

PROGRAMME SPONSORS



CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

PROGRAMME SPONSORS

carlypress

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF TAUNTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

£3.00



**TAUNTON TOWN V
TONBRIDGE ANGELS**

SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER 2023 | KICK-OFF 3:00PM

**TAUNTON TOWN V
YEovil TOWN**

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER 2023 | KICK-OFF 3:00PM





WALPOLE DUNN

CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

ACCOUNTANCY ...BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT

START-UP BUSINESS SUPPORT & ADVICE

TAX COMPLIANCE

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION & REPORTING

COMPANY FORMATION & SECRETARIAL

TAX SPECIALISMS(EIS / EMI / R&D)

PAYROLL & AUTO-ENROLMENT

VAT COMPLIANCE

ACCOUNTANCY COMPLIANCE

CLOUD ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS

WHY CHOOSE US?

We believe that accountancy and tax services should be about more than a costly, annual catch up in swanky offices (although ours aren't bad!). We also believe that businesses shouldn't have to fork out large percentages of their profits in return for a quality service. That's why we offer comprehensive, cost-effective services to all of our clients and work hard to understand their needs and become their true business partners, proactively supporting them to achieve their goals.



Hestercombe House, Hestercombe Gardens,
Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton TA2 8LG Tel. 01823 740006
Email. enquiries@walpoledunn.co.uk www.walpoledunn.co.uk



sage Authorized Accountant



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
The Somerset Campervan Co Stadium
Wordsworth Drive
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 2HG

Website: www.tauntontown.co.uk

Phone: (01823) 254909

E-mail: admin@tauntontown.co.uk

Twitter: @TauntonTownFC

Facebook: Taunton Town FC

Instagram: Taunton Town FC

You Tube: Peacocks TV

Company Registration No: 1582031

Limited By Guarantee

Taunton Town Football Club does not tolerate discrimination of any sort at the club, on the pitch or in the stands. If you experience any form of discrimination, help us to eliminate it from football by reporting it.



STAFF DIRECTORY

President: Harold Needs

Life Vice Presidents: Alan Slade, Geoff Underwood

Chairman: Kevin Sturme

Chief Executive: Kevin Sturme

Vice Chairman: Brian Pollard

Directors: Derek Perry, Richard Smith

Company Secretary & Finance Manager: Alan Slade

Football Operations Manager: Karl Lindsay

Retail & Commercial Manager: Lee Derrick

Hospitality Manager: Keith Woodmason

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

Head Coach: Connor Sidley-Adams

Coach: Steve Phillips

Goalkeeping Coach: Lloyd Irish

Sports Therapist: Anthony Cornish ITMMIF

Sports Masseur: Paul Edwards

Analysts: Jordan Barrow, Adam White

Kit Manager: Karl Lindsay

Assistant Kit Manager: Bobby Porter

Club Doctor: Dr Tim Norbury

Head Groundsman: Rob Hake

Grounds Team: Kevin Sturme, Richard Medland, Stacy Matheson

Acting Safety Officer: Kevin Sturme

Matchday Coordinator: Martin Dongworth

Senior Stewards: Mike Parsons, Martin Hebditch, Phil Ogden

Welfare Officer: Neil White

Turnstile Manager: Jason Mayled

Stadium Announcer: Nick Rickards

MEDIA TEAM

Communications Manager: Paul Smith

Website Manager & Press Officer: Andy Power

Social Media Manager: Max Fournier

Media Officer: Darren Harris

Club Photographers: Debbie Gould, Darren Harris

Videographer: Alex Anderson

Peacocks Radio: Rich Wilcox-Smith, Jon Reed



THE GAFFER

Welcome to the Somerset Campervan Co Stadium for our next two home fixtures as we host Tonbridge Angels and league leading Yeovil Town. My welcome extends to the officials, management, players and supporters joining us and also to the match officials for both matches.

It has been an up and down few weeks with no consistency in games being played due to the weather which has impacted our form and preparation for individual opponents and this has shown with the varied results we have achieved. We suffered more frustration with the weather on Tuesday night as our home fixture against Torquay United was postponed with our pitch waterlogged from the rain, hopefully some dry weather will allow us to get some football in over the Christmas period.

We would like to thank you for your continued unwavering support throughout the year and please ensure you are in full voice for these two important matches. With these being our final two games of 2023

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all connected with Taunton Town Football Club a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024.

Up The Peacocks!!

Rob

Rob Dray
Head of Football, Taunton Town FC

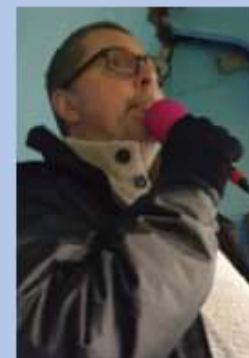


FUNDRAISER

On the 13th January 2024,
your friendly **Stadium**
Announcer Nick Rickards
will be completing a skydive
from 15,000 feet to raise
money for the MS Society



Nick has been suffering with Multiple Sclerosis for 24 years and together we have raised thousands for this cause. We would like to raise money so that people suffering with this horrible condition can access funds to support them with the things they need to live a happy, healthy life.



