

# “Common Knowledge”

Sat 7th October 2023 | 3:00PM Kick Off

Pitching In | Isthmian Football League | South Central Division

Whyteleafe Sports Centre | Church Road | CR3 0AR



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- 05 Welcome to Southall FC
- 06 Southall FC history
- 10 From the Gaffer
- 12 Report v Ascot Utd
- 14 League Table
- 15 Isthmian South Central result & fixture roundup
- 16 The untold game, guest feature
- 18 SCR Pen Pics & Sponsors
- 22 SCR History
- 24 Today's Team Sheets



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## OUR HONOURS

### LEAGUE HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Premier Division:**  
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**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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 [www.suttoncommonrovers.com](http://www.suttoncommonrovers.com)

 [@official\\_scrfc](https://twitter.com/official_scrfc)

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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



**Southall FC**

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 opponent Leatherhead FC. We hope their players officials and supporters have a pleasant short stay with us this afternoon.

We would also like to welcome todays match officials, referee Mr Kyfer Mayhew and his assistants Mr Tolga Inanc and Mr Mark Jolley, we hope they also enjoy their stay with us today.

Southall currently sit in 12th spot in the table with seven points from four games (this section written before Wednesday's fixture), and had a resounding 8-0 win over struggling Binfield last weekend.

There will be a couple of familiar faces in their ranks, as both Kevin Diomande (19 games, 2 goals) and Kevin Songolo (6 games) played for us last season, whilst in Dimitris Savva they have a member of our U18's from two seasons ago.

Both games last season ended in draws 1-1 hear (Shawn Lyle) and 2-2 at Southall (Conan Torpey and Zaid Ouarret Sorr)

The 18's bowed out of the FA Youth Cup on Tuesday, going down 3-1 in a penalty shoot out after a 1-1 draw with Croydon..

# Briggers

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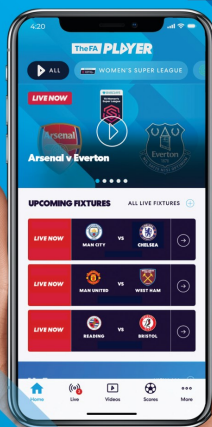
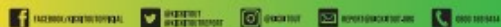
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# TODAY'S OPPONENTS

## SOUTHALL

**FORMED: 1871**

**NICKNAME:**  
**The All**



Southall Football Club is one of the oldest clubs in the South East of England having been founded in March 1871, their first match being a 1-0 defeat against local neighbours Uxbridge played at Southall Park on October 21st 1871. Southall quickly established themselves as a major club locally and entered the FA Cup in the 3rd year of the competition. Uxbridge remained their main local rivals during the first few decades since the founding of both clubs in 1871. Southall joined the prestigious Southern League for the 1896-97 season, during which time they regularly played the likes of Brentford, Fulham, Watford, Brighton & Hove Albion and Wycombe Wanderers. Southall used several grounds in the town before finally settling in at their Western Road ground in 1906, after merging with Southall Athletic FC. Western Road remained their home until the early 1990's.

The most successful period for the club was between the 1920's up to the 1960's, when crowds numbering in the thousands regularly attended, especially for games against local rivals such as Hayes, Hounslow and Uxbridge and the club produced several Amateur Internationals and players that went on to join professional clubs during this period. For the big away games and important cup ties away from home coaches and trains were often chartered for the locals to follow the club's exploits.

In 1925 Southall reached the Final of the FA Amateur Cup, when they narrowly lost to Clapton 2-1 at Millwall FC in front of over 25,000 spectators and won the Athenian League title in 1926-27. Another momentous season occurred in 1935-36 when Southall recorded 17 consecutive cup victories in various competitions. During this season they became the first non-league club to start in the FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round and reach the 3rd Round Proper before finally losing to Third Division South professionals Watford in front of Western Road's record gate of 19,094. They also beat Third Division South club Swindon Town at home 3-1 in the FA Cup 1st Round. Their cup exploits that season meant that they had to play 23 matches between 1st April and 2nd May, which included 2 games on the same day twice!

