promoted in 1975/76 and steady progress led to the Premier Division Runners-up in 1978/79 and 1979/80, also winning the Premier Division Cup in 1978/79.

The Club were winners of the Gloucestershire Challenge Trophy in 1979/80 and 1998/99 and Runners-up in 1982/83 and 1994/95.

The most recent league success has been Premier Division Runners-up in season 1994/95 following a similar position in Season 1990/91. The Club has also achieved numerous wins in the Arthur Shipway Cup and Fairford Hospital Cup.

The 2016/17 season saw the club secure a return to the UHlsport Hellenic Premier Division after a five-year absence, winning the Division One West title with 75 points.

In recent years the club has grown on and off the pitch. The first team are now established and challenging in the UHlsport Hellenic Premier Division with a Reserves side also competing in Hellenic Division 2 South. 2020 also saw the creation of Fairford Town Academy with teams running from under 12s through to under 18s. We aim to place the football club within the heart of the local community and are keen to continue to grow and achieve our goal of promotion to the Southern Football League for the first time in the club's history.

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, given it is our Sponsors' Day, this one is all about sponsorship....

1. Can you name the first English club (clue: they played in the Southern League at the time!) to officially wear a shirt sponsor on their kit back in 1972?

2. Which club was famously sponsored by Doritos during the 2023/04 season? The picture may be a clue...



3. According to a study conducted in October 2022, Real Madrid had the highest value shirt sponsorship deal of all-time, with an estimated value of €70million per season. Paris St Germain were second at €65million and FC Barcelona third at €57.5million. Which English club occupied the fourth and fifth places in that list, with two deals valued at €55million per season?

4. Which current Premier League club's sponsors between 1984 and 2002 were Mita Copiers, Müller, AST Computers, LDV Vans, and NTL?

5. Can you identify the clubs from the classic shirt sponsors displayed in the five images below?



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)

Quiz Answers:(1) Kettering Town; (2) Wolverhampton Wanderers; (3) Manchester City; (4) Aston Villa; (5) a – Tottenham Hotspur, b – Crystal Palace, c – Brighton & Hove Albion, d – AC Milan, e – Hull City.

APPEARANCE INFORMATION

Up to and including Tuesday, 19 March 2024

(includes selected list of former players)

On Tuesday evening we include the son of a former England international in our starting line-up, for just the second time this season. Any idea who, before I tell you?

The player in question was Jasper Alleyne, who had previously featured in a cup tie against Slimbridge, but was making his UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division debut for Tuffley Rovers. Jasper is the son of former England Cricket International, Mark Alleyne, who played ten One Day Internationals for England between January 1999 and October 2000. Interestingly, Jasper's brother, Max, is a professional at Manchester City!



| Name | Apps | Goals | Name | Apps | Goals |
|-------------------------|------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|
| Alder, Kieran | 123 | 36 | Lander, Daniel | 46 | 1 |
| Alleyne, Jasper | 2 | 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 | 6 | 2 |
| Bennett, Adam | 85 | 0 | Maher-Goldsmith, Kian | 4 | 0 |
| Bevan, Bradley | 20 | 2 | Mann, Warren | 536 | 85 |
| Birkett, Henry | 125 | 10 | McGuirk, Callum | 78 | 0 |
| Blackford, Callum | 1 | 0 | Merchant, Luke | 115 | 0 |
| Bradley, Shayne | 260 | 117 | Middlecote, Martin | 88 | 2 |
| Chambers, Karnell | 20 | 13 | Mustoe, Neil | 1 | 0 |
| Clifford, Ellis | 11 | 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 | 185 | 28 |
| Dobbins, Ryan | 87 | 18 | Radford, Joshua | 16 | 2 |
| Fallows, Dayton | 5 | 0 | Rhodes, Jake | 73 | 23 |
| Ford, Mark | 164 | 61 | Roberts, Tyrel | 6 | 0 |
| Foxwell, Marcus | 302 | 32 | Shutt, Joe | 72 | 15 |
| Griffin, Tyrese | 7 | 0 | Shyamapant, Tomos | 54 | 3 |
| Griffith, Stuart | 129 | 22 | Smith, Liam | 73 | 1 |
| Hamilton, Courtney | 178 | 6 | Squires, Kieran | 90 | 7 |
| Harper-Emerson, Max | 9 | 0 | Thomas, Billy | 1 | 0 |
| Haswell, Tristan | 99 | 1 | Thomas, Peter | 79 | 15 |
| Hoffland, Robin | 9 | 0 | Twyman, Jack | 23 | 0 |
| Holdaway, Matt | 4 | 0 | Victor, Harry | 4 | 0 |
| Herbert, Macaulay | 288 | 10 | Wallington, Lee | 131 | 4 |
| Hicks, Sammie | 56 | 2 | Wallington, Mark | 220 | 29 |
| Hill, Sam | 130 | 9 | Walters, Connor | 43 | 9 |
| James, Brett | 186 | 64 | White, Jake | 28 | 5 |
| James, Richard | 125 | 40 | White, Joel | 137 | 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.

