

# Rovers Vs Kingfishers

Pitching In  
Isthmian League  
South Central Division



Sat 11th March 2023 | 3:00pm KICK OFF  
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*Always Making Memories Together*

**INSIDE TODAY...**



## OUR PEOPLE

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**Hon Treasurer** - Darren Salmon  
**Match Secretary** - Scott Wallage  
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**Welfare Officer** - Darren Brown

### Management & Board:

Gary Brigden, Steve Casserley Francois Gabbidon, Charlie Hands, Val Roots, Mick Murfet  
Alan Reed, Sharon Streets

**1st Team Joint Manager** - Darren Salmon  
**1st Team Joint Manager** - Sam Morgan  
**Coach** - Liam Joyce  
**Physio** - Anah Browne & Geoff Moxey  
**Kit & Equipment Manager** - Tony Williams  
**Stadium Emergency 1st Aid** - Brent Wallage  
**Matchday Media** - Gary Brigden

### Photographs courtesy of:

Gary Brigden Photography and Stuart Tree.

Match Graphics courtesy of **Football Web Pages**

## OUR HONOURS

### LEAGUE HONOURS

**Combined Counties League Premier Division:**

Runners-up: 2018–19

**Combined Counties League Division One:**

Champions 2009–10; Runners-up: 2012–13

### 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

 [info@suttoncommonrovers.com](mailto:info@suttoncommonrovers.com)

 [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.**



Pitching In  
Isthmian League  
South Central Division

**Sutton Common  
Rovers F.C**

Vs



Pitching In  
Isthmian League  
South Central Division

**Thatcham Town  
FC**

## WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN

Good afternoon ladies and gentleman, wishing you a warm SCR welcome to the Whyteleafe Sports centre for this todays Isthmian South Central fixture.

We would like to welcome the players, committee and supporters of Thatcham Town FC, we hope they enjoy their stay with us this afternoon.

We would also like to welcome today's match officials, referee Mr Tolu Sangowawa and his assistants, Mr Tolga Inanc and Mr Benjamin Powell, again we trust they enjoy their brief stay with us this afternoon.



# WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN



Today's opponents come to us currently lying in 12th spot in the table, with 39 points from their 30 games played.

They had been on a superb run going ten games unbeaten from the start of the year, throughout January and February before seeing it come to a halt at the start of March.

On that run they won away in Guernsey 1-0, plus wins at South Park and even more impressively a thumping 3-0 win at Chertsey. Add into the home wins against Tooting & Mitcham Utd and Southall.

They did draw their other five fixtures, at Marlow, Merstham, Bedfont Sports and Binfield, with another home draw against Westfield.

The run ended at the start of March when they went down 2-1 at home to Hanworth Villa, and last time out a narrow 3-2 home defeat against Chipstead.

Earlier this season we picked up a hard fought 2-1 win at the Stacatruc Stadium. An early Joshua Adjei own goal set us on our way, only for David Nyarko to equalise in bizarre fashion as keeper Endurance Johnson horrendously sliced a goal kick into the prolific marksmans path. We picked up all three points though thanks to a glorious Shawn Lyle header as time ran out.

Last season we actually did the double over Thatcham with a solitary Connor French strike giving us a 1-0 win at home, and a Christoph Aziamale (for those interested now playing for Welsh Premier League Bala Town) double giving us a 2-0 win away.

Both development sides were due to be back in action this week, and the 23's moved back to the top of the John Bennett Development Division thanks to a 5-1 win over CB Hounslow Utd—our goals from Abs Coulibaly 2, Zaid Ouaret Sorr 2 and Luke Guest.

Unfortunately, the snow that hit the South East on Wednesday put paid to the U18's and their clash with Chatham Town.

Next up for both development teams are games on the 20th March, with the 23's hosting Redhill and the 18's heading off to Chatham Town.

Finally, congratulations to First Team Joint Manager Sam Morgan, who announced during the week that his other half is expecting. Congrats to you and the Mrs, from all at the club mate.

Enough from me, enjoy the game, have safe trips home, and see you next week when we head off to Tooting & Mitcham for what could be a season defining game for both sides.

**Briggers**



# TODAY'S OPPONENTS

## THATCHAM TOWN FC



**FORMED: 1894**

**NICKNAME:**  
**The Kingfishers**

### HISTORY

Thatcham Town Football Club was founded in 1894. The club were originally known just as Thatcham, with Town being added to its name in 1974. In the early years Thatcham played at The Marsh on Dunston Green, Brownsfield (home of the Cricket Club) and Station Road, before moving to Lancaster Close in 1949. Floodlights were erected in January 1983 with Fulham FC visiting for a commemorative friendly match. To provide improved facilities, the club moved to Waterside Park in 1992/93, with the ground becoming known as The Stacatruc Stadium from August 2019.

The club joined the Reading Temperance League in 1896, winning the Division Two title in 1905/06. In 1953 Thatcham became founder members of the Hellenic League, winning promotion to the Premier Division as Division One champions in 1958/59, 1964/65 & 1972/73, then claiming the Premier Division title in 1974/75. Following spells in the Athenian and London Spartan Leagues, Thatcham joined the newly formed Wessex League in 1986 and won the title in 1995/96. After finishing second in 2005/06, ground requirements were met and promotion to step four was achieved.

The Kingfishers spent eight seasons in the Southern League Division One – seven in the South & West Division and one (2012/13) in the Central.

Following sixth-placed finishes in both 2006/07 & 2008/09, the club achieved its highest ever position in 2010/11... Despite being in the bottom half of the table at Christmas, Thatcham earned 38 points from the final 15 matches to finish in fifth, however the Kingfishers were beaten at Sholing in the play-off semi-final.