The club were forced to take the decision to sell their ground to the local Council in 1940 due to financial pressures during World War II and became tenants of the Council for the rest of that ground's existence.

Southall have also played big Amateur Cup matches at Stamford Bridge, Highbury & Craven Cottage, all in front of over 20,000 fans. The club's last big cup day out was for the 1986 FA Vase Final at Wembley.

In the 1970's and 1980's future full England Internationals Gordon Hill, Alan Devonshire, and Les Ferdinand played for Southall in their younger days.

Western Road was the arguably finest non-league ground in the area, regularly being selected to host finals and semi-finals of local and county cup competitions. It had a fine clubhouse, which regularly held many social events and was hired out by local clubs and societies as well as regularly being a venue for local bands to play at.

Unfortunately, Ealing Council closed Western Road in the early 1990's and eventually awarded the replacement site to a breakaway club, which folded soon after. Southall FC has been forced to share grounds since this time but are hopeful of finding a suitable site back in the town in the near future.

Having been in the doldrums in terms of league performances since the late 1990's, Southall won the Spartan South Midlands League Division 1 title in 2017-18, their first championship for 91 years. This also earned them their 2nd promotion in the 2010's and secured a spot back on the Combined Counties Premier Division. The league reorganisation for the 2021-22 season saw Southall in the Premier Division North. An exciting season was played out with cup runs in the FA Vase (1/4 final), Middlesex Charity Cup (semi-final) and League Cup (finalists), but more importantly the league Runners up spot was secured, which heralded promotion back to the Isthmian League.

A solid first season in the Isthmian South Central Division ended with a mid-table finish. With negotiations with Ealing Council for a new ground back in the town were seemingly heading in the right direction but a lack of progress over the last few months has left fans and club officials somewhat frustrated. All involved with Southall FC are hopeful of better times ahead.





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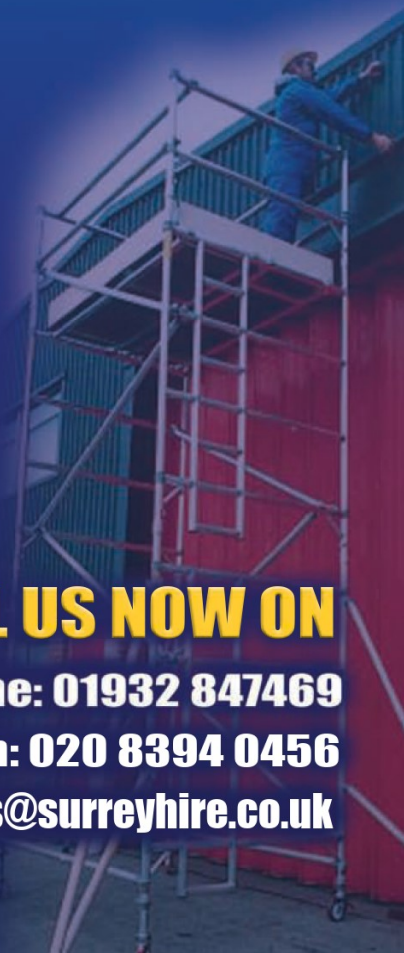
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# INSIDE MORGAN'S MIND

Afternoon all

We welcome Southall today who are always a physical test that bring a different sort of test to Leatherhead. Following on from a tight game midweek against the current leaders we can feel confident that we are heading in the right direction and will keep fighting to achieve our goals.

We have strengthened the squad and have players returning including Rooney who has been a miss in the changing room and on the field.

With games coming up thick and fast we will need to use the squad wisely.

Thanks again for your support and I hope you have enjoyed the start to the season.

Morgs



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# MATCH REPORT

## v Ascot Utd

From early on, Rovers soak up some pressure from Ascot's front line, with Harry Grant, Brendan Matthew and Usman Lalustani all looking quick and menacing, but good defending from Bertie Lloyd, Antonio Simeone and Ben Holden keep the danger away.

