# Seasiders





Tue 12th Nov, 7.45pm Isthmian League

Sat 9th Nov, 3pm

Isthmian League

# VICE CHAIRMAN: ANDY CLARKE



Good afternoon and good evening to all, and welcome to the Martello Ground for this double-issue programme as we host both Cambridge City today and Redbridge on Tuesday evening for League matches. We're looking to extend our unbeaten home record.

The boys have now won their last five games, scoring 17 goals and conceding just four—a remarkable achievement at any level of football. It would be fantastic if we could go into next week's FA Trophy encounter at Boreham Wood on the back of two more home victories.

Turning back to the League, our last home match was against the much-fancied Brentwood Town. In my opinion, this was shaping up to be our toughest test of the season so far, and it didn't disappoint.

The first 10-15 minutes saw our opposition come at us, dictating play and disrupting our natural rhythm. Soon, we were a goal down due to some poor defending from a corner. However, as the seconds ticked by, the boys gained a foothold in

the game and began to control play up to the half-time whistle. Noel and Josh H looked particularly effective in midfield. We equalized in the 36th minute, with Charlie delivering a classy left-footed finish, bringing his season total to 18 goals (quite impressive!). Truthfully, we could have done without the half-time break as Brentwood struggled to handle our slick passing game. With the score at 1-1, everything was to play for in the second half.

The second half was more evenly matched, with Brentwood pressing and not allowing us to establish our rhythm. That said, ten minutes in, we took the lead with the Warren-Warren combination: Thomas headed in a corner from Charlie—game on!

From there, it was a matter of whether we could hold the lead and possibly catch them on the break. The boys defended valiantly, dealing with their right winger's pressure and their quality set-piece deliveries. Yet, they couldn't break down our defense, with every player contributing superbly. At the final whistle, there were beaming smiles on our supporters' faces, and a very frustrated Brentwood chairman (such a shame, Mr. Barnes, LOL!).

The management must have been pleased to see the boys produce such quality in the first half while showing great character in the tougher second half.

I also want to take this opportunity to mention the new players brought in at the start of the season. The board has always said it's not just about the player; it's about getting the right people into the building, and I think we can all agree they've managed that once again.

Thomas Warren has shown consistency and versatility, improving with each game and always posing a threat on set pieces. Hugh Cullum arrived and looks as though he's been with the club forever—an understated player who's



consistently delivered a solid performance, forming a great partnership with Jack.

Ollie Brown, having only previously seen him play for the opposition, is now proving his reputation as the best right-back in Suffolk. A Rolls Royce of a player, he rarely puts a foot wrong and strongly influences those around him. Harry Wright in goal has been an infectious character, a fantastic shot-stopper who's built a

solid relationship with the back four. Willie is Willie—reliable, hard-working, and a quality player with great team ethics. Finally, there's Cameron Forde-Brown, a player who, on his day, is unstoppable. For a 20-minute period against Brentwood, they couldn't get near him. Another player who improves with each game, he's a great team player with an eye for goal. Selfishly, let's hope King's Lynn allows us to keep him for the season.

I'll end with excitement for next week's trip to Boreham Wood. What a fantastic game to be part of! Heading to Hertfordshire as underdogs, our opposition recently took League One's Orient to penalties. With their league form on the rise, it will be challenging—but that's what cup football is all about. Giant-killings, upsets, and representing our club and league with integrity and passion.

Let's travel in numbers, get behind the boys, and see where it takes us!

Cheers, AC



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Cambridge - As I mentioned in last weekend's notes I felt our away win at Cambridge was a fantastic result. They are a very talented group and a tough opposition who I believe won't be far away from the play offs come the end of the season. That said, I believe that it will be another tough game but hopefully our home form will once again help us to victory.

Redbridge – They have had a solid season so far and sit firmly I mid-table with a real mixed bag of results but of late have narrowly lost to Mildenhall then got really good points against both Heybridge Swifts and Brightlingsea Regent with the latter being a tough place to go (as we found out to our detriment a few weeks ago). As always we will have done our homework and will have discussed and worked through ways we believe we can hurt them as well as areas that we will need to nullify in the armoury.



Last time out, here at the Martello Ground we defeated a very good Brentwood side who I had tipped as title challengers this season. Nothing in the game has led me to think any different in my views and I hope that we can look back on the result as a pivotal one in our season. I thought our performance was

ok.... Not groundbreaking, but solid and we made ourselves very difficult to breakdown although we did speak after the game about not allowing ourselves to drop too deep and invite pressure which I felt we did at times too much.

Cup Run – We have drawn ourselves a fantastic tie in the FA Trophy which we are all really looking forward to. I hope you all feel the same and that we can get as many Seasiders fans down to Boreham Wood as possible as it will be a huge test against a side that are "full time".

Boreham Wood have been renowned for their own cup exploits in recent seasons with the highlight being an FA Cup 5th (Yes 5th) Round exit away at Everton after beating both League One and Championship opposition along the way. This just demonstrates that miracles can happen, lets hope that we can produce that miracle this year and you'll all be there for the party!



Finally, it was great to see Callum Harrison back in the squad last week after his spinal injury at Brightlingsea. He's back sooner than expected and we look forward top seeing him get fitter and helping us along the way in the weeks to come....

I hope you enjoy both games and that six points is the outcome for us Seasiders!



### Not many people know this...

We are playing two sides in the next four days who used to be someone else when we played them before. Although that's not strictly accurate in the case of this afternoon's visitors.

City have always been City, but 20 years ago when we travelled to Milton Road (their old ground) it was to play Cambridge Regional College (CRC) who subsequently moved across the City to the Abbey stadium, home of Cambridge United and competed in the Eastern Counties League. In its day a visit to the Milton Road ground was always a worthy day out, one of the largest non-league grounds with an excellent bar and facilities but it was lost to developers in 2013

and now they await the completion of a brand new stadium.

Redbridge .... Prior to last season when Redbridge joined the Isthmian League, we last faced them in the mid 80's when they were called Ford United, the works team of some motor manufacturer whose name escapes me who were based at Dagenham and playing in the Essex Senior League. As FTFC we faced them in the FA Vase, drawing 3-3 on their patch and losing the replay here 3-2.

I noted on Tuesday Bury drew 1-1 at Newmarket so they are now 5 points in front of us having played two games more, you do the Maths!

## TODAY'S MASCOTS....



For today's match against Cambridge City we welcome the Under 12 Girls Reds who will be leading the lads out as mascots. The team is sponsored by Sam Harrold Plumbing & Heating and Norfolk Logistics.







