



# PEACOCKS



**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**KickOff 3:00pm**





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## HONOURS

### LEAGUE HONOURS

SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE  
Champions 2017-18

#### WESTERN PREMIER DIVISION

Champions 1968-69, 1989-90, 1995-96,  
1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01

#### SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER SOUTH

Runners-Up 2018-19, Champions 2021-22

### CUP HONOURS

#### FA VASE

Winners 2000-01

#### SOMERSET PREMIER CUP

Winners 2002-03, 2005-06, 2013-14,  
2014-15, 2016-17

## CONTACT DETAILS

Taunton Town Football Club  
Cygnets Healthcare Stadium  
Wordsworth Drive  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 2HG

Website: [www.tauntontown.com](http://www.tauntontown.com)  
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Twitter: @TauntonTownFC  
Facebook: Taunton Town FC  
Instagram: Taunton Town FC  
You Tube: Peacocks TV  
Company Registration No: 1582031  
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## STAFF DIRECTORY

President: Tom Harris  
Life Vice President: Harold Needs  
Chairman: Kevin Sturme  
Chief Executive: Kevin Sturme  
Vice Chairman: Brian Pollard  
Vice Chairman: Alan Slade  
Fixture Secretary: Martin Dongworth  
Retail Commercial Director: Lee Derrick  
Hospitality Manager: Catherine Herbert

### LIFE MEMBERS

Mr D. Budge, Mr M. Dongworth, Mrs J. Ellis, Mr T. Gibbs,  
Mr J. Mayled, Mr P. Mayled, Mr R. Musker, Mr H. Needs,  
Mrs M. Needs, Mr A. Payne

### FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

Head of Football: Rob Dray  
Assistant Manager: Matt Villis  
First Team Coach: Michael Meaker  
Goalkeeping Coach: Connor Sidley-Adams  
Performance Analyst: David Cohen  
Sports Therapists: Anthony Cornish  
Sports Masseur: Paul Edwards  
Kit Manager: Karl Lindsay  
Club Doctor: Dr Tim Norbury

Head Groundsman: Kevin Sturme  
Safety Officer: Roger Conway  
Head Steward: Mike Parsons  
Welfare Officer: Neil White  
Turnstile Manager: Jason Mayled  
Stadium Announcer: Nick Rickards  
Club Shop Manager: Lee Derrick  
Club Photographers: Colin Andrews, Ashley Harris,  
Debbie Gould  
Media Team: Daniel Howell, Andy Power, Josh Perkins,  
Darren Harris, Jake Crump, Paul Smith



The Gaffer

# ROB DRAY

Good afternoon and welcome to the Cygnet Health Care Stadium for today's Vanarama National League South game as we greet Rob Small, his Concord Rangers team and their supporters to Taunton.

From all of us here at Taunton Town we would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year and hope you enjoyed your Christmas and New Year celebrations.

It was a real shame that we didn't get to host a match here during the festive period but with the weather as it was around that time, the pitch was completely waterlogged and it just wasn't possible to get the surface fit to play on. It was even more disappointing having to postpone the game here against Weymouth following a good win there on Boxing Day, I'm sure it would have been a big crowd and we would have loved to have kept up the momentum from that win.

With numerous League fixtures having been postponed for us during the first half of the season, we have as many as six games in hand over some of the teams around us in the table. This will mean we will have in lots of games in short periods of time in the coming months so we have to hope we can stay fit and healthy plus we are still involved in the FA Trophy!

With plenty of games to play and numerous points to play for, we will need your support more than ever before.

Enjoy the game and.....UP THE PEACOCKS!

Rob

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1947-2022

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## The Away End



# CONCORD RANGERS

Concord Rangers began life as a team of boys headed by Steve Lant playing friendly matches during 1966 on a pitch along the Canvey Island seafront close to the Concord Beach (hence the name Concord Rangers and the nickname The Beach Boys). In 1967 Albert Lant, Steve's father and current Club President, became the team manager and took the club into competitive football. The club initially joined the Thundermite Boys Football League, before moving into the Vange and District League in 1973 where they won several league and cup honours. Concord became the first winners of the Essex Sunday Junior Trophy in 1979, managed then by Chris Crierie, by beating Bishops Park 4-0, with the final being played at Tiptree FC. Saturday football was introduced to the club shortly after when Concord joined the Mid Essex League and played their home games at Waterside Farm on Canvey Island.

