

HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1907 (AS TUFNELL PARK F.C.)

GROUND: CVS VAN HIRE STADIUM, COLES
PARK, WHITE HART LANE,
LONDON, N17 7JP



HARINGEY BOROUGH v WITHAM TOWN
(Emirates FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round)

SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2024 - 3.00pm

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Issue 2723

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HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

COLES PARK, WHITE HART LANE, LONDON, N17 7JP

CLUB WEBSITE: www.haringeyboroughfc.net

FOUNDED 1907: Affiliated to the London Football Association

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HARINGEY BOROUGH FC LTD: Company Reg. No. 07237358

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HARINGEY BOROUGH FC - A BRIEF HISTORY

It was not until 1970 that a team competed under the name of Haringey Borough when WOOD GREEN TOWN who had played at Coles Park since 1930 changed their name to Haringey Borough. A merger with EDMONTON FC in 1973 resulted in a brief change of name to Edmonton & Haringey FC until 1976 when the present name was re-adopted. The merged Club played in the Athenian League until it ceased to operate at the end of the 1983/84 season and then played for 4 seasons in Division 2 North of the Isthmian League. After a period of instability culminating in a year in the wilderness away from Senior football in 1988/89 they were admitted to the Spartan League in 1989/90 retaining Premier Division membership throughout until the South Midlands League merger in season 1997/98 when they finished 7th in the Premier Division South to secure membership of the new "combined" Premier Division for 1998/99 as well as being runners up in the League's Premier Division Cup. In 2004 after an unsuccessful attempt to move the Club to the nearby New River Sports stadium and a walk out of the existing Committee Aki Achillea who had commenced his association with the Club in 1995 was appointed to lead the Club forward and together with George Kilikita and Secretary John Bacon the club sought to engage more with the local community and tap into the talent locally.



The senior men's team having been relegated to Division One of the Spartan South Midlands League in 2006/7 bounced back with promotion at the very first attempt and a fine season ended with both promotion and the winning of the Division One Cup. Back in the Premier Division for the season 2008/09 the Club again quickly found itself among the relegation strugglers leading to the appointment of the current Manager – the vastly experienced Tom Loizou. Tom and his excellent loyal team of coaching staff have been instrumental in turning around the Club's fortunes in the intervening years. In 2011/12 a highest ever 5th place was achieved and the League Challenge Trophy won. After massive stadium improvements in the close season with the erection of a new Clubhouse and new dressing rooms hopes were high for 2012/13 but the poor weather and the problematic pitch led to a massive fixture backlog which negated any chance of a serious challenge for honours and the Club finished 9th. In 2013/14 the Club's challenge for promotion took place in the Essex Senior League following a sideways switch imposed by the FA. The Club had what was then its most successful season ever finishing runners up by just a solitary point to Great Wakering Rovers and ended the season with 20 wins and one draw from the final 21 League games. The League title was nevertheless secured at the second attempt in 2014/15 with a haul of 103 points from 38 games and with it promotion to Step 4 in which we were allocated to the Ryman League Division One North. The first season at the higher level was a baptism of fire when only 7 points were garnered from the first 17 games but by the close of the season a further 43 points had been amassed from the remaining 29 games and the Club finished in a comfortable 15th place. The first season in the FA Trophy produced two fine victories before a replay loss to Hitchin Town of the Evostik South Premier Division. The summer of 2016 saw yet further investment in the close season in the form of a 3G synthetic main pitch and added improvements to the perimeter, the spectator rails and the floodlights and has created a facility of which the Club can be proud; and has afforded a greater opportunity for the Club to move forward in all aspects. The first team in 2016/17 improved markedly on the previous season and had an excellent all round campaign although rather unfortunate not to finish the season on a high having ended with the "double heartbreak" of missing out on promotion through a 4-5 closely fought semi final play-off defeat at Maldon & Tiptree FC after finishing 5th in the Division and an odd goal 2-3 London Senior Cup semi-final loss at Metropolitan Police. But 2017/18 was to be the Club's best ever and culminated in promotion to Step 3 via the play-off route with a 3-1 win over Canvey Island after automatic promotion had been missed by just two points. And in FA Competitions the 4th and final round of the Qualifying rounds for the FA Cup was reached, although that ended in disappointment with a 2-4 home defeat by Heybridge Swifts who then enjoyed a visit to Exeter City in the First Round Proper. In the FA Trophy we went right through the qualifying campaign and were lucky enough to draw Leyton Orient in the First Round Proper which brought a record attendance of 1,133 to Coles Park and "The O's" left mightily relieved at having come back to win 2-1 after going a goal down in the fifth minute. 2018/19 was another great but ultimately disappointing season with an FA Cup run which took us into the First Round Proper