Once safety was assured in 2013/14, the club resigned from the Southern League to cut costs by playing at a lower level. Town finished twelfth in their first campaign back in the Hellenic Premier, then second and fourth in the following seasons. However in 2017/18 the Kingfishers embarked on an incredible 40 game unbeaten run (in all competitions), winning all but one game between the end of October and end of April. This saw Thatcham overtake long-time leaders Highworth Town and eventually pip Bracknell Town to the title in a thrilling end to the season, on goal difference.

After taking a season to re-adjust to step four football, in 2019/20 Thatcham were top of the Southern League Division One South table with eleven games to play. But with the club looking set to achieve its highest ever finish, and promotion to step three a real possibility, the Coronavirus pandemic struck with the season being terminated. Following the subsequent departure of the management team and many senior players, alongside being moved into the Isthmian League South Central Division, the club faced a rebuilding job. Covid also caused the 2020/21 season to be suspended before Town finished 12th in 2021/22.



## CUP JOY

Thatcham Town FC have enjoyed some memorable success in Cup competitions over the years. In 1989 the club reached the last eight of the FA Vase before losing to local rivals Hungerford Town. In the same competition a record attendance of 1,400 was set when Aldershot Town won 1-0 at Waterside Park in 1993/94. However in 2017/18 Thatcham went all the way and lifted the trophy at Wembley Stadium on a brilliant day for the football club...

Supporters started to sense the club could be on the verge of something special after a 5th round home victory over Bromsgrove Sporting, then over 2,200 attended the quarter-final win at Melksham Town as cup fever started to spread across the town. Thatcham then defeated 1874 Northwich 1-0 (home) and 3-2 (away) in the two legged semi-final, before taking over 5,000 fans to Wembley as Northern League side Stockton Town were beaten 1-0 in the final.

The club played in the Third Round Qualifying stage of the FA Trophy for the first time in 2021/22, losing on penalties at Cinderford Town. Thatcham's best run in the FA Cup came in the 1996/97 season as they reached the Fourth Round Qualifying stage before losing at Boreham Wood. In September 2019 the FA Cup First Round Qualifying tie at home to Salisbury was streamed live by the BBC with the visitors winning 3-2.

Thatcham completed the Hellenic League and Cup double, by lifting the Hellenic First Division Cup in 1972/73 and the Premier Division Cup in 1974/75. During 2017/18 the club reached both League Cup finals, losing to Bracknell in the Challenge Cup and Binfield in the Floodlit Cup.

During the 1990s Thatcham won the Wessex League Cup on four occasions, completing the league and Cup double in 1995/96. In 1974/75 the club were beaten in the final of the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup but were awarded the trophy following a dispute between the victors, Wycombe Wanderers, and the Berks & Bucks FA.



# MEET TODAY'S OPPONENTS

## MANAGEMENT

**YASHWA ROMEO** - Hugely experienced non-league striker who represented the club as Player, Coach & Assistant Manager - First Game as Manager : Staines (a) Mar '22

**SHAUN ALLAWAY** - Ex Reading goalkeeper who played for England U19, but most regularly Slough and Staines - First Game as Coach : Dunstable (h) Sep '20

**SAM LOADES** - Experienced and passionate youth coach with Reading FC who is helping develop the Kingfishers squad - First Game as Coach : Staines (a) Mar '22

**DECLAN DOWLING** - Works as a physiotherapist in nearby Reading and brings footballing experience from his native Ireland - First Game as Physio : Yate (h) Aug '18

**COLIN CHARLES** - A lively character who performs numerous roles, from Kit Man to providing player support - First Game as Player Liaison Officer : Northwood (h) Aug '21

## GOALKEEPERS

**TOBY FISHER** - Very reliable and capable young keeper currently on loan from Aldershot - Age 18; Debut : South Park (h) Nov '22; TTFC Apps 19 / Clean Sheets 8

## DEFENDERS

**CAMERON ROHART-BROWN** - Versatile and skilful dead-ball specialist who re-signed from Binfield - Age 21; Debut : Sutton Common (a) Oct uApps 46 / Goals 10

**ISSY KABA** - Former Portsmouth Academy player who is on dual registration from Gosport Borough - Age 18; Debut : Bedfont Sports (a) Feb '23; TTFC Apps 2 / Goals 0

**LEVI HEHOLT** - Solid right-back who has returned to the area after playing US college football - Age 23; Debut : Northwood (a) Oct '22; TTFC Apps 16 / Goals 0

**JOSHUA EDWARDS** - Club captain and reliable stopper who won last season's Player's Player award - Age 26; Debut : Shrivenham (h) Jan '15; TTFC Apps 71 / Goals 3 (pictured next page)

**NOAH COATES** - Young defender whose performances for the youth team have earned him a first team call-up - Age 17; Debut : Marlow (h) Nov '22; TTFC Apps 3 / Goals 0

**OLIVER BOURNE** - Broke into the first team last season and attracted interest from high-profile clubs - Age 19; Debut : Bracknell (h) Nov '21; TTFC Apps 34 / Goals 0

**RAMARNI MEDFORD-SMITH** - Talented ex-Reading FC full-back on loan from Bracknell Town - Age 24; Debut : Sutton Common Rov (h) Oct '22; TTFC Apps 18 / Goals 2

## MIDFIELDERS

**CALLUM WILLMOTH** - A fans' favourite who returns after captaining National South side Hungerford - Age 31; Debut : Gosport B (h) Aug '11; TTFC Apps 191 / Goals 16

**CORY HATHAWAY** - Grafter in the middle of the park who has moved across Berkshire from Bracknell - Age 22; Debut : Horndean (h) Aug '22; TTFC Apps 17 / Goals 2



# MEET TODAY'S OPPONENTS



**KIYE MARTIN** - Creative midfielder who previously featured for Northwood and South Park - Age 25; Debut : Westfield (a) Oct '22; TTFC Apps 16 / Goals 1

**MO CEESAY** - Classy and assured all-round player who is very comfortable on the ball - Age 26; Debut : Staines (h) Nov '21; TTFC Apps 49 / Goals 7

