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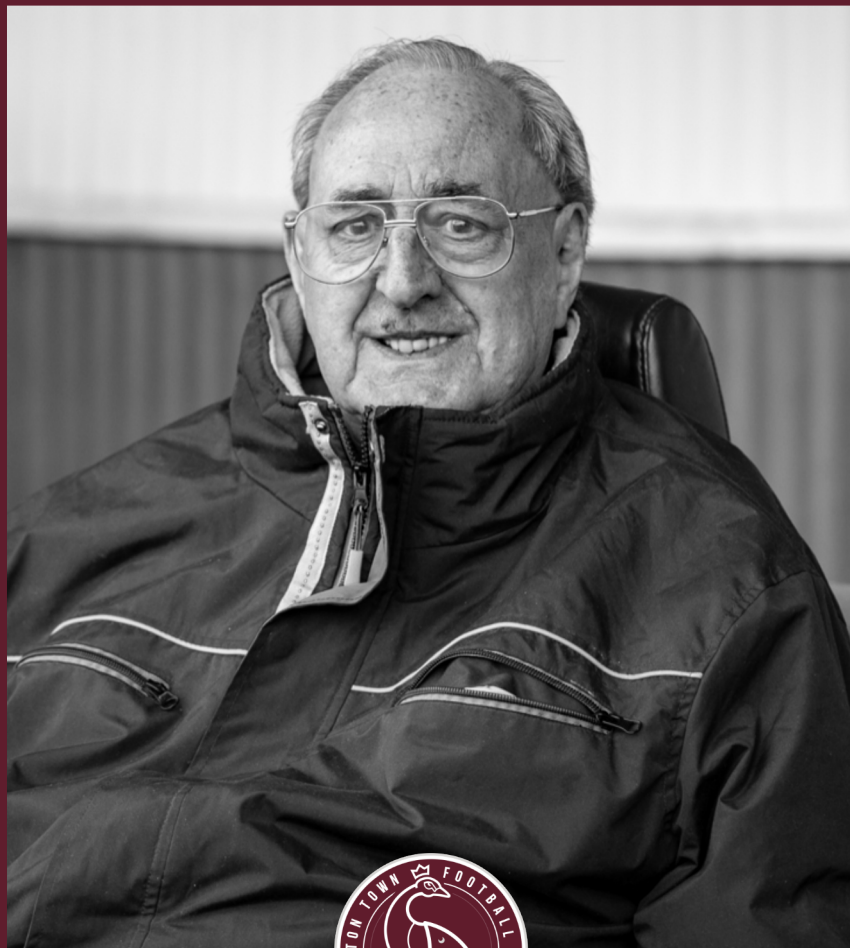
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# TAUNTON TOWN V HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

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## CONTACT DETAILS

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# THE GAFFER

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to Wordsworth Drive as we host Hampton & Richmond Borough for this afternoon's Vanarama National League South match. My welcome extends to the officials, management, players and supporters joining us today from our visitors and also to the match officials.

It is no secret that we have made a great start to the season, currently occupying 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league table behind Yeovil Town and having only lost one league game so far this season, but we know there is a very long way to go and there will be some rollercoaster moments as there are every season. But we will enjoy where we are and ride this wave for as long as it lasts.

With our game against Slough Town that was scheduled for last Saturday but postponed due to their involvement in the FA Cup it has allowed the boys with knocks and niggles to get a week's recuperation and for us to concentrate on today's opponents who themselves played out a thrilling 4-3 win against Dartford.

It was a sad week for the club as our Club President and former Chairman Tom Harris passed away. On behalf of myself and all of the playing and management staff I would like to express our sincerest condolences to Tom's family and friends at this very sad time for all.

Back to today and we will be doing our all to gain three points this afternoon for you the fans, the club and for Tom.

Up The Peacocks!!

Rob Dray  
Head of Football, Taunton Town FC

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## THE AWAY END



# HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

Hampton FC were formed in 1921 (changing their name to Hampton & Richmond Borough FC in 1999). The club are the only Senior Football Team in the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, an area dominated by Rugby Clubs. Hampton's early years were spent in Junior Football competing in the Kingston & District and the South West Middlesex Leagues until 1959 (Hampton's main honours during that period were four KDFL Championships between 1929 and 1933). Having secured a lease on Beveree, Hampton made the move into Senior Football, joining the Surrey Senior League.

The Beavers (no one can quite recall how or why the club acquired its nickname!) won the Surrey Senior League Championship in 1964 and were then invited to join the Spartan League (there was no progression though a pyramid in those days). Hampton won three Spartan League and Cup doubles during their stay in the Spartan League. In October 1967 Hampton made their best ever signing when they persuaded Alan Simpson OBE to take the role of Club President (Mr Simpson, in partnership with Ray Galton wrote comedy classics, Hancock Half Hour and Steptoe & Son). Alan Simpson OBE would remain Club President for 50 years until his death in 2017, his funeral was held on the Beveree pitch.

