

SAT 3rd DECEMBER 2022 | 3:00pm KICK OFF Pitching In, Isthmian League | South Central Whyteleafe Sports Centre | Church Road | CR3 0AR



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#### **OUR PEOPLE**

Hon Chairman - Alan Salmon Hon Vice Chairman - Adrian Farley Hon General Secretary - Justin Salmon Hon Treasurer - Darren Salmon Match Secretary - Scott Wallage Youth Secretary - Mark Hargreaves Welfare Officer - Darren Brown

Management & Board: Gary Brigden, Mark Bruce, Steve Casserley Francois Gabbidon, Charlie Hands, Val Roots, Mick Murfet Alan Reed, Sharon Streets

1st Team Joint Manager - Darren Salmon 1st Team Joint Manager - Lee Flavin Head Coach - Liam Joyce Goal Keeping Coach - Sheikh Ceesay Sports Masseur - Anah Brown Physio - Geoff Moxey Kit & Equipment Manager - Tony Williams Stadium Emergency 1st Aid - Brent Wallage Matchday Media - Gary Brigden

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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**

- <sup>™</sup> info@suttoncommonrovers.com
- www.suttoncommonrovers.com
- @official\_scrfc

facebook.com/suttoncommonrovers

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

O'



## WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN

Good afternoon ladies and gentleman,

Wishing you a warm SCR welcome to the Whyteleafe Sports centre for this afternoon Isthmian South Central fixture.

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

We would also like to welcome today's match officials, referee Mr Fadi Mansour and his assistants, Mr Kehinde Agboola and Mr Alex Baker, again we trust they enjoy their brief stay with us this afternoon.

## WELCOME, SALUT, HOWDY, WILLKOMEN

Today's opponents come to us currently sitting in 7th spot in the table, with 25 points from 15 games. They started the season in sparkling form with 4 -0 wins over both Leatherhead and Basingstoke Town, before crashing back down with a 3-1 loss against Northwood.

Since then they have picked up points with good wins over Tooting & Mitcham, South Park, Thatcham Town, Guernsey and Binfield, an impressive five consecutive wins, but have stumbled a bit of late with two draws and two defeats in their last four outings.

Last season they did the double over us. Two late Sheridan Campbell goals gave them a 4-2 win at Gander Green Lane, after we looked to have earnt a point late on, whilst in the fixture at their place, an IK Hill effort was enough to give them a 1-0 win.

Our recent form in the league has been disappointing to say the least, and we have now slipped to three successive defeat, albeit only one of those deserved. Last time out here we hosted Uxbridge and in what was a poor game we were hit by two sucker punches, one at the end of each half.

A soft penalty gave the visitors the lead, and even more frustratingly a clear offside (as pointed out by the league chairman) was missed in the build up. Having said that we only worked the keeper a couple of times, so I guess a 0-0 would probably have been the best outcome.

Last weekend two penalties, both poor from our point of view, in terms of decision making by players, saw us slip to a 2-1 defeat against Ashford Town (Middx) in a game we did enough to win.

More disappointingly was the abuse dealt to our physio whilst she was treating a player and the lack of concern from the match referee over a head injury to Courtney Swaby. There is enough going on nowadays about how careful we have to be on that sort of injury, so to have an official pretty much tell him to get on with it is particularly galling.

There was a positive on Monday night when the lads saw off Binfield at a fogbound Hill Farm Lane, picking up a 1-0 win in the Velocity Cup and setting up a 4th Round tie at home to Leatherhead.

Darren has a strong squad at his disposal today, although skipper Rhamar Garrett-Douglas is suspended, and Courtney Swaby is adhering to concussion protocols and missed the next couple of weeks.

Finally the U23's saw their home fixture against Spelthorne Sports postponed due to a waterlogged pitch on Monday night, whilst the U18's picked up another good win, seeing off Maidstone Utd 5-2.

Enough from me, enjoy the game and get home safely.



## **TODAY'S OPPONENTS**

## WESTFIELD FC

## **FORMED: 1953**

## NICKNAME: The Field

## **EARLY YEARS:**

Westfield Football Club was formed in 1953 as Westfield Boys Club, playing in the Woking and District League and also running a youth team. Their was cup success aplenty in the 50's with five trophies making their way to the club, and after several season in local league football the club moved to the Surrey Intermediate league.

The late 60's saw further cup success, another couple of trophies finding their way to Westfield, and with the club attracting many of the top local youngsters of the area, they were able to dominate the Surrey Senior league in the early 70's.

When the Surrey Senior league disbanded and reformed in 1978 Westfield became founder members and retained their membership until 2018.

After those early successes the club hit a barren spell, with the closest they came to picking up a trophy coming in the 1989/90 season when they lost the Combined Counties League Cup final to Hartley Wintney, after extra time.

