

# the Seaside

THE OFFICIAL 2024/2025 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Respect 



v Leverstock Green



**SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST 2024, 3PM**  
EMIRATES FA CUP FIRST QUALIFYING ROUND

# CHAIRMAN: **TONY BARNES**



## **Good afternoon to one and all and welcome to The Martello Ground for this afternoon's Emirates FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round clash with Leverstock Green.**

A very warm welcome to all the Leverstock players, management and supporters as well as today's match officials.

An FA Cup game is always something special, especially against unfamiliar opposition and in this day and age the prize money makes so much difference to the club finances as does the bumper crowds that a good cup run can help attract.

Talking of crowds, the last three games here have attracted well over 1600 people to The Martello Ground and it has been great to see so many supporters for three entirely different

matches; Memorial Charity match in aid of St Elizabeth hospice for Simon Taylor's mother helped to raise well over £4000 for a great cause. Ipswich Ladies then hosted Hashtag United in front of a 600 plus crowd and a bumper bank holiday crowd turned out to see the Seaside's defeat table topping Bury 3-1.

A mixed weekend for the first team with a 3-2 defeat at Witham preceding the Bury game. In general I am sure Boards can take more positives than negatives from the two games, great character to come back from three down to get two late goals, five more minutes of injury time and we would surely have left Witham with a point. Leon's injury was a massive blow and left us with a makeshift back line that just couldn't cope with Witham's exceptional striker.



With Leon and Noel missing on Monday it was always going to be difficult to replicate our cup win over Bury but the lads done incredibly well and dominated the game for long periods after a quite brilliant opener from Willie Clemons following great work and awareness for Zak and Billy.

More of the same today please boys!  
Enjoy the match.  
Tony

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# ANDY CRUMP

## Welcome back to the Martello Ground for today's FA Cup fixture against Leverstock Green.

We extend a warm welcome to the staff and players of today's opponents, who I believe are visiting Felixstowe for the first time. We also congratulate them on their recent promotion to Step 4 and wish them well in their debut season in the Southern League Division One Central.

Today offers us another opportunity to experience everything that makes the FA Cup so special. It provides a welcome distraction from the league and gives our supporters the chance to dream of a good old-fashioned cup run. Overcoming a strong Bury side was never going to be an easy start to this year's competition, and we have prepared well this week to give ourselves every chance of being in the draw on Monday. Having overcome Heybridge Swifts in the last round, Leverstock will present another tough test for the group, and we look forward to a great game this afternoon.

Reflecting on the reply in the previous round, I was delighted with the team's performance in the 4-0 victory over Bury Town. The lads were exceptional and demonstrated the quality we know they possess. However, football is about how you respond to setbacks, and we faced one last Saturday against Witham. It was a disappointing result, but what impressed me most was how the team bounced back on Monday's against Bury in the league.

The game was very different from Tuesday night's replay—a hard-fought, competitive match where both sides had their moments. After Bury scored the equaliser early in the second half, I was impressed with how well we stood up to them during a tough period. It's can be difficult to stop teams when they have momentum, but we defended well as a group and got our reward as the game entered the later stages.

This season, we've seen the introduction of five substitutes, which has certainly added a new dimension to Stuart's and my thinking. Kieran McKenna has referred to his substitutes as his 'finishers,' and with the additional changes we can now make, we've already seen how important that mindset is in preparing for games.

Although we ran out of time against Witham, we scored two late goals, we saw the impact again on Monday, with Charlie, Tom, and Sam coming off the bench to help us take the game away from Bury and secure 3 vital points.



Finally, I'm really pleased to share some positive news from within the squad. We're all extremely happy to see Jack Ainsley return to full training this week. His journey back from injury hasn't been easy, but Jack has shown tremendous mental and physical strength throughout his recovery. A huge thanks goes to Charlotte, Stu, and the team at Perform for Sport for their fantastic support in helping Jack get back to fitness so quickly. Jack's commitment has been exemplary, and we're all looking forward to seeing him back on the pitch soon.