The Club's first floodlights were installed in 1967 and after a short stay in the Athenian League, joined the Isthmian League in 1973. The Beavers played in various divisions, at one stage sinking down to Division 3 before a surge up the league saw them gain a place in the Premier Division in 1998. At the end of the 2002/03 season the Beavers were relegated but shortly after the signing of Alan Devonshire (ex-England & West Ham United) as Manager saw a resurgence in fortune which saw them gain the Isthmian League Championship in 2007. The Beavers would spend five seasons in the Football Conference South, twice narrowly missing out on promotion to the apex of Non-League, losing two play-off finals in 2008 and 2009.

The Beavers found themselves back in the Isthmian League for the start of the 2012/13 season, a season after Alan Devonshire had moved on. The following two seasons saw disappointing finishes of 13 and 12<sup>th</sup>, one month into season 2014/15 joint managers Paul Barry and Darren Powell resigned and ex-Kingstonian Manager, Alan Dowson, was appointed. Under Alan Dowson the club won the Isthmian League Championship once again in 2015-16, seeing promotion to the National League South. The club also won the Isthmian League Charity Shield in August 2016. Gary McCann took over as

Manager in the summer of 2018.

The club have appeared in the FA Cup 1<sup>st</sup> Round Proper on three occasions (losing 2-1 at Barnet in 2000; 3-0 at home to Dagenham & Redbridge in 2007 and most recently narrowly losing 2-1 at home to Oldham Athletic after leading for most of the game). In the FA Trophy the Beavers reached the last 16 in 2012. In County Cups the Beavers have won the Middlesex Senior Cup in 2006, 2008, 2012, 2014 & 2017. The club have also won the Middlesex

Charity Cup in 1970, 1996, 1998 & 1999.

The Club have over the years improved Beveree to a state where it now has a ground capacity of 3,500 (including 750 seats) without losing the 'country' and 'village' feel of the place and has a reputation as a welcoming and friendly club. The club has its own Football Academy as well as a large youth set up. The Club remain fully committed to the local community having been part of life in Hampton Village for a century.







# TWO TO WATCH



**DEAN INMAN**

Inman knows the club inside out, having come up through the ranks at Hampton & Richmond Borough. After spells at Farnborough and Hayes & Yeading United, Dean was part of a title-winning team at Maidenhead, before moving to Billericay for a club record fee. Another successful season followed, as 'Ricay won the treble, including the Isthmian League, securing promotion to the National League South.



**ROB HALL**

Aylesbury born Rob Hall plays on the wing or as a forward. Hall began his career at West Ham United and has vast Football League experience with the likes of MK Dons, Birmingham City and Oxford United. Between 2013 and 2016 Hall represented Bolton Wanderers and more recently played in the National League for Barnet, while Hampton Manager Mel Gwinnett was a coach there.

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# THIS SEASON AT A GLANCE



PLAYED **12**

WON **6**

DRAWN **5**

LOST **1**

+/- **+5**

POINTS **23**

LGE POS **2<sup>ND</sup>**

HOME POINTS% **70%**



PLAYED **12**

WON **4**

DRAWN **3**

LOST **5**

+/- **-5**

POINTS **15**

LGE POS **15<sup>TH</sup>**

AWAY POINTS% **60%**



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## DAVE WEBSTER

### *View from the stands*

DOVER ATHLETIC 2 TAUNTON TOWN 2  
Vanarama National League South



It became very evident in the early stages of last season, that the National League South is tighter than Ebenezer Scrooges purse strings. Its been said a zillion times and will continue to be said, that anyone can take points from anyone. So lets look on the positive side of this score draw. To coin a phrase from Sir Rob, it really is all about very small margins at this level.

Make no mistake, Dover are a force to be reckoned with, despite them being 2nd from bottom, they have also held big guns Torquay and Bath to 2-2 draws, so for Taunton to come away from Kent with a solitary point is no shame whatsoever. It could so easily have been null points but for one moment in the first half when Dan Lavercombe pulled off a save of such quality the great Lev Yashin would have been proud of.

Right from the off, Dover came at us like the flying monkeys chasing Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz!!!! They really were after blood! It took Taunton 25 minutes before we had a decent attack of our own. By which stage we were 1-0 down through a goal from Ojemen. Things were not looking good for Taunton at all, Lee Lucas was injured early, and although he tried his damndest to soldier on, it wasn't to be, and he was replaced by Guesty.

This was a physical battle of the highest calibre, players from both clubs were going down like skittles. Certainly not a game for the faint-hearted! With Dover in control, they almost capitalised on an error from Guesty when a pass back, landed at the foot of the Dover striker, who but for the earlier mentioned save from Dan, would have gone 2-0 up.