If you would like to donate to our cause, please see options below

JUST GIVING – search for Nick Rickards
https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Nick-Rickards?utm_term=DqYjy2Pbj

PAYPAL = multiple-s@hotmail.com

CASH = Please bring over on matchday

TEXT (07542)641501 for bank details

THE AWAY END



TONBRIDGE ANGELS

Tonbridge Football Club was formed in October 1947 following the suggestion of local businessman and founder chairman Herbert Portch, and was one of four clubs to be elected to the Southern Football League for the 1948–49 season. The club took out a lease on the Angel Ground, formerly the home of Kent County Cricket Club and named after the nearby hotel, 'The Angel'. Hence Tonbridge FC became known as 'The Angels'.

Throughout the 1950s the Angels (as they were nicknamed at the time, although it was not yet formally part of the club's name) would struggle to make any progress in the Southern League and a peak of 11th place was reached in 1949–50, the club's second season. However, Tonbridge would prove to be a strong side in cup competitions. In 1949–50, the club reached the semi-finals of the Southern League Cup, losing 3–2 to Colchester United. In three successive seasons, 1950–51, 1951–52 and 1952–53, Tonbridge reached the First Round Proper of the FA Cup, only to lose each of the three after a replay. Angels' opponents were Chelmsford City, Aldershot and Norwich City respectively. The Aldershot tie at the Angel Ground saw a record attendance of 8,236, while the Norwich City game was shrouded in controversy, with a late goal at Carrow Road settling the tie. The first trophy to be lifted came in 1951/52 with the Angels winning the Kent Senior Shield. Tonbridge would go on to win this trophy a further four times, in 1956, 1958, 1959 and 1964. Two Southern League Cup finals were reached and lost, beaten in 1954–55 by Yeovil Town and two seasons later

seasons later by Hereford United, and two Kent Senior Cup finals were also lost in 1956–57 and 1958–59. The club were relegated from the Premier Division in 1961–62, but were promoted two seasons later finishing in 4th place after narrowly missing out the year before. However the club were then relegated back to Division One in 1965–66. The notable success of the 1960s was the achievement of reaching the First Round Proper for a fourth time, this time being knocked out 1–0 by Dagenham. The club also won the Kent Senior Cup for the first time in 1964–65.

In 1972–73 Angels won promotion to the Premier Division by finishing as runners-up to Maidstone United. In the same season the First Round Proper of the FA Cup was reached once again as Charlton Athletic were the visitors to the Angel Ground. A crowd of 7,770 saw Charlton win 5–0. Tonbridge won the Kent Senior Cup in 1974–75 while managed by former World Cup winner George Cohen. After struggling to stay in the Premier Division, the club suffered financial troubles and went into voluntary liquidation in 1976. Tonbridge Angels FC was then formed and allowed to complete the fixture list on the understanding that relegation would result at the end of the 1975–76 season, wherever the club finished. Another major problem loomed soon after. The club's landlords, the local council, wanted the Angel Ground for development. A battle lasting up to three years that went as far as the High Courts ensued before the club was eventually offered a new ground at Longmead, its present home. The

at Longmead, its present home. The appropriately named Micky Angel scored the last goal at the old Angel Ground in 1980.

Former Tonbridge and Arsenal goalkeeper Tony Burns took over as manager for the 1980–81 season and the club's new Longmead Stadium hosted its first game on 18 August 1980, a crowd of 701 watching a Southern League Cup game against Crawley Town. Despite having a new home, finances proved to be a problem for the club. Burns departed for Gravesend & Northfleet in December 1982 to be replaced by John Keirs, who took the club to fourth place in the 1983–84 season, promotion only denied to the Angels on the final day of the season. Phil Emblen took over the reins in July 1985 and led the club to another Southern League Semi Final appearance in 1987, but his departure along with several key players at the end of the 1987–88 season led to a slump in the 40th anniversary season.

After a disappointing start to the 1997–98 season Colin Blewden took over as Player-Manager in October and hauled the club away from the relegation zone to finish in 14th place and led the Angels to a 16th-place finish in 1998–99. The 1999–2000 season was the club's most successful since re-joining the Southern League. A run of fourteen games at the end of the season, in which just one defeat was suffered, secured a final league placing of seventh. The following season, it appeared that the Angels might better that seventh-place finish. A storming start to the season saw just two of their first nineteen league matches lost. However, a run of five defeats in six matches late on left the Angels in eighth spot come the end of the season.

The 2004 reorganisation of the English football league system saw the Angels placed in the Isthmian League Premier Division. They were relegated in their first season but bounced back at the first attempt, in the most dramatic of fashions, after a rollercoaster 2005–06 season. Tonbridge were undefeated until October but a bad run of results threatened to undermine the promotion bid, but the Angels always did

enough to stay in the play-off places and a late surge secured third place and with it home advantage in the play-offs. Tooting & Mitcham were defeated in the Semi-Final match before a dream Final pitted the Angels at home to old Kent rivals Dover Athletic. The Lilywhites were beaten 3–2 in front of a new record Longmead Stadium attendance of 1,863.