In 1985 Concord secured some land at the end of Thames Road, Canvey Island, using that land to develop the clubhouse and ground with current club treasurer Jack Smith being the mastermind behind the project. Jack organised the funds,

labour & materials and worked many hours on the site. A special mention also goes to the late Clive Smith (Jack's brother) as without Clive's machinery and labour Concord's pitch would not exist, also Martin Gill, Steve Barnes, Brian Godfrey, Lee and John Slater, Rob Fletcher, Pat Bennett, Roger Tipthorpe, Barry Clark, Tony Ing and many more all contributed.

Further success came the Beach Boys way in 1988/89 as they joined the Essex Intermediate League and became Divisional League & Cup Winners that year. Two years later Concord Rangers made the step up to the Essex Senior League where they spent a total of 17 seasons. In 1991 club founder Albert Lant retired as chairman after 25 years at the helm to become Club President, with Jack Smith taking over for two years. Grant Beglan became Chairman when Jack stood down, but like his predecessor only held the role for 2 years. A number of Chairman held the role from 1995 & in 1998 the club was languishing at the bottom of the Essex Senior League, the youth section had been disbanded and the bar licence had not been renewed meaning no revenue could be made for the club.

Former Chairman Jack Smith's son Antony decided to step in and put a new committee together along with a plan to put the club back on its feet. Antony is very hands-on in his approach, which has helped guide the club through recent successes and the development on both the playing side & with the ground/facilities.

Under the guidance of manager Colin McBride, the Beach Boys won the Essex Senior League Cup in 1997 after beating Ford United 1-0, and the following season under Lee Patterson won the Essex Senior League Championship for the first time. Further cup success came during the 1999/2000 season with former player Steve Knott in charge as Concord beat Burnham Ramblers 3-2 to win the Harry Fisher Memorial Trophy. League success followed soon after as under manager Brain Horne the club finished as Essex Senior League runners up in 2002/03, and then won the league the following season with Ben Embury at the helm. It was during that 2003/04 season that striker Danny Heale won the Don Douglas trophy for being the leagues top scorer, notching up 32 goals for Concord Rangers.

As Concord Rangers began their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season in 2007/08, Danny Scopes and Danny Cowley become joint managers of the club. Concord ended the season winners of the Essex Senior League, and were Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy winners along with Essex Senior League Cup Finalists.

Concord also reached the Quarter-final of the FA Vase that year. Club President Albert Lant won an outstanding achievement award from the Essex County Football Association for 40 years unbroken service to Concord Rangers.

Having gained promotion from the Essex Senior League the club would have been happy with a mid table finish in their Ryman League Div 1 North

debut in 2008/09, but expectations were exceeded as the two Dannys led Concord to a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish.

This highlighted how both managers could really get the best out of the players. Beating East Thurrock United in the Playoff Semi-Final set up a final vs Waltham Abbey, in which Concord led with 10 minutes to go before future Beach Boy Harry Elmes levelled things for Abbey, taking the game to penalties which we lost 5-4.

Concord didn't have to wait long to earn promotion though, as the following season they again reached the playoff final, this time beating Enfield Town 3-1 to reach the Ryman Premier Division. The clubs first season in the Ryman Premier Division was a solid one, finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place, which exceeded the target of simply avoiding relegation! Earning that respectful 8th spot and just missing out on a Play-Off position by two points was a great team effort.

2011/12 was a difficult season for the Beach Boys, as injuries to key players contributed to a poor start which was never wholly recovered from. Concord managed to finish the season in 14<sup>th</sup> though and secured a third season at this level. Danny Scopes retired from his post as joint manager, and soon afterwards Glen Alzapiedi was appointed as Danny Cowley's Assistant Manager. Another poor start was made by the club in 2012/13, but this was recovered from quickly and the Beach Boys displayed a never say die attitude to earn some incredible results both at home and away. Concord found themselves in the playoffs come the seasons end along with the Ryman League Cup final. Two fantastic away performances in the play offs saw us promoted to the highest level of football we've played at and a great performance in the cup final saw us end the season with 2 trophies.



The Beachboys lost their 2013/14 first Conference South fixture, however were soon picking up points regularly with determined & professional performances against some of the biggest teams at this level. Although there were a couple of harsh results, there was a level of consistency many didn't expect to see against this opposition, this helped Concord reach what was a spectacular 9<sup>th</sup> place finish by seasons end. To cap it all off, The Beachboys were able to win the Essex Senior Cup against Braintree.

