

# “Common Knowledge”

Sat 2nd Sept 2023 | 2:00PM KICK OFF  
Pitching In | Isthmian Football League | South Central Division  
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GUERNSEY FOOTBALL CLUB



Issue #3

Season  
23/24



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### LEAGUE HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Premier Division:**  
Runners-up: 2018–19  
**Combined Counties League Division One:**  
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### CUP HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Cherry Red Records Premier Challenge Cup:**  
Winners: 2018–19  
**Combined Counties League Division One Cup:**  
Runners-up: 2008–09  
**Middlesex County League Premier Division Cup:** Runners-up: 2007–08  
**Southern Combination Challenge Cup:**  
Winners: 2016–17; Runners up: 2018–19  
**Surrey Premier Cup:**  
Runners-up: 2009–10

## OUR SOCIALS

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**Sutton Common Rovers Football Club are an unincorporated members club run by volunteers. Club officials & management committee are elected annually at the clubs AGM.**

# GAME DAY



**Sutton Common Rovers F.C**



**Vs**



**Guernsey F.C**

The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association.” (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162). The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating 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 the community.



# WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN

5

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Whyteleafe Sports Arena for today Isthmian South Central league fixture.

We would like to welcome today's opponents Guernsey FC and hope their players officials and supporters have a pleasant stay with us this afternoon and for those that travelled from the island, we hope they had a pleasant flight.

We would also like to welcome today's match officials, referee Mr Samuel Olhausen and his assistants Mr Kenny Agboola and Mr Grisha Zeigermaher, we hope they enjoy their stay with us today.

Since we last wrote we've endured the lottery of the August bank holiday weekend and like us Guernsey haven't fared well in either of the Saturday or Monday fixtures. Saturday the Green Lions travelled to newly promoted Ascot who enjoyed a comprehensive 4-0 in front of 189 supporters, Monday they hosted South Park where they were narrowly beaten 1-0 by a Sam King 48th minute strike and saw Charlton Gauvain receive a red card although he is available for today as the match has come less than 7 days since the dismissal.

Ourselves lost narrowly on Sat to high flying Uxbridge 1-2 despite playing with 10 men after Conan's dismissal before half time for almost 55 mins. We equalised through a composed AJ finish on 16 mins having gone behind after just 5 mins but Alex Witham secured the 3 points for Uxbridge on 60 mins and the less we say about Monday's humiliation (6-1) on our travels to Marlow the better! It's been a long time since we were beaten so comprehensively but AJ did at least give the travelling contingent something to smile about on 48 mins with another calm finish past the stranded Marlow stopper.

Our record against Guernsey is very similar to that of our last opponents here, Uxbridge, with the differences being that we have yet to register a point against the Green Lions, although we have scored a goal—small wins and all that.

Our first encounter with Guernsey was two seasons ago when we went down to a 3-1 defeat at Footes Lane, our goal coming from Dejarhn Grant, whilst the return, played at Tooting & Mitcham ended in a 2-0 defeat. In truth in both games we didn't deserve anything, so it is hard to argue with the results.

Last season the home game saw us go closest to picking up a point, but having effectively battered Guernsey for most of the game, but come up against an inspired defensive and goalkeeping performance, we decided to leave Ross Allen unmarked in the six yard box in stoppage time, and he did what he does to give the visitors a 1-0 win.

We then slipped to a 1-0 win in the reverse fixture. The only shock in the last game was that it wasn't Ross Allen who scored the goal, as the prolific marksman has four in four games against us. Surely he has to retire soon!!

Next up for the first team we have a local derby away at Merstham in the FA Trophy, a competition we are yet to register a win in, and have yet to have a home tie in (that will even continue this season, should we win at Merstham, as the winners of the tie will head off to Badshot Lea or Thame Utd).

The U18's are in action this midweek when they head off to Phoenix Sports for their FA Youth Cup Preliminary Round tie, it's a 7pm kick off at The Mayplace Ground (DA7 6JT)

Enjoy the game, and safe trips home.

**Briggers**

# TODAY'S OPPONENTS

# GUERNSEY

**FORMED: 2011**

**NICKNAME:**  
**The Green Lions**

Guernsey Football Club was formed in 2011 to offer the island's elite footballers the opportunity to progress and test themselves on a regular basis outside of the Channel Islands. The proposal to establish the club and seek to join the English national league pyramid system was developed by the Guernsey Football Association in an attempt to further advance development opportunities for the island's current and future players by playing at higher levels on a regular basis.

We are an independent, community amateur football club which play in the Isthmian South Central Division at Step Four on English football's non-league pyramid system. The club is owned and run for the benefit of the local Guernsey community and it plays its home games at the Footes Lane Stadium.

The club's vision is to create, develop and maintain a sustainable, successful, financially viable, democratic football club that creates and maintains real and lasting benefits to its members and the local Guernsey community. We are a registered charity and will remain a non-profit organisation with any financial surpluses being re-invested for the future viability of the club and hence the benefit of the local community.

The initial idea to establish Guernsey FC was developed during the 2009-10 season when Guernsey's Senior County Division One representative side enjoyed a successful run in the FA National League System Cup (for league representative sides at Step Seven on the non-league pyramid system and below, since renamed the FA Inter-League Cup), culminating in Guernsey beating the Liverpool County Premier League 5-2 in the final in May 2010. Along the way, Guernsey defeated representative sides from the Kent County Premier League, the Northampton Premier League, the Southern Amateur League, the Hertfordshire Premier League and the Dorset Premier League. The final was held in Guernsey in front of a crowd of over 2,500 and was the first time ever that the FA had allowed one of its competition finals to be held outside of the UK mainland.