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|   |    | Alex Hernandez        | Tilbury                    | 9 |
|---|----|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| - | 2  | Cemal Ramadan         | Bury Town                  | 9 |
| , | 3  | Charlie Warren        | Felixstowe & Walton United | 9 |
| 4 | 4  | Joshua Olaoluwa Osude | Witham Town                | 8 |
| ļ | 5  | Darren Esuka          | Basildon United            | 7 |
| ( | 6  | Josh Lee              | Newmarket Town             | 7 |
|   | 7  | Daniel Ogunleye       | Brentwood Town             | 7 |
| - | 8  | Ruben Bartlett-Antwi  | Basildon United            | 6 |
| ( | 9  | Prince Domafriyie     | Waltham Abbey              | 6 |
| 1 | 10 | Anisius Lewis         | Concord Rangers            | 6 |
|   |    |                       |                            |   |







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| POS  |  | P  | W | D | L | F  | Α  | GD  | PTS |
|------|--|----|---|---|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1    | Bury Town                                      | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 22 | 13 | +9  | 29  |
| 2    | Tilbury  | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 23 | 16 | +7  | 29  |
| 3    | Witham Town                                    | 13 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 27 | 16 | +11 | 28  |
| 4    | Felixstowe & Walton United                     | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 26 | 13 | +13 | 24  |
| 5    | Basildon United                                | 13 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 19 | 14 | +5  | 22  |
| 6    | Waltham Abbey                                  | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 21 | 15 | +6  | 21  |
| 7    | Brightlingsea Regent                           | 13 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 19 | -1  | 20  |
| 8    | Grays Athletic                                 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 8  | +6  | 18  |
| 9    | Heybridge Swifts                               | 13 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 20 | 16 | +4  | 18  |
| 10   | Brentwood Town                                 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 22 | 16 | +6  | 17  |
| 11   | Gorleston                                      | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 18 | 15 | +3  | 16  |
| 12   | Redbridge                                      | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 23 | 21 | +2  | 16  |
| 13   | Walthamstow                                    | 13 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 20 | 20 | 0   | 16  |
| 14   | Concord Rangers                                | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 14 | +1  | 15  |
| 15   | Mildenhall Town                                | 13 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 14 | 16 | -2  | 14  |
| 16   | Sporting Bengal United                         | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 20 | -6  | 14  |
| 17   | Cambridge City                                 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 17 | 20 | -3  | 13  |
| 18   | Maldon & Tiptree                               | 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 11 | 18 | -7  | 10  |
| 19   | Newmarket Town                                 | 13 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 20 | 33 | -13 | 10  |
| 20   | Ipswich Wanderers                              | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 12 | 22 | -10 | 9   |
| 21   | Haringey Borough                               | 11 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 11 | 25 | -14 | 9   |
| 22   | Wroxham  | 13 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 14 | 31 | -17 | 9   |
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LAST UPDATED: TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 21:45:42



#### **ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES**

#### Saturday 9th November 2024, 3pm

Brentwood Town v Ipswich Wanderers
Bury Town v Basildon United
Grays Athletic v Newmarket Town
Maldon & Tiptree v Gorleston
Mildenhall Town v Brightlingsea Regent
Redbridge v Wroxham
Sporting Bengal United v Haringey Borough
Waltham Abbey v Heybridge Swifts
Walthamstow v Concord Rangers
Witham Town v Tilbury

#### **Tuesday 12th November 2024, 7.45pm**

Cambridge City v Concord Rangers Haringey Borough v Bury Town Ipswich Wanderers v Witham Town



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**Attendance:** 347

**Photos:** Thomas Bradford



















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#### BY JON COUCH

ASK any manager or coach, proven goalscorers are so desperately hard to come by these days, so, to see not one, but two, Non-League striker legends hang up their scoring boots, it's only right their achievements are celebrated.

Both Sam Higgins and Dave Tarpey have bowed out of the game these last few weeks with their legendary status intact. Stacks of goals wherever they've played and trophies gleaming in the cabinet back home/

When Sam Higgins first stepped into Non-League football as a fresh-faced 17-yearold, little did he know he would forge a career to bring joy to so many.

After nine years at the Millwall academy and a brief stint at Southend United, Higgins dipped his toes in Non-League waters and the rest was history.

In 16 years, Higgins established himself as one the part-time game's most decorated figures, scoring a whopping 403 career goals and picking up an unrivalled haul of collective and individual accolades along the way.

Undoubtedly, his highlight was an iconic first spell at East Thurrock United, which yielded 275 goals and no fewer than four Golden Boots, at Steps 2, 3 and 4. He also won the Isthmian Premier and North division titles and steered the Rocks to a first-ever Essex Senior Cup success.

At Hornchurch, he lifted the FA Trophy at Wembley and Isthmian Premier title as well as a Player of the Year and Golden Boot double.

With further success came at Chelmsford City (two spells), Bromley, Canvey Island, it's no wonder Higgins made such an impact in and around his native Essex

But, last week, after picking up a heel injury while playing for Hashtag United, the 35-year-old finally called time on his glittering career, to a social media fanfare from past clubs, managers, teammates and fans.

From his first loan spell at Fisher Athletic to his last hurrah at Hashtag United, Higgins was highly regarded by all and will go down as one of Non-League's all-time greats.

"It's been a very long time and, at some point, it had to come to an end, unfortunately," said Higgins, before admitting he has no burning desire to return to the game in a coaching capacity.

"It was a tough decision, but it felt like the right one. I've had quite a few injuries over the last few seasons and a couple of weeks back I had a heel injury which is probably going to take a few months to recover from.

"Having a lot of injuries can be mentally draining so to be able to come out of it with a sense of achievement is something to be proud of.

"The thing I will miss most about the game is the people. I've met friends for life; managers, players and the people working within the game. Those are the best relationships, ones to last a lifetime."

Tarpey, meanwhile, has a similar tale to tell. A hat-trick of promotions, a deal to become a professional footballer and a record-breaking goalscoring season, the 35-year-old too boasts a CV that many aspiring footballers could only dream of.

Tarpey announced his retirement last week after rupturing his ACL for a second time, while playing for Marlow against Biggleswade Town in the FA Trophy.

Starting at Basingstoke Town and then Hampton



& Richmond, the skilful forward also enjoyed a spell at Farnborough before taking his game to a whole new level at Maidenhead United, scoring 44 goals in their National League South title winning season – still a league record.

That earned him a two-year pro deal at National League high-fliers Barnet but Tarpey suffered a serious knee injury on his home debut, prompting a lengthy period of rehabilitation.

A stint at Woking saw him rediscover his form before Bracknell Town and Leatherhead led him to a promotion-winning season at Marlow under manager Mark Bartley before his latest injury.

"I always said over the last few years, as long as I can stay injury free I'll keep playing," Tarpey told the Maidenhead Advertiser.

"I've got three children and a fiancé at home who have had to put up with me travelling up and down the country for the last 13 years.

"I got three promotions, won numerous county cups and I can retire and say for the level I've played, I feel I've had a great career with what I've done.

"Some people don't get promoted at all in their career, to say I've won three is a great achievement."