2014/15 was a season of historical moments, but started with 3 losses out of 4 games. Fortunes quickly turned around for the club as eventually a 7<sup>th</sup> place finish was achieved (a 13 game unbeaten run being a key contributor). The most incredible moment of the season was Concord Rangers reaching the first round of the FA Cup for the first time. Drawn away to Mansfield Town, Concord earned a 1-1 draw before losing 1-0 in the replay in front of 1500 at the Aspect Arena. The second round of the FA Trophy was reached, also for the first time. A penalty shootout filled Essex Senior Cup run saw Concord retain the trophy they'd won a year before, this time beating Billericay in the final. At the seasons end manager Danny Cowley & his assistant manager brother Nicky (who took over from Alzapiedi in September) left the club for pastures new. 2015-16 was a season of rebuilding with Adam Flanagan & Jody Brown in charge of the side which had lost a number of key players, whilst trying to maintain our National League south position. A poor start saw Brown replaced with the returning Alzapiedi as assistant manager, and things looked up. A 12 game unbeaten run at the start of 2016 helped the side reach their 3<sup>rd</sup> Essex Senior Cup final in as many years, making history in the April when beating Heybridge Swifts to retain the cup. A mid table finish guaranteed another season of National League South football.

2017/18 saw the Beachboys put an impressive 13 game unbeaten run together at one point, however the poor start and shaky end to the season saw the side stave off relegation by just a

couple of points, which saw Flan and Glen be relieved of their positions.

Prior to the 2018/19 season, Sammy Moore and Jack Midson were brought in to take charge of the first team, as Concord Rangers finished in 6<sup>th</sup>.

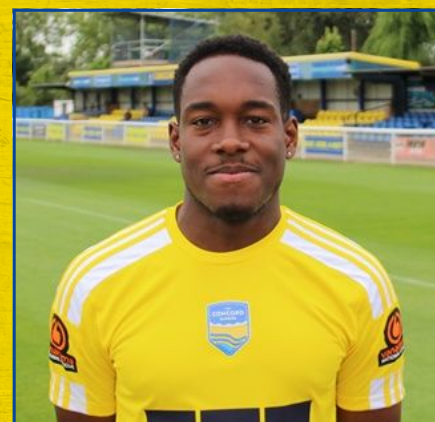
Moore & Midson left the club by mutual consent, after which an old favourite returned to take the helm as Danny Scopes was appointed first team manager for the 2019/20 season. Scopesy enlisted the help of Lee Minshull, James Roach and Adam Drew for his time in sole charge of the Beachboys, and while the league form started well, it was the historic FA Trophy run that really set the tone for the year. Two seasons of prematurely ending campaigns were the result of the pandemic, but Scopesy's reign was capped off by a historic appearance in the FA Trophy Final at Wembley, losing 1-0 to Harrogate Town.

A new dawn beckoned as in the off season Danny Scopes resigned his position as 1st team manager and Ant Smith stepped down after 21 successful years as chairman. Jack Smith Jnr and John Smith assumed the interim chairman position off pitch and on the pitch under 18s manager Chris Search was brought in to lead the first team alongside Danny Green and Craig Shipman. After starting the season with a fantastic win over league favourites Dorking, the team were entertaining to watch but lacked consistency. The club went out of both FA competitions at the 1st stage but had a successful Essex Senior Cup campaign, culminating in a 4-3 defeat to Billericay in the semi final. The league campaign picked up towards the end and the management team led us to a final position of 14th and will be looking to build on this next season.

After a poor start to the 2022/23 season, and a winless run throughout September and October, the decision was made between both the club and Chris Search to make a change in management. As November was about to get under way, former Concord player and Bowers manager Rob Small took the reins.



# ONES TO WATCH



**Nana Kyei**

Joining the Beachboys last February for his second spell with the club following a loan spell a few years ago, Nana had most recently been playing in the National League South with Hungerford Town. Nana started his career at Barnet where he progressed through the youth system from 9 years old, from where he went on loan to Concord Rangers, Hampton & Richmond and Potters Bar Town before signing for Maidstone in 2019. He made an instant impact last season, notching up some key goals in the Beachboys league campaign.