With seven minutes gone, a corner to Rovers, after a great exchange between Conan Torpey and Max Oldham, giving us our first chance of the game. Nabeel Ghannam swings the ball into a crowded six yard area, but is headed clear allowing Ascot to break down their left hand side, a first time strike by Matthew was well blocked by Holden.

A Matt Tanton long throw finds Jordan Wilson charging toward the Ascot penalty area, but his first time strike on the half volley sails over the bar. Holden then has his opportunity for a long throw, Torpey heads inside the 18yd box, but was easy for keeper Hugo Sobte. A third throw in quick succession, Tanton now finding Gabriel Odunaiké on the edge of the box, who holds the ball up well and cues up Oldham, but his shot is deflected out for a corner. Ghannam takes, swinging the ball over to the far right hand post, Simeone in space produces a powerful header, but Sobte puts up a strong hand and miraculously saves what would otherwise be a trademark goal.










Rovers were definitely in the ascendancy leading up to the half hour. Danny Divine wins a great challenge, pinning Ascot back in their half, motoring forward passes inside to Odunaiké, who finds Ghannam wide on the right. Taking the ball out toward the right corner Ghannam turns past Jordan Ajanlekoko and crosses to Torpey, but his shot goes over the bar.

Then, from what looked like a foul on Torpey deep in Ascot's half, Harry Tucker wins the challenge and set off Lalustani, breaking past Lloyd and passing out wide to Grant, who cuts back and curls his shot past James Dillon. One nil to Ascot, slightly against the run of play, but Rovers were not converting their chances.

After the goal Ascot had their tails up, and only good defending by Rovers prevented Ascot from increasing their lead. Just before half time, the Ascot no10 Matthew carved out a great chance firing his shot on the right onto the inside of the left hand post, only to see it skim across goal, and go out. Both Dillon and Wilson then picked up cautions, as Dillon felt Ascot were preventing him taking the resulting goal-kick.

Rovers go into the break a goal down, with a few chances under their belt, and I'm sure they felt they should be better off than that.

### Sutton Common Rovers

1	James Dillon	
2	Danny Divine	
3	Matthew Tanton	
5	Antonio Simeone	
6	Bertie Lloyd	
7	Maxwell Oldham	
9	Conan Torpey	 
10	Nabeel Ghannam	
12	Garfield Wilson	 
17	Ben Holden	
18	Gabriel Odunaiké	
8	Siao Blackwood	
13	Isy Nzelo	
14	Aaron Jenkins	
16	Charlie Martin	
20	Louie Erotokritos Staussi	

The second half kicked off with Rovers probing for an equaliser. Great work by Divine and Oldham combining on the right, executing a perfect give and go, but there was no-one there to latch on to Divine's cross. From a free kick on our left Ghannam drives the ball into the Ascot penalty area, Odunaiké gets a good touch as he turns, but the keeper clears away setting Matthew off, with Tanton in pursuit. Tanton was able to match Matthew for pace, and his sliding tackle denied Matthew a chance to go one on one with Dillon.

From Dillon's distribution, Divine moves the ball quickly up-field, finding Ghannam who sets himself up for a cracking shot from distance, but Sobte was equal to it and palmed the shot away. On 57mins Rovers make changes Siao Blackwood replacing Wilson, and for Ascot Daniel Bailey replacing Tucker.

After a Ghannam corner directed toward Simeone, Lloyd stoops to head back Simeone's glancing header, but the keeper palms away. From the break out of the Ascot box, Divine is cautioned for bringing down Sean McCormack. Their free kick is chested down by Siao Blackwood in the middle of the park, who controls the ball well, and pushes out to Holden. Holden looks for Oldham who sets off Divine on the right, but his cross is punched clear by Sobte.