where it was ended rather cruelly by AFC Wimbledon's last minute goal at Coles Park in front of a record crowd of 2,710. Having led the Premier Division for several weeks in mid-season it was somewhat surprising that we dropped from 2nd to 3rd on the last day of the season after a poor late run but still enjoyed home advantage in the Play-Off Semi-final in which a 45 minute second half onslaught on the Tonbridge Angels goal produced only one goal in response to the two they had scored before the interval. The 2019/20 season's early termination was less of a disappointment for us than for many other Isthmian Premier Division Clubs as we were marooned in mid-table with no realistic prospect of entering either the promotion or relegation zones. The highlight of the season should have been the visit of National League Yeovil Town in the Final Qualifying Round of the Emirates FA Cup but, as is well known, appalling crowd behaviour brought that game to an early end and the second game seemed something of an anti-climax. In fact, without making excuses, that unpleasant episode seems to have adversely affected our players for some time for, whereas we had been well in the promotion places mix, thereafter we just drifted downwards. The early termination of League Fixtures for 2020/21 was more of a blow than was the previous seasons voiding as we were well placed to make a charge towards a play-off place at least. However the Buildbase FA Trophy continued and we enjoyed a run through to the 4th Round Proper when Oxford City of the National League South finally eliminated us 4-2 after we had been two up; en route we had overcome Faversham Town, Bishops Stortford, Eastbourne Borough and Dartford, the last two also being National League South Clubs. The London Senior Cup also carried on and due to withdrawals, we reached the quarter-final without playing a game but lost a penalty shoot out to Hanwell Town after a 2-2 draw. The 2021/22 season was more or less a non-event as regards any real challenge for the League top spots but the semi-finals of The League Cup and the London Senior Cup were reached with both games ending in odd goal defeats in the space of a week. We may well have set a Club record for the highest number of injuries sustained in any season and that even led to an outside chance of relegation towards the end of the season but the failings of others meant we were never in serious danger. 2022/23 was a disappointment in League terms as we lost our way quite early after a start which gave rise to play-off hopes and 15th place was the final outcome. But we did reach the London Senior Cup final where we faced Charlton Athletic Under 23s at Hendon's Silver Jubilee Park. Three down after half an hour we looked dead and buried but fought back ferociously to level with three goals all from set pieces (2 direct free kicks and a penalty) finally going down to a 3-5 defeat after extra time. Season 2023/24 will live long in the memory but for all the wrong reasons. A disastrous start which saw only one point in the bag after nine League games meant there was a mountain to be climbed if the four relegation spots were to be avoided. As the season wore on it seemed that there was just a possibility that we might claw our way to safety but garnering only three points from the final nine League games put paid to any lingering optimism. So we now return to the North Division after six seasons in the Premier Division in which we had come within a whisker of promotion to the National League. Early exits from three of the four Cups entered meant that reaching the semi-final of the other - the League Cup - provided some cheer to an otherwise dismal season. The Under 23s having switched to the Essex Alliance following the winding up of the Isthmian League Development section reached the semi-final of their League Cup where they encountered the runaway League Champions. The Womens Team went one better and provided the highlight of the Clubs season by reaching the Final of the Capital Womens Senior Cup and gave National League Ashford Town a serious challenge before losing 4-2.