Following a 1-0 victory over Jersey to reclaim the Muratti Vase in May 2010, the team were rewarded for winning the FA National League System Cup by representing England in the UEFA Regions Cup preliminary round in Croatia in September 2010. This was a fantastic experience for the players and coaching and medical staff and, although Guernsey enjoyed mixed fortunes by beating Wales 3-0, drawing with hosts Croatia 1-1 and losing to group winners Turkey 3-0, it provided football at a higher standard, was very motivational and gave our players a great desire to improve further and to play more regularly at higher levels.

Over the course of the following few months, the club's founding directors, Steve Dewsnap and Mark Le Tissier, received encouragement from the Football Association, the Guernsey FA, the Combined Counties League (which we were introduced to by the FA), our former official main club sponsor Sportingbet, the island's government (the States of Guernsey) and the island's local football community to develop our plans for the new club further and were delighted when the member clubs of the Combined Counties League voted by a significant majority on 20 June 2011 to allow Guernsey FC to join Division One of their league.

Although our club is very young, football in Guernsey has a long history dating back to 1893 when the Guernsey FA was established and since then has produced several players who have graced the highest levels of the English professional game, including Bill Spurdle (Manchester City), Richard Le Flem (Nottingham Forest & England U23), Ron Farmer (Coventry City), Len Duquemin (Tottenham Hotspur) and, more recently and more famously, our former club president Matt Le Tissier (Southampton and England).

Saturday 6th August 2011 was a historic day for Guernsey FC and the island in general when the club played its inaugural game at Footes Lane against Knaphill FC in the Combined Counties League Division One. That historic day turned into an historic season with the club winning the league title, having lost only 2 of its 34 league matches, with a 7-1 win against second-placed Bedfont Sports in front of 2,143 supporters at Footes Lane in March 2012 and then going on to secure the double in its first season by winning the Combined Counties Premier Challenge Cup following a 2-0 victory after extra-time over Premier Division side Colliers Wood United.

The 2012-13 season was a tough campaign. The Green Lions reached the semi-finals of the FA Carlsberg Vase in the club's first season in the competition, breaking its record attendance twice in the historic run. A crowd of 4,290 was at Footes Lane for the semi-final first leg against Spennymoor Town. The league campaign saw countless postponed fixtures due to adverse weather and the cup run. In April, Guernsey FC





played a staggering 16 games in 30 days. The May bank holiday weekend saw GFC play four games in four days and remarkably secure all 12 points to finish second in the Combined Counties Premier League and gain promotion to the Ryman Isthmian League Division One South.

The club's first season in the Ryman Isthmian Leagues was a constructive campaign and had plenty of highs. The club finished in a respectable fourth place but lost 3-2 away to Leatherhead in the play-off semifinal. The Green Lions also became the first team from the Channel Islands to play in the FA Cup during the 2013/14 season, when they took on Crawley Down Gatwick away on 31st August 2013. GFC won the game 3-1 and eventually went out of the competition in the 2nd qualifying round, after losing 3-2 to the Conference South's Dover Athletic.

Guernsey's second season in Ryman South was much tougher. Injuries and unavailability left the Green Lions struggling through October and November and it wasn't until just before Christmas that results picked up. Any hopes of sneaking into the playoffs late on were dashed with a run of four defeats in five games in March. The Green Lions eventually finished 10th in the league before many of the squad were part of the Guernsey FA gold-medal winning side at the 2015 NatWest Island Games in Jersey.

Despite a couple of patches of indifferent form in the first half of the 2015-16 season, the Green Lions found themselves third in the table in the new year and equalled their Ryman South unbeaten record of nine games. But a mixture of poor performances, injuries and bad luck led to a six-game losing run that saw our play-off challenge fade away. However, a new crop of youngsters made an impact, with Robbie Legg becoming the club's youngest goalscorer at 16 when he netted against Whyteleafe in March. GFC were finally drawn at home in the FA Cup against Lewes in the first qualifying round, but unfortunately, a replay defeat to Phoenix Sports in the preliminary round meant they were unable to fulfil that particular goal. We beat our points total and wins total from the previous season, but finished 13th.

The 2016-17 season was GFC's most challenging yet as they battled against relegation for the first time in their history. It took until the end of September to secure the first victory of the campaign and bad luck hit Tony Vance's squad with several lengthy injuries and absences to key players. They didn't manage to win a home game after Christmas, but finally ended their winless away run (that had gone on for over a year and nearly 30 matches) when they beat Chipstead in February and, ironically, it was their away results that kept them up as two more wins and a draw were enough to keep them ahead of their rivals. There was change off the field as Mark Le Tissier took over as Chairman, but the main highlight was the FA Cup coming to Guernsey for the first time in August amidst a tremendous fanfare that included the famous trophy being displayed at Footes Lane. Dave Rihoy's second-half brace in the first-ever FA-Cup match to be contested outside the mainland secured a replay, but GFC eventually went out on penalties at Thamesmead Town. More youngsters made an impact as Thomas Dodds went on to become a key player having only made his debut at the start of the campaign at just 17 years of age. He went on to scoop five awards at the end-of-season gala.

The following two seasons saw the Green Lions in transition with a number of senior players reaching the end of their careers at this level and several new young players thrown in the deep end and having to learn the hard way. There were some tough moments and the wins weren't free-flowing, but the team was starting to develop a new resilient side that saw them grind out some important results against some top teams. 2017-18 was a slightly more comfortable 18th place out of 24 with safety secured with a few weeks to go, but the 2018-19 season went right to the wire. Tony Vance's side didn't win a game during the final three months of the season but ground out enough points against the odds to keep them just ahead of Greenwich Borough. A re-shuffle of the Isthmian League saw a third division created at Step Four and Guernsey was part of a 20-team South East Division, which dropped to 19 when Thamesmead Town folded. That meant only one team would be relegated, with Guernsey securing a draw in the final minute of the last day of the season thanks to a Paris Pereira goal to ensure they stayed up on merit, rather than only being due to a three-point deduction for Greenwich, who went down in 19th.