On 69mins Joshua Edwards is cautioned for kicking the ball away after committing a foul. Dillon takes the kick, from just inside his own half, floating the ball into Ascot's penalty area, Ghannam traps, turns, but his shot wasn't enough to trouble Sobte. Two minutes later, another free kick to Rovers, taken by Ghannam, is floated to the far right post, where Lloyd heads back into the path of Torpey. Torpey's strike was not going to be stopped by Sobte, and Rovers claw one back. All square.

That would be the last that Torpey would take part in the game, as he was shortly replaced by Aaron Jenkins, but how important his contribution was.






















In the 77th minute a great exchange between Oldham and Odunaiké opens a window for Ghannam to shoot from distance. His drive was swinging away from Sobte and on target, but the outstretched Sobte just got his fingertips to it, to push it round the post. An excellent chance, an excellent shot and an equally excellent save.

Ascot then make further changes, with George Lock replacing Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi and Jay Welch replacing Samuel Bello-Balogun. With 5minutes added time both sides still look for chances to take 3 points. For Rovers, great distribution from Dillon to Odunaiké, who has time to turn and slide the ball into the path of Ghannam, who skips round his defender, his shot beating the keeper, but harmlessly trickles past the post. For Ascot, just before full time, a dangerous long throw is headed away by Lloyd, but only as far as McCormack on the edge of the box, his shot whistling a foot or so over the bar.

So at the final whistle, a much improved performance from Rovers, against a talented and organised Ascot side, but all things considered, a point apiece was probably a fair outcome.



# LEAGUE TABLE

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1 Leatherhead	6	5	1	0	11	2	+9	16
	2 Raynes Park Vale	6	5	0	1	17	10	+7	15
	3 Uxbridge	5	4	0	1	15	6	+9	12
	4 Chertsey Town	6	3	2	1	10	6	+4	11
	5 Southall	5	3	1	1	16	4	+12	10
	6 Sutton Common Rovers	7	3	1	3	14	11	+3	10
	7 Marlow	5	3	0	2	12	7	+5	9
	8 Hartley Wintney	5	3	0	2	12	10	+2	9
	9 South Park (Reigate)	6	3	0	3	9	8	+1	9
	10 Badshot Lea	6	3	0	3	9	10	-1	9
	11 Ashford Town (Middx)	7	2	2	3	10	8	+2	8
	12 Chipstead	6	2	2	2	13	13	0	8
	13 Ascot United	5	2	1	2	8	5	+3	7
	14 Hanworth Villa	5	2	1	2	8	7	+1	7
	15 Northwood	5	2	0	3	12	10	+2	6
	16 Thatcham Town	5	2	0	3	4	9	-5	6
	17 Westfield	5	1	2	2	3	9	-6	5
	18 Metropolitan Police	5	1	1	3	8	12	-4	4
	19 Guernsey	6	1	0	5	5	12	-7	3
	20 Corinthian-Casuals	6	1	0	5	4	21	-17	3
	21 Binfield	6	0	2	4	3	23	-20	2

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Binfield v Metropolitan Police  
 Chertsey Town v Uxbridge  
 Marlow v Raynes Park Vale  
 Northwood v Chipstead  
 Thatcham Town v Guernsey



# The Untold Game

## Mr Libertadores

Looking every bit like an Argentinian Larry David, Carlos Bianchi could have been one of the all-time greats as a player. A teenage sensation, he burst onto the scene at Velez Sarsfield as a precocious 18 year old, topping the scoring charts in his first season as a professional as his boyhood club won their first ever league title in 1967. For many fans, this was the greatest Velez side ever to take the field, but despite Bianchi's unstoppable efforts, they never built on their success. He continued to score freely, and after 121 goals in 165 games, earned himself a move to Reims.