Enjoy the game, and Up the Seasiders  
Andy

# ISTHMIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2024/25

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Basildon United	3	3	0	0	5	1	+4	9
2	Gorleston	3	3	0	0	5	2	+3	9
3	Witham Town	3	2	1	0	8	4	+4	7
<b>4</b>	<b>Felixstowe &amp; Walton United</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>6</b>
5	Bury Town	3	2	0	1	6	3	+3	6
6	Brightlingsea Regent	3	2	0	1	5	4	+1	6
7	Sporting Bengal United	3	2	0	1	4	3	+1	6
8	Waltham Abbey	3	2	0	1	3	2	+1	6
9	Brentwood Town	3	2	0	1	8	9	-1	6
10	Maldon & Tiptree	3	1	1	1	5	3	+2	4
11	Cambridge City	3	1	1	1	5	5	0	4
12	Grays Athletic	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	4
13	Tilbury	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	4
14	Ipswich Wanderers	3	1	1	1	2	3	-1	4
15	Concord Rangers	2	1	0	1	5	4	+1	3
16	Heybridge Swifts	3	0	3	0	3	3	0	3
17	Redbridge	3	1	0	2	5	7	-2	3
18	Mildenhall Town	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1
19	Walthamstow	3	0	0	3	3	6	-3	0
20	Haringey Borough	3	0	0	3	2	6	-4	0
21	Newmarket Town	2	0	0	2	3	9	-6	0
22	Wroxham	3	0	0	3	2	8	-6	0



The new U13 EJA side are ready for their first match and looking great in their Boardley & Roberts sponsored kit!

Managed by Stuart Boardley, Curtis Haynes-Brown and former Ipswich Town Captain Luke Chambers, the boys would love your support next Tuesday, 3rd September for their home EJA Harrison Midweek Trophy match against Leiston. The match kicks off at 7pm and is on the main pitch at the Martello Ground. Free entry to all.

If there is an FA Cup replay for the first team on Tuesday then this match will instead be played on Wednesday 4th September.



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# SEASIDER PHIL GRIFFITHS

## Not many people know this...

When we enter the FA Cup each season, I'm sure the first thing we all hope for is a home draw, after that you take whatever comes up.

A bye in the Extra Preliminary Round, thanks to our League finishing position last season left us with a very difficult trip to Bury Town in the Preliminary Round, same division, finished above us last season, not a happy hunting ground for us in recent seasons, but credit to Boards and his side they produced a gritty performance to force a replay, which in itself gave the 400 plus gate for that game a real treat in the first half with a flowing display of football that produced four goals, effectively making the game over by half time.

Our visitors today are making their first trip to The Martello Ground, and we have never been to Pancake Lane (had to get that bit in) so it is the classic unknown quantity as we host a side who are playing step 4 football for the first time in the Southern League (Central) where they have taken just one point from their opening four fixtures.

One thing we have learnt as a club is NEVER underestimate visitors to the Martello Ground & I know Boards and the players will have full respect for a side that have already seen off Baldock Town & Heybridge Swifts. Hopefully another bumper crowd this afternoon will be our 12th man again!







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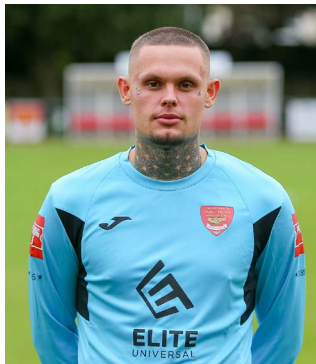
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# THE OTHER SIDE LEVERSTOCK GREEN FC



Leverstock Green Football Club was formed around 1895. The first match reports appeared on January 4th 1896 in the Advertiser and gave an account of a match against Hemel Hempstead Rovers.

The first competitive fixtures were reported during season 1908/1909 when the Club competed in Division Three of the West Herts League. Other clubs competing in the league at that time were: Abbots Langley, Bovington, Boxmoor, Bushey Heath, Hagden Lane, Kings Langley and Potten End.

The Club ground in Pancake Lane originally formed part of the Gorhambury Estate, Lord Verulam making the ground available for the youth of the area and his estate workers to enjoy a game of ball. Clearly Lord Verulam was an early enthusiast, providing timber-built changing rooms, which have been progressively replaced since the 1960's by the existing brick built clubhouse and changing rooms.

On the death of the Lord, certain parcels of land, including that on which the Football Club stood, fell to the Crown in lieu of death duties and is administered on its behalf by the Commission for New Towns, who have remained the Club's landlords since that time, despite two unsuccessful attempts by the Club to buy the freehold.

The club remained members of the West Herts League until 1954 when it broadened its horizons and successfully applied to join the Herts County League.