**NATHAN JONES** - Energetic box-to-box player who picked up last season's Player's Player award - Age 21; Debut : Cinderford (a) Oct '21; TTFC Apps 57 / Goals 3

## FORWARDS

**ALEX FRAGATA** - Skilful wide player who is currently on loan at Tadley Calleva to pick up fitness levels - Age 23; Debut : Northwood (h) Aug '21; TTFC Apps 17 / Goals 0

**ALEX MILLER** - All-action forward who quickly adapted to playing step four football last term - Age 20; Debut : Northwood (h) Aug '21; TTFC Apps 53 / Goals 5

**ASHLEY HOWELL** - Ex Flackwell Heath front man who moved to Thatcham in the summer for a new challenge - Age 21; Debut : Horndean (h) Aug '22; TTFC Apps 17 / Goals 4

**HARRY WILLIAMS** - Ex-Slough Town and Holyport forward who can play in a number of attacking positions - Age ??; Debut : Guernsey (a) Jan '23; TTFC Apps 11 / Goals 3

**JORDAN ALVES** - Flair player who showed us his skills two seasons ago and has rejoined from North Leigh - Age 22; Debut : Dunstable (h) Sep '20; TTFC Apps 18 / Goals 3

**KAMIL ZIELINSKI** - A robust forward who recently led the line for our tenants AFC Aldermaston - Age 26; Debut : Westfield (h) Feb '22; TTFC Apps 4 / Goals 0

**SIMEON WEEKES** - Bustling forward who made a strong impact upon arrival last Christmas - Age 26; Debut : Basingstoke (a) Dec '21; TTFC Apps 37 / Goals 9

**TAYLOR HARRY** - Lively forward who is looking to put long-term injury problems behind him - Age 21; Debut : Bracknell (a) Jan '22; TTFC Apps 37 / Goals 5





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In advance,

# THANK YOU



# SPOT THE BALL



Action from the Binfield game and we put pressure on from a corner, but where is the ball...

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# FROM THE GAFFER



We caught up with Darren Salmon as he looks back on the last couple of weeks.

**GB:** It was definitely a case of after the Lord Mayor's show as our form from February went out of the window. Can you put a finger on what went wrong?

**DS:** Everything G, selection constraints, complacency, time keeping, train delays, the warm up, the whole 9 yards

**GB:** You have added a couple of big players for the run in, with Max Oldham and Gabriel Odunaike coming on board. What do they bring to the squad?

**DS:** Max and Gab are both quality players who improve the group G, we always felt we may need to add 1 or 2 additional players to our small squad

**GB:** How much attention are you paying to the other results, or do you only concentrate on the controllables and let what will be be?

**DS:** Honestly of course we are aware of other results from the sides around us but I know from experience that loads will change during these final 6-7 weeks, we in essence just have to focus on us and see what happens now

**GB:** Guernsey's recent form appears to have pulled them clear of the danger zone, but looking at the table, whilst both Ashford and Chipstead have points on the board, their form could see one of the sides catch them.

**DS:** Following this weeks results and form there are 6 clubs that will be 'concerned' and rightly so. Obviously ourselves and Tooting occupying the auto relegation spots right now but also Bedfont, Merstham, Ashford and Guernsey. I guess on form Guernsey and Merstham could be considered favourites to escape the dreaded play off's or auto drop.

**GB:** Another tough game in store this afternoon as an in-form Thatcham Town come to visit. It was a gruelling encounter earlier in the season at their place, I expect you are expecting more of the same today.

**DS:** Thatcham are always a decent outfit and right now we have 7 cup finals G, so yes absolutely a tough game but all to play for!



# MATCH REPORT:

## BINFIELD

Sutton Common Rovers	Saturday 4th March 2023		Binfield
<div>1James Dillon</div> <div>2Danny Divine</div> <div>3Temiloluwa Oladejo</div> <div>4Siao Blackwood</div> <div>5Liam Holden</div> <div>6Joshua Okpolokpo</div> <div>7Tyler Cox</div> <div>8Nabeel Ghannam</div> <div>9Gabriel Odunaïke</div> <div>10Conan Torpey</div> <div>11Maxwell Oldham</div> <div>12Ryan Stedman-Hoyte</div> <div>14Marcus Marku</div> <div>15Zaid Ouaret Sorr</div> <div>16Shakeel Morris</div> <div>20Louie Erotokritos Staussi</div>	<div><div>Sutton Common Rovers</div><div>0</div><div></div><div><div>Binfield</div><div>3</div><div></div></div><div>Connor Holland (16') Conor Lynch (53') Brad Pagliaroli (58')</div><div>Isthmian League - South Central Division Attendance: 68 Kick-off: 3pm</div><div>InfoVideos</div><div>Match Information</div><div>Full-time: Sutton Common Rovers 0-3 Binfield Half-time: Sutton Common Rovers 0-1 Binfield</div></div>		<div><div>1Harvey Rackley-Hayes</div><div>2Kai Hobbs</div><div>3Luke Brophy</div><div>4Jonathan Denton</div><div>5Liam Gavin</div><div>6George Winsor</div><div>7Harvey Harry</div><div>8Connor Holland</div><div>9Conor Lynch</div><div>10Harrison Bayley</div><div>11Brad Pagliaroli</div><div>12James Beauchamp</div><div>14Brandon Curtis</div><div>15Steve Ngunga</div><div>16Taylor Morgan</div><div>17Massimo Giamattei</div></div>

Rovers recent run of good form came to a shuddering halt on Saturday when they slumped to a disappointing 3-0 defeat at home to play-off chasing Binfield.

Gabriel Odunaïke and Max Oldham came in for debuts alongside Liam Holden, in three changes from the Southall game, Shakeel Morris and Zaid Ouaret Sorr dropped to the bench with Bertie Lloyd out injured.