2016/17 saw the introduction of a much needed "second" team, formed to compete in the Ryman Development League it being basically intended for Under 21 players but with the facility to include up to 4 older players in every squad. The team held their own comfortably in the League finishing a very creditable 6th place and the benefits of the Club's participation were all too evident with the introduction of a number of players into the first team squad throughout the season and the opportunity for first team squad players to keep fresh and those who were returning from injury had a platform to get fit. Thereby proving the benefits of having such a side. The age restriction was amended to Under 23 for 2017/18 and the team which had always been near the top of the table, continued to do well in the following seasons and won the North Division Championship in 2021/22 but lost to South Division Champions Hastings United in the "Champion of Champions" play off. 2022/23 saw the North Division reduced to just 6 teams playing each other 3 times following withdrawals and the League decided not to run an Under 23 (Development) Section at all.

Youth teams were commenced and run successfully for many years at various age levels with some considerable

success particularly at the older age groups including progress into the 2nd round proper of the FA Youth Cup in 2006/07. They were Divisional winners of the Southern Counties Floodlit Youth League in 2004/05 and 2009/10 They were winners of the League's Colwyn Cup in 2004/05 and runners up in 2008/09. After a few seasons absence from Youth football the Under 18s rejoined the Southern Counties competition in 2017/18, winning its Divisional Championship at the first attempt and finishing towards the top of the table in the following seasons until falling away somewhat and finishing mid-table in 2022/23 and 2023/24. This will again provide a pathway for talented local boys to make their way into the first team squad and ultimately the first team itself.

The Women's Team was formed in 1999 and competed in the Eastern Region Womens League winning promotion in its first season and then to its Premier Division for 2002/03; and there they have remained save for two seasons, the first being in 2011/12 following relegation to Division 1 from which they made an immediate Premier Division return as runners-up. Steady improvement began and we were extremely fortunate to have been approached midway through the 2014/15 season by renowned coach and former professional footballer Steve Browne who at the time was involved in the highly successful S & T Academy Girls football. Steve was duly appointed Manager and preserved the Women's Premier Division status. In 2015/16 a mid table position was easily secured from an uneven campaign which included convincing away wins at the top 2 Clubs and some surprisingly disappointing performances against lower placed teams. In 2017/18, by Christmas the team were runaway League leaders only to be thrown off course by the tragic early death of Steve on New Years Day but after a shaky period the Women re-asserted themselves to win the League Championship with their last League game of the Season and with it, promotion to the Women's Premier League and followed that up by adding the League Cup with a 5-1 win over Cambridge City to complete the double which was a a fitting, lasting legacy for their Manager. The loss of many of the successful squad, several to American University Scholarships, proved too much of a handicap at the higher level and relegation back to the Eastern Regional League was an unsurprising outcome. Now under the stewardship of Bobby Cato significant steps forward seem certain and promotion is again a realistic prospect. An exceptionally young and talented squad was unlucky to find itself in danger of relegation towards the end of the 2021/22 season due to a high number of odd goal defeats but pulled clear with 4 vital points from the last two games. They look capable of going places if they stick together when experience is added to their armoury. The tie up with the Haringey Girl's Academy run by Adem Ali has proved massively successful and for the first time we are in a situation where talented young teenagers are ready and eager to compete for a place in the Women's squad as soon as they turn 16, although being a team substantially composed of schoolgirls in an adult League is not without its problems, but that did not stop them reaching the Final of The Capital Womens Senior Cup in 2023/24

The foundations are in place for us to make a swift return to the Premier Division after major strengthening of the Men's Senior side and an exciting season is in prospect in which a challenge for at least a Play-off position is a realistic target as we renew our determination to eventually achieve National League status. The facilities and structures are also in place for the Club's other teams to improve and enhance on recent successes.

The Directors and Committee of *HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB* take pleasure in extending a warm welcome to all visitors to Coles Park and hope that they will make use of the bar and refreshment facilities available to increase their enjoyment of the occasion.

However, the Club reserves the right to refuse admission to any person and the right to remain within the ground is conditional upon compliance with directions given by Club Officials. Spectators and other visitors must not encroach upon the playing area, deface or damage Club premises or equipment, take any glasses, alcohol or bottles outside of the Clubhouse or use obscene or insulting language or gestures (and especially any of a racist nature).