By the mid 1970's the Club started to move forward with a new clubhouse, post & rail and the installation of training lights.

The playing side of the club also improved and in 1979 the club won Division One of the Herts County League and were promoted to the Premier Division the highest standard the Club had achieved in 80 years.

In 1991 the Club were accepted into the South Midlands League and had two highly successful seasons in the Premier Division before being forced to drop into the Senior Division, as floodlights were then not available. In 1996 the club finished in runners-up position and the following season were the divisional champions but could not be promoted because floodlights had still not received approval from the Council.

Premier Division status was eventually regained in 2003, and the club spent 21 straight seasons in the division before promotion to Step Four in 2024. The club's highest finish in the Premier Division has been 4th, in seasons 2010/11 and 2023/24, with top six finishes also being recorded in 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2008/09.

Season 2010/11 also saw the club's best ever run in the FA Vase, with wins over Welwyn Garden City, Enfield, Hullbridge Sports, Tunbridge Wells and Bemerton Heath Harlequins before defeat in the Fifth Round against Rye United. The club has twice reached the Third Round of the FA Vase, in seasons 2006/07 and 2018/19.

Leverstock Green entered the FA Cup for the first time in 2004, and the club's best performance has been reaching the Second Round Qualifying, which was achieved in 2014/15, where we were beaten by Staines Town, and in 2018/19 where we were beaten by Dorking Wanderers.

County honours were won in 2006/07 and 2010/11 as the Herts Charity Shield was lifted,

and the club were beaten finalists in the Herts Charity Cup in 2011/12. After finishing runners-up four times over the previous 12 years, The West Herts FA St Mary's Cup was finally lifted for the first time in 2017/18 with victory over Berkhamsted in the final at Vauxhall Road.

Between 2005 and 2015 the club ran a successful Ladies' Team, which rose from the Beds and Herts League into the Eastern Region Womens League, reaching the Premier Division in 2013.

The under-18 side competes in the Southern Counties Floodlit Youth League. The team finished runners-up in their division in seasons 2010/11 and 2014/15, and in 2015/16 they reached the final of both the Brian Hitchings Cup and the Colwyn Cup, losing in both finals to Luton Town Cedars. Many players have made the step up from under-18 level to first team level, and those who have gone on to play much higher up the non-league pyramid include Charlie Gorman (Eastbourne Borough), Luke Warner-Eley (Royston Town, St Albans City) and Jonathan Lacey (Hemel Hempstead Town) who also represented the England non-league side in the Falklands while a Leverstock Green player.

The Pancake Lane ground has seen many improvements due to ever more stringent ground grading requirements. In 2007 the Peter Metcalfe changing rooms were built at a cost of £90,000. 2008 saw the refurbishment of the clubhouse to include new toilets and a new hospitality suite. In 2009 the concrete walkway was completed to cover three sides of the ground and a seated stand accommodating 113 spectators was installed.

Season 2018/19 was one of turmoil and sadness, as long-serving fixture secretary Graham Smart passed away suddenly only weeks after taking on the role of interim chairman. A season which promised so much at the start ended with the club only securing Premier Division safety on the final day.

Emma Smart took over as chairman for season 2019/20, and with a new management team and a new spirit of optimism the club was on

course for a safe mid-table finish before the season was brought to a premature end by Covid-19. The management team of Matt Harding and Mick Vipond continued into the 2020/21 season, which again came to a premature end. For season 2021/22, a new management team of Fergus Moore, Scott McGleish and Paul Marks was appointed.

Fergus and Scott continued through season 2022/23 and won their first silverware for the club with a 1-0 win over Tring Athletic in the final of the West Herts St Mary's Cup.

Fergus and Scott were joined by former Under-18 manager Ross Bargent for season 2023/24, and the club also started a Development Team, playing in the Herts Senior County League Premier Division. 2023/24 proved to be an incredibly successful season for the club, as a fourth-place finish secured a place in the end-of-season playoffs, and victories over Harpenden Town and FC Romania saw the club promoted to Step Four for the first time in their history. In addition the SSML Challenge Trophy was won for the first time to complete a unique double. The club is now looking forward to season 2024/25 in the Southern League Division One Central.