This seemed to be the catalyst Taunton needed, as we hit a purple patch in turning the game on its axle for the last 20 minutes of the opening half. First of all, Jay Foulston tested the keeper from an acute angle forcing a decent save, then we had a

run of corners, which finally paid dividends. A corner from Lloyd James was met by a bullet header from the unmarked Jay, who gave the keeper no chance. 1-1 and flying!!! Now we were the hunters! Dylan Morgan went on one of his jinky runs through the middle, before feeding the alert Ross Stearn with an expert like pass, Ross skipped his way around the keeper before putting the ball in the net.

The 2nd half began with our sub Guesty himself being substituted for Zac Smith, again after he had taken a knock, such was the physicality of this match. The game seemed to slow down in comparison to the hectic first half, with very few chances for either club. Jarvis had a glancing header that went wide, but apart from that there was very little real action, as the 1-2 score-line looked likely to be the scenario. Or at least that's what the travelling fans hoped for.

Jay, who had worked his socks off was taken off as the game reached its last 10 minutes, to be replaced by the energetic Marcus Day. If there was any negatives on Taunton's side, it was the amount of free kicks we were frequently giving away from dangerous positions. This was to be our downfall, as Dover grabbed their, it has to be said, deserved equaliser, from one such set piece on the edge of the box, when the ball was blasted past Dan into the corner. Marcus was to see a lot of the ball in the short period he was on the field, but it wasn't enough to secure us the winner we so desired.

And so, our period at the top of the league is over, as that club that play in Green and Yellow now lead the table by the smallest of margins. Just 2 goals in fact. Oh well, it was good whilst it lasted.

With no game for the next 2 weeks, our lads have now hopefully rest their weary joints. They will know they were involved in a battle royale in this one.

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# TOM HARRIS

Taunton Town Football Club recently lost one of the most iconic characters in its history. Club President Tom Harris passed away at the age of 95 after devoting a massive part of his life to the Peacocks who will always owe Tom an immense debt of gratitude for his unstinting service and dedication for a period of over 60 years.

Tom was a pivotal part of the Supporters Club for most of its life, taking on the role of Treasurer. In addition to these duties Tom was elected as one of the inaugural Directors when Taunton Town FC became a limited company in 1981 and was elected as Chairman, a post he held until stepping down in 2010 at which point he became Club President, a role he held until his death. Tom continued to support the club until the end although his health prevented him from coming to as many games as he would like.

As if that was not enough Tom was voted on to the Management Committee of the Western League in 1984 and he remained in that role until Taunton Town were promoted to the Southern League in 2002 which saw the Western League make him a Life Member. Tom and his wife Elsie attended many Western League conventions, continuing to attend after Taunton joined the Southern League, and they were also present at many Southern League weekends. Tom was given a Long Service award by the Southern League and was also a Life Vice President of the Somerset Football Association.

Matchday Secretary Martin Dongworth was a club colleague and friend to Tom for many years, saying: "I first came across Tom in 1979 when I started helping out with the club – I was on the Supporters Club Committee but was then asked to join the parent club committee. I

I was appointed as Assistant Secretary under Joan Ellis, and Tom was always supportive of my role, and he always offered help and advice when required. I am glad you are now at peace and reunited with Elsie."

Current Chairman Kevin Sturme, who took over from Tom in 2010, paid a heartfelt tribute to his predecessor, commenting: "Tom helped guide me and the Board in so many areas and was a constant source of advice and he has helped shape me into the Chairman I am today. I couldn't have had a better mentor as neither of us have made all the right decisions, but one thing is for sure, Tom always put his heart and soul into Taunton Town. Without Tom and Elsie none of the recent achievements would have been possible and we will always continue in that tradition, work hard, never give up and make sacrifices often unseen to aim to be better. He was the most warm and affable man you could wish to meet, and I will miss him at Wordsworth Drive which was his second home. It will never be the same without Tom."

Tom saw countless players and managers come and go over the decades, with one of the most successful being Russell Musker who guided the Peacocks to FA Vase glory in 2001 and promotion to the Southern League a year later. Russell remarked: "I had a brilliant time at Taunton and Tom was like my Grandad. He backed and trusted me with everything, and I hope I was able to repay him. The time at Taunton was the happiest in my career and it was a pleasure that he asked me to manage the club. We had a great relationship both professionally and personally, never

having a cross word in 11 years."

Another Taunton Town legend, record appearance holder Tony Payne who has worn the claret shirt on more than 1000 occasions, said: "I will remember Tom for how supportive he was as my career started in 1962 – we became like father and son. He will be sadly missed by everyone at TTFC. God bless you Tom, now reunited with Elsie."