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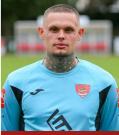
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# THE OTHER SIDE CAMBRIDGE

#### **Early years**

The club was formed in 1908 as Cambridge Town. the direct descendant of the earlier Cambridge St Mary's club which had folded at the end of the 1907-1908 season following a dispute with the local Cambs FA. As a torchbearer for amateur football in the days when many clubs viewed the professional game with disdain, the new club affiliated itself with the recently established Amateur Football Association rather than the local FA. Trophy success came early, with a notable victory being achieved in the International Du Nord Trophy in 1912 after beating host club Tourquennois in Northern France, Cambridge Town amalgamated with an earlier Cambridge United club in May 1914, joined the Cambs FA, and in turn gained entry into the FA Cup and the FA Amateur Cup for the first time, whilst retaining their AFA links. The club's best ever run in the Amateur Cup came in 1928 when they reached the semi Final only to lose to Leyton at Fulham's Craven Cottage ground. Town had successes in the Southern Amateur League, winning the title five times between 1920 and 1931. The club joined the Spartan League in 1935, winning the Premier Division in 1948 & Division in 1 up to the Athenian League in 1950. Cambridge was granted City status in 1951 and with it the club's name change to Cambridge City

#### **Southern League Champions**

City left the amateur game in 1958 and joined the Southern League, gaining a place in the Premier Division of the Southern League at the first attempt. City won the Premier Division in 1962/63, edging out local rivals Cambridge United in an enthralling title race with the local derby at Milton Road being witnessed by over 11,500 people. City were regular challengers for the title and had the highest attendances in



non-league football up until the mid-1960s. But City lost their way and were relegated to Southern League Division 1 in 1968. Promotion back to the Premier Division followed in 1970, the same year that Cambridge United were elected to the Football League.

#### Strife in the 1970s

City finished Southern League runners up in 1970/71, but the latter years of the decade were a real struggle. Relegation in 1975/76 saw crowds dwindle and the Club fall into decline. In 1977, Directors decided that the club should join the Isthmian League. At the time this was seen as a backward step by many supporters. With scenes that would be repeated 30 years later, a subsequent fans' protest forced most of the Board to resign. The club thus remained in the Southern League.

#### **Better times**

After the redevelopment of the ground in the mid 1980's, City gradually improved and a new generation of fans mobbed their heroes after the 1985/86 Southern League Southern Division championship was won on the last day of the season. The goal scoring exploits of Gary Grogan were instrumental in City's recovery, according him a 'City Legend 'status. Since the turn of this century, City have reached the 1st round proper of the FA Cup four times and the 2 nd round once, a record far better than achieved by the more illustrious City sides of the 1960s.

#### **Ups and downs**

Recent seasons have been a roller-coaster ride for the City faithful. City's best season for 30 years saw them finish runners up in the inaugural Conference South season in 2004/05, going on to lose in the play-offs. Off the field the ground had been sold to pay off mounting debts and matters took a turn for the worse in 2006 when the then Board announced an agreement to allow City to be absorbed into Cambridge United. With City on the brink of extinction, supporters were galvanised into a campaign which eventually forced Directors to resign, to be replaced by members of the Cambridge City Supporters' Trust. The opening league match of 2006/07 was arguably the most memorable since the



early 1960s - not merely because City won with a stoppage time winner at Havant & Waterlooville, but because it offered irrefutable proof that that City had survived a blatant attempt to kill it off and were very much alive and kicking. City celebrated their centenary in 2008, but were demoted at the end the 2007/08 season due to over-zealously applied ground regulations. This decision ended 22 consecutive seasons in the 2 nd tier of non-league football. City lost out to Gloucester City in the 2008/09 play-off. In the 2009/10 season, City won the Southern League Cup for the first time and finished one point shy of a playoff place. With the ground sold, a groundshare agreement was in place with Newmarket Town for the 2010/11 season but a last minute offer from the landlord meant that City had another season in its own stadium and celebrated by securing a place in the playoffs with a 4th place finish in the league. However, this was met with disappointment again as the team lost at Salisbury City. Another reprieve following a new deal with the landlord gave City two more seasons at Milton Road, 2011/12 and 2012/13. Once again the play-offs were reached but again an away defeat in the semi final, this time at Oxford City. This disappointment was however tempered by the news that the club has secured a site on which to build a new stadium and training complex. City ultimately missed out on a play-off spot in the 2012/13 season, but the club enjoyed a FA Cup run, with a televised first round proper home tie with MK Dons producing a fantastic night with a nil nil draw at Milton Road before losing in the replay at Stadium MK. With our lease on the stadium finally coming to an end, April 27th 2013 saw the last ever first team match at the ground before a large crowd with mixture of tears and smiles. Adrian Cambridge had the honour of scoring the last ever goal at Milton Road in the one nil victory over Redditch United.

#### New era

A new era for the club commenced in August 2013 starting with a ground-share at Histon FC. City once again reached the play-offs that season but once again tasted semi final defeat, this time at home to St Albans City. The 2015-16 season saw City move to share at St Ives Town FC. Manager





Gary Roberts left in the summer of 2016 after 13 years at the club. His replacement Dan Gleeson had a short and ultimately unsuccessful spell in charge, former player Robbie Nightingale taking over as manager in December 2016. Robbie won his first game in charge to boost City's hopes of avoiding the drop. City's playing record improved culminating in five wins and a draw in their last six games but ultimately it was not enough and the club were relegated to step four for the first time in our history. Hopes of bouncing straight back were dashed when we lost in the play-off to Hartley Wintney. City returned to Histon FC for the 2018-19 season and in the summer of 2019 were moved laterally to The Isthmian League. City's debut season in the league seemed on course for an exciting conclusion with the club on an unbeaten 7 game run in February & March, with no goals conceded, and the play-offs were in sight. However, as we all know the global pandemic saw the season declared null and void as was the 2020-21 season. Another league switch occurred in the summer of 2021, City being placed in the Northern Premier League. Continued delays with City's new stadium have meant a continuation of ground share arrangements, returning to Westwood Road in

St Ives for the 2023-24 season. City ended last season just above the relegation zone, the 17th place finish the lowest the club has ever sat in the current pyramid structure.

As the club awaits for the new ground to finally open this season we continue to play at St Ives Town FC. Robbie Nightingale signed off his nearly eight years in charge by winning the Cambs Invitation Cup for the first time since 2017. Jamie Cureton was appointed as the new manager in May 2024 as City were moved from the Northern Premier League to the Isthmian League for this season.

## PLAYER PROFILES

JAMIE CURETON: Jamie was appointed City manager early in 2024 close season. He began his career at Norwich City in 1994, and after the club's relegation from the Premier League at the end of the season, has spent the majority of his career in England's lower leagues. One of only 29 footballers in the world to have made over



1,000 competitive appearances, his career has spanned nine tiers of the football pyramid from the Premier League to the Essex Senior League, and has seen him score over 350 goals. He has had management experience at Bishops Stortford and Enfield.

JIM DUGGAN: Jim is our assistant manager. He has had twenty years in football management and coaching, notably at Spurs, Norwich City and Stevenage. However it was at Bishops Stortford that he first worked with manager Jamie Cureton and he had no hesitation when Jamie invited him along to City.