## **THE** 2000's:

A bright start to the new year, resulted in improved positions in the league, and relative success in the FA Vase, reaching the 4th Round in 2000/01



In 2002/03 the club entered the FA Cup for the first time, bowing out to Dorking in their first game.

2005/06 saw Westfield harshly relegated to the CCL Division One due to ground grading issues and they remained their until their 2012/13 season when they were promoted back to Premier Division (*Ed: personally I loved playing at their old ground, so much character*).

## **ISTHMIAN JOY:**

In season 2013/14, the Club had their best league finish since 1981, ending in fourth place.

The 2016-17 season was a stunning one for the club finishing second in the League behind Hartley Wintney and winning the League Cup in May. The following season the Club continued to play exciting, attacking football, scoring an amazing 145 goals, whilst conceding only 45, and became deserved Champions with a fantastic 106 league points.

After 40 years they left the Combined Counties for Step 4 football and finished in 5th spot in their first season, losing in the play offs to Bracknell Town

Following Covid interruptions the side have shown that they are now one of the powerful forces in the Isthmian South Central and will be pushing for promotion to Step 3.

## **HONOURS:**

Combined Counties Premier Division Champions : 2017-18 Runners Up: 2016-17

Surrey Senior League Champions : 1972–73, 1973–74

Parthenon League: Runners-up : 1962–63

Surrey Saturday Junior Cup Winners: 1954-55

Surrey Int. (Central) League Cup Winners : 1960-61

Surrey Senior League Cup Winners : 1971–72, 1972–73

Combined Counties League Cup Winners : 2016-17 Runners Up: 1989-90

Combined Counties Division One Challenge Cup Runners-up : 2011–12

Surrey Saturday Premier Cup Runners-up : 2012-13

## **DID YOU KNOW:**

HG Wells wrote The War of the World and The Time Machine whilst living in Woking.

Chef Delia Smith, famous for her on pitch outburst at Carrow Road, was born in Woking, in 1941, as was lead singer of The Jam and The Style Council, Paul Weller, born in the town in 1958

## **THE GROUND:**

The Field moved to their current location around 1960, with floodlights being installed in 1998.[12] Major work was undertaken to the ground in the 2010–11 season, which saw the building of a new stand and facilities and the pitch being dug up and raised in May 2011. A new 50 seater stand was constructed in March 2014 at the western end of the football ground to comply with FA Ground Grading requirements, this was later expanded to 104 seats in March 2019 following the club's promotion to the Isthmian League.



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## **SPOT THE BALL**



Action from the recent Isthmian league fixture against Uxbridge, as Endurance Johnson watches a free kick fly wide, but where is the ball...





## FROM THE GAFFER



This week we caught up with manager Darren Salmon and got his views on what's been going on this week.

GB: You lost Lee Flavin as joint manager last week, but have retained his services as a player. How will that impact how you operate on a matchday and throughout the week?

DS: Hi Gary, yes Lee has stepped down as joint manager through personal reasons which was initially disappointing and unexpected, but we've talked it through and it is right for him currently. We are very good friends now and I am delighted to have Lee around as a player, his playing experience will be great around our young squad.

GB: How important from a morale point of view was Monday? Obviously league form has been disappointing of late, but to progress in the league cup must have given the squad a boost.

DS: Obviously winning is important for morale which had taken a little knock after a few generally decent performances that culminated in defeats. I think our defensive togetherness has been key to the start we've made, its nice to see chances being created by all areas from our outfield.

GB: You have lost Courtney Swaby through concussion for a couple of weeks. Firstly a big blow as he has been in form of late, but how annoyed are you at how it was handled by the match official?

DS: Honestly G best I don't speak other than to say the matter is being reported and we trust fully investigated -More or equally disappointing were the brain dead 'supporters' that heckled our treatment team in the course of their duties -

GB: Defensively we have added Kelvin Masongo and Zac Brown to the squad, what do they bring to the table?

DS: Very exciting young defensive additions will provide us different dynamics and enable us to cope with the demands of football at this level where players have to work, study etc.

GB: Another tough game in store today, Westfield are always tough opponents, what are you expecting today?

DS: A tough game as you rightly say G but we need to focus on us as we are a competitive group that expects to compete in most games.