Binfield almost struck early on when an underhit Nabeel Ghanam backpass forced Josh Okpolokpo into a scrambling challenge on the edge of the Rovers area, with Liam Holden completing the clearance. Harvey Harry then saw a low cross cleared by Okpolokpo as Binfield looked to force the early goal.

Harvey Rackley-Hayes claimed a dangerous Ghannam cross on ten minutes. A minute later and after being fouled in the middle of the park, Ghannam spotted Rackley-Hayes off his line but put his effort wide of the right hand post.

Binfield took the lead on 17 minutes, a low cross by Harry was left by four Rovers defenders before being fired home from 12 yards by Connor Holland.

The visitors were showing none of the form that had seen them drop to the bottom of the form table and were moving the ball neatly around the park and had Rovers chasing shadows.

Rovers attacks were sporadic but from one a low cross by Odunaike was well claimed by Rackley-Hayes.

Holden picked up a booking for a strong challenge on Holland. Brad Pagliaroli dragged an effort wide of the left hand post as Binfield were continuing to dominate proceedings. Rovers had a chance to get back into the game on the half hour. Siao Blackwood did superbly to win possession and set Tyler Cox away, and as he raced into the area he was denied by a superb challenge by Liam Gavin. From the resulting corner, a low driven cross by Cox was superbly claimed low down by Rackley-Hayes.

Binfield should really have increased their lead ten minutes before half time, Temi Oladejo dallied on the ball and lost possession, Pagliaroli raced clear but a covering challenge by Holden saw the ball deflected behind for a corner.

Rovers almost got back into the game shortly before the break, having countered from a Binfield corner, pressure on the visitors defence eventually saw Luke Brophy poke the ball beyond his own keeper but wide of the post. From the corner, Binfield launched a lightning counter attack which ended with Holland rounding James Dillon only to see Ghannam appear from nowhere to clear the danger.

In stoppage time Dillon was called into action, somehow denying Conor Lynch from point blank range, and the visitors took a slender 1-0 lead into the break.

The less said about the second half from a Rovers point of view the better. Binfield increased their lead on 52 minutes, picking up the ball in the middle of the park, Johnathon Denton played a defence splitting ball through the heart of the Rovers backline allowing Conor Lynch to race clear and fire beyond Dillon for 2-0.

Four minutes later and it was 3-0, a decent move in the middle of the park ended with the ball finding Pagliaroli and from a wide angle he fired into the top corner, with Dillon only able to get a hand to the ball. The big keeper has been in superb form for Rovers but will be disappointed with that one.

Rovers tried to mount a recovery, and did put Binfield under a little bit of pressure and with just under 20 minutes remaining Oldham bought a decent save out of Rackley-Hayes, and with 15 minutes remaining, substitute Zaid Ouaret Sorr latched onto a defensive mistake by Gavin, and as Rackley-Hayes advanced his lob drifted just wide of the right hand post.

That was as good as it got for Rovers.

Having put themselves back into contention to avoid the drop, this was a hugely disappointing and damaging result.

# MATCH PICS: **BINFIELD**



Top: Tyler Cox gets a shot away in the first half;

Inset: Max Oldham and Gabriel Odunaiké;

Below: Josh Okpolokpo challenges with the Binfield defence.





# CAREER RECORDS

17

2022/23 Season						Career	
	Appearances		GOALS	CARDS			
	APP	SUB		YC	RC	Apps	Goals
LLOYD, Bertie	29	1	3	2	0	30	3
COX, Tyler	28	3	0	3	0	31	0
SWABY, Courtney	18	5	0	3	1	23	0
HALSEY, Tony	16	1	3	5	0	28	7
HOLDEN, Liam	13	3	1	4	0	376	107
DIVINE, Danny	10	0	0	2	0	10	0
TANTON, Matt	9	4	1	1	2	162	6
BLACKWOOD, Siao	9	4	0	3	0	13	0
MORRIS, Shakeel	9	3	3	0	0	12	3
OUARET SORR, Zaid	8	3	2	1	0	11	2
MARKU, Markus	7	3	0	2	0	10	0
OKPOLOKPO, Joshua	7	1	0	2	1	8	0
DILLON, James	7	0	0	0	0	16	0
SUTHERLAND, Tyrese	6	6	2	0	0	12	2
TORPEY, Conan	6	0	5	3	0	6	5
STEDMAN-HOYTE, Ryan	5	2	0	2	0	10	0
ROBINSON, Malachi	4	0	0	0	0	96	3
OLADEJO, Temi	4	0	0	0	0	4	0
TEHE, Hermann	3	2	2	0	0	13	2
GHANNAM, Nabeel	3	2	0	2	0	5	0
UZOR, Tobe	2	3	0	1	0	12	0
CREED, Ollie	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
OKPOLOKPO, Jesse	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
STINGELIN, Alexandre	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
O'DONOVAN, Daniel	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
MACFOY-JOHNSTON, Dion	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
BAKER, George	1	2	1	1	0	11	2
ETUMNU, Charles	1	2	0	0	0	3	0
COOPER-SMITH, Daryl	1	0	0	0	0	102	62
HUNT, Aaron	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
EMOVON, Onome	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
ODUNAIKE, Gabriel	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
OLDHAM, Max	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
OWOEYE, Deji	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
OWUSU, George	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
COULIBALY, Abdoulaye	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
UZON, Josh	0	1	0	0	0	13	6
GUEST, Luke	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
ERNE, John	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