Guernsey started the 2019-20 season much stronger, despite having to open with seven straight away games due to work on the running track at Footes Lane, and were threatening a play-off place for the first half of the season. The Isthmian League was curtailed in February 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Two fixtures with the Isle of Man were contested in Summer 2020 - the first as the fellow Crown Dependency's first-ever match, and the second was the inaugural Skipton Cup to celebrate relations between the two islands, who had established an 'air corridor' as a result of both being Coronavirus-free at the time. Guernsey won the first Skipton Cup 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw at Footes Lane.

Guernsey took the difficult decision to pull out of the 2020-21 season completely because of travel restrictions between the island and the UK mainland, and players turned out for their Prialux League clubs as the local season continued. The Green Lions did this with the League's blessing and were reinstated for 2021-22, also being relocated to the Isthmian South Central Division, although they had to start their season in October when restrictions were fully lifted and started their campaign several games behind the rest of the division. The announcement came with just a few days noticed and this meant Tony Vance's side did not have a proper pre-season to prepare. This meant they were a little 'undercooked' in the early parts of the season and took a while to get going, but eventually got up to speed and found some form to move them into a comfortable midtable position, despite a gruelling schedule in February and March 2022 due to catching up on games, exacerbated by four cancellations over the winter due to a rise in Covid-19 cases.

Injuries to key players contributed to a difficult 2022-23 season which saw the Green Lions sitting at the bottom of the table at Christmas. However, a resurgence in form led to six wins and a draw in January and February, which lifted the club from the foot of the table. It looked like Guernsey could avoid automatic relegation, but there were also two relegation play-off places to climb out of. Their improved form continued until they secured their survival with an away draw against South Park in early April.

It was however a landmark season for one of the club's former players, young midfielder Alex Scott, who stood out in midfield for Bristol City in the Championship, winning the EFL Championship Young Player of the Season award and attracting praise from Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola after an impressive performance in the FA Cup, with the City boss dubbing him an "unbelievable player". In the summer he represented England at the 2023 FIFA U-20 World Cup as they progressed unbeaten from their group before losing to eventual winners Italy in the first knockout round.

**TODAY'S VISITORS: GUERNSEY FC**

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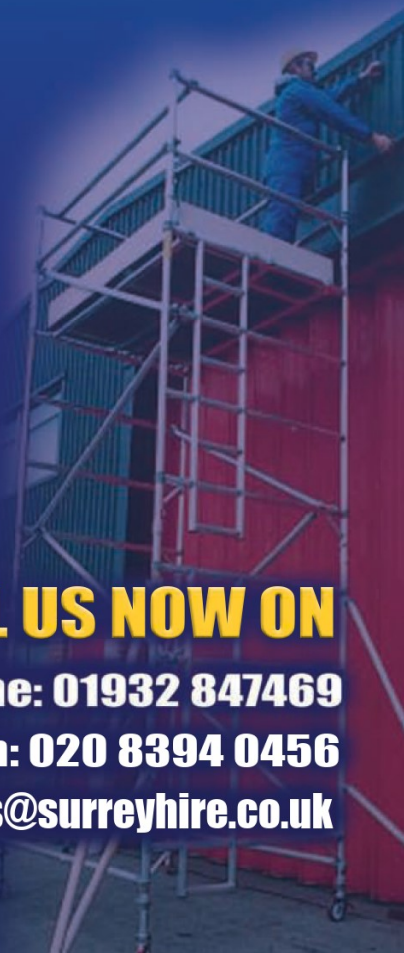
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# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



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By Jon Couch

BARELY three weeks into the new season and already the managerial merry-go-round is gathering momentum.

We're not even into September yet two National League bosses have lost their jobs – an ever-growing trend which has sadly been set year-on-year, whatever the level.

Friday night's defeat by Southend United spelt the end of the road for Eastleigh boss Lee Bradbury, whose side, despite heavy investment and much strengthening over the summer, had failed to hit the ground running.

And, a little over 48 hours later, it was a similar tale for York City's Mikey Morton as a 3-1 home defeat by Rochdale saw him follow the same path through the exit door and into the pool of the unemployed.

Sadly, given the re-structures, growth and ambition of the two football clubs they represented, Bradbury and Morton were sitting ducks. As will their successors be.

Such is the high-octane nature and pressure cooker landscape of the game these days, even in the fifth tier of the English game, not a shred of leniency or empathy is afforded to the man in the hotseat. It's dog eat dog from the very first whistle.

Three draws from their opening five games was deemed insufficient for Bradbury as the Spitfires, under returning owner and chairman Stewart Donald and director of football Richard Hill back at the helm, had brought in the likes of Scott Quigley, Paul McCallum, Enzo Boldewijn and Chris Maguire to bolster the Spitfires' chances of finally fulfilling their Football League dream.

At York, Morton was at least given six games of the new season to save his skin, but the Minstermen didn't win any of them and would be bottom of the table but for Southend's 10-point deduction.

That, sadly, is just not good enough for a club who have spent big over the summer with new owner Matt Uggl rubber-stamping deals for the likes of David Stockdale, Tyler Cordner, Dipo Akinyemi and Alex Woodyard.

Lower down the pyramid, it's even less forgiving. While The NLP have continued through the summer bringing you all the latest, not many weeks have passed when there hasn't been one managerial casualty somewhere or another.