**Aron Pollock**

Signed for the Beachboys less than a week before the 2018/19 season, Aron is a Basildon-born defender who came through the youth system at Leyton Orient, earning a spot in the first team in 2016. Loans at Wingate & Finchley and Wealdstone followed, before he joined Leatherhead on another loan. Following his release from Orient, the Leatherhead move was made permanent, before following that management team to Concord Rangers in 2018. Pollock is a determined and dogged defender who comes up with his fair share of goals.





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# HEAD 2 HEAD



**18**  
GAMES PLAYED

**6**  
WON

**7**  
DRAWN

**5**  
LOST

**25**  
POINTS



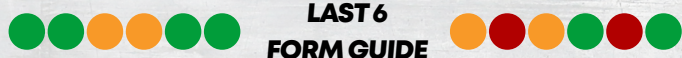
**22**  
GAMES PLAYED

**6**  
WON

**5**  
DRAWN

**11**  
LOST

**23**  
POINTS



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*LLOYD*  
*JAMES*

*#8*





## Last Time Out

# WEYMOUTH TAUNTON TOWN

# 1 3

**VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH - MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**VENUE: BOB LUCAS STADIUM - ATTENDANCE: 1,488**

Three quality goals were the perfect Christmas present for the Peacocks' faithful as their side recorded their best National League result on the road to date. Despite the hosts having considerably more opportunities over the 90 minutes, Town rode the storm, with their defence and keeper Jack Bycroft along with some poor finishing from the hosts all contributing to a crucial victory in front of a Boxing Day crowd just shy of 1500.

The Town side showed two changes from the FA Trophy win at Slough, with Lee Lucas returning and Ross Stearn selected in place of Dave Sims-Burgess and the ill Lloyd James. After the visitors made the first incursion into enemy territory, Zac Smith seeing his cross caught by Terras' custodian Zaki Oualah, the home side missed a decent chance on the five minute mark, Ahkeem Rose releasing Tom Bearwish and his centre from the right flank was spooned over the bar from ten yards by Luke Nippard.

Weymouth, five places and four points adrift of the Peacocks prior to kick-off but enjoying an upturn in recent form, continued their bright start when Rose burst into the box, the ball falling loose to Bradley Ash whose angled shot was blocked by the legs of Bycroft, however the flag was already raised for offside. The Peacocks created their first opening after 20 minutes when Jake Wannell chipped a ball in from the left to find Smith who controlled well but flashed his shot the wrong side

of the post into the side netting.

Bycroft denied Ash with another good stop after the Weymouth forward had latched onto a throw-in before the hosts were rocked after 26 minutes when the Peacocks grabbed the lead, Jay Foulston threading a lovely pass through to Smith who rolled a clinical finish past Oualah into the corner of the net. Despite their advantage, Town didn't make it easy for themselves at times as they conceded possession too readily, one such occasion seeing Stearn lose the ball to Charlie Rowan who advanced to drag a tame shot wide. Ash was proving a handful for the Town rearguard and his curling effort from outside the box was creeping in until Bycroft dived to turn aside.

Into the last five minutes of the half and the Terras mounted a number of offensives on the Town goal, the final one of which would produce the equaliser. Tom Blair cut in to balloon a shot terribly wide while Rose teed up Ash for a strike which hit the side netting before they got even closer during stoppage time when that man Bycroft made a superb double save, firstly parrying a shot from distance from Blair and then sticking out a hand to foil Keelan O'Connell who had looked odds-on to net the rebound. Unfortunately, the Peacocks were undone in the fourth minute of added time, despite only three being signalled. Cameron Murray's prod forward into the box deflected to Rose who fired beyond the reach of Bycroft for an equaliser which was deserved on

the balance of play. However, the goalscorer unnecessarily then decided to goad the away support and received a yellow card for his antics.

Town were forced to make their first switch just three minutes into the second half when Joe Budd replaced Dan Ball before they regained the lead on 50 minutes, Lucas collecting a loose ball on the edge of the box to pick out the top corner with a peach of a strike, a great way to mark his first goal for the club on his 21st full appearance, which he duly celebrated with the Town fans behind the goal. Ollie Chamberlain's cross then fell nicely for Joe Guest, but he couldn't get a shot away before momentum began to switch the Terras' way. After first half sub Harry Kyprianou's angled shot had deflected over, the hosts were mightily close to drawing level again when Ash's driven cross from a tight angle clattered off the underside of the bar, Town eventually managing to clear the danger.