## MATCH REPORT: HANWORTH VILLA

Hanworth Villa		Saturday 19th November	2022		Sutton Common Rovers				
Terry Buss		Hanworth Villa	T Endurance Johnson						
Ben Geraghty		Jonathan Hippolyte (13')	Yevin Diomande						
Tom Scott		Meshach Williams (23') Meshach Williams (72')			1	Rhamar Garrett-D	ougl		
Tom Brewer		Meshach Williams (72)			11	Matthew Surmon			
1 Louis Taylor		Sutton Common Rovers	1	STOOTENTE	1	Bertie Lloyd	C		
Bruno Tingle	2	Tony Halsey (26')			16	Hugo Odogwu-At	kins		
Gagendeep Samr	а	lsthmian League - South Central Division			17	Tyler Cox	ø		
Theo Crawford		Attendance: 122 Kick-off: 3pm			1	Shawn Lyle			
Sam Merson	Q	Referee: Thomas hood			11	Tony Halsey	0		
Meshach Willia	00	Info			10	Kyron Richards			
Jonathan Hippoly	te 🗿				1	Courtney Swaby	ø		
12 Jay Hines	ø	Match Information			12	Matthew Tanton			
1 Jerome Federico		Full-time: Hanworth Villa 3-1 Sutton Commor Half-time: Hanworth Villa 2-1 Sutton Commor			14	Chibuikem Nzeh			
16 Njie Sharif	ø				15	Sutherland Tyrese	2		
Tacob Etskine					16	Francis Mampolo	ø		
18 Elliott Simpson					17	George Baker	2		

The line-up returned to business as usual today, with Endurance Johnson between the sticks, Kevin Diomande, Rhamer Garrett-Douglas, Hugo Odogwu-Atkinson and Bertie Lloyd on the back-line, Matt Surmon, and Shawn Lyle in midfield, Tyler Cox and Courtney Swaby out wide, with Tony Halsey and Kyron Richards up top. Matt Tanton, Franklin Nzeh, George Baker and Tyrese Sutherland drop to the bench, joining Francis Mampolo.

Greeted with a typically Villainous reception at Hanworth, energised perhaps by their recent run of form, 2 draws and 2 wins in the last 4 games, a lively contest was anticipated. (You know we'd miss it if it didn't happen!)

The game got underway, Villa electing to kick up the hill. With very evenly matched possession to start, the opening exchanges coming to nothing, Villa just edging the upper hand. The Villa left-back, Tom Scott, was causing us all sorts of problems on the left flank.

An early assault into our penalty area by Meshach Williams was snuffed out by Kevin Diomande, resulting in a succession of Villa corners, the third glancing off the bar. Hugo Odogwu-Atkinson cleared our lines, finding Courtney Swaby, whose pace broke towards the Villa penalty area, playing in Tyler Cox. His shot was well blocked, but only as far as Matt Surmon, who blasted over the bar.

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A free kick to Villa on 11minutes, from 40yards out was floated over the penalty area, and was headed away by Odogwu-Atkinson, only as far as Williams who thrashed the ball over the bar. The game was quite end-to-end at this point but it was Villa that seemed to possess a more killer instinct. Six minutes later a 3 on 2 attack by Villa saw a shot rebound from the underside of the bar into the path of Jonathan Hippolyte, which he slotted past Endurance Johnson for 1-0. Villa kept up the pressure with continued onslaught from Sam Merson , Williams and Hippolyte, working well together., and wreaking havoc in our box.



Rovers then had a run of possession, resulting in a free kick 40yards out taken by Swaby. An enticing cross, but the keeper claimed it. Swaby then had a decent shot on target, but unfortunately straight at Terry Buss.

Villa, again on the break with Scott taking the ball out to the left beating Diomande for pace, and delivering a dream cross behind our back-line. Williams was there at the back post to slot it home for 2-0.

Rovers' response was immediate. Following a surge forward, the keeper Buss mishandled the ball in front of Tony Halsey, a bit of luck going our way. No problem for Halsey from there. 2-1, back in the game.

On around 42minutes, Diomande was alleged to have brought down Scott, just outside the penalty area to the left. A great free kick from Scott, saw Johnson punch clear, the ball recycled and lofted back into the box, Diomande heads clear, but the danger is not over as Richards picks it up in midfield, but can't convert the cross. Villa now enjoying a very productive, probing spell.

Just before half time Halsey received a yellow card for what looked like an innocuous 50/50 clash of heads, but if you're the one left standing you get the card. At this point the young referee seems only too keen to award free kicks against us for any challenge we made.

With the first half coming to a close, Kyron Richards takes his chance from distance outside the Villa 18yard box, but sent the ball just wide of the left upright. A final charge from Villa sees Williams weave his way into the box, for the Rovers defence to scramble it clear, but it falls to Theo Crawford whose shot was just wide of the right post. 2-1 to Villa at half time.

The second half started well for Rovers, with a Diomande breaking down the right at pace. His cross was met by Halsey, whose clever flick is directed narrowly over the bar. A huge chance and desperately unlucky. Minutes later a terrific block by Swaby 18yards out set him on a blistering run on the right hand wing. Swaby then plays in Diomande, whose smart cross is defended only out to Richards who shot is narrowly over the bar. Huge claim for a corner as it looked like the keeper got a fingertip on it.