Take Jamie Ward for example. The former Northern Ireland international was in the final throws of preparing for the start of the new season at Ilkeston Town when a decision to 'mutually' end his contract came.

Despite being described as "a great manager" by Robins chairman Andrew Nally, opted to recommence his playing career at Nuneaton Borough where, guess what, another manager is under pressure.

A 7-0 defeat at AFC Telford United forced the club to issue a lengthy statement apologising to disillusioned fans and calling for unity, while manager Jimmy Ginnelly offered those who made the trip to the New Bucks Head free entry for their new home game, against AFC Sudbury.

Ginnelly's got some work to do to appease fans at Liberty Way but it's a situation that he, along with any other every football manager, will be well used to.

10

He's thick-skinned enough to know that, one day, the axe will eventually fall and he'll be back on the managerial merry-go-round seeking a new opportunity. It's such a brutal industry.



# INSIDE MORGAN'S MIND

Well certainly a bank holiday not to remember. We came into the weekend with optimism having had a good start in our first game of the season.

Sat's Uxbridge fixture we were well and truly in the game going down to 10 before the half meant me ripping up all my notes. The lads came out fighting but the legs understandably fell away.

Monday, what can I say that probably hasn't already been said? Let's agree it was a day to forget, way to many mistakes to talk and simply not good enough all round, but I'll never shy away from a defeat, we just weren't good enough and a chance to address it quickly is what we have.

Today is the day we out things right. My message to the Rovers supporters is we will never give up the fight and we still promise you a better season!

Morgs

# MATCH REPORT v UXBRIDGE

## Sutton Common Rovers 1 Uxbridge 2

By Jonathon Tanton

Sat 26 Aug 2023 15:00  
Isthmian League South Central

### “A Bridge too far...”

A feisty 10 man second half performance not enough to win a point against Uxbridge

Today we welcome Uxbridge to our first home game, and their opening game of the season. After our previous four encounters we have yet to score against this side; lost three and drawn one. Let's hope this is turned around today and proves to be a benchmark of where we are. With this upbeat and competitive side, coming off the back of a very impressive performance against Met Police, it could just be so.

The line-up was largely unchanged from that game, with Ben Holden slotting into the left-back position for the unavailable Matt Tanton, and a start for debutant Jordan Wilson. Siao Blackwood, Charlie Martin, Gabriel Odunaike, Louie Erotokritos Staussi and a second new signing Thomas Jones on the bench.

An early corner from Courtney Swaby after a defensive error by Uxbridge raises expectations, as we all know what Swaby can do in dead-ball situations, but the keeper Loris Marcimain claims. From the keeper's throw, a good interception by Ben Holden played in Nabeel Ghannam resulting in a free-kick to Rovers. Swaby again takes, but his effort is headed away by the Uxbridge defence.

It took just 6 minutes for Uxbridge to knock Rovers back on their heels, with a break on the right Brad Pagliaroli crosses into our penalty area, finding Lewis Cole whose great strike is well saved by James Dillon. Rovers play out from the back, Antonio Simeone playing across field to Swaby, who moves the ball on to Bertie Lloyd, his pass to Max Oldham didn't quite cut it, and Oldham was dispossessed. The loose ball leaving the tall no9 Bernard Mensah Jr in space just outside the penalty area, with time to pick his spot past Dillon. It was a signal for Rovers to shape up, pay attention and play like they know they can.

Rovers continued to soak up pressure from Uxbridge, as they find their rhythm and try to get back on the front foot. After a Dillon drop-kick to Aaron Jenkins in the far left

1	James Dillon	
2	Danny Divine	
5	Antonio Simeone	🟡
6	Bertie Lloyd	🔄
17	Ben Holden	🟡
12	Jordan Wilson	
10	Nabeel Ghannam	
7	Maxwell Oldham	
9	Conan Torpey	🟡 🔄
14	Aaron Jenkins	⚽
16	Charlie Martin	🔄
8	Siao Blackwood	🔄
13	Isy Nzelo	🔄
15	Ashley Sheppard	🔄
18	Gabriel Odunaike	
20	Louie Erotokritos Staussi	

corner, Jenkins plays back to Swaby, whose pass into the box gives Conan Torpey a chance, but he's bundled down under pressure from Uxbridge. A big shout for a penalty, but the Ref wasn't convinced.

Another free kick to Rovers from some distance out, Swaby delivering high into the box, but only half cleared by Marcimain to Simeone, his shot hitting the side netting. On 16mins a superb interchange between Jenkins, Swaby, Oldham and Ghannam, results in a Swaby through ball leaving Jenkins clean on goal. Jenkins makes no mistake from there, and levels the score. A great team effort, and a fine finish.

With both sides trying to gain control of the game, and after a period of free-kicks and challenges, testing the Ref's patience, Lewis Cole gets a caution for dissent. From a Swaby free kick out wide on the right, Uxbridge catch Rovers on the break via their no7 Pagliaroli, Ghannam gives chase and puts the ball out for a throw-in. Both sides now creating chances but no change to the score.

On 26mins a great ball over the top from Lloyd, sets Ghannam off into box on the right, but his shot from an acute angle is gathered by Marcimain. From the keepers' distribution Uxbridge win a throw-in on the left which is launched into our penalty area, headed on by no10 Dean Morgan Plues, culminating in an audacious half scissor kick from Pagliaroli, narrowly clearing the bar.

From a quick throw from Simeone to Dillon, then on to Lloyd, who floats a long ball over to Holden. His clever first touch gives him space to cut inside, and pass through the middle to Torpey, winning a free kick in the process. Swaby takes, but is headed out by the Uxbridge defence. From the corner headed attempts on goal from Torpey and Danny Divine were defended frantically, but recycled twice by Jordan Wilson with strong headers back into the danger zone. A good passage of play from the Rovers.