# ROVERS MERCHANDISE



## Pin Badge selection



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# **LATEST RESULTS**

## **Saturday 4th March**

Ashford Town (Middx) 0-3 Basingstoke Town

Chertsey Town 0-1 Northwood

Chipstead 0-0 Marlow

Leatherhead 1-2 Guernsey

Merstham 1-1 Uxbridge

**Sutton Common Rovers** 0-3 Binfield

Thatcham Town 1-2 Hanworth Villa

Tooting & Mitcham United 0-1 Southall

Walton & Hersham 4-0 South Park

Westfield 1-1 Bedfont Sports

## **Tuesday 7th March**

Hanworth Villa 3-1 Tooting & Mitcham United

Marlow 3-0 Westfield

Northwood 0-0 Binfield

Thatcham Town 2-3 Chipstead

Uxbridge 6-1 Ashford Town (Middx)

## **Wednesday 8th March**

Guernsey 1-2 Merstham

# LEAGUE TABLE (as at 8.3.23)

21

	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1 Basingstoke Town	30	23	2	5	75	26	+49	71
2 Walton & Hersham	30	22	1	7	73	34	+39	67
3 Northwood	31	18	2	11	46	35	+11	56
4 Marlow	29	15	7	7	50	33	+17	52
5 Hanworth Villa	30	13	9	8	46	45	+1	48
6 Chertsey Town	30	13	7	10	56	37	+19	46
7 Binfield	30	13	7	10	50	37	+13	46
8 Southall	29	10	12	7	40	32	+8	42
9 South Park	29	12	5	12	35	46	-11	41
10 Westfield	30	10	10	10	39	38	+1	40
11 Uxbridge	30	10	9	11	42	36	+6	39
12 Thatcham Town	30	10	9	11	44	41	+3	39
13 Chipstead	29	10	7	12	37	42	-5	37
14 Leatherhead	30	10	7	13	34	40	-6	37
15 Guernsey	30	9	6	15	31	55	-24	33
16 Ashford Town (Middx)	30	10	3	17	38	73	-35	33
17 Merstham	30	5	13	12	35	50	-15	28
18 Bedfont Sports	30	5	12	13	36	51	-15	27
19 Sutton Common Rovers	31	7	4	20	35	65	-30	25
20 Tooting & Mitcham United	30	4	8	18	26	52	-26	20

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Binfield v South Park Reigate  
Chertsey Town v Walton & Hersham  
Chipstead v Leatherhead  
Marlow v Hanworth Villa  
Merstham v Ashford Town (Middx)  
Northwood v Basingstoke Town  
Southall v Bedfont Sports  
Uxbridge v Guernsey  
Westfield v Tooting & Mitcham Utd

# RELEGATION RUN IN

Well, we have ignored it for long enough, but we have to take a look at the run in for the relegation threatened sides.

As it stands it looks likely to be a five team battle to avoid the drop with Tooting & Mitcham, ourselves, Bedfont Sports, Merstham and Ashford Town most in trouble, although Guernsey cannot be discounted.

Ashford and Guernsey are on the same points, but Ashford's form at the minute looks far worse.

We and Tooting currently occupy the bottom two spots, with Merstham and Bedfont Sports in the play off places. Whoever ends in these positions will face a runner up from Step 5.

So what are the remaining fixtures

	<b>Ashford Town</b>	<b>Bedfont Sports</b>	<b>Merstham</b>
<b>11/3</b>	<b>A v Merstham</b>	<b>A v Southall</b>	<b>H v Ashford Town</b>
<b>18/3</b>	<b>H v Chertsey Town</b>	<b>H v Marlow</b>	<b>A v Leatherhead</b>
<b>25/3</b>	<b>A v South Park</b>	<b>A v Chipstead</b>	<b>H v Binfield</b>
<b>1/4</b>	<b>A v Tooting &amp; Mitcham</b>	<b>H v Leatherhead</b>	<b>A v SCR</b>
<b>8/4</b>	<b>H v Westfield</b>	<b>A v Merstham</b>	<b>H v Bedfont Sports</b>
<b>10/4</b>	<b>A v Southall</b>	<b>H v Uxbridge</b>	<b>A v Walton &amp; Hersham</b>
<b>15/4</b>	<b>H v Thatcham Town</b>	<b>A v Hanworth Villa</b>	<b>A v Chertsey Town</b>
<b>22/4</b>	<b>A v SCR</b>	<b>H v Guernsey</b>	<b>H v Westfield</b>

	<b>Sutton Common Rovers</b>	<b>Tooting &amp; Mitcham Utd</b>
<b>11/3</b>	<b>H v Thatcham Town</b>	<b>A v Westfield</b>
<b>18/3</b>	<b>A v Tooting &amp; Mitcham</b>	<b>H v SCR</b>
<b>25/3</b>	<b>A v Chertsey Town</b>	<b>A v Marlow</b>
<b>1/4</b>	<b>H v Merstham</b>	<b>H v Ashford Town</b>
<b>8/4</b>		<b>A v Chertsey Town</b>
<b>10/4</b>	<b>H v Leatherhead</b>	<b>H v Chipstead</b>
<b>15/4</b>	<b>A v Westfield</b>	<b>H v Leatherhead</b>
<b>22/4</b>	<b>H v Ashford Town</b>	<b>A v Uxbridge</b>