In 2008/09 the Angels finished third in the Ryman Premier but lost to Carshalton Athletic in the play-offs. The close season saw a major ground development. The old covered stand, which had been transported from the Angel Ground to Longmead in 1980, was a hollow shell except for a pathway and 200 temporary seats. It was completely refurbished and transformed into a smart 720 capacity all-seater stand.

With fans allowed back into Longmead following the pandemic, and attendances moving upwards hopes were high for a successful 2021/22 season on the pitch but the league campaign was somewhat underwhelming with mathematical safety in National South only secured in the penultimate fixture. As compensation there was a record breaking run in the FA Trophy (5th Round) with two National League sides eliminated in the process. At the end of the season Steve McKimm was replaced by Jay Saunders as full time 1st team manager.

The club entered a new era in season 2022/23 with the summer installation of a FIFA approved 3G surface which was opened on Saturday, 20th August for the visit of Hampton and Richmond Borough, unfortunately it was an inauspicious beginning with a 4–1 defeat. Thankfully, this was not a foretaste of things to come as Jay Saunders first season at the club ended with a creditable ninth place finish, just four points off the play offs. The end of the season brought farewell to two legendary figures at the club with Sonny Miles leaving the club with a record 527 appearances to his name whilst in the boardroom, chairman Dave Netherstreet also stepped down after five years at the helm. Sophie Purves has replaced Dave as the club's chair.



TWO TO WATCH



SCOTT WAGSTAFF

A vastly experienced midfield player the 32 year old has recorded over 300 EFL appearances with Charlton Athletic and Gillingham. A key member of Manager, Jay Saunders squad, Scott says he's delighted to be playing for the Angels and believes it's a club going in the right direction. Wagstaff was appointed club captain at the beginning of the 2023/24 season succeeding Sonny Miles in the skipper role.



TARIQ HINDS

Ex Tottenham Hotspur Academy and Billericay Town player, Tariq Hinds has joined Angels to give further strength to the back line, his favoured position being right back. Tariq's competitive debut came as part of the starting line up in the 1-0 win against Chelmsford City at home (25th October) a match in which he had a strong performance alongside his defensive colleagues.

WWW.TONBRIDGEANGELS.CO.UK

Does your business take card or online payments?

The chances are that you are paying more than you need to.

We can help find the right plan for your business. We're experts in:

- / Payments processors
- / Building electronic point of sale
- / Online payments



We offer: More options. More flexibility. More service.

Scan for more info

Call Kevin: 07366 561548
www.paydough.me



PROUD SPONSOR OF THE PEACOCKS

PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE PEACOCKS

Reach over 56,000 potential readers by advertising in our Taunton magazines.



- 1-0 Every issue is delivered direct to homes.
- 2-0 Advertise from as little as £38+VAT per issue.
- 3-0 Check out our Taunton Town FC feature in every issue.

WORD GETS AROUND
Magazines

T: 01823 765045 E: info@wordgetsaround.co.uk
www.wordgetsaround.co.uk

THIS SEASON AT A GLANCE



PLAYED **19**

WON **7**

DRAWN **7**

LOST **5**

+/- **+1**

POINTS **28**

LGE POS **16TH**

HOME POINTS% **71%**



23 PLAYED

9 WON

6 DRAWN

8 LOST

+5 +/-

33 POINTS

9TH LGE POS

48% AWAY POINTS%



Looking for a Kit Supplier?

Become a New Balance partner and receive:

- FREE online shop
- Gift of Kit
- Dedicated account manager
- Custom kit and training wear
- Support of a leading global brand



SCAN ME

THE TEAMS

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER 2023 | KICK-OFF 3:00PM



V



HEAD OF FOOTBALL: ROB DRAY

- DAN LAVERCOMBE (GK) 1
- 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
- MALACHI LINTON 27
- LEE LUCAS 31



MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:
GEORGE WARREN

ASSISTANT REFEREE:
JAMES LONG

ASSISTANT REFEREE:
STEVEN SWAN

MANAGER: JAY SAUNDERS

- 1 JONATHAN HENLY (GK)
- 2 JAMIE FIELDING
- 4 TOM PARKINSON
- 5 LEWIS GARD
- 7 FRANCIS MUMPOLO
- 8 JORDAN HIGGS
- 10 CHARLIE PEGRUM
- 12 TARIQ HINDS
- 13 NATHANIEL GIBB (GK)
- 16 JOSEPH TYRIE
- 17 ETHAN SUTCLIFFE
- 18 JORDAN GREENIDGE
- 19 JERNADE MEADE
- 22 SCOTT WAGSTAFF
- 23 SEAN SHIELDS
- 30 SONNY FISH

WWW.TAUNTONTOWNFC.COM



LAST TIME WE MET

acm
acmole

The Accountants that are always on the ball...

We are one of the leading Chartered Accountants, Tax Advisors and Registered Auditors

www.acmole.co.uk



DAVE WEBSTER

View from the stands

HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE 3 TAUNTON TOWN 0
Vanarama National League South



Where to start with this one!!!! The packed mini bus was full of joy and optimism of coming home with 3 points as we arrived in Hampshire, with not a negative vibe in the air. This was mainly down to the manner in which our team demolished Farnborough the previous Saturday.