Four club stalwarts have received awards from the Football Association and the Herts FA for 50 years service to football. The first was Jim Matthews, affectionately known as "Macca", who passed away at the age of 90 in 2006. The second was Bill Dawes in 2014, and the third was long-serving club secretary Brian Barter in 2019. Brian stood down from his role as secretary in 2020, having twice been honoured with awards from the Spartan South Midlands League. The fourth was Tony Smart, who now holds the roles of Vice-Chairman and Treasurer.

# THE OTHER SIDE PLAYER PROFILES

## **Eyituoyo Akinbulumo** (Defender, 23)

Known to one and all as "T", the big defender joined us in the summer from Belstone, where he had spent all his career and captained their side to promotion from the Herts County League last season.

## **Alie Bangura** (Forward, 25)

Signed in the summer. A renowned goalscorer whose previous clubs include Enfield Borough, Berkhamsted, Kings Langley, FC Romania and Leighton Town.

## **Ademide Baruwa** (Midfield, 24)

Signed early last season having previously played for Belstone, and his combative midfield play quickly made him a regular in the side.

## **Rio Beach** (Defender, 25)

Now into his fourth season with the club, having been one of the players to move over from Edgware Town when Fergus Moore took over as manager. A skilful defender and winger and has won the Supporters' Player of the Year award.

## **Luke Beckwith** (Forward, 23)

Joined from Bovington in summer 2022 and quickly made an impression with his goals. Spent some time dual registered with AFC Dunstable that season before rejoining and playing a full season in 23/24, scoring 17 goals in our double-winning side.

## **Alfie Bonfield** (Goalkeeper, 25)

Joined in summer 2021 and was first choice keeper throughout the season. After two seasons during which he has played for Risborough Rangers, Stotfold and Shefford Town & Campton, returned to the club this summer.

## **Jamie Breen** (Defender, 19)

Signed in the summer from Baldock Town having played his first full senior season with them in 23/24, an exciting full back who was previously at St Albans City.

## **Ryan Carruthers** (Midfield, 26)

Another to join from Edgware Town in summer 2021, and another who has been a huge success. Consistent and reliable for three seasons and a double Player of the Year award winner last season.

## **Lewis Collins** (Forward, 22)

Been with the club on and off since the age of 16, and made his first team debut in 2018. His pace and skill makes him a threat up front, and now approaching 100 first team appearances.

## **Gary Connolly** (Defender, 33)

Came up through our under-18 side, and made his first team debut in 2008. Joined Kings Langley in 2011 and went on to make over 300 appearances for them. Played for Leighton Town and Risborough Rangers in the last two seasons before rejoining us this summer.

## **Nat Connolly** (Midfield, 22)

Joined in summer 2023 from Totternhoe, and had no trouble stepping up two levels. His tenacity in midfield brought him quickly to everyone's attention, and he finally scored his first goal for the club towards the end of the season.

## **Guiseppe Delgaudio** (Forward, 22)

Originally joined the club in the Covid-shortened season of 2020/21, but went on to join Tring Athletic the following season. Returned to Levy midway through last season and his big presence up front immediately created goals.



**Curtis Dibley** (Midfield, 22)

Joined midway through last season from Harpenden Town, and after some good performances for the development side was featuring in the first team squad by the end of the season, with further progress expected this season.

**Josh Dooley** (Defender, 22)

Promising young defender who joined the club midway through last season from Harpenden Town and played in a number of crucial games at the end of the season.

**Mikey Havill-Tierney** (Defender, 19)

Attacking full-back who joined in summer 2023 and immediately caught the eye with his raids down the wing. Suffered with injury in the second half of the season but a promising young talent to watch out for.

**Ethan Mooney** (Midfield, 25)

Another player entering his fourth season with the club having joined from Edgware Town. A speedy winger who scores and creates goals.

**Callum Neal** (Defender, 27)

Joined in summer 2023 from Harefield United. Impressed last season both with his defensive skills and his goalscoring, netting crucial goals in both the playoff final and Challenge Trophy final.

**Jaden Newman** (Forward, 20)

Joined early last season from Northwood, and has also played for Wembley. Scored six goals before missing much of the second half of the season through injury.

**Dan Pett** (Midfield, 30)

Another of the players to join in summer 2021, and another reliable and dynamic presence in midfield. Previous clubs include Edgware Town, Northwood and Hoddesdon Town.

**Brad Robinson** (Defender, 30)

Joined in summer 2021 having previously played for Cockfosters, Colney Heath and Edgware Town. Injury problems have restricted his

appearances over the last couple of seasons, but still does the job when required.