There have been countless other condolences from across the football family which demonstrates just how respected Tom was. RIP Tom, a Peacocks legend who will never be forgotten.

Tom's funeral is taking place at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Friday 27th October at 9.30am





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Is the 'new' season already two months in? The FA Cup first round draw has been made, the Isuzu FA Trophy and FA Vase are through a few rounds and the weather is taking a turn.

It feels like another Non-League season is flying by. Here are a few things that have caught our eye over the last week

**CUP KINGS** - The FA Cup fourth round qualifying served up some big shocks last Saturday, with eight National League teams tumbling out and more facing midweek replays.

Bracknell Town started the day off with a 1-0 lunchtime win over Dagenham & Redbridge. The Step 3 Robins took on Ipswich Town last season in front of the live TV cameras. For the first round this year they're off to League One Cambridge United.

Horsham also face League One opposition following their 2-0 upset of Dorking Wanderers — the Isthmian Premier side have been drawn against Barnsley.

Step 4 Cray Valley PM have got a great draw away at Charlton Athletic. Kyrell Lisbie scored twice in their 5-2 win over Enfield Town last week — he's the son of former Addicks striker Kevin, who also played for the Millers when they reached the FA Vase final at Wembley in 2019.

Other interesting first round ties include Chesterfield at home to Portsmouth — former club of Spireites boss Paul Cook — while Bromley host Blackpool. Step 4 Ramsgate host the winners of Woking's replay with Hemel Hempstead Town.

**END OF AN ERA** - It seems keeping a manager's job for five years is a long time these days. How about more than 25? That's how long Dave Diaper has been at the helm of Sholing. In that time he's overseen their rise — both on and off the pitch — from the Hampshire League to Step 3 via an FA Vase win at Wembley.

This weekend is his last game, however, as he takes on a new head of football role at the south-coast club with former Sutton United boss Paul Doswell set to take over in the dug-out.

"It's a great fit," Diaper said. "We're on the same page moving forward and it's quite exciting. We've got some big plans for the club. This year is about consolidation more than anything, but it's about working together and seeing what we can bring to the club in the future."

**OLDHAM TWIST FOR MELLON** - When Oldham Athletic announced they were parting ways with manager David Unsworth, you can be sure a lot of managers quickly brushed up their CV. The chance to manage the Latics is a huge draw for many.

We so often talk about the importance of National League experience when it comes to steadying a recently relegated EFL club after they have crash landed in Non-League.

When someone like Micky Mellon is available it becomes a much easier decision.

The former Shrewsbury and Northampton boss has won promotion into the Football League twice — first as a champion with Fleetwood Town in 2012.

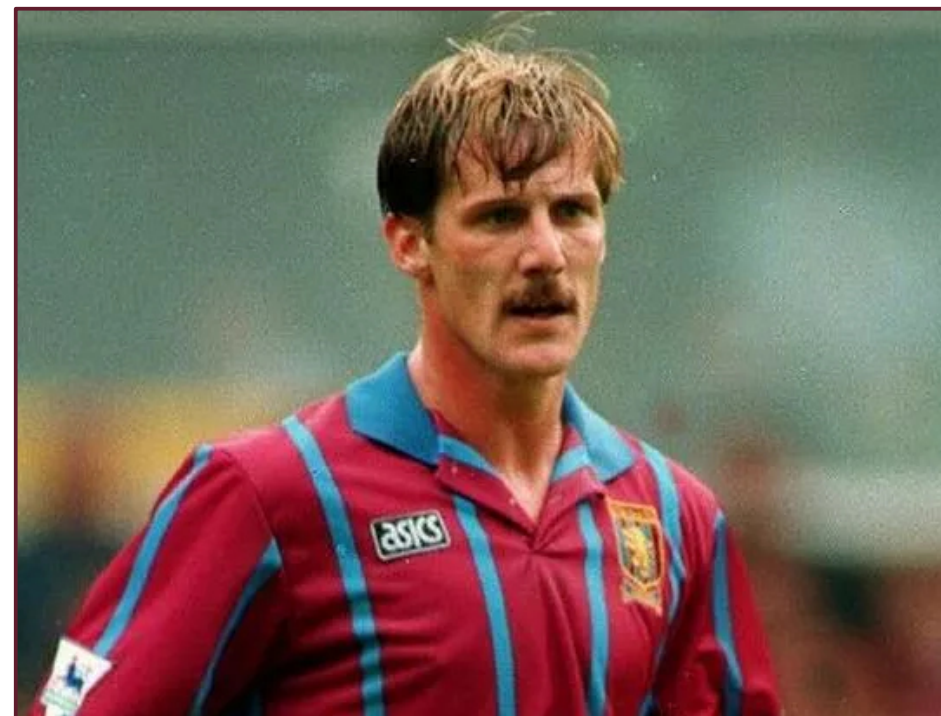
He later returned to Non-League with the task of taking Tranmere Rovers back into the EFL — which he duly did in 2018 through the play-offs. That feat was immediately followed by promotion to League One.