Late on in the half, which by now was over 48 minutes, a clash in the box required treatment for Shaun Preddie, which was the trigger for a game-changing incident. Be it a moment of madness or frustration – a rush of blood – red mist, probably all of these things, then descended on young Torpey. Whilst on the ground, and Uxbridge preparing for a throw-in, Torpey rolled over and caught the back of the throwers leg. The Ref had no choice, and among the protests from Uxbridge branded a red card. After 53 minutes of the first half played. Rovers go into the break with 10 men.

Early in the second half, a long throw from Holden puts the Uxbridge back line under pressure, heading away, but only back to Holden who heads deeper into the box. Again not cleared, and Holden lobs over the defence to the far post, which is eventually dealt with. Uxbridge then move forward with pace, creating a chance for Plues to shoot, but straight to Dillon.

Our chances were becoming few and far between, as Uxbridge commanded the majority of possession, having the extra man. In the 60<sup>th</sup> minute, Rovers' resolve was finally broken. A break on the Uxbridge right hand side produces a cross to the left, where Plues jinxed into the box, passing to Alex Whitham, who scored from close range.






















Just after our first substitution, Charlie Martin on for Oldham, a quick throw from Divine gives Wilson the chance to wriggle through the Uxbridge defence and provide a through ball to Charlie Martin inside the box. The clumsy two-man challenge on Martin looked for all the world a penalty, but the appeal was not given. The chances were still there.

A corner to Rovers, gave Swaby another chance to work his magic and provide a telling cross. This he did, picking out Divine whose header was narrowly over the bar.

In the last 6 minutes there was a succession of yellow cards, for Josh Andrew, Kensley Maloney, Anuar Ceesay on his first touch since coming on for kicking the ball away, Swaby for Rovers and Shuan Preddie. Some indication of the effort to protect their lead, and the desire for Rovers to claw one back.

Just before the final whistle, if our "parade" wasn't wet enough, the heavens opened and the rain washed away any hope of a point. Disappointing result against a side where we should and could have been better, but with only 10 men for 45+ minutes, it could have been much worse. Rovers did make a fist of it and showed incredible resilience throughout the second half, but unfortunately today, this didn't translate into points.



		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1 Chipstead	3	2	1	0	11	4	+7	7
	2 Chertsey Town	3	2	1	0	4	2	+2	7
	3 Leatherhead	3	2	1	0	4	2	+2	7
	4 Marlow	3	2	0	1	10	3	+7	6
	5 Northwood	2	2	0	0	8	1	+7	6
	6 Ascot United	3	2	0	1	7	3	+4	6
	7 South Park (Reigate)	3	2	0	1	6	2	+4	6
	8 Raynes Park Vale	2	2	0	0	6	3	+3	6
	9 Uxbridge	2	2	0	0	5	2	+3	6
	10 Thatcham Town	3	2	0	1	4	3	+1	6
	11 Ashford Town (Middx)	3	1	1	1	6	2	+4	4
	12 Southall	3	1	1	1	4	3	+1	4
	13 Hartley Wintney	3	1	0	2	8	10	-2	3
	14 Sutton Common Rovers	3	1	0	2	6	8	-2	3
	15 Guernsey	3	1	0	2	3	6	-3	3
	16 Westfield	3	0	2	1	1	3	-2	2
	17 Hanworth Villa	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1
	18 Metropolitan Police	3	0	1	2	3	10	-7	1
	19 Binfield	3	0	1	2	2	11	-9	1
	20 Badshot Lea	3	0	0	3	1	8	-7	0
	21 Corinthian-Casuals	3	0	0	3	2	12	-10	0

Last updated: Monday 28th August 2023 at 17:03:16

Sponsor a match -  
See Shaz for details

## ROVERS MERCHANDISE



Pin Badge selection

All official "Rovers" merchandise is now available @ 1st team home match days until the 2nd half kick-off  
OR  
Email: [scrclubshop@gmail.com](mailto:scrclubshop@gmail.com) Thank you

**SCR FOOTBALL CLUB**  
TOGETHER WE WILL MAKE IT HAPPEN

# TODAY'S FIXTURES



Corinthian Casuals v Met Police  
South Park (Reigate) v Raynes Park Vale  
Sutton Common Rovers v Guernsey  
Thatcham Town v Badshot Lea

All other Isthmian sides are either still involved in the FA Cup, or were due to be playing teams still in the competition or without a game today.

## LATEST LEAGUE RESULTS

### Saturday 26th August

Ashford Town (Middx) (0)	0	0	(0)	Southall
Badshot Lea (0)	0	1	(0)	Ascot United
Chertsey Town (1)	2	1	(1)	Hartley Wintney
Chipstead (0)	4	1	(0)	Corinthian-Casuals
Guernsey (0)	0	1	(0)	South Park (Reigate)
Leatherhead (0)	0	0	(0)	Westfield
Marlow (2)	6	1	(0)	Sutton Common Rovers
Metropolitan Police (0)	1	1	(0)	Hanworth Villa
Northwood (2)	4	1	(0)	Binfield
Uxbridge (0)	3	1	(1)	Thatcham Town

### Monday 28th August

Ashford Town (Middx) (0)	0	0	(0)	Southall
Badshot Lea (0)	0	1	(0)	Ascot United
Chertsey Town (1)	2	1	(1)	Hartley Wintney
Chipstead (0)	4	1	(0)	Corinthian-Casuals
Guernsey (0)	0	1	(0)	South Park (Reigate)
Leatherhead (0)	0	0	(0)	Westfield
Marlow (2)	6	1	(0)	Sutton Common Rovers
Metropolitan Police (0)	1	1	(0)	Hanworth Villa
Northwood (2)	4	1	(0)	Binfield
Uxbridge (0)	3	1	(1)	Thatcham Town

## The Untold Game

### It's Chile up north

JWe often think of the coming of South American talent to England as a fairly modern phenomenon. Halcyon days of barely playable mud patches, violent conduct being met with a stern word from the referee, and, in the main, British and Irish players filling out teams across the country, seem just a few decades away (until you remember that the Premier League is three decades old, and then you remember just how old you are). But as the birthplace of football, Britain has always had a unique attraction to the footballing world, and South Americans were setting records while rationing was still in place. One of those early pioneers set the First Division alight with his tricky feet and clinical finishing. That man was Jorge 'George' Robledo.