On 72minutes, Williams found himself in space on the edge of Rovers' 6yard box, and executed a spectacular overhead kick to secures Villa's third and leave Rovers with too much to do with the time remaining.

A throw-in by Garrett-Douglas close to Villa's penalty area provided a real chance for Sutherland, who was just unable to latch onto it. Villa then catch us on the break, with Merson drawing a great save from Johnson.

The rest of the half had little of note, due to the procession of substitutions, yellow cards and stoppages. A very frustrating game for a number of reasons, but to be fair to Villa, they were the better team on the day and deserved the win.

#### Thanks to Jon Tanton for the match report.

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## MATCH REPORT: UXBRIDGE



Rovers slipped to a second successive defeat when going down to a 2-0 defeat at home to Uxbridge on Wednesday night.

After defeat at Hanworth Villa on the Saturday, Darren and Lee were looking for a response from the lads, and although thr performance had good moments, it was a generally lacklustre effort.

Rovers started quite brightly and in the opening minute a great cross by Tyler Cox was headed goalwards by Balai Dembele, spilt by Tyler Tobin and Shawn Lyle was just unable to force the loose ball home.

Uxbridge responded well, and Bertie Lloyd did well to prevent Dan Williams getting through on goal.

Tobin gathered a long range effort by Courtney Swaby but was possibly fortunate to survive as Matt Surmon intercepted his throw out but couldn't quite bring the ball under control and Uxbridge cleared.



Victor Osobu bought a good save out of Endurance Johnson away to his right, and on the quarter hour Johnson got in all sorts of trouble from a Josh Andrew cross but we were able to scramble the ball clear. Williams fired a low shot through a crowd, bringing a tidy save out of Johnson low to his left. Uxbridge were now turning up the pressure, and we were on the back foot.

Just shy of the half hour a low Jephte Tanga cross was turned behind by Andrews and from the corner Lloyd headed wide. Cox then fired a low shot through a crowd, Tobin fumbled and Lyle was penalised for a foul on the keeper from the follow up.

Uxbridge forced a succession of free kicks into dangerous areas before Alan Hedley fired a shot from distance straight down Johnson's throat.

Five minutes before the break and neat work between Tanga and Kevin Diomande almost set us up with a chance but a superb block by Elliott Poley prevented Diomande from opening the scoring.

Lyle thought he had opened the scoring a minute before the break when he forced the ball home from a corner, but the strike was ruled out for handball - hand on heart, didn't see an infringement, but no complaints from the lads.

Uxbridge struck in first half stoppage time, a move on the right, led to a fierce strike by Osobu being blocked by Diomande's hand, frustratingly the initial ball in looked offside, but them's the breaks at times. A spot kick was awarded and Alex Witham sent Johnson the wrong way from the spot.

It has to be said, the second half, was a fairly dismal affair with both sides seemingly going through the motions, with very little to warm the cockles of anyone on the sidelines.

A Witham free kick was curled wide of Johnsons left hand post and that was about it until about ten minutes from the whistle.

Lewis Patrick missed a glorious chance to seal the game when planting a free header from six yards wide of the left hand post.

Neat link up between Diomande, Tanga and substitute Kyron Richards almost fashioned a chance for us, but there was no one on hand for the final delivery. With time running out a long throw by Rhamar Garrett-Douglas eventually led to a Lyle shot being blocked.

The game was wrapped up in the 90th minute, with Rovers pushing for an equaliser, Uxbridge broke and Witham fired low beyond Johnson to seal the win.

## **MATCH PICS: UXBRIDGE**



Top: Shawn Lyle has an effort ruled out for offside; Inset: Kevin Diomande and Balai Dembele; Below: Courtney Swaby takes on for the team