# Rovers Round-Up (Fixtures & Results)



DATE	COMP	H/A	OPPONENTS	H/T	F/T	SCORER(S)	ATT
2022							
6th Aug	FAC EP	A	Fisher	0	0 0	0	168
10th Aug	FAC EP Rep	H	FISHER	0	0 0	1	114
13th Aug	ILSC	A	Chipstead	3	2 4	3 Lyle 2 (1p), Lloyd, Richards	115
27th AUG	ILSC	H	CHERTSEY TOWN	0	1 0	5	78
29th Aug	ILSC	A	Marlow	2	0 2	1 Halsey 2	190
3rd Sep	ILSC	H	GUERNSEY	0	0 0	1	68
10th Sep	FAT	A	East Thurrock Utd	0	0 1	3 Diomande	185
21st Sep	ILSC	H	BEDFONT SPORTS	0	1 0	3	64
24th Apr	ILSC	A	Northwood	0	2 1	2 Mampolo	162
1st Oct	ILSC	H	SOUTHALL	1	1 1	1 Lyle (p)	47
4th Oct	ILSC	A	Binfield	1	2 2	3 Dougan, OG	104
8th Oct	ILSC	A	South Park (Reigate)	0	0 0	1	137
15th Oct	ILSC	A	Thatcham Town	1	0 2	1 OG, Lyle	116
18th Oct	VT R2	A	Three Bridges	1	1 2	2 Dougan, Surmon (SCR win 4-3 on pens)	65
22nd Oct	ILSC	H	TOOTING & MITCHAM UTD	2	0 3	0 Richards, OG, Tanga	96
5th Nov	ILSC	A	Basingstoke Town	1	1 1	2 Surmon	402
12th Nov	ILSC	H	WALTON & HERSHAM	1	0 1	0 Lyle (p)	114
15th Nov	SCC	A	Abbey Rangers	4	2 4	4 Sutherland, Baker, Tanga, Uzor (SCR 9-8 on pens)	
19th Nov	ILSC	A	Hanworth Villa	1	2 1	3 Halsey	122
23rd Nov	ILSC	H	UXBRIDGE	0	1 0	2	81
26th Nov	ILSC	A	Ashford Town (Middx)	0	0 1	2 Lloyd	67
29th Nov	VT R3	A	Binfield	0	0 1	0 Sutherland	92
3rd Dec	ILSC	H	WESTFIELD	0	2 0	2	56
6th Dec	SSC	A	Egham Town	0	1 0	3	
10th Dec	ILSC	H	NORTHWOOD	0	1 1	5 Testolin	65
21st Dec	VT R4	H	LEATHERHEAD	1	2 2	2 Holden, Testolin (L win 4-3 on pens)	84
28th Dec	ILSC	H	MARLOW	1	0 1	3 Morris	101
2023							
2nd Jan	ILSC	A	Leatherhead	2	1 3	4 Sorr, Morris, Diomande	365
7th Jan	ILSC	H	CHIPSTEAD	0	0 0	1	82
9th Jan	ILSC	A	Merstham	0	2 0	3	222
14th Jan	ILSC	A	Guernsey	0	1 0	1	489
21st Jan	ILSC	H	BASINGSTOKE TOWN	0	2 0	5	135
28th Jan	ILSC	A	Walton & Hersham	0	0 0	2	342
4th Feb	ILSC	H	HANWORTH VILLA	0	1 2	1 Tehe	58
11th Feb	ILSC	A	Uxbridge	0	0 0	0	78
15th Feb	ILSC	A	Bedfont Sports	1	1 3	3 Tanton, Lloyd, Torpey (p)	91
18th Feb	ILSC	H	SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)	1	0 4	0 Torpey 3, Morris	71
25th Feb	ILSC	A	Southall	2	1 2	2 Torpey, Ouaret Sorr	70
4th Mar	ILSC	H	BINFIELD	0	1 0	3	68
11th Mar	ILSC	H	THATCHAM TOWN				
18th Mar	ILSC	A	Tooting & Mitcham Utd				
25th Mar	ILSC	A	Chertsey Town				
1st Apr	ILSC	H	MERSTHAM				
10th Apr	ILSC	H	LEATHERHEAD				
15th Apr	ILSC	A	Westfield				
22nd Apr	ILSC	H	ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)				
TBC	SCC	H	READING CITY				



## By Jon Couch

LAST week, Paul Fairclough unveiled an England C squad with a difference for this month's clash with Wales C at Altrincham's Moss Lane.

Mindful of the time of year and the pressures that come with the business end of the season at either end of the table, the wily Young Lions chief has opted to select one player from each of the 24 National League clubs, plus Worthing goalkeeper Harrison Male.

It's a strategy which tells you all you need to know about the 73-year-old who is now in his 21st year in charge of the Young Lions.

Looking to avenge a humbling 4-0 defeat to the same opposition 12 months ago, Fairclough could have been well forgiven for raiding big guns Wrexham and Notts County for their finest English talent in a bid to settle the score.

This way, however, the former Barnet and Stevenage coach has shown equal respect to all quarters ahead of the final quarter of the season, but can integrate a new, dynamic squad for the future. while keeping the club bosses on side.

But try naming a National League team without an abundance of talented players these days. Fairclough's provisional 25-man squad – which will be reduced to 16 this week - is jam-packed full of the top performers at Step 1 this season and offers plenty of hope for redemption on Tuesday March 21.

Only one of the 25 have been capped by the Young Lions before, Solihull Moors midfielder Joe Sbarra, while the average age has dropped to 23, from 27 this time last year.

The squad also includes Notts County's 33-goal striker Macaulay Langstaff who, aged 26, is the oldest member of the party.

"It's the first time I've selected a squad on this basis," Fairclough told The NLP. "I've been doing this for 21 years and I know the pressures on clubs at this time of year, no matter how high in the pyramid they are.

"I'm mindful that this is a tremendously important time of the season so I've decided to select just the one player from each National League team so no manager is affected more than any other.

"It will make team bonding more necessary within the squad, but that is what England C is all about. It helps form friends for life. I know players still close friends 20 years later, that bond stays with you."

The shelving of the International Challenge Trophy in 2017 has led to many questioning the future of the England C team, especially in these post-Covid times where finances at the Football Association threw the team's mere existence into doubt.

But you try telling any of the 16 players who take to the field at the J Davidson Stadium next Tuesday that earning an England C international cap means nothing.

In the 21 years Fairclough and his backroom team have taken over the reins, no fewer than 200 players have gone to play in the Football League or higher. One of them, Ethan Pinnock, scored for Brentford against Fulham in the Premier League on Monday night.

And I wouldn't mind wagering you that every single one of the 200+ will point to their England C experience as pivotal to their success.