NICK KEYS: Nick joined City as GK coach having worked with Jamie Cureton at Maldon & Tiptree. Nick started out at the old Wimbledon Academy followed by Colchester and then spent close to 20 years playing non-league football. His previous clubs include, Hornchurch, Bowers, Tilbury and Maldon.

**TOMMY MIDDLEHURST:** Tommy started his career with Queens Park Rangers academy before having spells with Norwich City, Bristol Rovers and Reading Last season he was at Coggeshall Town and Maldon & Tiptree.

**GIANI ASHLEY:** Giani is a rightback but can also play right side of midfield. He is a product of

Hornchurch's Academy. He did have a short spell with City in 2016 before moving to Bedford Town.

ALFIE MASON: Alfie learned his trade in West Ham's academy before moving to Bishops Stortford youth setup where he starred in their FA Youth Cup run to the 2nd Round before going out to Colchester United. He moved on to Maldon & Tiptree via Enfield.

HARRY HURST: Harry learned his trade in Peterborough United's academy before signing a contract with Aldershot Town. He joined Soham Town Rangers last summer. Harry is an energetic left sided player.

**JAYDEN GIPSON:** Centreback Jayden is a product of Braintree Town's youth setup. His subsequent clubs include Coggeshall Town and Felixstowe & Walton.

JACK GROSVENOR: Jack was a member of the Ware squad that reached the Southern League Central playoffs last season before going out to eventual winners Bedford Town. Previously he had been in the double winning squad at Enfield.

JAYDEN RANDELL: Centre half Jayden learned his trade in Dagenham & Redbridge's youth setup. He has since turned out for Wealdstone, Aveley (two spells) Concord Rangers and Maldon & Tiptree.

**ED TASSELL:** Ed debuted for the first team aged 16 in season 22/23 and proved himself more than capable at rightback even though his preferred position is centreback. Last season Ed performed admirably when getting the chance at centreback and even held his own when asked to play in midfield. He was voted player of the year for our under 18s which he captained, in season 22/23.

ALEX WARMAN: Alex plays centre midfield. He is a product of Bishops Stortford's academy and went on to make 60 appearances for their first team. He went on to Enfield where he made 100 appearances and enjoyed their promotion from The Essex Senior League. Last season he helped Ware to the Southern League first division playoff semifinal, just missing out to Bedford Town.

**DANNY NORTON:** Danny captained the Enfield team that started the season so well last season. He plays in midfield. He finished last season at Saffron Walden and previously had spells at Bowers & Pitsea, Basildon United and Tilbury.

**JUNIOR MUBIAYI:** Junior is plays in centre midfield but can also slot in elsewhere. He progressed through Enfield Town's youth system before breaking into the first team. He finished last season at Stanway Rovers.

JACK THOMPSON: Jack was in Bowers & Pitsea's team that won promotion to Isthmian Premier Division last season. He plays up front and was previously with Concord Rangers.

**TOMMY RIGBY:** Tommy came through City's youth set up. He plays in midfield and became a permanent member of the first team squad with some impressive performances. Unfortunately he was injured all last season and didn't kick a ball in anger.

SHANE TEMPLE: Shane is a centreforward and product of Braintree Town's youth setup. Since leaving Braitree he has had spells at Sudbury, Witham, Concord and Maldon & Tiptree.

**SAMRAI GEBRAI:** Samrai is a pacey winger with an eye for goal. He has previously turned out for Canvey Island, Hendon and Enfield before signing for Potters Bar last summer.

**KIERAN BISHOP:** 'Bish' is a very experienced striker/winger in non league football. He joined City in October from Ware. He was in his second spell at Ware.

**GEORGE SMITH:** George is a striker and was Maldon & Tiptree's leading scorer last season having previously rattled them in for Coggeshall Town (twice), Wivenhoe Town, Hashtag United and Hullbridge Sports.

JOEL OLDER: Joel is a winger and for the last two and a bit seasons he has been doing his stuff for Halstead Town. Previous clubs include Stanway Rovers and Coggeshall Town.

**NNAMDI HAROLD-EGOLE:** Nnamdi is a former Hadley, Enfield and Saffron Walden striker. He is dual registered with Hullbridge Sports.

**AARON GREENE:** Aaron plays in midfield and last season was named manager's player of the year for Bishops Stortford's difficult season in National League North. Previous clubs include Enfield and Chelmsford.

MARCEL LEWIS: Marcel was born and bred in Cambridge and joined Cambridge United's Academy aged 10. At age 16 he joined Chelsea's Academy and progressed to their under 23s. In 2021 he moved on to Burnley's under 12 side.

#### PUBLICATION OF OWNERSHIP:



### **MATCHDAY SQUADS**

Isthmian League North Saturday 9th November 2024, 3pm



# Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley
Assistant Manager: Andy Crump

| Hugo <b>Akhuseyin</b>      |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| •                          |  |
| Jack <b>Ainsley</b>        |  |
| Stuart <b>Ainsley</b>      |  |
| Noel <b>Aitkens</b>        |  |
| Ollie <b>Brown</b>         |  |
| Zak <b>Brown</b>           |  |
| Willie Clemons             |  |
| Hugh <b>Cullum</b>         |  |
| Archie <b>Dunne</b>        |  |
| Sam <b>Ford</b>            |  |
| Cameron <b>Forde-Brown</b> |  |
| Rob <b>Harvey</b>          |  |
| Callum <b>Harrison</b>     |  |
|                            |  |
| Josh <b>Hitte</b> i        |  |
| Billy <b>Holland (C)</b>   |  |
| Kubi <b>Kussan</b>         |  |
| Jordy <b>Matthews</b>      |  |
| Josh <b>Mayhew</b>         |  |
| Leon Ottley-Gooch          |  |
| Zac Tuvey                  |  |
| Charlie <b>Warre</b> n     |  |
| Tom Warren                 |  |
| Joe <b>Whight</b>          |  |
| Harry Wright (GK)          |  |
| ,                          |  |

## Cambridge City FC

Manager: Jamie Cureton Assistant Manager: Jim Duggan

| Giani <b>Ashley</b>        |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| •                          |  |
| Kieran <b>Bishop</b>       |  |
| Samrai <b>Gebrai</b>       |  |
| Jayden <b>Gipson</b>       |  |
| Aaron <b>Greene</b>        |  |
| Jack <b>Grosvenor</b>      |  |
| Nnamdi <b>Harold-Egole</b> |  |
| Harry <b>Hurst</b>         |  |
| Marcel <b>Lewis</b>        |  |
| Alfie <b>Mason</b>         |  |
| Tommy <b>Middlehurst</b>   |  |
| Danny <b>Norton</b>        |  |
| Joel <b>Older</b>          |  |
| Junior <b>Mubiayi</b>      |  |
| Jayden <b>Randell</b>      |  |
| Tommy <b>Rigby</b>         |  |
| George <b>Smith</b>        |  |
| Ed <b>Tassell</b>          |  |
| Shane <b>Temple</b>        |  |
| Jack <b>Thompson</b>       |  |
| Alex Warman                |  |
|                            |  |