## Rovers Round-Up (Fixtures & Results)

DATE	COMP	H/A	OPPONENTS	H/1	ſ.	F/T		SCORER(S)	ATT
2022									
6th Aug	FAC EP	А	Fisher	0	0	0	0		168
10th Aug	FAC EP Rep	н	FISHER	0	0	0	1		114
13th Aug	ILSC	A	Chipstead	3	2	4		Lyle 2 (1p), Lloyd, Richards	115
27th AUG	ILSC	н	CHERTSEY TOWN	0	1	0	5		78
29th Aug	ILSC	A	Marlow	2	0	2	1		190
3rd Sep	ILSC	н	GUERNSEY	0	Ő	0	1	,	68
10th Sep	FAT	A	East Thurrock Utd	0	0	1	3		185
21st Sep	ILSC	н	BEDFONT SPORTS	0	1	0	3		64
24th Apr	ILSC	A	Northwood	0	2	1		Mampolo	162
1st Oct	ILSC	н	SOUTHALL	1	1	1	1		47
4th Oct	ILSC	A	Binfield	1	2	2	3	•	104
8th Oct	ILSC	A	South Park (Reigate)	0	0	0	1	Dougan, CO	137
15th Oct	ILSC	A	Thatcham Town	1	0	2		OG, Lyle	116
18th Oct	VT R2	A	Three Bridges	1	1	2		Dougan, Surmon (SCR win 4-3 on pens)	65
22nd Oct	ILSC	Ĥ	TOOTING & MITCHAM UTD	2	0	2	2	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	96
5th Nov	ILSC	А		∠ 1	1	з 1		Surmon	<b>90</b> 402
			Basingstoke Town						
12th Nov	ILSC	н	WALTON & HERSHAM	1	0	1		Lyle (p)	114
15th Nov	SCC	A	Abbey Rangers	4	2	4	4		• •
19th Nov	ILSC	A	Hanworth Villa	1	2	1		Halsey	122
23rd Nov	ILSC	H	UXBRIDGE	0	1	0	2		81
26th Nov	ILSC	A	Ashford Town (Middx)	0	0	1		Lloyd	67
29th Nov	VT R3	A	Binfield	0	0	1	0	Sutherland	92
3rd Dec	ILSC	н	WESTFIELD						
6th Dec	SSC	Α	Egham Town						
10th Dec	ILSC	н	NORTHWOOD						
17th Dec	ILSC	A	Merstham						
26th Dec	ILSC	н	MARLOW						
2023									
2nd Jan	ILSC	А	Leatherhead						
7th Jan	ILSC	н	CHIPSTEAD						
14th Jan	ILSC	А	Guernsey						
21st Jan	ILSC	н	BASINGSTOKE TOWN						
28th Jan	ILSC	А	Walton & Hersham						
4th Feb	ILSC	А	Hanworth Villa						
11th Feb	ILSC	А	Uxbridge						
15th Feb	ILSC	А	Bedfont Sports				1		•
18th Feb	ILSC	н	SOUTH PARK (REIGATE)				1		Z
25th Feb	ILSC	А	Southall				J		
4th Mar	ILSC	н	BINFIELD		1	ŝv	1		
11th Mar	ILSC	н	THATCHAM TOWN		સ્				
18th Mar	ILSC	А	Tooting & Mitcham Utd				Ś À		
25th Mar	ILSC	А	Chertsey Town			5	122		1
1st Apr	ILSC	н	MERSTHAM	_ <b>_</b>		de la constante	~		
10th Apr	ILSC	н	LEATHERHEAD			K	~		ſ
IUUI ADI			Westfield				2		
•	ILSC	A							
15th Apr	ILSC ILSC	A H					剼.	The line all and	
•	ILSC ILSC VT R4	H H	ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)						

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## LEAGUE TABLE (as at 28.11)

			Ρ	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1	Northwood	16	11	1	4	27	17	+10	34
0	2	Marlow	15	9	3	3	29	14	+15	30
5	3	Walton & Hersham	15	10	0	5	33	21	+12	30
1	4	Basingstoke Town	15	9	2	4	31	17	+14	29
Binfield	5	Binfield	14	8	2	4	29	17	+12	26
*	6	Chertsey Town	15	7	4	4	31	17	+14	25
H A	7	Westfield	15	7	4	4	23	13	+10	25
۲	8	South Park	15	8	1	6	17	19	-2	25
۲	9	Southall	15	6	6	3	21	14	+7	24
<b>9</b>	10	Hanworth Villa	15	6	5	4	24	25	-1	23
<b>X</b>	11	Uxbridge	14	6	3	5	19	15	+4	21
	12	Chipstead	15	6	3	6	23	23	0	21
	13	Ashford Town (Middx)	14	6	1	7	16	32	-16	19
٥	14	Sutton Common Rovers	16	5	1	10	19	30	-11	16
	15	Leatherhead	15	4	3	8	14	24	-10	15
	16	Bedfont Sports	15	2	5	8	13	24	-11	11
5	17	Guernsey	14	2	5	7	9	21	-12	11
9	18	Thatcham Town	14	2	4	8	19	25	-6	10
۲	19	Tooting & Mitcham United	14	2	4	8	14	27	-13	10
9	20	Merstham	15	1	5	9	13	29	<mark>-1</mark> 6	8