Blast from the past...

We look back to when we met today's opponents at Glevum Park, on 1 August 2017, our first game of 2017/18...

UHLSPORT HELLENIC LEAGUE, PREMIER DIVISION

TUFFLEY ROVERS 1-1 FAIRFORD TOWN



Tuffley Rovers' UhlSport Hellenic League, Premier Division season started with an entertaining 1 -1 draw against fellow Gloucestershire side Fairford Town, on Tuesday evening.

Rovers' Manager, Mark Pritchett, handed a starting place to new signing Joel White, as well as introducing an unfamiliar 3-5-2 formation that had only been seen once in the pre-season period, with Brett James, who was returning from a long-term injury, at right wing-back. Fairford Town fielded three debutants, with Liam Gale, 'keeper John Langley and forward Lee Smith, all handed first starts by the visiting manager, Jody Bevan, who was without his co-manager, Chris Smith.

Coming into the game off the back of a free-scoring pre-season campaign, Rovers started the game brightly and shaded the territorial advantage, with Fairford Town's Smith, Jason Milhench, Gale and Josh Morse offering a definite threat on the counter-attack. The first chance of note came on 16 minutes, as Warren Mann's excellent cross was headed narrowly wide by Shayne Bradley from 10 yards. Fairford Town responded almost immediately, when Dave Evans' miscued clearance went straight to Milhench, but the Rovers keeper responded quickly, to recover his ground and comfortably claim the ball.

Chances were few and far between, as Rovers' greater share of possession only resulted in a succession of relatively tame efforts from distance, whilst Fairford Town's counter-attacks were largely snuffed out by some sound defensive work, with Shayne Anson particularly impressive in negating the impact of the experienced Smith, who had signed from Southern League Slimbridge during the summer. In the closing moments of the half, Anson clashed heads with Martin Hall and sustained a nasty cut to his head which saw him withdrawn from action.



Having entered the interval at 0-0 but with Anson and then midfielder Ashley Davies withdrawn, with a calf injury, Rovers were forced into two substitutions as Pritchett added Harry Walker to the midfield, assigned Sam Hill to one of the wing-back slots and moved Tristan Haswell into the back three.

The game entered a similar pattern to the first half, although it was Fairford Town who were now having the greater share of possession and carrying the greater attacking threat.

Rovers were grateful to Evans on 55 minutes, as he produced an incredible double save to deny first Smith, then Milhench, with two brilliant one-handed efforts, as Fairford Town went close to opening the scoring. It wasn't one-way traffic and Mann drew a save from Langley, on 65 minutes, before Evans had to be on his toes again, to deny Milhench, with an outstretched foot, three minutes later.

The hosts then went on the attack again, as Bradley forced Langley into a save, with a shot from 20 yards. From the resultant break, as the ball was pumped downfield, Milhench collected the ball on the edge of the Rovers' penalty area and drove into the box, before firing the ball across Evans and low into the corner of the net on 70 minutes.

With the visitors having the better share of the second-half possession, then taking the scoring initiative, Rovers supporters may have feared a season opening defeat, but within five minutes, the scores were levelled. After he picked the ball up in a wide position, Mann cut outside his marker and swung the ball goalwards and it sailed over Langley and into the far top-corner of the Fairford Town net.

Within five minutes, Town were reduced to ten-men, as Gale was shown a straight red-card for a challenge on Ben Tunnicliff and then had to be grateful to Langley, who produced some sound handling to ward off an increasing Rovers threat in the closing moments. In the final minute, substitute Walker almost netted a winner for the hosts, but his lob went narrowly over Langley and the bar, and the score ended 1-1.



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 Mark Pritchett
 Joel White ©
 Jake White
 Liam Smith
 Kieran Alder
 Karnell Chambers
 Jake Rhodes
 Joshua Radford
 Connor Walters
 Sammie Hicks
 Tyrel Roberts
 Brad Bevan
 Macaulay Herbert

V



FAIRFORD TOWN

Yellow & Black shirts, Black shorts; Yellow socks (GK: Green).

1 Ben Mitchell
 2 Dan Hill
 3 Tristan Haswell
 4 Ellis McSharry
 5 Alex Wilkie
 6 Will Davidson
 7 Ben Lodge
 8 Joah Hall
 9 Jamal Lawrence ©
 10 Harrison Edwards
 11 Alfie Taylor
 12 Cameron Thomson
 14 Joe Shutt
 15 Charlie McCrae
 16 Sam Rawlings
 17 Aaron Evans-Harriott

Neil Mustoe

Manager

Jamie Reid

Liam O'Neill

Asst. Manager

Sam Farr

Sam Tandy (Physio)

Other Occupants

Lee Randall (Coach)

Alex Butler (Coach)

Richard Cox (Coach)

Tim Hall (Coach)

Olly Begley (Physio)

Officials: Ian Butler; Alan Overthrow; Shaun Mccombie.

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