Mellon knows the division inside out and understands what it takes to be in the mix. He also had a certain James Norwood leading his Tranmere attack — their reunion at Oldham will excite fans too.

**TEALE-Y GOOD SHOW** - We also caught up with former Aston Villa defender Shaun Teale for last week's NLP. The rugged centre-half has recently published a book about his career titled: Here, There and Everywhere.

In 2003 he lifted the FA Trophy with Burscough by beating Tamworth 2-1 with the final, fittingly, at his old stomping ground Villa Park.

"If you ever watch a replay of the game, I think I spend the whole 90 minutes with a smile on my face."



## OFFICIAL MATCH REPORT

# DOVER ATHLETIC 2 TAUNTON TOWN 2

7.10.2023 | VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | ATT: 617

Another point on the road for the Peacocks as they extended their undefeated run in the National League South to an impressive ten games and avoided defeat for the first time against a Dover club following four previous meetings. Equality was about right on an afternoon when Town recovered from conceding inside 20 minutes to lead at the interval before a second half free kick restored parity for the Kent side.

On an unseasonably warm day, the longest journey of the season on a coach with no air conditioning did not provide the best mindfulness for the visitors who showed seven changes from the side that were on midweek cup duty against Portishead. Any fanciful notions that the Peacocks, having spent a week sitting at the top of the table, were going to dispatch with relative ease a Dover side lying one place off the bottom were just that, fanciful. This is the National League after all where there is a fine line between victory and defeat.

Early exchanges were fairly even with both sides having spells of possession without a clear chance originating, a Lloyd James cross falling the wrong side for Ollie Chamberlain to capitalise while a run from the Whites' Zidan Sutherland was snuffed out. After the game had halted to

allow treatment for Lee Lucas who felt the after-effects of a block tackle, the hosts came close to opening their account, John Oyenuga threading a pass down the right for Paris Lock and his driven ball across the face of goal just failed to get the touch of Nick Dembele. The eye-catching Lock, on loan to Dover from AFC Wimbledon, again got in behind soon after, his cross being booted clear before a follow-up effort was bundled wide.

Dover's purple patch soon led to the opening goal after 17 minutes. An Archie Hatcher corner found its way back out to him on the left and he switched feet to return into the middle where Peter Ojemen slid in to net at the near post. Joe Guest took over from Lucas minutes later as Town looked to steady the ship. Ross Stearn found space on the right but frustratingly the cross found no yellow shirt before the Peacocks were fortunate not to find themselves two behind, Guest caught dawdling on the right and robbed by Dembele who burst forward but under pressure from Austen Booth's challenge saw his effort kept out by Dan Lavercombe who then did brilliantly to foil Sutherland's attempt from the loose ball.

Town rode the storm as they began to carve out some openings of their own. Dylan Morgan scurried in from the right to

have a shot blocked and then it was the turn of Dover shotstopper Billy Terrell to play his part, Chamberlain's looping long ball picking out Jay Foulston whose half volley from the corner of the six yard box was palmed away by Terrell. Further balls into the mix were not locating a teammate until the 35th minute when the Peacocks equalised. Hatcher headed away a Chamberlain cross to concede a corner which saw Nick Grimes prod at the far post deflect wide for another corner. A third immediately followed and an unmarked Foulston was there to power home a header from James' delivery.

Seven minutes of added time were enough for the visitors to turn the game around. Stearn played square to Chamberlain whose ground shot was held by Terrell before five minutes in and Town were ahead. The ball broke to Morgan in the centre and a dart forward led to a lovely pass for Stearn to show great composure and round Terrell to tuck home into the unguarded net. Lock and Sutherland both posted efforts off-target during stoppage but it was the Peacocks who looked in better shape as the half time whistle blew.

Zac Smith appeared upon the resumption in place of Guest who had taken a knock on his calf. My choice of language to describe the second half as 'poor quality' in the post-match interview was maybe a tad too strong, perhaps 'remarkably unexceptional' would have been more apt. Morgan, aiming to produce one of his specials, cut in but saw his strike blocked while Hatcher's free kick at the opposite end found a colleague but the header was steered across goal and out. Nat Jarvis then got on the end of a couple of crosses, firstly bundling wide from Stearn's centre and then glancing a header well over from Chamberlain's delivery. A foul

on Chamberlain then gave Town another chance, James sending in the free kick, Booth and Evans jumping with Terrell and Stearn firing home from the stray ball. The 'goal' was disallowed though for a challenge on the keeper.