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## **CAREER RECORDS**



3	2022/23	Season				6	
	Appea	arances	COMIC	CA	RDS	Cal	reer
	APP	SUB	GOALS	YC	RC	Apps	Goals
LLOYD, Bertie	20	0	2	2	0	20	2
GARRETT-DOUGLAS, Rhamar	18	2	0	5	1	20	0
ODOGWU-ATKINSON, Hugo	18	0	0	6	0	18	0
JOHNSON, Endurance	16	0	0	1	0	16	0
SURMON, Matt	15	5	2	1	0	20	2
RICHARDS, Kyron	15	4	2	2	0	19	2
LYLE, Shawn	15	3	5	4	0	72	19
HALSEY, Tony	15	1	3	5	0	27	7
SWABY, Courtney	15	1	0	3	0	16	0
DIOMANDE, Kevin	13	2	1	8	0	15	1
COX, Tyler	11	3	0	0	0	14	0
AKMEL, Stephane	6	2	0	1	0	12	0
SONGOLO, Kevin	6	1	0	3	0	7	0
TANTON, Matt	4	2	0	1	0	156	5
Tyrese SUTHERLAND	3	2	2	0	0	5	2
UZOR, Tobe	2	2	0	1	0	11	0
HOLDEN, Liam	2	1	0	0	0	363	106
Franklin NZEH	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
FLAVIN, Lee	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
STEDMAN-HOYTE, Ryan	2	0	0	0	0	4	0
TESTOLIN, Brian	1	5	0	0	0	6	0
George BAKER	1	2	1	1	0	11	2
CREED, Ollie	1	1	0	0	0	2	0
Aaron HUNT	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Zac BROWN	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Kelvin MABANGO	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Balai DEMBELE	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
MAMPOLO, Francis	0	3	1	0	0	3	1
Abdoulaye COULIBALY	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
OWOEYE, Deji	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
OWUSU, George	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Luke GUEST	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
John ERNE	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

Stats only include players still with the club

## LATEST RESULTS

#### Saturday 26 November

#### **South Central**

Ashford Town (Middx) 2-1 Sutton Common Rovers Binfield 2-1 Leatherhead Guernsey 1-1 Bedfont Sports Hanworth Villa 2-5 Chipstead Marlow 3-0 Northwood South Park (Reigate) 0-1 Basingstoke Town Tooting & Mitcham United 2-2 Uxbridge Walton & Hersham 3-2 Thatcham Town Westfield 0-1 Merstham

#### Monday 28 November

Velocity Cup - Rd 3 Binfield 0-1 Sutton Common Rovers Walton & Hersham 1-1 Southall (WH 5-3 on pens)

## **TODAYS FIXTURES**

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





#### By Jon Couch

LAST week, NLP editor Matt Badcock spoke in his column about the alarming trend of fan misbehaviour which is sadly creeping into our game. Believe me, it's not something we take any enjoyment from, but it came to a head one Saturday night as we were preparing to put the paper to bed.

The original plan was to celebrate a National League record crowd at Notts County when a massive 16,511 supporters clicked through the turnstiles to see the Magpies take on Yeovil Town. On the same day, there were over 10,000 watching Wrexham play Aldershot Town and another 7,000+ crowd at Chesterfield for the crunch clash with Solihull Moors.

So, you can imagine our angst when instead of 16,511 fans making the front page headlines it the actions of just one idiot who stole the limelight. About an hour before we went to press, a video was brought to our attention of a so-called Guiseley 'fan' jumping over the barrier of Warrington Town's Cantilever Park ground and switching the water bottle of Wire keeper Tony Thompson which was nestled into the net.

It then emerged that the bottle in question had apparently been contaminated with urine. Thompson drank it and then approached the alleged perpetrator, prompting him to be sent off. The front page headline 'Disgusting' said it all.

While, thankfully, this is a one-off incident it has once again raised concerns of bad fans' behaviour, which is dragging the pure reputation Non-League football through the mud.

With the Premier League and Championship on hold for the World Cup, Non-League clubs up and down the country have worked extremely hard putting on special deals, trying to pack their bars and clubhouses for people to watch the action in Qatar and to generally propel this level of the game into the wider spotlight. A celebration of Non-League football if you like.

As Matt rightly pointed out, the frustration is these incidents don't appear to be isolated. On a number of occasions this season we've had to report unsavoury instances of poor behaviour inside football grounds. At the start of the season, the Football Association and leagues issued a document to clubs in an attempt to help eradicate some of the issues.

The problem is, what can clubs do to prevent it? Guiseley handled this particular incident expertly well. They immediately banned the young man involved and vowed to clamp down on any accomplices. They deserve credit for their own swift action on what would have been a difficult weekend for them.

Unfortunately, preventative methods are having consequences on the terraces – and it's a real sad state of affairs. Clubs such as Walsall Wood and Prescot Cables are refusing entry for under 16s without a supervised adult and at Coalville Town the ground staff are even wearing body cams in a bid to identify persistent offenders.