But within the first 15 minutes, with H&W leading 1-0, all heads dropped, on and off the field. We were literally being taken apart with the precision of a scientist dissecting a frog in a laboratory. We were ripped apart in every department by a revamped club, that pushed title winners Ebbsfleet all the way last season.

The mystery of this first half was how in the name of Conway Twitty were we only losing by the solitary goal by half time? Because quite honestly, but for some good saves from Dan, and awful misses from the opposition, we could so easily have been 4-0 down by the interval. The reality was, that but for a 5 minute spell, Taunton Town were played off the pitch. There is an old saying of do not change a winning team. This line up was changed to all supporters present, bewilderment's!!

Our tactics were also changed massively in comparison to the previous Saturday, with the long, high ball back in favour. Which again baffled the fans, as H&W had 2 giants playing at numbers 5 and 6, who won just about everything in the air!!! Our only real efforts in the first half came from a Austen Booth header, which was easily caught by the keeper, and a Ross Stearn free kick that ended up on the roof of the net.

As we came out for the 2nd half, Taunton despite a chaotic first half were still in it. We

huffed and puffed but were getting nowhere. Warner in goal, was at last tested. First by Dylan and then by Zac, which resulted in top class saves. This was indeed our only real efforts of note on goal, in a very lacklustre display. Substitutions were made with Ross and Nat Jarvis taken off for Mal and Cam, and then Nick McCootie for Lloyd James, all to no avail. H&W were on fire and nothing was going to stop them from winning 3 on the bounce, as they went 2-0 up from a Grimes own goal, and then 3-0 up from a goal where our defence opened up like Moses dividing the Red Sea!!! Kai Innocent, who had been a thorn in our backsides all afternoon cut through our rear-guard like a knife through butter.

This was a very demoralised Taunton team, where issues off the field are clearly creating a negative response. In all the night on 20 years of following this club, there has never been a time where derision and division has been so evident as is clearly being shown at this current time, where rumours are rife. Not a happy club at all right now, many are sensing!!!

And so on to Tuesday. Its a tough one, but Taunton really do need to play out of their skins, to get this latest defeat out of our thoughts. Can we do this? Damned right we can. Up the Peacocks.



CARRYING YOUR TEAM TO SUCCESS



Find The Best Van Leasing Deals At
vanarama.com

Football Fun Factory Taunton



Football Fun and Development

Weekly Football Programmes!
Technical Training, fun games
and matches for boys and
girls of all abilities.

Ages 5-12

Tots Football Fun

An introduction to football
through fun games and
activities inside our fantastic
Inflatable Football Pitch.

Ages 2-5



Book a 3 Week Free Trial today
www.FootballFunFactory.co.uk

carlypress

Quality printing since 1982

Print | Design | Mailing | Signage
Point of Sale | Vehicle Graphics



01823 667063 | carlypress.co.uk

THE AWAY END



YEOVIL TOWN

Yeovil Football Club, founded in 1890, has a fascinating history that spans over a century. In its early days, the club shared its ground with the local rugby club until a new entity, named Yeovil Casuals, was formed five years later in 1895. This marked the beginning of a new era, and in 1907, the club adopted the name Yeovil Town, eventually amalgamating with Petters United to become Yeovil and Petters United. However, it later reverted to its original name, Yeovil Town, before the 1946–47 season.

One of the most memorable moments in the club's history came during the 1948–49 FA Cup when Yeovil Town gained national attention as 'giant-killers.' They stunned football fans by defeating Sunderland 2–1 in the fourth round, witnessed by a record home attendance of 17,000. Unfortunately, their remarkable cup run ended in the following round with a heavy 8–0 defeat to Manchester United.

Yeovil Town's successes were not limited to the FA Cup. Between 1955 and 1973, the club was crowned champions of the Southern Football League three times and finished as runners-up twice. The dream of joining the Football League was pursued relentlessly, and the club came close to securing a place in 1976, falling just short in the election process.

In 1979, Yeovil Town was among the

founding members of the Football Conference, a new national non-league division. Despite experiencing ups and downs over the years, the club's determination saw them win the Isthmian League championship in 1988, leading to their return to the Conference.

The 1990s saw more achievements for Yeovil Town, including success in the Bob Lord Challenge Trophy and a commendable fourth-place finish in the Conference, their best ever position. Under the leadership of manager Gary Johnson, who took charge in 2001, the club achieved significant milestones. They won the FA Trophy in his debut season and clinched promotion to the Football League in the following campaign by dominating the Football Conference with a record-breaking 17-point margin, 95 points, and 100 goals.

Yeovil Town's first game in the Football League resulted in a 3–1 away win over Rochdale, and they finished their debut season in an impressive eighth position. Their journey in the FA Cup also captured the attention of fans, with the release of a club record titled "Yeovil True."

Despite managerial changes and challenges, Yeovil Town continued to make strides in the Football League. They reached the League One play-offs in the 2012–13 season and triumphed in the final,

securing promotion to the second tier for the first time in their history. While they faced relegation back to League One after one season in the Championship, the club remained determined and tenacious.