"It was a highlight of my career and an indication to me that I was doing the right things and to stick with it," Aaron McLean, the former Grays Athletic and Aldershot Town striker who won five England C caps before going on to play for Hull City in the Premier League, told The NLP last year.

"There were periods after I'd dropped out of the League [with Leyton Orient] and I questioned whether or not football would be what I would do or did I need to consider a different path.

"There's no better stage to really show people what you can do with the best players at that level.

"I couldn't believe how good the set-up was. You go back to your club and you feel 10ft tall. It massively helped me.

"My school - Robert Clack in Dagenham - have my Premier League shirt up alongside my England C shirt. It shows where I was, playing Non-League and representing my country, and the springboard to move up the Pyramid and end up playing in the Premier League. England C is such an important team."

And then there's Fairclough himself. At 73, he's as motivated as ever to give these players that springboard for success - and then there's his personal pride as well.

"I woke up today and that result last March still hurts deeply," Fairclough added. "This is an important game for us. There is no such things as a friendly, we are playing for pride and for a trophy against a Wales team with a tremendous manager, experienced backroom team and quality players.

"It's going to be tough, but we believe we have a squad to overcome those challenges."



# The Untold Game

## The First Oriundo

Commissioner Marone, as the new Torino President liked to style himself, was not a natural leader of the sport he had invested in. He was heir to a colossal alcoholic fortune, and would later become the Count Cinzano, but in the mid-1920s he took charge of his hometown club and decided that he would play a part in Mussolini's pursuit of nationalistic pride. Nobody thought much of it when he visited Buenos Aires on a business trip, he was just absent from the boardroom for a few months. But when he disembarked from a steamer, back on home soil, he brought with him two footballers. One became ill and soon went back home, but the other was Julio Libonatti, who would dominate Italian football, before becoming it's first oriundo, and a national hero.

Libonatti had already been making a name for himself in South America. Born to a poor immigrant family, he had a natural talent for goalscoring. When he was old enough, he went along to what is now one of Argentina's great clubs – Newell's Old Boys – who had been founded two years after he had been born, and showed what he could do. The coaches were impressed, and signed him up there and then. He was just fifteen years old, and within a couple of years he was in the first team, continuing to do what he did best.

Football was booming in Argentina in the early 1920s, as a fierce rivalry with Uruguay drove both sides on to greatness; by the end of the decade, Uruguay were two times World Champions, beating Argentina in both finals. So Libonatti's undoubted talent was difficult to miss. Over seven years to 1925, he played 141 games and scored 78 goals, delighting supporters with his flair and trickery, along with his unerring accuracy. Nobody quite knows how Marone involved himself with Libonatti, but one can imagine that he took notice when he arrived in Argentina. Contracts were signed, and both made their way back to Italy.

In Turin, he was as much of a sensation as he had been in Buenos Aires. His agility and trickery earned him the nickname Matador, and it was well deserved. Not only did he improve his scoring rate, scoring 106 goals in his first 109 games, he also developed a reputation for laying on goals for his strike partners. The full package, unsurprisingly Torino's tactics in this period could be described as 'give it to Julio'. And he didn't disappoint, leading his side to two national titles (one of which was revoked) and a final which was lost.



As fascism really embedded itself into Italian lives, Benito Mussolini understood the value of sport in unifying a country. It is a tactic that has been used ever since, by historical heroes and villains, but in the 1920s, the rapid professionalisation and nationalisation of the game required an added element; Italian-ness. Foreign players were banned from the league, with the exception of the *oriundi*, those who were able to trace their heritage back to an Italian ancestor. Fortunately for Libonatti, he could do just that.

Despite having made 15 appearances for Argentina before leaving the country (scoring at his customary rate of one in two), FIFA rules allowed players to change nationality as required; because moving around the world was a difficult thing to do, and because two world wars made borders and nationalities both fluid and dangerous.



The great Alfredo di Stefano, for example, played for three different teams. So when Libonatti got his Italian passport, he also made himself available for the Italian national side. Augusto Rangone was the man in charge of the national side and called him up. And so he became the first *oriundo*.

Rangone may have been in charge when Libonatti first got the call, but before long it was the legendary Vittorio Pozzo who had been charged by Mussolini personally to bring the national team success on the world stage which he did, in both 1934 and 1938. Libonatti's career wouldn't last to that zenith, but he did lay the groundwork, scoring 15 goals in 18 games for Italy.

Sadly, they refused to travel for the first iteration of the World Cup, so he didn't get to show his skills at the inaugural competition, and by the 1934 edition in his adopted homeland, he had dropped into the Second Division with Genoa, where age had slightly slowed his scoring.

The idea of *oriundi* is a tradition that continued throughout the twentieth century, and in the twenty first, with modern travel a much expanded international game, player for the country of one's ancestors has become commonplace. But in Italy at least, Julio Libonatti was the first *oriundo*.

**Enjoy the game.**

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



# ISTHMIAN ROUND UP

## Stoke And Swans Win Comfortably To Continue Their Battle For The Title

Northwood win in third, Binfield get back to winning ways, Guernsey's good form continues, and we've three points for Villa and Southall, too

**BASINGSTOKE TOWN'S** THIRTEENTH successive victory came at **ASHFORD TOWN**, and it turned out to be rather routine, a goal in each half from Ben Cook sandwiching a Simon Dunn effort and keeping them four points clear at the top. The Tangerines fall to sixteenth, six points clear of the bottom four.

**WALTON & HERSHAM** made it TEN wins in a row with a hammering of **SOUTH PARK REIGATE** at the Sports Hub. The chief architect of the Sparks downfall was Swans striker Eddie Simon, who took his tally for the season to twenty seven by grabbing his second hat trick of the campaign, with goals on twenty nine, forty nine and eighty minutes. Teo Kurtaran made it four right at the end, and the Sparks drop to ninth, but still remain only five points away from the top five despite only one win in eight.