Oyenuga advanced to drill a shot wide, however the batteries of the game were running low, with Town seemingly in a lull and Dover doing little to worry them in return. Hatcher's free kick did cause some panic stations in the Taunton box, the ball eventually rolling safely to Lavercombe while Luke Baptiste planted a soft header wide from Ifeanyi Allen's cross but overall the job just needed to be containment to ensure maximum points returned westwards. Foulston became the third injury casualty for Town with cramp with just over ten minutes to go and had to be replaced by Marcus Day before Dover were given the chance they needed to draw level. Chamberlain was penalised for a foul just outside the box and after Sutherland feigned to shoot, Hatcher pulled the trigger to beat the wall and Lavercombe at his left-hand post with a nicely executed free kick with 11 minutes to go.

Dover now smelt a winner as they pressed forward, Lavercombe clutching a Hatcher cross. Town repelled them though while Day got into several promising positions for the Peacocks down the right, trying to find Stearn but seeing his cross held by Terrell at the front stick before another break ended with his centre cleared. Five minutes of stoppage time ensued with neither side close to the knockout blow. An away point is always a valuable one at such a demanding level so disappointment at not seeing the game out can be tempered with the fact that it's one more towards the safety pot which is surely the initial focus of the season.



## VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH 2023-24 LEAGUE STANDINGS

P	Team	GP	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	PTS
1	Yeovil Town	11	7	2	2	22	15	+7	23
<b>2</b>	<b>TAUNTON TOWN</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>23</b>
3	Bath City	11	6	4	1	22	15	+7	22
4	Maidstone United	11	6	3	2	17	11	+6	21
5	Worthing	11	6	2	3	18	14	+4	20
6	Aveley	11	6	1	4	16	11	+5	19
7	Torquay United	11	6	1	4	17	15	+2	19
8	Chelmsford City	11	5	3	3	15	10	+5	18
9	Hemel Hempstead Town	11	4	5	2	15	13	+2	17
10	Farnborough	12	4	5	3	18	17	+1	17
11	St Albans City	12	5	1	6	15	15	0	16
12	Chippenham Town	12	4	4	4	17	18	-1	16
13	Truro City	12	4	3	5	19	17	+2	15
14	Dartford	12	4	3	5	17	15	+2	15
<b>15</b>	<b>HAMPTON &amp; RICHMOND</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>15</b>
16	Eastbourne Borough	12	4	2	6	15	18	-3	14
17	Weston-super-Mare	11	4	2	5	14	18	-4	14
18	Weymouth	12	3	4	5	12	16	-4	13
19	Braintree Town	11	2	6	3	14	12	+2	12
20	Tonbridge Angels	12	3	3	6	12	16	-4	12
21	Slough Town	11	3	2	6	16	20	-4	11
22	Welling United	11	2	3	6	11	18	-7	9
23	Dover Athletic	11	1	5	5	11	19	-8	8
24	Havant & Waterlooville	11	1	2	8	13	23	-10	5

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

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023

3pm	Aveley v Truro City
3pm	Braintree Town v Weston-super-Mare
3pm	Chippenham Town v St Albans City
3pm	Dartford v Havant & Waterlooville
3pm	Dover Athletic v Hemel Hempstead Town
3pm	Maidstone United v Farnborough
3pm	Slough Town v Chelmsford City
3pm	Taunton Town v Hampton & Richmond Borough
3pm	Tonbridge Angels v Bath City
3pm	Torquay United v Welling United
3pm	Weymouth v Eastbourne Borough
3pm	Worthing v Yeovil Town

## UPCOMING FIXTURES

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

7.45pm	Chelmsford City v Dover Athletic
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### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023

7.45pm	Bath City v Taunton Town
7.45pm	Eastbourne Borough v Dartford
7.45pm	Farnborough v Tonbridge Angels
7.45pm	Hampton & Richmond Borough v Worthing
7.45pm	Hemel Hempstead Town v Braintree Town
7.45pm	St Albans City v Slough Town
7.45pm	Welling United v Maidstone United
7.45pm	Weston-super-Mare v Torquay United
7.45pm	Yeovil Town v Weymouth

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023

7.45pm	Havant & Waterlooville v Aveley
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[WWW.THENATIONALLEAGUE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.THENATIONALLEAGUE.ORG.UK)

## NEXT UP AT HOME

SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

KICK OFF - 3:00PM



VANARAMA  
NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH

### TICKET PRICES

Adult: £14  
(18-67 incl.)