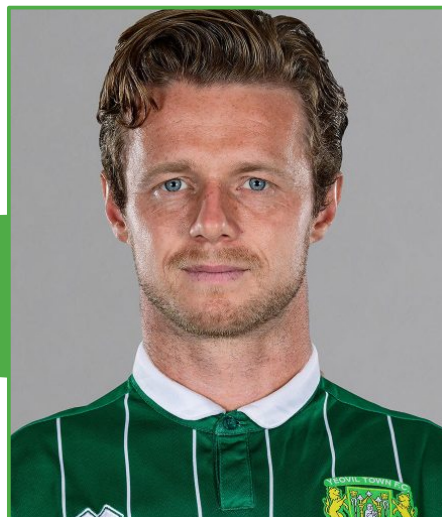
In recent years, the club experienced .

financial difficulties and went through changes in ownership. Despite facing relegation and dropping into non-league football, Yeovil Town remained resilient. With a rich legacy behind them and new ownership by the Hellier Group in 2023, the future holds potential for the club's revival.





TWO TO WATCH

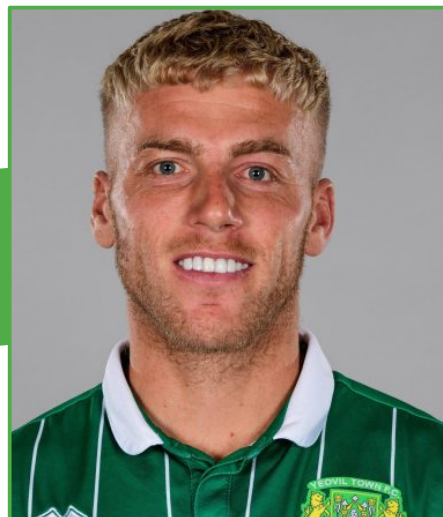


ALEX FISHER

Fisher, who is already a familiar face at Huish Park, spent 18 months as a Glover, where he scored 14 goals in all competitions.

Since departing in 2019, he spent two seasons at Exeter City before joining Newport County.

The towering forward returned with an abundance of experience, having played across Europe in Spain, Italy, Belgium & Scotland, alongside 115 apps in the Football League.



JAKE WANNELL

A towering defender, Wannell joined the Glovers in June 2023.

Starting his career in the Exeter City Academy, he enjoyed loan spells in the Southern League, with the likes of Chippenham Town, Dorchester Town and Poole Town. Permanent spells with Weymouth and Salisbury City followed which attracted him offers from a higher level. Ultimately, he made the switch to Taunton Town, a move that turned out to be a great success for the defender.

WWW.YTFC.NET

THIS SEASON AT A GLANCE



PLAYED **19**

WON **7**

DRAWN **7**

LOST **5**

+/- **+1**

POINTS **28**

LGE POS **16TH**

HOME POINTS% **71%**



PLAYED **22**

WON **14**

DRAWN **5**

LOST **3**

+/- **+16**

POINTS **47**

LGE POS **1ST**

AWAY POINTS% **36%**

THE TEAMS

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER 2023 | KICK-OFF 3:00PM



V



HEAD OF FOOTBALL: ROB DRAY

DAN LAVERCOMBE (GK) 1
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
MALACHI LINTON 27
LEE LUCAS 31



MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

NIALL SMITH

ASSISTANT REFEREE:

HARLEY HETHERINGTON

ASSISTANT REFEREE:

ALEX ROLFE

MANAGER: MARK COOPER

2 MORGAN WILLIAMS
3 ALEX WHITTLE
5 JAMIE SENDLES-WHITE
6 JAKE WANNELL
7 JORDAN STEVENS
8 MATTHEW WORTHINGTON
9 JAKE HYDE
10 JORDAN MAGUIRE-DREW
11 JORDAN YOUNG
15 JOSH OWERS
16 SONNY BLU LO-EVERTON
17 WILL DAWES
18 ALEX FISHER
21 JOE DAY
23 MICHAEL SMITH
24 CARLIE COOPER
30 FRANK NOUBLE
33 JAY FOULSTON
39 RHYS MURPHY

WWW.TAUNTONTOWNFC.COM

MATCH DAY PROGRAMMES

IF YOU AREN'T USING US FOR YOUR PROGRAMMES.....YOU REALLY SHOULD BE



AWARD WINNING
MATCHDAY PROGRAMME DESIGN

We cover all sports

- FROM GRASSROOTS TO PROFESSIONAL -

• In-house design & print • No minimum print run • Nationwide service

CONTACT US TODAY TO SEE HOW WE CAN MAKE YOU LOOK GOOD ON PAPER

Telephone: 01782 525500

Website: matchday-programmes.co.uk

E-Mail: enquiries@matchday-programmes.co.uk

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

To subscribe, visit www.thenonleaguefootballpaper.com/subscriptions

And then there were three. Maybe six.

The FA Cup third round proper is fast approaching and Non-League will be represented by at least a trio of clubs — you wouldn't bet against it being more.

Maidstone United were the first to confirm their place last Saturday afternoon and it with the typical heartwarming FA Cup story of academy graduate turned hero with Bivesh Gurung's brilliant strike lighting up the Gallagher Stadium as the Stones beat League Two Barrow.

It's their first trip to third round stage of the competition since reforming in 1992 and manager George Elokobi was, almost, lost for words.

"Whatever my emotions that I've shown today are the emotions that stand with the whole of the Maidstone community."