As necessary as measures like that are, they represents everything that Non-League football shouldn't. We should be encouraging the support of the younger generation and we certainly shouldn't have to follow them round the ground on camera. Sadly, it's needs must.

It seems that the pure nature of a Non-League ground makes it an easy target. While elite stadiums are regimented so fans are confined to one seat and one entry/exit gate, a Non-League ground gives fans the freedom to wonder around and sit or stand where they want. That is being taken advantage of.

Don't get me wrong, 99 per cent of football fans, and Non-League fans in general, are decent folk. They just there to watch a game, support the club and enjoy the day. It's vital we don't tar everyone with the same brush. Record numbers are turning to Non-League football for its integrity and its purity. Let's not let the proud reputation of our game be ruined by the few.

#### The Untold Game

#### 'I was defending Indonesia'

As the world hurtled toward the most destructive war in its history, tensions grew across a number of the Confederations that had signed up for the 1938 World Cup. As a result, the list of nations that actually went to the competition was oddly curtailed. Austria, for example, qualified top of their group but withdrew after Anschluss, with a number of players joining the German team (but not star Matthias Sindelar, who would die in mysterious circumstances). Latvia, who finished second behind Austria, were not offered their place, leaving the competition lopsided with just 15 teams. And outrage at the hosting of a second successive World Cup saw South American giants Argentina and Uruguay boycott, leaving the fewest number of teams from outside the host continent of any edition of the tournament. One of those teams was the Dutch East Indies, Asia's first World Cup representatives.

Modern day Indonesia, as the Dutch East Indies have called themselves since they gained independence in 1945, did not have to undertake the arduous and lengthy qualification process that faces teams today. Not many teams were all that interested in taking part in the early World Cups, especially outside Europe. Football was underdeveloped outside of European colonies and a few early trendsetters.

The D. E. I. team was put into a qualification group with just Japan, and then the Japanese federation withdrew from the competition. As the only Asian entrants, the D. E. I. qualified by default. But that didn't make the process of sending a team to France particularly easy.

As with many colonies, football developed in Indonesian cities before spreading out to rural areas. This was where the imperial administrators were based, and this was where they played the game. Often, the native population were not invited to play with the Europeans, but that didn't stop them making balls of their own.

Football thrived in Indonesia, as it would across the rest of Asia and the world. But the official Dutch East Indies Football Federation was run by the Dutch, and had its power in the cities. The preference was for what would essentially be a team of Dutch players.

Outside the cities, the PSSI was formed. It represented native football, outside of the auspices of the Dutch administrators. Its players were too talented to ignore, and they lobbied for inclusion in the team that would represent their nation. Eventually, the pressure they put on the Dutch East Indies Federation was too great, backed up by the burgeoning independence move-

ment, and the Dutch decided to auell the comina storm by inviting those playing for PSSI clubs to participate in selection matches, from which the eventual squad would be selected. More militant Indonesians, those more committed to



freedom from their European occupiers, refused, but some accepted the call and the team that was sent to France was a mix of colonists and natives.

The squad had not only never played together, they had also never actually played an international match, as they boarded the ship for the long journey to distant France. So while they gained their sea legs, they took part in training, got to know each other, and played practice matches on the deck of the ship. It wasn't the best preparation for a tournament against the professional teams based in Europe, but that wasn't the point. They were representing more than their nation. They were representing their continent. And, for the native Indonesian players at least, they were representing freedom.

The Dutch East Indies did not fare well at the tournament, getting drawn against Hungary in the first round, at that time a straight knockout round. While not the Golden Team of the 1950s, Hungary were well drilled and played exciting, attacking football. They beat the debutants 6-0, condemning them to be recorded as the worst team to have ever played a World Cup, with just one game, a defeat, and no goals scored.

But that didn't matter to the players. They had shown up on the biggest stage in football, and that was an honour in itself. Isaac Padua, one of the native players that made the squad and travelled to France, was proud of his achievement. The single match was the highlight of his and his teammates', careers and helped coalesce a resistance to Dutch rule that would see Indonesian independence within a decade. When asked about the game, he remembered it fondly.

'No matter what happened, I was defending Indonesia.'

#### Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green, The Untold Game (Find more at TheUntold-Game.co.uk and on social media, @TheUntoldGame)

## **ISTHMIAN ROUND UP**

## **Marlow Win Our Top Two Shootout**

Northwood's lead is cut to four points, whilst the Swans, Stoke and Moles make it a good day for the chasing packand the Chips hit five! We've a win for Ashford, and a first win for Merstham.

**MARLOW** cut the gap between themselves and **NORTHWOOD** to four pointsand have a game in hand- with a comprehensive win over the leaders, although it wasn't as comfortable as the statistics may suggest. Aaron McLeish- White opened the scoring just before the break, but it took until four minutes from time for the win to be secured, Dawid Rodalski making it two-nil. The third goal arrived right at the end, Toby Raggett making it three.