Born in the mining town of Iquique to a Chilean father and an English mother, Robledo's stay in the nation of his birth was short, and marked by political instability. His parents made the decision when he was just five that they would be safer in England, and migrated to Yorkshire. Robledo grew up facing prejudice, and his ability was not discovered early enough to stop him heading down into the mines. Playing part-time for Huddersfield, he was spared conscription during the Second World War as a member of a protected profession. This allowed his talent to be spotted by Second Division Barnsley, and his career picked up from there.

Finally able to dedicate himself fully to football, Robledo's ability improved. At the age of 20, the Football League returned following the end of the war, and Robledo made his debut. A hat trick against Nottingham Forest on his debut signaled what was to come, as Barnsley sought promotion to the First Division. Robledo's 45 goals in 105 appearances weren't enough to secure promotion over the next three years, but they were enough to attract the attention of First Division scouts. In 1949 Newcastle paid the not inconsiderable sum of £26,500 to take the Chilean into the top flight, along with his brother Ted, who George insisted was part of the deal.

At Newcastle, Robledo found himself forced to play as an inside left, linking up with the preferred Jackie Milburn. He scored 11 goals in his first season, but even playing second-fiddle to Wor Jackie couldn't hide his talent, and the country of his birth came calling.





With the 1950 World Cup on the horizon, he made his Chile debut, and was named in the squad for the showpiece in Brazil. He made his debut in the first group game against, of all teams, England, and scored in the final group game against the USA, but it wasn't enough for qualification. Still, not bad for a miner who didn't speak Spanish.



Returning to Newcastle the following season, Robledo only got better. He scored 14 goals for the Toon, and became the first South American to play in an FA Cup final, helping his side beat Blackpool 2-0. The following season was where the Chilean would really carve his name into the history of English football, though. Newcastle retained the FA Cup against Arsenal, and Robledo scored 33 league goals, and 39 in all competitions.

Another eighteen goals would follow in 1952-53, but it would prove to be Robledo's final season in the north east. Money was pouring into South American football as it tried to raise its standard, and Chilean club Colo-Colo came calling. Newcastle accepted an offer of £25,000 for George, who was top scorer in the Chilean league in his first two seasons, and made 153 appearances over five years, winning the league in 1956. After a year out of football, George returned for one final season O'Higgins before retiring for good, in 1960. And becoming a PE teacher in a school in Vina del Mar until his death in 1989.

Oddly, his goal against Arsenal in the 1952 FA Cup final was immortalised in a child's artwork, a painting called Walls and Bridges. Usually, a painting by an 11 year old would be forgotten, but when that 11 year old grows up to become John Lennon, it's quite something.

Robledo's record of 33 league goals in a season was the most of any non-British player in the top flight, a record that stood for 71 years. It is testament to his impact on the game that it took the unbelievable feats of a certain, colossal Norwegian, playing for the most immensely rich side in the league, to beat it.

**Enjoy the game.**

**Martyn Green, The Untold Game (Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) and on social media, @TheUntoldGame)**



# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

# & Sponsors...

Aaron JENKINS (AJ)



**CONSTANTINE &  
Co JEWELLERS**

AJ's shown he could be a real force in pre-season but has also notched up some vital goals early on the season. He had a very impressive season at Lingfield putting up 17+ goals before joining an impressive Colliers Wood side.

Antonio SIMEONE



**A&J Building  
Services**

It would be hard for you not to have come across Simmo in the non-league world with an impressive record on promotions and titles he knows how to get the job done. Not sure if he tries to be Cannavaro or Steve Bruce but he is Mr reliable at the back.

Ashley SHEPPARD



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Ashley Joins from Corinthian & before that he was at Sheppy. Ash who plays anywhere in the middle of the park can do it all and we are all looking forward to the performances he has put in over the last few seasons..

Ben HOLDEN



Ben who may end up taking the mantle of having a Holden in a SCR squad is a familiar face to some who joins us also from Haywards Heath is a young talented player who has shown his versatility during pre-season playing across the back and in midfield is one to watch for sure.

Bertie LLOYD



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Bertie had a lot of interest during last season and in the summer but stayed with us and we are delighted. The human giraffe and gentle giant that Bertie, is one of only a small few that played all last season. Bertie puts it all on the line and was instrumental in our survival. One of the first names on the sheet!

**Destiny Performance**  
[www.destiny-performance.co.uk](http://www.destiny-performance.co.uk)

Charlie, the oldest 18 year old on the planet. Charlie is someone who has been around what feels like forever but has only been in senior football for last 2-3 years and has always known where the back of the net is. Certainly one to watch out for.

Charlie MARTIN



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Co'nan our CF and certainly a barbarian, the expression run through brick walls couldn't be wasted on Conan, but with all his bravery he still knows how to put the ball in the onion bag and was last years top scorer having only joined us in January. From Dorking Wanderers

A truly great lad with a big future

Conan TORPEY



**HCS BAKERY**

'General' Swaby, small in stature but a giant on the field. Courtney has really matured in his time at the club and certainly a character that's loved at the club. His ability on the ball has no ceiling. If you blink he is gone.