Smith provided a brief respite with a curling strike over the bar at the other end before the woodwork came to the Peacocks' rescue again, Blair's cross from the left finding the unmarked Rose who planted his header against the bar while handball appeals from the home side after Rose's close range attempt had been blocked were ignored. Nick McCootie took over from Stearn just past the hour as the visitors dug into counter continuing pressure from Weymouth. Despite the screw being turned though Town dealt with the threat effectively enough and when a sight of goal arose any attempt was wayward from the profligate home attack., Blair firing into no-man's land and then crossing for O'Connell to direct a header wide.

As the final five minutes of normal time commenced, there was an unfestive incident between McCootie and Blair on the left touchline. After the melee had subsided, Rob Dray was sent from the bench after receiving his second yellow of the afternoon while McCootie picked up his first. The Peacocks had to navigate five minutes of stoppage time, with Weymouth still pushing forward. O'Connell made space to rifle an effort

over and Rose's volley was too high from Blair's cross before a brilliant solo goal from McCootie put the nail in the Terras coffin. Five minutes of added time had been played when the Town striker received the ball just inside the opposition half. With thoughts of safety he embarked on a powerful diagonal run, leaving the Terras terrified as he reached the left side of their box. With no desire to go to the corner flag McCootie displayed deft footwork to engineer room and smash an unstoppable strike past Oualah who didn't have an earthly.

Not the most straightforward of victories for the Peacocks against a Weymouth side who played good attacking football but lacked that end product. The same can't be said for Town who generally took what opportunities came their way as they scored more than one goal away from home for the first time this season as they look to consolidate their National League status.







## VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH 2022-23 LEAGUE STANDINGS

as at 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

P	Team	GP	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	PTS
1	Dartford	26	17	3	6	54	25	+29	54
2	Havant & Waterlooville	24	15	4	5	53	33	+20	49
3	Ebbsfleet United	23	15	3	5	50	26	+24	48
4	Chelmsford City	23	13	5	5	33	19	+14	44
5	St Albans City	24	12	6	6	39	21	+18	42
6	Worthing	25	10	10	5	40	36	+4	40
7	Eastbourne Borough	25	12	3	10	44	38	+6	39
8	Oxford City	26	10	9	7	42	36	+6	39
9	Braintree Town	24	10	7	7	37	31	+6	37
10	Tonbridge Angels	25	10	3	12	34	41	-7	33
11	Bath City	24	8	8	8	34	34	0	32
12	Welling United	23	8	8	7	31	34	-3	32
13	Farnborough	21	8	6	7	23	22	+1	30
14	Dulwich Hamlet	21	8	4	9	31	34	-3	28
15	Dover Athletic	23	7	7	9	29	32	-3	28
16	Hemel Hempstead Town	24	7	6	11	26	35	-9	27
17	TAUNTON TOWN	18	6	7	5	18	17	+1	25
18	Slough Town	24	6	6	12	27	45	-18	24
19	Hampton & Richmond Borough	22	6	5	11	29	38	-9	23
20	CONCORD RANGERS	22	6	5	11	22	36	-14	23
21	Cheshunt	24	7	2	15	29	45	-16	23
22	Chippenham Town	22	5	6	11	20	33	-13	21
23	Weymouth	22	5	3	14	24	42	-18	18
24	Hungerford Town	23	3	4	16	17	33	-16	13

- P - Position GP - Games Played W - Won L - Lost D - Drawn F - For A - Against PTS - Points -

### Today's Other Fixtures - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January

3pm	Bath City v Eastbourne Borough
3pm	Chelmsford City v Chippenham Town
3pm	Cheshunt v Dartford
3pm	Dulwich Hamlet v Farnborough
3pm	Ebbsfleet United v Weymouth
3pm	Havant & Waterlooville v Braintree Town
3pm	Hemel Hempstead v Hampton & Richmond Borough
3pm	Hungerford Town v Dover Athletic
3pm	Oxford City v St Albans City
3pm	Tonbridge Angels v Slough Town
3pm	Worthing v Welling United

### Upcoming Fixtures - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January

7.45pm	Dover Athletic v Taunton Town
7.45pm	Farnborough v Slough Town
7.45pm	Weymouth v Concord Rangers