**WALTON & HERSHAM** remain third after a comeback victory over **THATCHAM TOWN**. The visitors took only two minutes to go ahead, Muhamadou Ceesay opening the scoring, and went two up twenty six minutes later when Ashley Howell found the back of the Swans net. That finally annoyed the hosts, and Eddie Simon continued his hot streak in front of goal by immediately getting one back- but it was twelve minutes from time before they drew level, Palace Francis scoring from the spot. The winner came seven minutes later, Brian Garzon- pictured, courtesy of the club- sending the Kingfishers down to nineteenth.

**BASINGSTOKE TOWN** seemed to have hit their best form of the campaign, rattling home eleven goals in three successive wins over Sutton Common, Merstham and Tooting, but they added only one more at managerless **SOUTH PARK**. It was enough for victory, however, Bradley Wilson pouncing just after the break to send his side fourth.

**WESTFIELD** looked to get back into the top five as they welcomed **MERSTHAM** to Woking Park, but instead they became the first side to fall to defeat against the Moatsiders. The only goal of the game came in the sixty fifth minute, and it went to Charlie Greenwood, a result which means that Merstham are only four points from safety whilst their hosts drop to seventh.

**BINFIELD** welcomed **LEATHERHEAD**, the Moles beginning to look more like their early season selves, particularly good at home. Their fine home form continued, as they went ahead after just four minutes through Connor Holland. The Tanners levelled through Maxwell Mullins midway through the half and looked to have taken a point, but right at the end a penalty was awarded to the hosts, and Brad Pagliaroli put it away. Olu Atewologun was dismissed for the visitors, and the Moles are fifth. The Tanners last eight games have now gone W-L-W-L-W-L-W-L, so Tooting need to look out next weekend!

**HANWORTH VILLA** were our form side over the previous six matches, but that came to a crashing end as **CHIPSTEAD** ran riot.



The Chips weren't short on confidence either- four unbeaten, including four points taken from leaders Northwood and fifth place Chertsey Town- and in Andy Kabuikusomo had the match winner, the striker scoring four of their five goals. It was two-nil at the break, both from the Chips number nine, and he had his hat trick immediately after the restart. Meshach Williams got one back on the hour only for Kabuikusomo to almost immediately score again, and Michael Dixon added a fifth from the spot. Tom Bender got a late goal for the Villains, but it hardly mattered.

**UXBRIDGE** moved on from their defeat of National League South side Dover Athletic last weekend to defeat Sutton Common Rovers in midweek, but they couldn't deliver another win at **TOOTING & MITCHAM UTD**. Luke Paris put the visitors ahead on nineteen minutes, but EWdd Mbango sent the Terrors in level at half time. Victor Osobu added a second for the visitors ten minutes after the restart, but Mbango levelled for a second time, and that's how it ended.

**SUTTON COMMON ROVERS** and **ASHFORD TOWN** started the day separated only by goal difference, but two Tangerine penalties gave Town a three point cushion over their visitors and ended a five match losing run at the same time. Prince Mbengui scored the spot kicks, and in between them Bertie Lloyd got an equaliser for Rovers.

**BEDFONT SPORTS**, with a fine midweek victory under their belts and a new manager installed, travelled to the Channel Islands. **GUERNSEY**, level on points with their visitors, have had a torrid time at home, taking only one point from the eighteen on offer-and they still await that first home victory, although they did at least add a second home point. Danny Hale put the Green Lions ahead, but Steve Ngunga soon equalised, and that was that.

Midweek action was sparse, but their were four South division sides involved in Velocity Cup action on Monday night.

Aside from our win at Binfield, the Swans and the All met in the 3rd Round.

**WALTON & HERSHAM** trailed **SOUTHALL** for long periods in the game after Joseph Otudeko fired the visitors ahead on the half hour, but once Southall had a man sent off they pushed hard for an equaliser and were finally rewarded in stoppage time when Maliq Morris levelled things up, and the Swans went on to win 5-3 on penalties.

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.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF: SUTTON COMMON ROVERS



#### 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 the 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.

## **SPOT THE BALL ANSWER**



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



## Take your match notes here...

# **PITCHING**

## proudly supports THE TRIDENT TRUST FUND

Providing access to grants and funding for your club, in your community

# @PitchingIn\_



## The 'Rovers' V The 'Field'

Saturday 3rd December 2022 | 15:00 KO Isthmian Football League | South Central Division



Match Officials: Ref Mr Fadi Mansour Assistants: Mr Kehinde Agboola & Mr Alex Bake

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Manager: Darren Salmon Manager: Simon Lane

## Enjoy the match!