**Rawn Seale** (Forward, 24)

Initially joined in summer 2021 and was top scorer that season with 15 goals. After missing out on 22/23 through unavailability, returned during last season and again his tireless running up front made him a valuable asset.

**Radu-Mihai Stefanoaica** (Forward, 23)

Joined in October 2022 initially on a dual reg from Egham Town. The skilful Romanian made an instant impact with his goals and assists, and was last season's top scorer with 24 goals. Previous clubs include Uxbridge and Broadfields United.

**Dan Weeks** (Defender, 34)

Skipper and club legend who came up through the Under-18s into the first team in 2008. Returned to the club in 2019 after six years away including spells at Berkhamsted and Sun Postal Sports. Passed 250 club appearances last season and lifted two trophies.

**Fergus Moore** (Manager)

Has had a distinguished career of over 30 years in non-league football. Most notably as a player for Wealdstone for many years, and as player-manager at Edgware Town, still turning out when approaching the age of 50. Fergus joined the club as manager in the summer of 2021 and has turned the club's fortunes around.

**Scott McGleish** (Assistant Manager)

The only player at the club to have a Wikipedia page, Scott had a long and distinguished career in the Football League from 1994 until 2012, racking up hundreds of appearances and goals for Barnet, Colchester United, Northampton Town, Wycombe Wanderers, Leyton Orient and Bristol Rovers among others, and continued to play in non-league, including four seasons at Wealdstone. Joined the club in the summer of 2021 as assistant to Fergus, and still made appearances from the bench last season at the age of 50.

# FELIXSTOWE & WALTON UNITED

Clemons, Hitter, Ford

# BURY TOWN

Ramadan

# 3

# 1

Monday 26th August  
2024, 3pm

**Attendance:** 624

Isthmian League North

**Photos:** Stefan Peck













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# FIXTURES 2024/25

## AUGUST

<b>SAT 10</b>	<b>NEWMARKET TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>	<b>W 6-1</b>	<b>ATT 401</b>
<i>C Warren (3), Ford, Forde-Brown, Clemons</i>						
<b>SAT 17</b>	<b>BURY TOWN</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>FA CUP</b>	<b>D 2-2</b>	<b>ATT 465</b>
<i>Brown, C Warren</i>						
<b>TUE 20</b>	<b>BURY TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>FA CUP REPLAY</b>	<b>W 4-0</b>	<b>ATT 446</b>
<i>Harrison (2), Ford, Warren</i>						
<b>SAT 24</b>	<b>WITHAM TOWN</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>	<b>L 3-2</b>	<b>ATT 192</b>
<i>Holland, Harrison</i>						
<b>MON 26</b>	<b>BURY TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>	<b>W 3-1</b>	<b>ATT 624</b>
<i>Clemons, Hitter, Ford</i>						
<b>SAT 31</b>	<b>LEVERSTOCK GREEN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>FA CUP 1ST QR</b>		

## SEPTEMBER

<b>SAT 7</b>	<b>BASILDON UNITED</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>FA TROPHY FIRST QUALIFYING</b>		
<b>TUE 10</b>	<b>WROXHAM</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 14</b>	<b>CAMBRIDGE CITY</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>MON 16</b>	<b>MALDON &amp; TIPTREE</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 21</b>	<b>BASILDON UNITED</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 28</b>	<b>BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		

## OCTOBER

<b>SAT 5</b>	<b>REDBRIDGE</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 12</b>	<b>TILBURY</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 19</b>	<b>WALTHAMSTOW</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 26</b>	<b>CONCORD RANGERS</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		

## NOVEMBER

<b>SAT 2</b>	<b>BRENTWOOD TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>TUE 5</b>	<b>WROXHAM</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 9</b>	<b>CAMBRIDGE CITY</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 16</b>	<b>BASILDON UNITED</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 23</b>	<b>BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
<b>SAT 30</b>	<b>MILDENHALL TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		



## DECEMBER

SAT 7	HARINGEY BOROUGH	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 14</b>	<b>WALTHAM ABBEY</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 21	GORLESTON	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>THU 26</b>	<b>IPSWICH WANDERERS</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 28	NEWMARKET TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE

## JANUARY

WED 1	BURY TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 4</b>	<b>GRAYS ATHLETIC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 11	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 18</b>	<b>SPORTING BENGAL UNITED</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
<b>SAT 25</b>	<b>HARINGEY BOROUGH</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>

## FEBRUARY

SAT 1	MILDENHALL TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 8	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 15</b>	<b>TILBURY</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 22	WALTHAMSTOW	A	3PM	LEAGUE

## MARCH

<b>SAT 1</b>	<b>CONCORD RANGERS</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 8	BRENTWOOD TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 15	WALTHAM ABBEY	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 22</b>	<b>GORLESTON</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>

## APRIL

<b>SAT 5</b>	<b>HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 12	GRAYS ATHLETIC	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 19</b>	<b>MALDON &amp; TIPTREE</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 21	IPSWICH WANDERERS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 26</b>	<b>WITHAM TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities. The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities."

# CLUB CONTACTS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Tony Barnes		chairman@felixstowefootball.co.uk
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Director of Football	Kevin O'Donnell		
Chairman of Youth Football	Scott Dunne	07790 820396	sjd_sw@yahoo.co.uk
Head of Media/Press Officer	Stuart Daynes	07717 577497	media@felixstowefootball.co.uk

## GENERAL COMMITTEE

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Hospitality	Winnifred Soall	07900 591367	winnifred.mcclean@aol.com
Welfare Officer	Kathryn Maclean		
Assistant Secretary	Phil Barber		
Fixtures Secretary	Les Soall	07825 058857	lgsfxt@aol.com
Health & Safety Officer	Paul Secker		

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

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Life Vice Presidents:	Andy Wilding, Tony Barnes, Mick Gosling, Chris Ryan, Jayne Ryan, Phil Griffiths, Jim Seymour		

## OTHER CONTACTS

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# THE PRINCE OF RIO

BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME

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It's sometimes difficult to imagine, but there was a time when Brazil were not the powerhouses of global football. There was a time when, even in South America, they were overshadowed by their hated neighbours in Argentina, and Uruguay, who won the first World Cup (and the two recognised World Championships that came before it). But before the success came, before Ronaldo, and Socrates, and Pele, there was still the tragedy of the quest for victory. And nobody embodied that tragedy more perfectly than the good-looking, fleet-footed, champagne-swilling playboy of Rio, Heleno de Freitas.

De Freitas came from a wealthy family and like so many in Brazil, his passion lay in the sand, surf, and the Seleção. Outside of school, all of his free time was spent at the Copacabana beach, practising his impressive ball control with whatever he could find, or joining games with others. Already something of a local celebrity, it was here that a scout for Botafogo would spot him at the age of 15. Just two years later, he was making waves - and enemies - in the first team.

His ability was unquestioned, and he was adored in the stands. Skillful, tricky, and with a joy to his game, he embodied the Brazilian way. With his movie star good looks, he was especially popular with some - female - fans. A stable home life with a wife and child was just a veneer of respectability, as a slew of Mistresses came and went.

Back at Botafogo, however, all was not well. After 1945, the club went in search of their first championship in a decade, and de Freitas would be key to that search. Or, as he saw it, the club



would be a hindrance to his own dreams of glory. Two second place finishes increased his frustration, not helped by the cancellation of the 1946 World Cup, where he had expected to be crowned the greatest player on the planet. Additionally, Brazil were runners up at the South American Championship in 1945 and 1946, and Botafogo continued to fall short domestically.

In 1948, de Freitas was tasked with giving his players a boost before the final, all-important game. Instead, he gave them a tirade for not having secured the championship already. If only they could raise their game to his level, he told them, they would be champions. Botafogo lost once more - de Freitas missing a crucial penalty - and finally the magic between club and player broke. He took his bonus money, stuffed it into his teammates pockets, and tore

the dressing room apart. He was sold on to Boca Juniors in the off-season.

His time in Argentina was short lived, but his personal life was worse. With his wife and son still in Rio, de Freitas' days of partying caught up with him, and he was diagnosed with syphilis. He refused treatment, fearing it would ruin his game, and returned home. He signed for Vasco, where he would finally win the championship and, he believed, secure his place in the Seleção for the home World Cup in 1950.

Unfortunately, he once again fell out with his coach, Flavio de Costa. Although, as ever, 'falling out' doesn't quite cut it. After one particularly intense argument he stormed into the training ground, put a gun to Costa's head, and pulled the trigger. The chamber was empty, but his time in Brazil was done. He left for the newly professionalised Colombian league - without his wife, who had left him for a teammate - and, in an ironic twist of fate, Costa left to become the national team coach.