### Upcoming Fixtures - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January

3pm	Chippenham Town v Weymouth
3pm	Concord Rangers v Chelmsford City
3pm	Dartford v Hemel Hempstead Town
3pm	Dover Athletic v Ebbsfleet United
3pm	Eastbourne Borough v Worthing
3pm	Farnborough v Havant & Waterlooville
3pm	Hampton & Richmond Borough v Oxford City
3pm	St Albans City v Tonbridge Angels
3pm	Welling United v Dulwich Hamlet

### NEXT UP

At The Cygnet Healthcare Stadium



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Kick Off 3:00pm



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# 2022-23 FIXTURES & RESULTS

## AUGUST '22

Date	Venue	Opposition	Competition	KickOff/Score	Attendance
6th	HOME	WELLING UNITED	VNLS	0-0 D	813
13th	AWAY	CONCORD RANGERS	VNLS	1-0 L	285
16th	AWAY	FARNBOROUGH	VNLS	1-0 L	501
20th	HOME	DARTFORD	VNLS	2-1 W	743
27th	AWAY	ST ALBANS CITY	VNLS	0-0 D	766
29th	HOME	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	VNLS	3-1 W	1,148

## SEPTEMBER '22

3rd	AWAY	HUNGERFORD TOWN	VNLS	0-1 W	377
13th	AWAY	SLOUGH TOWN	VNLS	1-0 L	452
17th	HOME	LAVERSTOCK & FORD	FAC 2Q	1-0 W	645
24th	HOME	CHELMSFORD CITY	VNLS	0-0 D	928
27th	HOME	BATH CITY	VNLS	1-1 D	958

## OCTOBER '22

1st	HOME	WALTON & HERSHAM	FAC 3Q	1-0 W	731
4th	HOME	ODD DOWN	SPC	7-0 W	184
8th	AWAY	EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNLS	5-0 L	1,474
15th	AWAY	YEOVIL TOWN	FAC 4Q	0-0 D	3,093
18th	HOME	YEOVIL TOWN	FAC 4QR	1-0 W	2,347
22nd	AWAY	WORTHING	VNLS	1-1 D	1,295
25th	AWAY	OXFORD CITY	VNLS	2-1 L	374
29th	HOME	TONBRIDGE ANGELS	VNLS	4-1 W	872

## NOVEMBER '22

5th	AWAY	MILTON KEYNES DON'S	FAC 1	6-0 L	2,739
12th	HOME	CHESHUNT	VNLS	1-0 W	720
19th	HOME	DULWICH HAMLET	FAT 2	2-1 W	661
26th	AWAY	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	VNLS	1-1 D	452

## DECEMBER '22

3rd	HOME	BRAINTREE TOWN	VNLS	0-0 D	624
6th	AWAY	YEOVIL TOWN	SPC	2-1 L	441
20th	AWAY	SLOUGH TOWN	FAT 3	0-1 W	299
26th	AWAY	WEYMOUTH	VNLS	1-3 W	1,488
30th	HOME	WEYMOUTH	VNLS	P-P	-

## JANUARY '23

Date	Venue	Opposition	Competition	KickOff/Score	Attendance
7th	HOME	CONCORD RANGERS	VNLS	3:00pm	-
10th	AWAY	DOVER ATHLETIC	VNLS	7:45pm	-
14th	AWAY	TORQUAY UNITED	FAT 4	3:00pm	-
17th	HOME	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	VNLS	7:45pm	-
21st	AWAY	DARTFORD	VNLS	3:00pm	-
28th	HOME	ST ALBANS CITY	VNLS	3:00pm	-
31st	HOME	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE	VNLS	7:45pm	-

## FEBRUARY '23

4th	AWAY	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	VNLS	3:00pm	-
7th	HOME	DULWICH HAMLET	VNLS	7:45pm	-
11th	HOME	HUNGERFORD TOWN	VNLS	3:00pm	-
14th	HOME	FARNBOROUGH	VNLS	7:45pm	-
18th	AWAY	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE	VNLS	3:00pm	-
21st	HOME	OXFORD CITY	VNLS	7:45pm	-
25th	HOME	DOVER ATHLETIC	VNLS	3:00pm	-