Concession: £11  
(State Pensioners & Students with ID)

Youth: £5  
(13-18 years)

Junior: £2  
(6-12 years)

Child: Free

(Under 6 with a full paying adult)



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# It is selfie time again





# The Untold Game

## National Pride

Massimo Bonini was considered the best young player in the world in the early 1980s. He had collected a number of youth caps for Italy and impressed their selectors, and was integral to the 1982 Juventus team that won the Scudetto. He was a tireless midfielder, adding bite to Michel Platini's beauty, and progression to Marco Tardelli's power. But while his teammate would - famously - score in that summer's World Cup final, one of the most iconic moments in football, Bonini wouldn't even be at the tournament. Invited to join the squad, and vocal about the importance of playing for his national team, he was expected to line up alongside his Juventus teammate. The only problem was that Bonini didn't consider himself Italian. He was from San Marino. And they didn't have a football team.

After beginning his career with Sammarinese club Juvenes, Bonini made the small step up to the Italian fourth tier in 1977, where he joined Bellaria. A good first season saw him make a step slightly higher up the pyramid, to Forlì in Serie C. One more step up to Serie B followed, and in a season marked by the Totoneri match fixing scandal, he helped Cesena to promotion.

Moving up four divisions in five years is quite a feat, but it got even more

impressive for the Cesena man. Instead of lining up in Serie A in the black and white stripes of Cesena, Giovanni Trapatoni came calling and offered him a much more famous striped shirt. Bonini accepted, and joined an exciting Juventus side.

In his first season in Turin, Bonini continued his impressive form. Starting the season as a rotation option, he slowly replaced club icon Giuseppe Furino. Juventus crashed out of the European Cup early on, but as his partnership with Tardelli flourished they hit their stride, and Bonini won the first silverware of his career, the Serie A title. Liam Brady scored the decisive goal.

Rebuffing attempts to join the Italy senior squad, Bonini watched on as many of his teammates became world champions. Over the summer, Trapatoni signed two absolute stars of the tournament, Zbigniew Boniek, and Michel Platini. It took time to balance the side, and Roma won the title, but Bonini was now an important piece of the puzzle. In the European Cup, Juventus reached the final. Bonini played every game.

Trapatoni took the shackles off in the following season - at the insistence of Platini - and Juventus flew. Boniek, Platini and Paulo Rossi formed a potent attacking trio, with Tardelli given license to

join from deep. Bonini's role in stabilising the side grew ever more important. He was technically able and tactically adept, but it was his work rate that impressed the most, covering every blade of grass and allowing the attacking talents to showcase their abilities. Such was his role in the team that, after being caught smoking in the dressing room, Platini reassured people; 'You shouldn't be worried if I smoke. The important thing is that Bonini doesn't because he also has to run for me.'

Bonini's running certainly gave Platini a platform. On their way to the 1984 Scudetto, Platini was top scorer. He also won the Ballon d'Or. Juventus lost just four times, and were the top scorers in Serie A. With a final flourish, they added the Cup Winners Cup, without losing a match.

The following season, Bonini finished with a tragic trophy. The Turin side finished 7th in the league as they turned their attention to Europe. The Sammarinese played every game as they romped to the final, and met a Liverpool side who looked unstoppable. Ian Rush and John Wark were scoring goals for fun, and were joined by the impossibly brilliant Kenny Dalglish. The promise of goals and excitement was high when they lined up, at Heysel Stadium. Juventus won, but the result was insignificant. They were presented the trophy in a sombre dressing room.

Juventus found more challenging domestic rivals on their return, and a resurgent Milan side, alongside a Diego Maradona-inspired Napoli, provided stiff competition. Juventus and Bonini won the league once more in 1986, but the Sammarinese had moved on by the time the club won it again, in 1990.

Bonini moved to Bologna in 1988, but more



important discussions were taking place. As he came to the end of a stellar career, UEFA finally gave him the chance to play international football. San Marino played their first ever match in 1990, a 4-0 defeat to Switzerland. That would set the tone for their subsequent existence, but to Bonini, just lining up for his country was a victory. In 1992, he went back to Juvenes, and saw out his career playing in, and for, the country of his birth.

When asked why he turned down Italy and waited for the possibility of playing for the worst team in the world, Bonini's answer was simple. 'Simply because I am from San Marino, and proud of it.'







# 2023-24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
<b>AUGUST</b>					
Sat 5th	League	BRAINTREE TOWN (H)	2-1 W	801	4th
Sat 12th	League	Aveley (A)	4-1 L	372	15th
Tues 15th	League	Weymouth (A)	1-1 D	1,252	14th
Sat 19th	League	WELLING UNITED (H)	1-0 W	727	9th
Sat 26th	League	ST ALBANS CITY (H)	3-2 W	642	5th
Mon 28th	League	Maidstone United (A)	1-1 D	2,014	6th
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
Sat 2nd	League	DARTFORD (H)	1-0 W	902	5th
Tues 5th	League	Chippenham Town (A)	3-3 D	634	6th
Sat 9th	League	Tonbridge Angels (A)	0-3 W	852	5th
Fri 15th	FAC 2Q	Merthyr Town (A)	1-1 D	1,583	N/A
Tue 19th	FAC 2QR	MERTHYR TOWN (H)	1-2 L	774	N/A
Sat 23rd	League	HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE (H)	0-0 D	877	4th
Sat 30th	League	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH (H)	2-1 W	670	3rd
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Tue 3rd	SPC1	PORTISHEAD TOWN (H)	5-2 W	273	N/A
Sat 7th	League	Dover Athletic (A)	2-2 D	617	2nd
Sat 21st	League	HAMPTON & RICHMOND (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 24th	League	Bath City (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 28th	League	Chelmsford City (A)	3:00pm	-	-
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
Sat 4th	League	FARNBOROUGH (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 7th	SPC2	STREET (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 11th	League	Hemel Hempstead Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 14th	League	Truro City (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Tues 21st	League	TORQUAY UNITED (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 25th	League	WORTHING (H)	3:00pm	-	-