The Club cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage howsoever caused or arising to property of any or every kind brought into the ground including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, motor vehicles or anything therein or thereon or items left in changing rooms



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HISTORY OF WITHAM TOWN



ORIGINS & EARLY HISTORY

Witham has a history of football teams going back to the 1830's when the first recorded match involving a side representing the town was played at Lanham Green near Cressing. This was before the 'modern' game was codified in England in 1863 following the formation of The Football Association, whose 'Laws of the Game' created the foundations for the way football is played today. The first formation of a Witham side, post-FA creation, was in 1876 when Mr. H. Green, Mr. W. Rust, Mr. F. Bridge and Mr. E. Turner sought permission from a farmer to play football in a field next to the River Brain in the town, close to Saul's Bridge. This site was Witham FC's home for a few seasons with play later being transferred to The Park, a pitch nearby, which was shared with the town's Cricket Club.

The 1885-86 season saw the first Witham player appear for the County side with that honour going to R. H. Stevens. After some years the cricket side objected to the damage being done to the surface of the pitch, so another move was made, in 1894, to 'The Grove'. The Grove itself was a large private house that was built in the late 1600's, which was eventually demolished in 1932. The pitch, noted as one of the best in the county, was located to the rear of the property not far from the old Witham to Maldon Railway line, which roughly corresponds with today's Mayland Road and Abercorn Way. Mr. P. E. Laurence, a local sports enthusiast and President of the club at that time, owned this field. The entrance to the ground was via Chess Lane, which is now a short cut to an industrial estate.

The occupants of the cottages there on 'Finals' days reaped a bonanza from the two pennies charged for bicycles left in their care. Witham's first recorded appearance in a final, that of the very first Essex Junior Cup, came in 1893-94 when they lost 4-1 to Matlock Swifts (later to become Leyton FC). During this time the team enjoyed the reputation of being one of the strongest junior sides in the country and built up a large following. They were known in those days as the 'Red Herrings' because of their all red kit. Two days after the Great War broke out in 1914 (28th July) the entire team under the guidance of Reginald Brown went to Warley Barracks near Brentwood to enlist in the 5th Battalion of the Essex Regiment.

BETWEEN THE WARS

Witham FC re-formed in July 1919 after a meeting held at the Spread Eagle Hotel in the town centre. Again, the side played in red shirts, and, in one season, Witham won 24 matches and only lost once.

Postman Mr. Fred Perry used to pay Albert 'Summer' Bickmore one shilling for each goal he scored. Bickmore recalled with pleasure the day he scored five. The re-formed club, which changed its name to Witham Town FC in 1921, won the Braintree & District League Championship in 1920-21, appeared in the Divisional Final of the Essex Junior Cup, won the Braintree & District league again in 1924-25 and secured the Essex Division 2 Shield in 1925-26. During these years the popularity of football seemed to have grown in the town with a Crittall's Athletic team also forming.

Crittall's Windows Works, which opened in 1919, was one of the largest employers in the town and the site of the old factory is now occupied by Morrison's supermarket. For a small town like Witham this was perhaps too much for both these clubs to thrive, and, with waning support largely due to the increasing prominence of the Crittall's team, after less than a decade the re-formed Witham Town disbanded. However, local opinion must have been in favour of a true 'town' team, as after a meeting with the Spread Eagle again forming the backdrop, Witham Town FC re-formed again in July 1933. At this meeting, held by Mr. C. Ingram (who was elected club Chairman), Mr. S. Slinger and Mr. S. Howell (who was chosen to be Hon. Secretary) the decision was made to join two competitions, The North Essex League and the Kelvedon & District Junior League with club colours being red shirts and white shorts.

In 1934-35 Witham reached the final of the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Cup, losing to Tiptree United 4-2, and the following season they became Division 3 Champions of the North Essex League. That same year the club gained the use of the football pitch at Rickstones Road Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, as the clouds of war slowly gathered, and with falling support once more, in 1938 Witham Town folded.