Brazil would lose the 1950 World Cup final to Uruguay, a defeat seared into the Brazilian consciousness. But for de Freitas, there was no chance of making a difference. At his peak, he may have been a superstar, but in Colombia his

syphilis was starting to get worse, and his self-medication was having less and less effect. He returned home and began treatment, but it was too late. The disease had taken hold, and perhaps Brazil's greatest ever star to that point would end his career at just 31.

As the disease ravaged his brain, de Freitas was cared for by his brother for six years. When that was no longer possible, he was checked into a sanatorium, his looks, his talent, and his cognisance all deserting him. When Brazil won the World Cup in 1958, with Pele taking on the mantle de Freitas had once believed was his, the sad, isolated figure saw what might have been. As patients and staff celebrated the greatest day in Brazilian football history, he filled his mouth with cigarettes, lit them all, and tried to smoke himself to death. He failed, but just a year later, the disease took him.

Brazilian legends have come to dominate the football consciousness, but de Freitas couldn't be one of them. He could have been the spark to give Brazil the greatest of victories but instead, as one journalist put it, he was the man who forgot he was a footballer.

Enjoy the game





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ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

# PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH ROUND UP

BY IAN TOWNSEND, TAKEN FROM [WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK](http://WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK)

**Basildon and Gorleston are our early pacesetters, Seaside go fourth, Beachboys crush the Blues, and we've victory for Regent, Sporting Bengal, Abbotts, City, Tilbury and the Motormen**

**Basildon United** have played five matches in League and Cup, and yesterday's victory over **Grays Athletic** means that the Bees have won all of them, three of them by one goal to nil. The latest goal at The Hive came on fifty one minutes, and it was a masterclass in making a substitution as Darren Esuka had emerged from the bench only sixty seconds earlier - and immediately got the winner!

**Gorleston** are behind Basildon only on goal difference. The Greens have also won every match they have played so far this season, this one in a Norfolk derby at **Wroxham**. Zach Dronfield put them ahead just before the half hour mark, but the hosts hit back in added time at the end of the first half to level, Joao Rangel with the goal. The next word also went to Dronfield, what turned out to be the winner arriving on sixty six minutes, and a red card for Harry Baker with twenty minutes to go made the Yachtsmen's uphill task impossible - and left them at the bottom of the table.

**Witham Town's** one hundred percent record was ended at **Heybridge Swifts**, but the visitors did twice come from behind to earn a point as

their hosts kept up a record of drawing every league match so far. Scott Sloots put Swifts ahead on thirteen minutes, but Town levelled when Josh Osude scored his fifth goal of a so far prolific season nine minutes later, this one from the spot. Ben Allen restored home advantage ten minutes before the break, but much of Scraley Road was to be disappointed when Osude scored again to earn his side a point sixteen minutes from time. Town are third - and Osude has scored in four matches in a row.

**Felixstowe and Walton United** got over Saturday's defeat by Witham to climb to fourth, by defeating **Bury Town** - again. The two sides have now met three times this month after being drawn together in the FA Cup, and the Seaside have now managed nine goals across those matches and two victories, three goals and three points on this occasion. Willie Clemons put the hosts ahead on twenty three minutes, before the always deadly Cemal Ramadan levelled from the spot just after half time - his fourth goal of the season. There were only thirteen minutes to go when the decisive goal arrived, and again it came from the spot - only this one was at the other end, Josh Hitter keeping his nerve. Two minutes from time Sam Ford added a fourth to ensure that his side leapfrogged their opponents into fourth place on goal difference.

**Brightlingsea Regent** made it four wins from five matches in all competitions - and three wins in a row - after inflicting a first defeat of the season

on **Ipswich Wanderers**. Fletcher Alexander-Hubbard was the chief architect of Wanderers downfall, opening the scoring on three minutes and putting his side into the lead once more in added time at the end of the first half, nine minutes after a Tom Richardson spot kick had levelled the match for the visitors. Seven minutes into the second half and Louie Kudiabor added a third for Regent, and that was that. Regent are sixth.