Courtney SWABY



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Danny who came in with the current manager from Haywards Heath. A player favourite who's come in and puts in consistent performances, but who also wants to grow up being a Gary Neville.

Danny DIVINE



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Rooney's everyone's favourite uncle. He joins us with real pedigree and has fitted straight into the squad straight away. His experience is shining through with the players really leaning on him when needed.

Deryll COLEMAN 'ROONEY'





# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

# & Sponsors...

Gabriel GOUNANE



**DILLON  
TRANSORMIT Ltd**

Gabs, a strong experienced player came in and really helped the team in the final months of last season. He has attributes that can help us achieve our goals and will play a big part in doing so.

James DILLON



**UKPRECLEARANCE.COM**

James is an experienced keeper with higher level app's under his belt. He's been fantastic for the club since coming in and was vital in our survival last year. Off the field he has shown leadership skills that have helped shape a great changing room

Jordan BROWN



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Jordan joins us to add depth with quality keepers.

Jordan has previously been playing his football in America and has now returned to home soil having also played a few games at Fisher.

Jordan WILSON



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Jordan ex K's and Merstham player who joins us with plenty of experience. We had a chance to add him to the squad joining us from Merstham who showed he has the fight and desire to play a big role in our season.

**UKPRECLEARANCE.COM**

Louie, last years clubman due in the main to his amazing attitude joined us from Crawley youth and has come in and shown his quality along with patience. He is a young keeper with a bright future

Louie BROTOKITOS-STAUSSI



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Max, who is one of the senior squad members, is a player with real quality and maturity. Max is also part of the Half Turn platform helping those involved with Mental Health which is something to look out for.

Max OLDHAM



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

We are sure 'Nabs' has a chance to be seen up the leagues. He frustrates opposition with his quick feet and at times you will see a moment of magic. Still a very young player with loads to learn but a big future ahead of him too.

Nabeel GHANNAM



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Noah our not so secret weapon. Since joining in the summer from Cobham Noah showed throughout pre season some serious potential. A very young talent who we feel is one who'll blossom this year so watch this space...

Noah AFRICA



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Ryan has been with the club several years, working his way into 1st team plans from the 23s. Injuries have plagued his game time but with key starts under his belt he shows a massive potential if he can stay fit

Ryan STEDMAN-HOYTE



**SPONSORS  
AVAILABLE**





# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

# & Sponsors...

Siao BLACKWOOD



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Siao, another retained player from last year has started to show his qualities and has adapted to a deeper role and is getting better each game as he will start to win back possession he has no right to.

Matt TANTON



The skipper and one of the longest serving players in the squad. "Tants" when he isn't on holiday is a tireless fullback who has stepped up into his role and responsibilities. Sam was very pleased to retain him after Tants was considering retiring last summer...

Ivy NZELO



**ZUZU FARRIS-DOWD**  
Burnout Retail Design Ltd

Ivy's certainly the light in the changing room, a face that has been around the circuit a while and knows a few in the changing room already.

He is another consistent performing full back on both flanks with bundles of energy

Matty FEENEY-HILL



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Matty a former Royal Russell / SCR u18 player who stood out last season breaking into the 23s regularly. He has rightfully earned a spot in the squad with an impressive pre season and campaign last season. Currently on loan and finds himself already top scorer in the southern combination league.

Aaron HUNT



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Aaron centre mid of centre back was last year's u23 captain. He has stepped up during the summer and hasn't looked out of place. He has also joined Forest Row to help his development into senior football

Tom JONES



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Tom is another former Royal Russell / SCR u18 player of couple of seasons ago. Tom also assisted coaching of last years U18s before showing real maturity during pre season and pushing himself into this years squad. "It's not unusual" to see him across the backline winning his duels.

Shakel MORRIS



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Shak who was also retained from last season we have seen a glimpse of his qualities and hope if he can have an injury free season we will see more of his qualities.

Sam MORGAN



**HARD HITZ**  
[www.hardhitz.co.uk](http://www.hardhitz.co.uk)

Sam, the first person in the seat for 29 years after Darren stepped into a new position (no Pressure). Sam was part of the staff that helped guide the team to safety last year and is hoping to build on from that this season.

Reece TURNER



Reece joins Sam's staff as assistant manager.

He has proven to be a calming influence in the dugout during Sam's sabbatical.

Reece was previously at Raynes Park Vale and Tooting Bec

Liam JOYCE



**LMJ Coaching Ltd**  
[lmj-coaching.class4kids.co.uk](http://lmj-coaching.class4kids.co.uk)

Liam who is part of the foundations at SCR stays for another season. Liam's passion for the club and relationship with the squad doesn't go unnoticed whilst also playing a part at Chelseas foundation academies.



# 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.

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Please visit  
[Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk](http://Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk)  
to find out more



**TRIDENT  
LEAGUES**  
VOLUNTEER HUB  
POWERED BY ENTAIN



ISTHMIAN  
FOOTBALL  
LEAGUE

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF:

**FORMED: 1978**

**NICKNAME:  
THE COMMONERS**

## **JUST A S..T SUNDAY SIDE**

Ah, the cry from the Eastbourne Town fans back in the day as they romped to a 2-0 lead in the Vase, before we struck back to win 3-2.

Well, truth be told that's where it all started back in 1978, when INRAD FC took to the field, the club being founded by current Chairman Alan Salmon. Not long after Centre 21 came about following a sponsorship deal with a local youth centre.