A NEW BEGINNING

In 1948 the Witham Town FC of today re-formed thanks to the efforts of a small band of stalwarts who met

in an old British Legion hut under the Chairmanship of Mr. Sid Rice who was the driving force behind the club re-forming. Although the pitch was only a cow pasture with a barn as changing rooms, these basic conditions did not seem to affect the team though as in their first season back playing they became champions of the Chelmsford and Mid Essex League Division 2, winners of the Tiptree Charity Cup and the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Cup courtesy of a 1-0 win over Feering. During the following season the club moved to the Crittall Windows works ground at The Park in the centre of the town and they also became founder members of the Mid-Essex League Premier Division.

Their first game at The Park was a friendly v Ipswich Town which the Suffolk side won 7-0. That year the Premier Division Cup was won.

After two more seasons in the CMEL, a dispute with the League over a cup match played in blizzard like conditions, saw Witham Town switch to the South Essex League where they spent seven seasons winning the Championship in 1955-56. A supporters club was then formed and in 1958 the decision was made to join the Essex and Suffolk Border League and thus step up to an intermediate level of football.

GAINING SENIOR STATUS

During the 1964-65 season Witham won the Essex & Suffolk Border League Championship and they decided to seek new playing facilities suitable for senior football. The following season, 65-66, they won the E&SB League Cup after beating Whitton United 3-0 and were runners up in the E&SBL in 66-67. 1967-68 saw Witham just miss out on their second League Cup honour when they lost 3-2 to close rivals Tiptree United in the final. In 1970, the club was finally offered its present ground at Spa Road, although the move did not happen until after the end of the 1974-75 season due to the allocated plot being under cultivation. The last game at The Park ground was a 1-0 win against Basildon United on the 19th April 1975. In the meantime, Witham Town again won the Essex & Suffolk Border League (in 1970-71), and were invited to become founder members of the Essex Senior League and were the inaugural Champions in 1971-72, pipping Billericay Town to the title by just one point.

Witham went on to spend more than 15 seasons in this league, usually finishing in the top half of the table. In 1981 Witham won the Essex Senior League Cup by defeating Sawbridgeworth Town 4-2 at Chelmsford City's New Writtle Street ground. The mid 1980's provided several top 3 finishes including runners-up in 1984-85 and 1986-87, with the Championship being won for the second time in 1985-86. March 1985 saw the Spa Road grounds' new floodlights 'officially' switched on in a friendly versus Colchester United. 1986 saw more success as Witham won the Essex Senior Trophy, defeating local rivals Heybridge Swifts 3-2, after extra time. During the following 1986-87 season Town enjoyed their best run in the FA Vase when they reached the last 16 (the 5th round), before losing 2-1 at home to Falmouth, and they also secured the Harry Fisher Memorial Trophy (the predecessor to the Gordon Brasted) after beating Sawbridgeworth Town in the final. This good run of form in league and cup competitions again led the club to seek a higher level of football to play at. They applied to join the Isthmian League and this was accepted in 1987.

THE ISTHMIAN YEARS

Their first match in the Isthmian League (Division 2 North) in 1987-88 saw Witham win 6-0 at Ware which ended with the club finishing in 7th place. During this time, former Southend United manager Steve Tilson started his career with the club before moving on to the Shrimpers as a player. The end of the 1990-91 season would see the two Isthmian Division 2's (North and South) 'de-regionalise', therefore making a top half finish imperative if Witham were to retain their Division 2 status and avoid the drop into what would be the next seasons new Division 3. A good finish saw Witham end up in 6th place, thereby ensuring their position in the restructured division and the club also made a semi-final appearance in the Loctite Associate Members Trophy. In 1993-94 Witham had their highest ever league finish, 5th in the Isthmian League Division 2. Back in the mid-90's there was no 2nd tier to the Conference so this was their best finish at what was then Step 4. Unfortunately, this could not be built upon and Town were relegated at the end of the 1999-2000 season to Division 3 after 13 years in Div 2. However, during the previous season, 1998-99, Witham saw their best run in the FA Cup, to the 3rd Qualifying Round, before losing out to Havant & Waterlooville in a replay. The next few years saw further restructuring of the Isthmian League culminating in a runners-up spot in Division 2 (formerly Div 3) at the end of 2005-06 as Witham took their place the newly formed step 4 Division 1 North. A goal difference of just +1 separated Witham from Brook House and 3rd place. In 2007-08 they achieved their best run in the FA Trophy, making it to the 3rd Qualifying Round. After beating Chatham Town away 3-0