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# FIXTURES 2024/25

| AUGUST                         |   |   |                      |                   |          |                       |
|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| SAT 10<br>C Warren (3          | NEWMARKET TOWN<br>I), Ford, Forde-Brown, Clemons            | Н | ЗРМ                  | LEAGUE            | W 6-1    | ATT 401               |
| SAT 17 BUI<br>Brown, C W       | RY TOWN   | A | 3PM                  | FA CUP            | D 2-2    | ATT 465               |
| TUE 20<br>Harrison (2),        | BURY TOWN<br>Ford, C Warren                                 | Н | 7.45PM               | FA CUP REPLAY     | W 4-0    | ATT 446               |
| SAT 24<br>Holland, Hai         | WITHAM TOWN<br>rrison                                       | A | 3PM                  | LEAGUE            | L 3-2    | ATT 192               |
| MON 26<br>Clemons, Hi          | BURY TOWN<br>itter, Ford                                    | Н | 3PM                  | LEAGUE            | W 3-1    | ATT 624               |
|                                | LEVERSTOCK GREEN<br>3), Ford, Whight                        | Н | 3PM                  | FA CUP 1ST QR     | W 5-1    | ATT 218               |
| SEPTEN<br>SAT 7<br>Caley-Brown | BASILDON UNITED n, C Warren (2), T Warren                   | Н | 3PM                  | FA TROPHY 1ST QR  | W 4-2    | ATT 337               |
| TUE 10<br>C Warren, W          | WROXHAM   | Н | 7.45PM               | LEAGUE            | W 2-1    | ATT 210               |
| SAT 14                         | CANVEY ISLAND   | Α | 3PM                  | FA CUP 2ND QR     | L 2-0    | ATT 393               |
| MON 16<br>C Warren (2          | MALDON & TIPTREE<br>), OG, Aitkens                          | A | 7.45PM               | LEAGUE            | W 4-1    | ATT 166               |
| SAT 21<br>OG, Harrison         | ENFIELD   | Н | 3PM                  | FA TROPHY 2ND QR  | W 2-1    | ATT 319               |
| SAT 28  OCTOBE                 | BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT  | A | 3PM                  | LEAGUE            | L 1-0    | ATT 255               |
| WED 2                          | MILDENHALL TOWN<br>rde-Brown, C Warren, Ford                | Н | 7.45P <mark>M</mark> | SUFFOLK PREMIER C | UP W 4-0 | ATT 151               |
| SAT 5<br>Mayhew (2)            | HARINGEY BOROUGH<br>Forde-Brown (2)                         | H | 3PM                  | FA TROPHY 3RD QR  | W 4-0    | ATT 315               |
| TUE 8<br>C Warren, T           | BASILDON UNITED Warren                                      | Н | 7.45PM               | LEAGUE            | W 2-1    | ATT 283               |
| SAT 12<br>Mayhew               | TILBURY   | A | 3PM                  | LEAGUE            | L 2-1    | ATT 295               |
| SAT 19<br>Mayhew, Hit          |   | Н | 3PM                  | LEAGUE            | W 2-1    | ATT 269               |
| TUE 22<br>Ford, C War          | CAMBRIDGE CITY<br>ren                                       | A | 7.45PM               | LEAGUE            | W 2-0    | ATT 133               |
| SAT 26<br>Forde-Brow           | BISHOP'S STORTFORD<br>n, OG, Mayhew (2), T Warren, C Warren | A | 3PM                  | FA TROPHY 1ST RP  | W 6-1    | ATT 3 <mark>39</mark> |
| SAT 29<br>Forde-Brow           | BRANTHAM ATHLETIC<br>n (3), Ford, T Warren                  | A | 7.45PM               | SUFF PREM CUP QF  | W 5-1    |                       |

| NOVEM<br>SAT 2 | BER BRENTWOOD TOWN     | н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | W 2-1  | ATT 347 |
|----------------|------------------------|-------|--------|--------------|--|---------|
| T Warren, C    |                        |       | 31 111 | LENGOL       | 1121   | AITOTI  |
| SAT 9          | CAMBRIDGE CITY         | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| TUE 12         | REDBRIDGE              | Н     | 7.45PM | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 16         | BOREHAM WOOD           | Α     | 3PM    | ISUZU FA TRO | PHY 2ND ROUND  |         |
| TUE 19         | WROXHAM                | Α     | 7.45PM | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 23         | BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT   | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | FXSB471W   |         |
| TUE 26         | CONCORD RANGERS        | Α     | 7.45PM | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 30         | MILDENHALL TOWN        | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| DECEM          | BER                    |       |        |              |  |         |
| TUE 3          | BASILDON               | Α     | 7.45PM | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 7          | HARINGEY BOROUGH       | A     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 14         | WALTHAM ABBEY          | / H / | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | The state of the s |         |
| SAT 21         | GORLESTON              | A     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | 10 11/1  |         |
| THU 26         | IPSWICH WANDERERS      | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 28         | NEWMARKET TOWN         | A     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| LANULAD        |                        |       |        |              |  |         |
| JANUAF         |                        |       | ODM    | LEACHE       |  |         |
| WED 1          | BURY TOWN              | A     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 4          | GRAYS ATHLETIC         | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 11         | HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS       | A     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | / HOARS Cases  |         |
| SAT 18         | SPORTING BENGAL UNITED | H     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 25         | HARINGEY BOROUGH       | п     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| FEBRU/         | ARY                    |       |        |              |  |         |
| SAT 1          | MILDENHALL TOWN        | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 8          | REDBRIDGE              | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 15         | TILBURY                | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       | 18 3 3 75 83   |         |
| SAT 22         | WALTHAMSTOW            | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
|                |                        |       |        |              |  |         |
| MARCH          |                        |       |        |              |  |         |
| SAT 1          | CONCORD RANGERS        | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 8          | BRENTWOOD TOWN         | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 15         | WALTHAM ABBEY          | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 22         | GORLESTON              | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| APRIL          |                        |       |        |              |  |         |
| SAT 5          | HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS       | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 12         | GRAYS ATHLETIC         | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 19         | MALDON & TIPTREE       | Н     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
| SAT 21         | IPSWICH WANDERERS      | Α     | 3PM    | LEAGUE       |  |         |
|                |                        | 77    |        |              |  |         |



# THE OTHER SIDE REDBRIDGE FC

#### **FORMATION, MERGERS AND NAMES**

The Club's roots lie in the car industry which has long been a staple of the economy in this corner of East London and Essex, and give us several 'sister' clubs both locally and nationally. Previously know as Ford United F.C. which dated from a 1958 or '59 merger between two older clubs, Ford Sports F.C. (Dagenham) and Briggs Sports F.C., both of which were founded in 1934. Up until WW2, the latter actually began life as Briggs Motor Bodies F.C. and entered a team in the London League under that name between 1935 and '51. The Ford United Club was in serious problems at the start of 1995/6 season, however, as sponsorship was lost and disbanding seemed a real danger, until Vice-Chairman George Adams enlisted Sky Sports as sponsors, rescuing the Club. Nicknamed 'The Motormen', they play in Blue Shirts and White

Shorts. The name of Ford United was to end forever when the club was changed at the start of the 2004/05 season to Redbridge Football Club in a bid to gain more local support and become firmly established as the highest placed football club in the London Borough of Redbridge.