Once players left having reached 21, a new name came about: Sutton Common Rovers FC, which quickly abbreviated to SCR followed by whichever public house sponsored the team.

Seasons followed in the Leatherhead & District, Mitcham & District, and Croydon & District Sunday league, with varying degrees of success before Darren Salmon took the plunge and moved the team into Saturday football.

## **SATURDAY SUCCESS**

The 2004/5 season saw that Saturday move. After a couple of seasons in the Surrey South East Combination and the Middlesex County League we took our place in the Combined Counties League for the 2008/09 season.

Darren made the bold statement that he wanted to be an Isthmian side within five seasons. Well, it took a bit longer but we eventually got there.

Our time in the CCL was full of ups and downs. Missing out on promotion in our opening season on goal difference, by 1 goal (as it turned out a missed penalty against Dorking in our penultimate game was key as it meant they had a 1 goal better goal difference than us).

Promotion followed the next season, and two seasons in the Premier culminated with relegation back to Division 1 in 2011/12. We bounced back up immediately, but then spent three seasons struggling in the Premier division before a change in fortunes in 2016/17 saw a mid-table finish.

It was all upwards after that, missing out on promotion with 3rd and 2nd finishes by one place in consecutive seasons. However, we finished top on PPG after two abandoned seasons to finally move to the Isthmian League.



## **IT'S A FAMILY THING**

As said, chairman Alan Salmon founded the side back in 1978, and his boys, Darren and Justin, both played for the club once they were old enough.

Darren progressed to First Team manager, in around 2000 while we were still a Sunday side, something he has continued to the present day.

Justin has since been co-manager of the First team with Darren and reserve team manager, all alongside managing the Sunday sides. He is now the club secretary.

We were also ahead of the game in terms of getting ladies involved in the club. Alan's daughter Tracy joined the fun when the SCR Colts were formed and quickly established herself behind the tea bar counter.

For good measure her other half Mark became youth secretary, a role that he held until the start of this season.

Throw into that that all Alan's grandchildren (Sam: #forever7, forever missed; Tyler, Reece and Blake, and Ethan) all played for the club, with Blake and Reece now involved on matchdays. As you see, we are truly a family club.



## **CUP GLORY (ish)**

We have a proud cup-fighting tradition, often getting the better of higher ranked sides.

It's not all been glory though as we suffered heartbreak twice in finals, losing 1-0 to Staines Lammas in the CCL Division 1 final in the 2008/09 season, and the following year we lost to Sutton Utd Reserves in the Surrey Premier Cup Final, 8-7 on penalties after a 1-1 draw.

The 2016/17 season saw the club secure it's first Saturday trophy with a 4-1 win over Camberley Town in the Southern Combination Challenge Cup.

Semi final defeats followed the next season in the Southern Combination Cup and the EL Records Premier Challenge Cup, which saw a heartbreaking 97th minute goal against Worcester Park to lose 3-2.

In 2018/19 we reached two cup finals, with defeat after extra time against Walton Casuals 4-2 in the Southern Combination Cup. The club finally secured the EL Records Premier Challenge Cup. An 84th minute strike by Matt Farrell securing a 1-0 win over CB Hounslow Utd.

There has been some success in the FA Vase, with the 5th Round reached in the 2019/20 season, but it ended in disappointment away at Western League Bitton AFC when we lost 2-1.

The FA Cup has been hit and miss with exits in the Extra-Preliminary Round before the 2021/22 season saw us reach the 2nd Qualifying Round for the first time.

Sat 2nd Sept 2023 | 2:00pm | Pitching In, Isthmian Football League  
 Venue: Church Road Stadium, Whyteleafe, Surrey. CR3 0AR

**SUTTON COMMON ROVERS F.C**

Colours: ALL YELLOW / MINT GREEN

JAMES DILLON (GK)	
LOUIE EROTKRITOS (GK)	
AARON JENKINS	
ANTONIO SIMEONE (VICE.)	
ASHLEY SHEPPARD	
BEN HOLDEN	
BERTIE LLOYD	
CHARLIE MARTIN	
CONAN TORPEY	
COURTNEY SWABY	
DANNY DIVINE	
DARYL COLEMAN	
ISY NZELO	
JORDAN WILSON	
MATTY FEENEY-HILL	
MATT TANTON (CAPT.)	
MAX OLDHAM	
NABEEL GHANNAM	
NOAH AFRICA	
SHAKEEL MORRIS	
SIAO BLACKWOOD	
TOM JONES	

Manager: **Sam Morgan**

Assistant Manager: **Reece Turner**



**GUERNSEY F.C**

Colours: GREEN & WHITE

BEN LE TOCQ	
BRANDON WALLACE	
CHARLTON GAUVAIN	
DANNY HALE	
DAVE MERRIS	
DAVE RIHOY	
GEORGE MCNEELA	
GLENN LE TISSIER	
JACOB FALLAIZE	
JAMIE DODD	
JASON MARTIN	
JOE ALVAREZ	
JOSH ADDISON	
KEANU MARSH	
KEENE DOMAILLE	
KIERAN MAHON	
LIAM MAHON	
MATT LOARING	
PARIS PEREIRA	
ROSS ALLEN	
SAM MURRAY	
SEB VANCE	
TOM DODDS	
TOM MARTIN	
TOM VAUDIN	
TYLER MCKANE	
WILL FAZAKERLEY	

Manager: **Tony Vance**

Assistant Manager: **Steve Sharman**



**Meet Today's Match Officials:**

Referee Mr Samuel Olhausen

Asst #2 Mr Kenny Agboola

Asst #1 Mr Grisha Zeigermaher

**NEXT UP: Merstham AWAY Sat 9th Sept | 3pm KO | FAT**