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
Sat 2nd	League	Eastbourne Borough (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tue 12th	League	WESTON-SUPER-MARE (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 16th	League	Havant & Waterlooville (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 23rd	League	TONBRIDGE ANGELS (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 26th	League	Yeovil Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
<b>JANUARY</b>					
Tues 1st	League	YEOVIL TOWN (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 6th	League	Slough Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 13th	League	DOVER ATHLETIC (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 20th	League	Braintree Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 23rd	League	WEYMOUTH (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 27th	League	AVELEY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
Sat 3rd	League	Welling United (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 10th	League	St Albans City (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 17th	League	MAIDSTONE UNITED (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 20th	League	CHIPPENHAM TOWN (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 24th	League	Dartford (A)	3:00pm	-	-
<b>MARCH</b>					
Sat 2nd	League	TRURO CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 9th	League	Worthing (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 12th	League	Torquay United (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 16th	League	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 23rd	League	CHELMSFORD CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Fri 29th	League	Weston-Super-Mare (A)	3:00pm	-	-
<b>APRIL</b>					
Mon 1st	League	BATH CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 6th	League	Hampton & Richmond (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 13th	League	Farnborough (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 20th	League	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN (H)	3:00pm	-	-



**Emirates  
FA CUP**







## STADIUM RULES & 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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**Mya Graham,**  
UCFB graduate, Assistant Producer at **talkSPORT**



I really enjoyed my time at GIS where I gained valuable analysis knowledge and additional coaching experience. This is definitely the place to go if working in football is your long term aim.

**Dene Field**  
GIS graduate, First Team Analyst and Coaching Assistant at **Watford FC Women**



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# THE TEAMS

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 2023 | KICK-OFF 3PM



**HEAD OF FOOTBALL:** ROB DRAY

- DAN LAVERCOMBE (GK) 1 ○  
JAY FOULSTON 3 ○  
NICK GRIMES 4 ○  
DAN BALL 5 ○  
AUSTEN BOOTH 6 ○  
OLLIE CHAMBERLAIN 7 ○  
LLOYD JAMES 8 ○  
NAT JARVIS 9 ○  
NICK MCCOOTIE 10 ○  
JOE GUEST 11 ○  
RABBY TABU MINZAMBA 12 ○  
ROSS STEARN 13 ○  
PHIL MENDONCA 15 ○  
ZAC SMITH 16 ○  
CAMERON EVANS 17 ○  
MARCUS DAY 18 ○  
CALLUM DOLMAN 19 ○  
DAVE SIMS-BURGESS 20 ○  
LLOYD IRISH (GK) 21 ○  
DYLAN MORGAN 22 ○  
ELLIOTT DUGAN 23 ○  
MALACHI LINTON 27 ○  
LEE LUCAS 31 ○  
EVANDER GRUBB 32 ○



## MATCH OFFICIALS

**REFEREE:**

ELLIOTT SWALLOW

**ASSISTANT REFEREE:**

COLIN HUBBARD

**ASSISTANT REFEREE:**

MARTIN UNDERHAY

**MANAGER:** MEL GWINNETT

- 1 ALAN JULIAN (GK)  
2 JORDAN THOMAS  
3 RUARIDH DONALDSON  
4 DEAN INMAN  
5 LUIS FERNANDEZ  
6 JORDAN CHEADLE  
7 ROB HALL  
8 ALFY WHITTINGHAM  
9 BEN SEYMOUR  
10 JAKE GRAY  
11 SAM DEADFIELD  
12 GEORGE HUNT  
13 OLLIE DAVIES (GK)  
14 JAMES COMLEY  
15 DAN WISHART  
16 ALEX SOLOMON  
17 CONNOR KURRAN-BROWNE  
19 ADAM DESBOIS (GK)  
20 TEIMO VAZAGKASVILI  
21 SHANE DUNNE  
25 ISAAC PITBLADO  
26 MASON BLOOMFIELD  
○  
○  
○

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