The third round draw perhaps hasn't provided the big Premier League giant any Non-League club would be hoping for. But it has provided opportunity.

The National League South side will now host the winners of the replay between Stevenage and Port Vale, who will know a very tricky task lies ahead should they get through.

On Sunday afternoon it was the turn of

Eastleigh and Chesterfield.

The latter are threatening to run away with the National League title and they've shown what a good side they are by dumping out two League One sides in the last two rounds.

After the scalp of Portsmouth came the 1-0 upset of Leyton Orient. Paul Cook's side travel to Championship club Watford next.

There aren't many better inside National League boxes than Paul McCallum and the Eastleigh forward bagged two as Richard Hill's Spitfires beat Reading on live telly.

Like in so many dramatic upsets, the winner came deep in stoppage-time and gave the League One Royals — beset by problems off the pitch — no time to come back.

Their third round opposition is still TBC. Could we be set for a National League showdown? If Barnet, who scored a late equaliser at Newport County through Danny Collinge, click again in Tuesday's replay then they are going to cause problems for the League Two side. Bees v Spitfires would be huge in round three. We'll see.

As we will for National League North Alfreton Town. They had the

disappointment last Saturday of their live TV game with Walsall being postponed just minutes before kick-off because of a frozen pitch.

They tried again on Tuesday night and shared a 0-0 draw so it's back to the League Two outfit for the right to play Southampton away.

A trip to a Championship club is also on offer for Aldershot Town when they face Stockport County again following a 2-2 draw at home — Josh Stokes, a summer signing from AFC Sudbury, continued to show why he's one of Non-League's most talked about talents with two goals.

Three in round three has a nice ring to it. But we'd prefer six. Good luck everyone!



OFFICIAL MATCH REPORT

HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE 3 TAUNTON TOWN 0

16.12.2023 | VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH | ATT: 766

The Peacocks capitulated to a conclusive defeat against the National League South bottom markers who in turn made it three wins on the bounce. It is hard to remember a more disheartening afternoon in recent seasons, with such a deficient performance coming against the backdrop of more important off-field issues which need to be resolved.

The Taunton side showed one change from that which had dismantled Farnborough seven days earlier, with Nat Jarvis returning from suspension to replace Nick McCootie. My word, what a difference a week makes. As clinical and efficient as Town had been against Farnborough, they were as sloppy and lacklustre in equal measure against another Hampshire side who had escaped with a point in the earlier meeting between the sides at the Somerset Campervan Co Stadium thanks to a late missed penalty. The Hawks were on the front foot from the off and the Peacocks had no real answer. Harry Jewitt-White and Devante Stanley had already drilled strikes narrowly wide for Havant before they took the lead after six minutes. Another Jewitt-White shot was deflected for a corner from which Joe McNerney flicked a header against the post and fellow centre half Ben Morgan reacted to prod into the net.

This early setback failed to muster a meaningful response from the visitors as they struggled to create a chance of note. Dylan Morgan got a faint touch on a Jarvis cross, with Hawks' keeper Ross Worner claiming ahead of Ross Stearn while Austen Booth's header from a Lloyd James free kick was going wide anyway although Worner made sure by clutching it. The purposeful football was coming from the home side and after Ryan Seager had turned onto a Phillips' centre to see his effort held by Town shotstopper Dan Lavercombe, Havant missed a fine opportunity to double their lead on the quarter hour when Jake McCarthy's drive deflected to Phillips who had plenty to aim at but fired wide of the target from 10 yards.

The remainder of the half saw more of the same, with Havant dominant going forward. Lavercombe pulled off a fine stop to turn wide a strike from James Roberts before a Roberts' cross found McCarthy free, but he could only direct his header straight at the keeper. The Peacocks eventually won their first corner of the game on 41 minutes which resulted in an upward headed clearance falling for Morgan who aimed a header at goal but without enough power to beat Worner who caught comfortably. Stearn's free kick deflected off the wall to land on the roof

of the net, the last vestiges of action from a half in which Town had been distinctly second best.

There was to be no festive cheer for the travelling support after the break either. The Hawks carried on from where they had left off, Roberts seeing two shots blocked while Stearn suffered the same fate at the other end after Morgan had gotten in the way of his strike. Town's hopes plummeted akin to Santa falling down the chimney when the hosts broke away to add a second goal on the hour, Devante Stanley finding acres of room down the right to play in Phillips and his attempted cross to locate Seager was diverted into his own net by Nick Grimes. Town's continued inclination to launch long balls forward was being mopped up by twin centre halves McNerney and Morgan so in an effort to change fortunes, Cameron Evans and Malachi Linton replaced Stearn and Jarvis with 25 to go.

Worner at last was forced into extending himself when he got a touch to turn

Morgan's shot wide and with McCootie coming on for James with just over ten minutes remaining were there still some sprinklings of hope? Zac Smith found space to switch feet and test Worner from the edge of the box as he palmed away at the expense of a corner but the underlying malaise of this match was never far away from rearing its head and after Lavercombe had done brilliantly to deny Seager from close range following a Roberts cross, the three points were rubberstamped for the hosts five minutes from time. Whether it was sensational skill from Havant left back Kai Innocent or a Christmas gift from the Peacocks' backline is open to debate but whatever it was game over as the Hawks' player embarked on a run from midfield and danced past numerous yellow shirts to reach the box where he planted his finish beyond Lavercombe. The referee made Town fans endure five further minutes of added time before the relief of the final whistle. No further comment on a day to forget.





VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH 2023-24 LEAGUE STANDINGS

P	Team	GP	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	PTS
1	YEOVIL TOWN	22	14	5	3	42	26	+16	47
2	Torquay United	22	13	1	8	41	33	+8	40
3	Hampton & Richmond	22	11	6	5	34	27	+7	39
4	Maidstone United	22	11	6	5	33	28	+5	39
5	Worthing	22	11	4	7	44	35	+9	37
6	Aveley	23	10	5	8	34	28	+6	35
7	Braintree Town	22	9	7	6	35	23	+12	34
8	Bath City	22	9	7	6	39	28	+11	34
9	TONBRIDGE ANGELS	23	9	6	8	35	30	+5	33
10	Chelmsford City	22	8	8	6	30	25	+5	32
11	Farnborough	23	7	9	7	39	40	-1	30
12	Weston-super-Mare	21	9	3	9	32	34	-2	30
13	Dartford	22	8	5	9	35	33	+2	29
14	Chippenham Town	22	7	8	7	32	32	0	29
15	St Albans City	22	9	2	11	32	37	-5	29
16	TAUNTON TOWN	19	7	7	5	25	24	+1	28
17	Hemel Hempstead Town	23	7	7	9	25	31	-6	28
18	Slough Town	20	7	5	8	37	33	+4	26
19	Truro City	20	7	4	9	30	32	-2	25
20	Weymouth	22	5	9	8	24	32	-8	24
21	Eastbourne Borough	23	6	5	12	29	41	-12	23
22	Welling United	22	4	8	10	28	42	-14	20
23	Havant & Waterlooville	23	4	3	16	28	51	-23	15
24	Dover Athletic	22	1	10	11	22	40	-18	13

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

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 1st January 2024

3pm	Bath City v Chippenham Town
3pm	Chelmsford City v Braintree Town
3pm	Eastbourne Borough v Worthing
3pm	Farnborough v Havant & Waterlooville
1pm	Hampton & Richmond v Slough Town
3pm	Hemel Hempstead Town v St Albans City
3pm	Maidstone United v Tonbridge Angels
3pm	Truro City v Torquay United
3pm	Weymouth v Weston-super-Mare

Saturday 6th January 2024

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

Tuesday 9th January 2024

7.45pm	Bath City v Slough Town
7.45pm	Maidstone United v Dartford



WWW.THENATIONALLEAGUE.ORG.UK

NEXT UP AT HOME

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024

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)



PEACOCKS TV

All the latest highlights
and interviews

YouTube

It is selfie time again



The Untold Game

Charlton's Ballon d'Or Disaster

Allan Simonsen was undeniably a great footballer. The Dane was European Footballer of the Year in 1977, beating out the likes of Kevin Keegan and Johan Cruyff to the award. He played for Barcelona, had been their top goalscorer and found the winning goal in the Cup Winners Cup final, securing a much needed European trophy for the Catalan side. But when they paid a world record fee for Diego Maradona in 1982, it threw his position into doubt. Spanish football at the time allowed only two European players on the pitch at the time. The Argentine would obviously start, and when it became clear that Bernd Schuster would as well, Simonsen took his leave of the club for new pastures. Nobody could have expected those pastures to be... Charlton Athletic.

Simonsen had offers from across Europe, but the front runners turned out to be Barcelona's hated rivals Real Madrid, and Tottenham Hotspur. Given the tensions between the two Spanish sides, North London seemed the most likely prospect for the Dane, where Spurs had just achieved their highest finish in a decade and were looking at pushing beyond the fourth place they had found themselves in the previous season. But then Simonsen threw a spanner into those plans, stating that he would enjoy a more relaxed footballing environment, something that

White Hart Lane didn't really offer. Struggling at the wrong end of the Second Division, Charlton owner Mark Hulyer took his chance, blowing both Tottenham and Real Madrid out of the water with a £325,000 bid. Barcelona accepted on one condition: all of the money was paid up front. They didn't trust in Mark Hulyer's vision any more than anyone else.

The Valley at that time could take 75,000, but hadn't seen even 40,000 for 35 years. Charlton averaged 7000 fans for their home games, but Hulyer wasn't content to sit at that level. The colossal bid for Simonsen, with high salary (by Second Division standards) and no bank to help finance the deal, was a gamble, but the interest he would generate, and the success he would bring, would boost attendances so considerably that he would soon repay the money on the pitch. It was an idea with sadly predictable consequences.

Initially, Hulyer was right, to an extent. 4000 fans turned up for the reserve game where Simonsen would first kick a ball in a Charlton shirt, and more than 10,000 saw him play his first game for the first team, a gate increase of 50%. And Simonsen, European Footballer of the Year only five years earlier, took to his new team with ease. That first game ended in defeat against Middlesbrough, but Charlton fans

saw their star signing score his first goal, and create chance after chance for his teammates.