## MARCH '23

4th	AWAY	TONBRIDGE ANGELS	VNLS	3:00pm	-
7th	HOME	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	VNLS	7:45pm	-
11th	AWAY	CHESHUNT	VNLS	3:00pm	-
18th	HOME	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	VNLS	3:00pm	-
25th	AWAY	BRAINTREE TOWN	VNLS	3:00pm	-

## APRIL '23

1st	HOME	EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNLS	3:00pm	-
7th	AWAY	BATH CITY	VNLS	3:00pm	-
10th	HOME	SLOUGH TOWN	VNLS	3:00pm	-
15th	AWAY	DULWICH HAMLET	VNLS	3:00pm	-
22nd	HOME	WORTHING	VNLS	3:00pm	-
29th	AWAY	CHELMSFORD CITY	VNLS	3:00pm	-
TBC	AWAY	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	VNLS	TBC	-
TBC	AWAY	WELLING UNITED	VNLS	TBC	-
TBC	AWAY	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	VNLS	TBC	-
TBC	HOME	WEYMOUTH	VNLS	TBC	-





# THE UNTOLD GAME

## - The Other 44 Days -

Brian Clough's ill-fated tenure at Leeds is well trodden ground. Taking over the side he had spent the previous seasons criticising, replacing his long-term nemesis Don Revie who had been awarded the ultimate honour in English football – the national team job – he struggled to win round the dressing room, won only one of his seven games, and was summarily dismissed, just 44 days after arriving in Yorkshire. Four years later, another footballing genius would turn up at Elland Road. His own time would, in a twist of fate, last only 44 days. But unlike Clough's rancorous period in charge, there was nothing but disappointment when Jock Stein left the job.

By 1978, Jock Stein's legacy at Celtic was secured. The first Protestant manager at the club, he had ended an unprecedented eight-year dry spell at Parkhead in his first season. In his second, he retained his title and became the first British manager to win the European Cup. A further seven titles in a row followed, a dominance that was only ended in a season in which he suffered a near-fatal car crash. Despite returning to the team, and leading them to the 1977 title, he was eventually persuaded to resign as Celtic manager. Offered a token role as a figurehead, rather than the position of influence he felt he had earned, he left the club completely. In 1978 he was probably the most successful British manager ever, and he was looking for a job.

Leeds had recovered after the trauma of Clough's time in charge, and under Jimmy

Armfield had even reached the European Cup final in 1975, but were never able to recapture the dominance they had enjoyed under Revie. Armfield did what he could with what was available, but the ageing team started to slide and were beginning to feature at the wrong end of the table. And the conclusion of the 1977-78 season he was dismissed. It would be too much to claim that they acted because of Stein's availability – they sounded out other managers before him, and in a panic at the protracted negotiations even asked Armfield back at one point – but once Stein was approached and accepted, it seemed a perfect fit.

Stein walked into a different Elland Road to the one Clough had left. No longer looking to maintain dominance, they were more concerned with arresting the decline that had started four years earlier. In securing a European Cup manager, they must have been certain of a period of stability, especially given that the one job Stein had also been linked to – as Scotland manager – didn't seem to be available for some time, after the Scottish FA confirmed that Ally MacLeod had done enough at the 1978 World Cup to keep his job.

His first game in charge was against Manchester United, having missed the first game against Arsenal. As fierce as that rivalry was becoming, it was all the more significant because of the sale of Joe Jordan and Gordon McQueen to Old Trafford in the previous season, a symbol of

the breaking up of Revie's old squad. Leeds slipped to a 3-2 defeat, but if the performance of the team was disappointing, the new manager made all the right noises. Quiet, thoughtful and respectful, he was much more in the Revie mould than the Clough.

He focussed on making Leeds hard to beat, and initially at least, it worked. Four clean sheets followed, before a growing injury crisis started causing problems. Already mixing and matching at the back, a Bryan Robson challenge robbed Stein of his creative outlet, Tony Currie, and in their next match away at Maine Road, Man City beat them 3-0. A defeat to Tottenham followed, a draw with Coventry. Frustrated in his attempts to sign players, living in a hotel room, his family still in Scotland, it was no surprise that he was interested when, just a few weeks after confirming his future, the SFA sacked Ally MacLeod.

Popular folklore says that Stein asked a commentator friend to spread the rumour

that the SFA wanted him. Certainly he wanted them. A 3-0 win over bottom of the table Birmingham was followed up with a victory over West Brom in the cup, before the Leeds board saw the writing on the wall. On the 3rd October 1978, they gave him permission to talk to the SFA. Two days later, he was Scotland manager.