**Sporting Bengal United** are seventh, victory over **Maldon and Tiptree** adding the latest three points. Yasin Zougui got the opener after just six minutes, but the Jammers levelled in first half added time, Anthony Wordsworth with the goal. The winner arrived with fourteen minutes remaining, Brandy Makuendi ensuring that most of those inside the Mile End Stadium were left feeling rather positive.

A late goal from Jason Hallett turned out to be the clincher for **Waltham Abbey in Walthamstow** - and it also turned out to be the only goal of the game. The Abbotts have now won three games in a row in League and Cup, whilst their hosts are yet to pick up a point despite fielding an array of attacking talent. We suspect they'll soon begin turning that around - but their next three matches are all in Cup competitions, so it will be September 10th before they have another chance of putting points on the board.

**Brentwood Town** travelled to **Concord Rangers** boasting a one hundred percent record in League and Cup, but they had nothing to boast about by full time. The Beachboys came into the match having lost three in a row in all competitions, but they bounced back in style, hitting the highly-fancied Blues for five. It was very much the Anisius Lewis show, the hosts number seventeen putting them ahead on ten minutes, adding a second on twenty five, completing his hat trick on thirty seven and getting a fourth for good measure in added time at the end of the match!

Following the first two for Lewis, Simo Mbonkwi added the third for Rangers just after the half hour before Benas Vaivada got one

back for Town, but that was as good as it got for the travelling faithful, who also saw Shad Ngandu sent off twenty three minutes from time.

**Cambridge City** were victorious at **Mildenhall Town**. Harry Phillips gave them the lead on thirteen minutes, and they added a second in added time at the end of the first half, Jayden Gipson making it two. Thomas Newman gave the hosts hope on fifty six minutes, and it was hope that remained until the NINTH minute of added time, when George Smith got a third for the visitors. City are eleventh, Hall are eighteenth.

**Tilbury** got their first league victory of the campaign, coming out on top against **Haringey Borough** by the odd goal in five. The Dockers went ahead after just six minutes through Lewis Clark, and another Lewis, Manor, made it two twenty one minutes later. Borough saw a spot kick saved in the closing stages of the first half, but four minutes after the break Manny Yeboah gave the visiting fans hope by pulling a goal back. Within two minutes, however, Alex Akrofi made it three-one to the hosts.

Fred Agyemang pulled a goal back for Borough fourteen minutes from time to set up a grandstand finish, but that was that on the scoring front, three-two the final score, Borough still looking for their first point.

**Redbridge** picked up their first points of the season with late goals against **Newmarket Town**. It was the Jockeys who broke the deadlock after just three minutes, Jose Santa De La Paz with the opener, and although Olamiji Ayoola levelled for the hosts twenty minutes later the visitors were ahead again ten minutes before half time, Ryan Cole with their second goal. That was that until five minutes before the end, James Barlow levelling for the hosts, and then, three minutes later, Barlow struck again, turning defeat into victory for the Motormen. In added time the Jockeys went down to nine men, red cards for both Andy Ballester and Isaac Maynard ending ten miserable minutes for the visitors, who remain pointless.



# Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

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to find out more







# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



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# MATCHDAY SQUADS

FA Cup First Qualifying Round  
Saturday 31st August 2024, 3pm



## Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

**Manager:** Stuart Boardley

**Assistant Manager:** Andy Crump



Jack **Ainsley**



Stuart **Ainsley**



Noel **Aitkens**



Ollie **Brown**



Zak **Brown**



Willie **Clemons**



Hugh **Cullum**



Archie **Dunne**



Sam **Ford**



Cameron **Forde-Brown**



Callum **Harrison**



Josh **Hitter**



Billy **Holland (C)**



Kubi **Kussan**



Josh **Mayhew**



Leon **Ottley-Gooch**



Charlie **Warren**



Tom **Warren**



Joe **Whight**



Harry **Wright (GK)**

red/yellow - goals - played

## Leverstock Green

**Manager:** Fergus Moore

**Assistant Manager:** Scott McGleish



Eyituoyo **Akinbulumo**



Alie **Bangura**



Luke **Beckwith**



Alfie **Bonfield (GK)**



Jamie **Breen**



Ryan **Carruthers**



Lewis **Collins**



Gary **Connolly**



Nat **Connolly**



Guisepppe **Delgaudio**



Josh **Dooley**



Scott **McGleish**



Ethan **Mooney**



Callum **Moore**



Callum **Neal**



Freddie **Newing**



Jaden **Newman**



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