**NORTHWOOD** made it three wins in a row to cement their third spot, winning one-nil at fifth place **CHERTSEY TOWN**. The only goal came just after the hour, Shane Cojocarel with his first strike for the Woods- a result which sees them sixteen points behind the leaders but perhaps more importantly ten points ahead of sixth place Binfield. Image from James Brown- [more here](#).

**MARLOW** remain fourth, but their match at **CHIPSTEAD** ended without a goal despite the Chips playing half of the match with ten men, Jerry O'Sullivan seeing red just before the break.

**BINFIELD** had gone six games without a win before their trip to **SUTTON COMMON ROVERS**, whilst their hosts were in their best form of the season - but it was the Moles who eased to victory at Church Road. Connor Holland opened the scoring on the quarter hour, and seven minutes after the break Conor Lynch made it two. Five minutes later the match was as good as over, Brad Pagliaroli adding a third, the Moles only a point behind fifth place Chertsey with a game in hand. Rovers drop into the bottom two, eight points from safety.

**HANWORTH VILLA** are seventh, only a point behind the top five. The Villains have had a fine first Isthmian campaign, and added three points on the road against an in-form **THATCHAM TOWN** side, two first half goals doing the damage. Kyen Nicholas opened the scoring for the visitors on twenty six minutes, Tom Bender added another eight points later, and although Harry Williams set up an exciting finale by reducing the arrears for the Kingfishers with seven minutes left, that was that.



**SOUTHALL** ended a three match winless run with victory at **TOOTING & MITCHAM UTD**, a killer blow for the Terrors which came right at the end. Jaden Thompson-Brissett got the only goal of the game with a goal-less draw looking certain, and it sees Hall end the day in eighth, whilst the Terrors are rock bottom and thirteen points from safety.

29

**GUERNSEY** have turned their season around with a run which has seen them lose only one of their last seven, and they opened up a six point gap over the bottom four with victory at **LEATHERHEAD**. The goals all came after the break, Sam Murray and then Ross Allen giving the Green Lions a two goal lead. Dave Tarpey's fifteenth of the season gave the Tanners hope, but the visitors held on for three points- and are only four points behind their twelfth place hosts, who have only one win from their last seven matches.

A late, late goal for **WESTFIELD** damaged **BEDFONT SPORTS** hopes of escaping the bottom four. With the match goalless and only fourteen minutes remaining Field went down to ten men, Samir Bajja seeing red, and the visitors capitalised when Ethan Kaiser gave them the lead six minutes later. Right at the end three Sports points were reduced to one, Luke Elliott with the equaliser. Sports are six points from safety.

**MERSTHAM** earned a late point- their thirteenth draw of the season- and lift themselves out of the bottom two. Visitors **UXBRIDGE** went ahead midway through the first half, Anthony Mendy scoring for the fifth time in his last nine matches, and it looked like an away win would follow, but right at the end the hosts were awarded a penalty which Reece Deakin converted. The Moatsiders are eight points from safety.

\*\*\*\*\*

There were six midweek matches this week. On Tuesday, **HANWORTH VILLA** moved into the play off places thanks to a 5-1 win over **TOOTING & MITCHAM UTD** who remain rock bottom; MARLOW strengthened their grip on the play offs when they saw off mid-table **WESTFIELD** 3-0; **THATCHAM TOWN** went down 3-2 at home to **CHIPSTEAD**; whilst **UXBRIDGE** thumped **ASHFORD TOWN** 6-1, which might leave the slumping Tangerines grateful for their early season points; finally ten man **NORTHWOOD** and play off chasing **BINFIELD** played out a 0-0 draw.

On Wednesday a blistering start saw **MERSTHAM** take a two goal lead at **GUERNSEY** and despite a late goal by Ross Allen, they secured a vital 2-1 win.

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 be 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.

# DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

So apologies for the shocking formatting in the tables, but they have all been taken from different sites, and unfortunately with work commitments I haven't been able to format them in the same way.

They are up to date tables for both the U23's and U18's—the 23's being in the John Bennett competitions, and the U18's in the Isthmian Youth East.

As it stands both are still in with a more than decent chance of picking up their respective titles.

John Bennett Development Division

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Sutton Common Rovers	7	2	0	0	10	3	3	1	1	16	8	5	1	1	26	11	15	16
2	Molesey	7	1	1	1	9	7	3	1	0	12	6	4	2	1	21	13	8	14
3	Frimley Green	7	2	0	2	11	7	2	0	1	5	5	4	0	3	16	12	4	12
4	Spelthorne Sports	8	0	1	3	7	12	2	1	1	8	9	2	2	4	15	21	-6	8
5	Redhill	5	1	0	3	5	9	1	0	0	2	1	2	0	3	7	10	-3	6
6	CB Hounslow United	8	0	1	3	4	10	1	0	3	5	17	1	1	6	9	27	-18	4

## Youth East Table

#	Team	Pl	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1.	Sutton Common Rovers	12	6	0	0	3	0	3	9	0	3	42	23	19	27
2.	Cray Valley PM	10	3	1	0	4	1	1	7	2	1	33	11	22	23
3.	Sheppey United	12	4	1	2	2	0	3	6	1	5	24	19	5	19
4.	Corinthians	13	3	2	3	2	1	2	5	3	5	23	27	-4	18
5.	Tonbridge Angels	12	3	1	3	1	2	2	4	3	5	24	24	0	15
6.	Maidstone United	9	2	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	3	30	17	13	14
7.	Chatham Town	13	1	3	3	2	1	3	3	4	6	20	34	-14	13
8.	Glebe	8	0	0	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	19	21	-2	11
9.	K Sports	13	0	1	6	0	2	4	0	3	10	11	50	-39	3

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# **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.

# SPOT THE BALL ANSWER



Well done to all of you who spotted it where it was

**Take your match notes here...**

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