While his record wasn't markedly better than Clough's, it was much more acceptable four years after Revie's departure than four weeks. The cruel irony, however, wasn't in the record, it was in the time. Like Clough, Jock Stein had lasted just 44 days as Leeds United manager.

Enjoy the game.

*Martyn*

**Martyn Green**



Jock Stein with the European Cup





## CYGNET HEALTHCARE STADIUM REGULATIONS

Persons entering this stadium must abide by the Stadium Regulations as printed in the matchday programme and displayed on posters inside the stadium. Failure to do so may result in ejection from the premises, a ban from attending any future events and also be the subject of a football banning order. Admission to and the right remain within the stadium is strictly on condition that any person attending will adhere to the Stadium Regulations as detailed below.

1. All persons must comply with any directions given by a Steward, Club Official or Police Officer.
2. Encroachment onto the playing area, sterile area, or its adjoining parts is prohibited.
3. Climbing on any building, wall, fence or any other structure is prohibited.
4. Persons must not throw any object onto the pitch or within the spectator areas.
5. Persons must not be in possession of, and/or lighting any firework or flare.
6. Chanting or singing of an obscene, indecent, discriminatory or offensive nature is not permitted.
7. Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discriminatory, offensive or threatening language.
8. Persons must not use obscene, indecent, discriminatory, offensive or threatening gestures.
9. Persons must not damage or deface Club and Stadium property.
10. Persons must not damage, deface or obstruct any notice or advertisement.
11. Alcohol must not be brought into the stadium.
12. Persons must not consume alcohol that has not been purchased at Taunton Town FC.
13. Persons must not consume alcohol in any alcohol free designated areas.
14. There will be zero tolerance to alcohol abuse/misuse.
15. There will be zero tolerance to drug possession, use and abuse.
16. Smoking is permitted in the stadium except in areas designated as a No Smoking area.
17. Umbrellas are permitted within the stadium but must not be used if obstructing the view of other spectators.

Spectators must also note the following:

- A) The Club does not accept any responsibility or liability whatsoever for any loss or damage to vehicles or their contents, or any other personal property brought onto the Clubs premises and stadium.
- B) The Club is unable to accept any additional responsibility for minors attending matches beyond those matters covered by the Stadium Regulations.
- C) Photography and use of video including CCTV is in operation at all matches and events and may be used in any of our media channels as well as press releases.
- D) Dogs on a lead are permitted in the Stadium but they remain the sole responsibility of their owner at all times.

**THE CLUB RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CARRY OUT PERSONAL SECURITY SEARCHES AND/OR REFUSE ADMISSION TO ANY PERSON AT ANY TIME, WITHOUT EXPLANATION.**

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# MEET THE TEAMS

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - KickOff 3:00pm



Head of Football: Rob Dray

Manager: Rob Small

Jack Bycroft - GK	1	●	●	1	Mitch Beeney
Joe Budd	2	●	●	2	Tosan Popo
Jay Foulston	3	●	●	3	Louis Ramsay
Nick Grimes	4	●	●	4	Nathan Smith
Dan Ball	5	●	●	5	Aron Pollock
Jake Wannell	6	●	●	6	Harvey Beckett
Ollie Chamberlain	7	●	●	7	Ryan Blackman
Lloyd James	8	●	●	8	James Blanchfield
Nat Jarvis	9	●	●	9	Ben Williamson
Nick McCootie	10	●	●	10	Mohamed Bettamer
Joe Guest	11	●	●	11	Nana Kyei
Ross Stearn	13	●	●	12	Jack Davies
Zac Smith	16	●	●	14	Jayden Randell
Ross Staley	18	●	●	15	Jimmy Wallace
Dave Sims-Burgess	20	●	●	16	Saleem Akanbi
Lloyd Irish - GK	21	●	●	17	Ben Search
Dylan Morgan	22	●	●	18	Lewis Manor
Lee Lucas	31	●	●	19	Jack Thompson
		●	●	20	Bruno Tavares
		●	●	21	Alex Hernandez
		●	●	22	Josh Tsunaam
		●	●	23	Ricky Modeste

## Match Officials

Referee: Andrew Humphries  
 Assistant Referee: George Enever  
 Assistant Referee: Daniel Frizzell