Having dropped from the pinnacle of European Football to the Second Division, the Dane's first 16 games for the club saw a slight upturn in fortunes for Charlton. He scored nine goals, providing more for his teammates, and usually won man of the match; not a huge surprise for a player deemed a peer of Johan Cruyff. But it was also a frustrating experience for Simonsen. His new teammates were not up to his speed, and incisive through balls, inch-perfect crosses, and magical moments were wasted by teammates who were always behind him. He couldn't do it alone, as evidenced by a 7-1 drubbing against Burnley.

Simonsen did have bright moments, the most notable against Chelsea following that Burnley game. Charlton took a two goal lead in the first half, but let it slip before the hour. Simonsen took charge of the game after that, gliding around the pitch as though he were still a Barcelona player, beating Chelsea defenders that, like most in the Second Division, were far below his level, and scoring two goals, creating another, for a 5-2 win. He had also doubled the attendance at Charlton, to a peak of 13000, but it wasn't enough. Just five months after signing him, the south London galactico was causing financial problems. Hulyer was looking to sell.

Offloading a Ballon d'Or winner was a simpler, but much less profitable, prospect for Charlton than it had been for Barcelona. Fearing this exact situation, Simonsen's agent had put a release clause into the contract he had signed. When Hulyer approached him to explain that they couldn't afford his wages, the agent triggered the clause and Simonsen

left the club in January of 1983. He went back to his homeland, and joined his childhood club VB to see out his relaxed career. Things for Charlton were not so cosy.

Facing the massive financial losses of the Simonsen experiment, Charlton were soon also given an even bigger tax bill of more than £400,000. The club finished that season five places lower than they had the previous, and facing bankruptcy. The club was placed into administration and forced to leave The Valley altogether, to share Selhurst Park with Crystal Palace.

So the signing of Allan Simonsen did have the huge impact on Charlton that Hulyer had claimed, just not the one he had hoped for.





2023-24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
AUGUST					
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
SEPTEMBER					
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
OCTOBER					
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)	0-1 L	843	3rd
Tues 24th	League	Bath City (A)	3-0 L	1,537	5th
Sat 28th	League	Chelmsford City (A)	0-0 D	645	5th
NOVEMBER					
Tues 7th	SPC2	STREET (H)	2-2 (4-3W Pens)	298	N/A
Sat 11th	League	Hemel Hempstead Town (A)	1-0 L	491	13th
Tues 21st	League	Truro City (A)	2-2 (8-7L Pens)	-	15th
Sat 25th	League	WORTHING (H)	1-1 D	765	15th

Date	Competition	Opponents	KO/Score	Att	Lge Pos
DECEMBER					
Sat 2nd	League	Eastbourne Borough (A)	A-A	N/A	15th
Sat 9th	League	FARNBOROUGH (H)	4-0 W	680	14th
Sat 16th	League	Havant & Waterlooville (A)	3-0 L	766	16th
Sat 23rd	League	TONBRIDGE ANGELS (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 26th	League	Yeovil Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sun 31st	League	YEOVIL TOWN (H)	3:00pm	-	-
JANUARY					
Sat 6th	League	Slough Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 13th	League	DOVER ATHLETIC (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 16th	League	SLOUGH TOWN (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 20th	League	Braintree Town (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 23rd	League	WEYMOUTH (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 27th	League	AVELEY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
FEBRUARY					
Sat 3rd	League	Welling United (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 6th	League	Truro City (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 10th	League	St Albans City (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 13th	League	TORQUAY UNITED (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Sat 17th	League	MAIDSTONE UNITED (H)	7:45pm	-	-
Tues 20th	League	CHIPPENHAM TOWN (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 24th	League	Dartford (A)	3:00pm	-	-
Tues 27th	League	WESTON-SUPER-MARE (H)	7:45pm	-	-
MARCH					
Sat 2nd	League	TRURO CITY (H)	3:00pm	-	-
Sat 9th	League	Worthing (A)	7:45pm	-	-
Tues 12th	League	Torquay United (A)	3:00pm	-	-
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	-	-
APRIL					
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	-	-



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.

TOP OF THE LEAGUE FOR VAN LEASING



Find The Best Van Leasing Deals At
vanarama.com

**The Premier League,
The FA and Government
are together for football.
Unlocking the power
of pitches to transform
lives and strengthen
communities.**



Find out our plans for your area:
footballfoundation.org.uk

UCFB
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS OF FOOTBALL BUSINESS

GIS
GLOBAL INSTITUTE OF SPORT

Kick off your career in the sports industry

Turn your passion for football into a career with the **University Campus of Football Business** and its **Global Institute of Sport** where you can study a wide range of courses with access to **iconic stadiums** and **global summits**.

Over 90% of UCFB graduates find **full-time employment within 6 months** of graduating with **two thirds** of those working in football and sport



We have alumni working in each of the **20 Premier League** clubs and **49 of the 72 EFL** clubs



They say if you have a job that you love you'll never work a day in your life and I genuinely feel like that.

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**



Scan here for more information and how to apply, or visit **UCFB.ac.uk**



RACISM. HOMOPHOBIA. MISOGYNY . DISABLISM.



**TOGETHER
WE CAN**



Take action today at kickitout.org