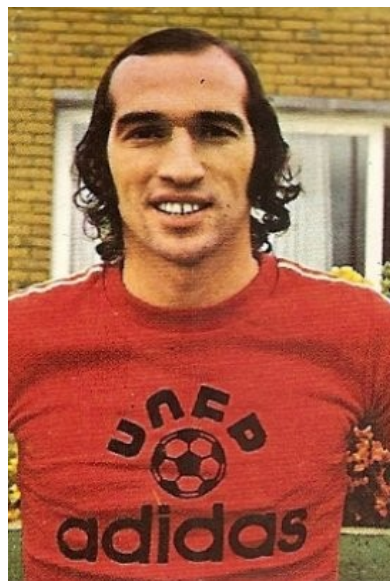
Seven years in France saw him win top goalscorer five times, with a switch to PSG in 1977, where he was by many considered their finest import before the Qatari takeover. He returned to Velez in 1980 and added another 85 goals to his tally, before returning to Reims once more for a final season before retirement.

For all his individual success, Bianchi's goals had yielded just a single trophy; that early title with Velez. Worse, his move to Europe had marked him as a selfish, egotistical player and had cost him a career in the national side. It was an injustice that would drive him in his managerial career. A few years of struggle at Reims and a few more at Nice fed a reputation in Argentina that he was not capable of leading a side, but not at Velez, where he remained a legend in the truest sense of the word. In 1993, he was given his chance.

He transformed Velez, allowing his players the individual freedom to express themselves, within an unbreakable collective. The players loved their new mentor. In his debut season, just as when he was a player, he led Velez to the league title. But that was just the start.

The following season, they were irrepressible on the continental stage. They were drawn in the toughest group of the tournament, and won it at a canter. More pleasingly, local rivals Boca finished bottom. Bianchi would lead his charges all the way, however, and in one of the tightest finals in Libertadores history, defeated Sao Paulo on penalties. The retained their league title too. In two years of management in South America, Bianchi had three trophies.

Later that year, he went one better. The Club World Championship saw Velez take on European Champions Milan, the Fabio Capello variant that was so dogged that they won the league scoring just 34 goals, and beat them 2-0. More trophies followed in 1995 and 1996.





A brief, unsuccessful spell at Roma followed, before Bianchi returned to his homeland, this time with Boca. Success wasn't immediate this time though, it took Boca two years to win the title instead.



Bianchi inherited a squad already brimming with talent. Martin Palermo, Fabio Coloccini, Walter Samuel, and the mercurial Juan Roman Riquelme were individually brilliant, but had failed to come together as a unit. Bianchi instilled a fierce tactical discipline, except for allowing Riquelme to float between the lines, and Boca slowly began to dominate Argentinian football. Three titles followed, in 1998, 1999 and 2000, but this simply gave Bianchi a way into the competition that really mattered to him; the Copa Libertadores.

In 2000, Boca scythed their way through continental competition, with Riquelme cementing his reputation as South America's best player as his side put Palmeiras to the sword in the final. Once again, Bianchi would follow up his success on the global stage, beating a Real Madrid side that contained Hierro, Raul, Figo and Guti in the Club World Cup. It wasn't just the brilliance of his side, it was their flexibility.

Where some of the great coaches get stuck in a tactical style and find it difficult to adapt, Boca under Bianchi were like a different team every week. Against Vasco on the way to retaining the following season's Libertadores, they were an exceptional attacking side. In the next round against Palmeiras, they gave a dogged, determined defensive masterclass. The only thing all these different Boca sides had in common; they won. In 2003, with many of his stars sold to Europe, he led a young side to his fourth Libertadores title. A young Carlos Tevez led the scoring charts. Once more, he beat Milan in the Club World Cup. It was effectively a glorious coda on a remarkable managerial career.

Denied the chance to take charge of Argentina because of the reputation he had developed as a player, Mr. Libertadores had a couple of very brief stints in charge of Atletico Madrid and, later, Boca again. But he never took a long term job, and enjoyed his retirement. For such a short career, as his American doppelganger might say, he was pretty, pretty good.

**Enjoy the game.**

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

**so-  
me-**



# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

# & Sponsors...

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## Jean Stenson



Ben who may end up taking the mantle of having a Holden in an 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.

## Info TBC



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's 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.

## SPONSOR AVAILABLE



Con'an 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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.



# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

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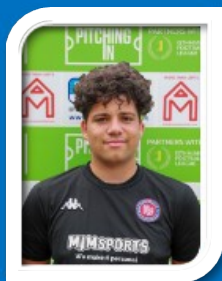


**DILLON  
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Gabs, a strong experienced player came in and really helped the team in the final months of last season. He has attributes that can help us achieve our goals and will play a big part in doing so.

**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

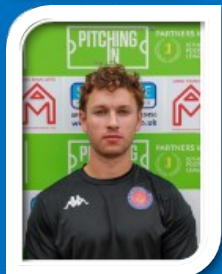


**UKPRECLEARANCE.COM**

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

**Info TBC**

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.



**SPONSOR  
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Mack Reilly  
Info awaited

**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.

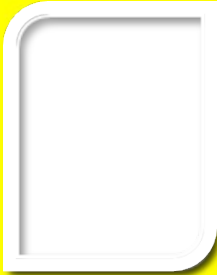


**SPONSOR  
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Jordan ex K's and Merstham player who joins us with plenty of experience. We had a chance to add him to the squad joining us from Merstham who showed us the fight and desire to play a big role in our season.

**Info TBC**

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...



**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

Anthony Ogbnufe  
Info awaited

**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





# 'Pen Pic Profiles'

# & Sponsors...



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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.



**Mick & Val**

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...



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

Izy'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



**SPONSOR  
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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.



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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



**SPONSOR  
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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.



**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.



**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.



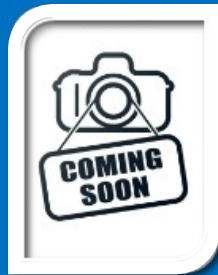
**SPONSOR  
AVAILABLE**

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



**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:**

## **SUTTON COMMON ROVERS**

**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 heart-breaking 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 7th Oct 2023 | 3:00pm | Pitching In, Isthmian Football League  
 Venue: Church Road Stadium, Whyteleafe, Surrey. CR3 0AR

**SUTTON COMMON ROVERS F.C**

**SOUTHALL F.C**

Colours: ALL YELLOW / MINT GREEN

Colours: RED & WHITE



JAMES DILLON (GK)	
LOUIE EROKORITOS (GK)	
AARON JENKINS	
ANTHONY OGBNUFE	
ANTONIO SIMEONE (VC)	
ASHLEY SHEPPARD	
BEN HOLDEN	
BERTIE LLOYD	
CHARLIE MARTIN	
CONAN TORPEY	
COURTNEY SWABY	
DANNY DIVINE	
DARYL COLEMAN	
GABRIEL ODUNAIKE	
ISY NZELO	
JORDAN WILSON	
MACK REILLY	
MATTY FEENEY-HILL	
MATT TANTON (C)	
MAX OLDHAM	
NABEEL GHANNAM	
NOAH AFRICA	
SIAO BLACKWOOD	

KEVIN EDEGBE	
AZEEZ ALABI	
ABDULRAHMAN NUREIN	
ALEX NOLAN	
CARL PEARCE	
CAVID AMATE	
FRANKIE TAYLOR	
KEVIN DIOMANDE	
KEVIN SONGOLO	
JACK ROPER	
DARREON MARK	
DIMITRIS SAVVA	
LUKE HENEGHAN	
RYAN HOPE	
SAM SHAW	
JOSHUA GREEN	
JAMES MCCLUSKEY	
ANTHONY O'CONNOR	
DYLAN KEARNEY	
JADEN THOMPSON-BRISSETT	
JAIDEN CELESTINE-CHARLES	
TONY MENDY	
TREY BROWN-PENDER	

Manager: **Sam Morgan**  
 Assistant Manager: **Reece Turner**

Manager: **Max Howell**  
 Assistant Manager:

**Meet Today's Match Officials:**

Referee; Mr Kyfer Mayhew

Asst #2 Mr Tolga Inanc  
 Asst #1 Mr Mark Jolley

**NEXT UP: South Park AWAY Tues 10th October | 7:45pm KO**  
**Plus Westfield HOME Sat 14th October | 3:00pm KO**