#### **GROUNDS**

Briggs Sports played at the Victoria Road ground, now famous as home of Dagenham & Redbridge. Ford United's old ground was the Ford Sports & Social Club in Rush Green. Romford F.C. shared the ground in 1995/6, providing valuable funds at a difficult time. Sadly, this pleasant ground was ruled unacceptable to the Isthmian League in summer of 2000 since its owners, Ford Motor Company, would grant only a yearly lease, so some 40 years of history there came to an end. A new home was leased at Oakside Stadium the





home of Barkingside F.C. who became tenants at the ground until they moved out at the end of the 2013/14 season.

#### **LEAGUES**

Briggs Motor Bodies won the London League in 1937 & '39, actually pipping Ford Sports to the title in '37 - the first of two successive runners-up spots. The London League Park Royal Cup (for lower division clubs) was won by Briggs Sports in '37 and their reserves in '50. Ford Sports' membership of this league ran from 1935 to '53, winning Div 2 East in 1939. Briggs played in the Spartan League from 1945, winning East Div 1 in 1947, and the League Cup in '57, '58, and '59. They enjoyed unparalleled success in the Premier Division, as their positions fro m'49/50 to 58/59read; 1st,2nd,1st,2nd,2nd,2nd,1st,1st,1st; following the merger on the back of 4 titles, the next Spartan winners were Staines Town. Ford Sports also played in the Spartan League during 1938, 1945 and 1952-58.

The newly merged club joined the new Aetolian League in 1959/60, and became the first Champions, a feat they repeated in 1962: in between, they were runners-up in '61 when they also won the League Cup. Fortunes of both the

club and the League began to wane in the 60's, whereupon we switched to the Greater London League in 1964. This was won in 1971, a year after being runners-up and capturing the League Cup then between 71-74 we played in the Metropolitan London League.

In 1974 we moved to the Essex Senior League, and here we were champions in 1992, runners-up in '94, and remained until earning promotion to the Isthmian (Ryman) League in 1997, on the back of another Essex Senior League title (and League Cup final appearance) and a much improved ground. We finished in 5th spot in our first season, and with Jeff Wood contributing a league's best 35 goals, Ford Untied won Division 3 in 1999, scoring 110 goals in 38 games in the process - also the best in the League. We continued our rapid rise in 2000, when we romped to promotion. Wood bagging a remarkable 42 goals as we finished 3rd in Division 2.

We continued our rapid rise in 2000, when we romped to promotion. Wood bagging a remarkable 42 goals as we finished 3rd in Division 2. Another two successive promotions followed firstly with a 3rd place finish in season 2000/01 and then by becoming champions of the Ryman Division 1 in 2001/02. This coincided with a change of ground to the Oakside Stadium in Barkingside which was quickly updated to an A-grading so being able to host Ryman League football. Ryman Premier football was finally achieved but started with the departure of manager Denis Elliott and in came Craig Edwards whose first season in charge saw a 15th place finish as well as London Senior Cup runners up. The following season saw the club finish in 13th position which meant that we would qualify to enter the Nationwide Conference South in season 2004-05.

Ford United started season 2004-05 in the newly formed Nationwide Conference South under the new name of Redbridge FC in an attempt to gain more support and become recognised as the highest placed football side in the London Borough of Redbridge. Unfortunately this proved to be a bridge to far for the club both on and off the pitch and we suffered relegation and a bottom place finish whilst also losing manager Craig

Edwards halfway through the season as he was to be replaced with Ex Ford United and Fulham goalkeeper Jim Stannard. One success to come out of this season was the excellent Redbridge FC Under 18's side who as well as winning the Eastern Junior Alliance League and Cup also captured the Essex Pelly Cup and made it through to the 3rd round of the FA Youth Cup only to be beaten by previous winners Middlesbrough. The following season saw the club back in the Ryman Premier League but a second successive relegation was soon to follow which saw the club playing in the newly formed Ryman Division One North.

A change in management halfway through the season saw Ilford manager and ex Ford united player Allan Fenn join the club but was unable to stop the side from a bottom place finish. The following season was disappointing with a 16th place finish and resulted in Fenn being replaced in the summer break by ex Wimbledon and Bolton striker Dean Holdsworth. Dean led us to a 3rd place finish and a play off final only to see us lose out in a dramatic penalty shoot-out against Canvey Island.

Unfortunately after only one season Dean moved on to become the new manager of Conference



South side Newport County and this resulted in most of the squad breaking up. Ex Ford united player Jay Devereux took over and his first task was to rebuild the squad from scratch after the majority of the team moved on during the summer break. His first season finished with a respectable 9th place finish after a season which was hampered with floodlight problems at the Oakside and after the side got off to a slow start the next campaign and without a financial budget he decided it best to leave the club.

First team coach Dave Ross took over as manager for the remainder of the season. Poor winter weather affected the side at the start of 2010 and the team initially struggled with a fixture pile up but Ross managed to keep the side in the league avoiding relegation.

The following season Kris Taylor joined up with Ross to form a duel management team however after a bad start to the season which saw the club sitting bottom of the league Ross was asked to step down. Kris Taylor was confirmed as first team manager after talks broke down with Kevin Durrant who looked all set to join the club. Taylor's tenure ended in Dec 2010 when his work commitments affected the amount of time demanded to run a club of this stature meant he was unable to give 100% to the management of the team. First team coach lody Brown was appointed manager on a short-term basis just before Christmas 2010 and he was able to bring some stability and stave of relegation with three games of the season still remaining.

Chairman Dan Holloway moved quickly at the end of the season to make the changes that will bring the structure and stability needed at a football club at this level. Terry Spillane was appointed first team manager after a highly successful spell with Stansted with Jody Brown reverting to a coaching role.

The team ended the season well finishing 6th place just 4 points off the play off positions. However, soon after the season finished, Chairman Dan Holloway resigned from the club due to personal reasons and, with the playing budget due to be cut, manager Terry Spillane felt it was not possible to take the team any further and he



and his footballing staff left to join fellow Ryman One North side Maldon & Tiptree.

A new joint management team made up of Del Robinson and ex Gravesend and Northfleet legend Steve Portway took charge for the 2012/13 season. After a poor start to the season, the team improved in the second-half of the season and fought off survival on the last-day to finish 20th and secure another season at Ryman Level. During pre season Jim Chapman stepped down as chairman stepping aside for Imran Merchant who joined from London Bari. He brought in Ricky Eaton who joint up with the returning Dave Ross to form a duel management team.

After just one season Imran stepped down as Chairman due to personal reasons and ex Chairman Jim Chapman took control in the boardroom once again. The management team of Ricky and Dave stayed on becoming directors of the club and started to make improvements around the ground.

On the pitch however with no playing budget the team found the going tough and ended the season in 23rd place but were able to escape relegation when handed a reprieve due to Southern League side Clevedon Town being demoted over a ground grading rule. The 2015/16 season was one of disappointment as the club struggled on the pitch winning just 8 league matches all season seeing them finish in bottom position suffering relegation back to the Essex Senior League for the first time in 19 years. Jimmy Chapman stepped down as Chairman handing over to Ricky Eaton who combined his role alongside being joint 1st team manager with newly appointed Joey May and wasted no time in making much needed improvements around the ground such as changing rooms/refreshment bar and the club house.

In Jan 2019 Ricky Eaton stepped down from his role as manager to solely concentrate on his chairman duties and wasted no time in bringing across May & Baker manager Micky Wetherall well known to the football club and bringing in an entirely new side he managed to lead the team to a 12th place finish.

The following season Redbridge was sitting in 8th position when the season was declared null and void due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2020/21 season eventually started in September however Micky decided to step down due to personal reasons and was soon replaced by ex Aveley Reserves manager George Christou however his first season was also cut short as the season was curtailed early due to the ongoing pandemic.

After two seasons of disruption due to the pandemic the 2021/22 was fully completed and George led his side to a 3rd place finish however went one better the following season finishing runners up resulting in an Inter League Play Off Final against Step Four Side Haywards Heath Town. A 3-2 victory secured promotion back to the Isthmian North Division after 7 years away in what was an unforgettable season setting new club records along the way with 10 consecutive wins and 12 consecutive clean sheets.

A first season back at Step Four saw a mid table finish however the superb Essex Senior Cup victory along with a strong run in the FA Trophy saw us crowned Isthmian North team of the season 2023/24.

# CLUB CONTACTS

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Chairman Vice Chairman **Director of Operations** Club Secretary Treasurer Director of Football Chairman of Youth Football Head of Media/Press Officer

**Tony Barnes** Andrew Clarke Chris Davnes 07415886803 Mike Titchener 07513 376708 Gary Hammond 07803 244721 Kevin O'Donnell

Scott Dunne 07790 820396 Stuart Davnes 07717 577497

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#### **GENERAL COMMITTEE**

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Les Soall 07825 058857 Paul Secker

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#### PRESIDENTS CLUB

President Life Vice Presidents:

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dave@dhashford.co.uk

Andy Wilding, Tony Barnes, Mick Gosling, Chris Ryan, Jayne Ryan, Phil Griffiths, Jim Seymour

#### **OTHER CONTACTS**

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Chris Daynes

**Christine Daynes** 

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**Becky Wybrow** 

Thomas Bradford/Stefan Peck

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# THE GREEN BALLET



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By the 1920s, tours by European teams in South America were becoming old hat. The visits that had once enlivened the sport, especially in Argentina, were seen as adding nothing to the development of the game. Where once these tours had delivered record crowds and new ideas to South American fans, their popularity was waning. Chelsea and Plymouth were singled out, but hardly unique, of British teams failing to offer anything innovative. Visits from Real Madrid, Barcelona and Espanyol were similarly disappointing. So it said something about the burgeoning future of the European game that, in 1929, excitement was restored, with the visit of Hungarian side Ferencvaros.

Football in Austria and Hungary had been developing a unique style since before the First World War, driven by the visionary work of Austrian Hugo Meisl and Englishman Jimmy Hogan. The Danubian school of a whirlwind of passes and movement would make Austria the envy of the world in the following decade, and culminated in the 1950s Golden Team of Hungary that defeated England at Wembley in 1953 and lost the 1954 World Cup final. In 1929, however, it was just beginning to show shoots of success.

Ferencyaros had finished second in Hungary that season, and won the league in the three preceding years. They were fresh from winning the Mitropa Cup, one of the forerunners of the European Cup. But Argentina felt hard done by to have lost the Olympic final to fierce rivals Uruguay in 1928, and would feel even worse when losing to the same opponents in the first World Cup final in 1930. The Danubian school



hadn't achieved any real international success. The balance of international footballing power was most certainly in South America when the Green Ballet arrived, first in Brazil.

Despite some mixed results - the consequence of a long journey - the Brazilian press lauded them as the most exciting side to visit the continent in years. They moved their way down the coast to the Rio de la Plata, where the two giants of 1920s football were waiting for them. Argentinian football had been following the Danubian school for some years, with reporters in Vienna keeping readers up to date. Hugo Meisl had invited both Uruguay and Argentina to visit the city after watching them at the Olympics, to exchange ideas. That visit had never happened, but now his ideas had arrived at the home of the World Champions.

As it was, the World Champions were as dazzled by Ferencvaros as the rest of the world, as Uruguay lost 3-2. The Hungarians defeated a Montevideo XI 4-1, before Uruguay claimed revenge in a rematch. The tour continued across the river into Argentina, where just 5000 people turned up to watch them play River



Plate, something the national newspaper called 'an injustice of indifference'.

Those that did attend were treated to a spectacular, topsy-turvy game that finished 4-3 to the visitors. The same newspaper claimed the Hungarians had won a 'double victory', but winning the game and also winning over the crowd. They also applauded 'the class of the game played in Central Europe', a far cry from the criticism thrown at visitors from the home of football. It was clear that British football was falling far behind.

The crossed back to Uruguay to lose 2-1 to Penarol, in a game marked by controversy and refereed by one of the Uruguayan side's staff, and then back to Argentina where they beat Racing 2-1, taking a 2-0 lead early on through superstar Jozsef Turay.

Far from the disappointment of their first game in Argentina, by the time August came and they took on the national side, people were clamouring for tickets at the sold out game. Carlos Spadero, a player from Buenos Aires, described them as 'the best team that I have seen in my life,' Playing with speed and grace, opposing players had to be

at their absolute best to contain them, something most failed to do. Argentina did though, just about, scoring two late goals to see off the Hungarians. The game was contrasted with the visit of Torino that same year, described as 'mediocre'.

Ferencyaros finished their time in Argentina with another win against Racing, before sailing back up the coast for a final farewell in Brazil. There were hopes that the clash between South American champions and European innovators would continue at the World Cup the following season. Unfortunately for those dreams, Hungary, Austria and Czechoslovakia all chose to focus on the Cup of Nations instead, and didn't travel to Uruguay in 1930.

The influence of the Green Ballet lasted though, with football in South America remembering the fiery tempers of Mediterranean visitors and the cold efficiency of British tourists. Ferencearos, with their movement, their passing, and their passion, represented the best of South American football, even from the middle on another continent.

Enjoy the game.

# PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH ROUND UP

BY IAN TOWNSEND, TAKEN FROM WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK

On Friday evening **Basildon United** entertained leaders **Tilbury**. The Bees had won only one of their previous four, whilst the Dockers were looking for a sixth successive win-but the first half suggested that the visitors run would come to an end as Ramie Mills and Darren Esuka gave the hosts a two-nil lead at the break. In midweek Tilbury had come from four down to defeat Haringey Borough, so there was no way we could write them off, and they turned the game around in the second half, Alex Hernandez scoring his customary goal-his ninth in nine and then new signing from Dover Athletic Lindell Stewart made his mark, equalising on seventy four minutes and scoring the winner six minutes from time. The Dockers are a point clear at the top.

Onto Saturday, and second place **Witham Town** had been in fine form, winning three in a row, but they looked to have a tough test as they welcomed **Gorleston**, and it got tougher with Friday's departure of star striker Josh Osude. The Greens took the lead on twenty four minutes, Alby Matthews- on as a sub only one minute earlier- with his fifth of the season, but just before the break Witham drew level, Isaac Skubich scoring for the first time this season. Nine minutes from time the home fans were perhaps thinking "Josh who" as Kamani Mcfarlane put their side ahead, and they held on for three points to close the gap on Tilbury.

**Bury Town**'s trip to **Cambridge City** will again be played at St Ives Town, as City are still waiting

for final sign off on their new ground. Hopefully it will come soon, as it looks rather impressive - and not having a permanent home may well be affecting their home form, as they've lost more than they've won on their 'own' patch this season. They've lost three of their last four in all competitions, whilst Bury were in fine form until last Saturday's defeat against Waltham Abbey, which they followed with a narrow County Cup defeat against Leiston in midweek.

Felixstowe and Walton United hosted **Brentwood Town**, so new Seasiders signing Rob Harvey got to reunite with his former Blue teammates rather quickly after moving between the clubs in midweek. The Seasiders came into the match with a one hundred percent home record- and not just in the league- having played eleven matches on their own patch this season, won them all, and scored thirty eight goals in the process but they went behind early on, Daniel Ogunleye opening the scoring for the Blues on eight minutes, taking his tally for the season to twelve. Thomas Warren scored for the third game in a row to bring the hosts level nine minutes before half time, and ten minutes into the second half another Warren- Charlie- put the Seasiders ahead, and took his personal tally to eighteen. They held on to win once more and climbed to fourth.

**Waltham Abbey** hoped to climb into the top five, the Abbotts taking on **Newmarket Town** at Capershotts. Abbey were on a five match unbeaten run and were impressive in knocking Bury Town from their perch last weekend, but they fell behind on the half hour, loe Robinson opening the scoring for the Jockeys. Five minutes before half time the Abbotts were beginning to look in need of prayer, Isaac Maynard making it two, but they proved that prayer works, Prince Domafriyie scoring from the spot just before the break to halve the deficit, and Kymani Thomas levelling six minutes into the second half. Unfortunately for the hosts the next significant statistic of the match was a red card, Aaron Eyoma seeing them down to ten, but the sides soon had the same number of players once more as lames Chivers was dismissed for the visitors. That was that for red cards and goals. two-two the final score, the Abbotts still sixth.

**Brightlingsea Regent** were at home to **Walthamstow**. Regent knew that a victory could lift them into the top five, but were trying to avoid a third successive defeat; whilst Stow ended a three match losing streak with victory over Basildon on Saturday. Regent finally made the breakthrough six minutes into the second half, Jayden Robinson with the opener, and that seemed to have secured them three points, but four minutes into added time Stow found themselves level, T'aizo Marcel-Dilaver, on from the bench for his league debut, earning his side a point.

Redbridge travelled to Mildenhall Town, the Motormen looking to extend a three match unbeaten run. The visitors went ahead on twenty three minutes, Charlie Stimson with the goal, but The Hall levelled just after the hour, Jake Chambers-Shaw the scorer, and then went ahead with only eight minutes left, Ben Nolan making it two-one. The hosts held on for three points and go fifteenth.

**Grays Athletic** were back at Chadfields, where they welcomed **Maldon and Tiptree**. Athletic had lost only one of their previous six in the League, and were looking for a third successive victory- and went ahead twelve minutes into the second half, Matas Skarna the scorer. That turned out to be the only goal, and it lifted Athletic up

to eighth- a fourth loss in a row for the lammers.

**Heybridge Swifts** were at home once more, but that might not have felt like a positive as they hadn't managed to win a match on their own patch this season, despite being unbeaten away from home. They welcomed **Concord Rangers**, and gave the home fans something to shout about by taking the lead on ten minutes, Scott Sloots with the opener. The Beachboys were level on thirty three minutes, a penalty from Thomas Stagg making it one-one, but they had to play the last twenty minutes with ten men after Kacper Gruszcznski saw red. Soon. however, the hosts were also down to ten, Danny Nesbitt dismissed. Five minutes from time the home fans held their breath- Kojo Apenteng, just back from injury, putting Swifts ahead once more and they held on to finally take those three elusive Scraley Road points.

Sporting Bengal United's win over Brightlingsea in midweek lifted them out of the bottom four, and dropped Ipswich Wanderers into the relegation places- so Wanderers had an extra incentive as they travelled to the Mile End stadium. It was the hosts who made the breakthrough, however, Joe Gregory with the opener just after the half hour, and it was a lead they held, to climb to sixteenth, as wanderers winless run extends to seven.

Finally, the bottom two met in North London, as **Haringey Borough** welcomed **Wroxham**. Borough's season so far was perhaps summed up by their Velocity Cup match against Tilbury in midweek, when they entered the last twenty minutes with a four-nil lead and somehow contrived to lose the match on penalties- and they fell behind in this one, Ryan Hawkins with his sixth goal in nine matches. It soon got worse, Travis Dodsworth making it two, but immediately after the break Borough got a goal back, Joseph Waight giving the home fans hope. Five minutes later that hope became rather more real, Waight drawing Borough level, and the goals stopped there.



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

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

Please visit

Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk

to find out more













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### **MATCHDAY SQUADS**

Isthmian League North Tuesday 12th November 2024, 7.45pm



# Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley
Assistant Manager: Andy Crump

# **Redbridge FC**

Manager: TBC

| Robert <b>Bagnall</b>      |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Rodney <b>Botuli</b>       |  |
| Reuben Campbell            |  |
| Jack <b>Chawner</b>        |  |
| Abs Conten Thompson        |  |
| Jospeph Elliott (C)        |  |
| Wesley Gomes Dos Santos    |  |
| James <b>Love</b>          |  |
| Samuel <b>Nwabuko (GK)</b> |  |
| Solomon <b>Ogunwomoju</b>  |  |
| Giovanni <b>Palmer</b>     |  |
| Tendi <b>Quamina</b>       |  |
| Oscar <b>Shelvey-Negus</b> |  |
| Charlie <b>Stimson</b>     |  |
| Kai <b>Thomas-Fraser</b>   |  |
| Mekael <b>Williams</b>     |  |
| Ronnie <b>Winn</b>         |  |