Spa Road saw a giant killing over Horsham who at that time were leaders of the Isthmian Premier Division. Town crashed out in the next round though after losing at Hayes & Yeading. During 2008, one of Town's rising stars, top scorer Cody McDonald, moved on to Maldon Town and then Dartford, before being bought by the then Championship side Norwich City. This move to the Canaries makes Cody our highest profile ex-player.

A SHORT SPELL IN THE ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE

At the end of the 2008-09 season Witham Town finished 21st out of 22 teams consigning them to relegation to the Essex Senior League. Despite the obvious disappointment at being relegated the club had the chance to start afresh in the same league where their senior aspirations were initiated back in 1971. Off the field, former player Olly Murs became the TV show X Factor's runner up in December 2009. As the 2009-10 season drew to a close, and on the back of eight straight wins, Witham earned the necessary point on the last game of the season at Barkingside in a tense 2-2 draw that guaranteed runners-up position just ahead of Burnham Ramblers. Unfortunately, this was not enough for Town to regain their spot in the Isthmian League.

During the 2010-11 season, for the last 4 games, current manager Garry Kimble took over the reins as the club finished third. In the following campaign, Kimble's first full term in charge, Witham Town enjoyed arguably their most successful season ever as they broke many long standing club records on the way to the Essex Senior League title, last won in 1986, and therefore securing a return to Isthmian football.

In addition to league success, Witham won the League Cup, the Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy and the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Cup. They remained unbeaten away in the league. Striker Billy Hunt secured the Don Douglas Trophy by becoming the league's top scorer, with Rob Whitnell and John Watson coming second and third highest league scorers as well.

THE ISTHMIAN YEARS (PART 2)

The return to Isthmian level began in spectacular style as the club finished 4th in the Isthmian League Division 1 North and qualified for the Play Offs, only going down 3-2 to eventual winners Thamesmead Town. The club also retained the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Cup beating Heybridge Swifts 4-0.

They went one better in 2013-14, finishing in their highest ever league position, runners up in the Isthmian League Division 1 North. In the play-offs Needham Market were beaten 1-0 in the semi final and Harlow Town 3-0 in the final as Witham Town secured a place in the Isthmian Premier Division for the first time. A gallant attempt was made to compete at Isthmian Premier level, but this proved too much for a club with limited resources.

Relegation followed in 2014-15. A number of key players moved on after relegation and it was hard to find a settled squad in 2015-16. Garry Kimble left the club towards the end of the season and a new management team was appointed, consisting of Adam Flint and James Robinson.

The team finished in 19th place. Stability was achieved in the next two seasons as the club finished in 13th and 11th place respectively. At the end of 2017-18, Adam and James moved on to manage Bishops' Stortford. Mark Ashford became the new Witham manager before the start of the 2018-19 season. It proved to be a challenging season and safety from relegation was only assured on the final day of the season at Basildon. Mark Ashford resigned before the start of the following season. He was replaced by Marc Benterman.

After assembling almost a complete squad in a few weeks before the start of 2019-20, the team were in 15th place after 28 games when Covid-19 caused the season to be abandoned. Season 2020-21 only lasted until 31st October 2020 when it was abandoned for the same reason. After an indifferent start to 2021-22 Marc resigned from his role in November 2021. Assistant manager Chris Taylor was appointed manager in January 2022. Automatic relegation was avoided by the narrowest of margins and a 3-0 win against Saffron Walden Town in the Inter-Step play-off match assured safety.

In 2022-23 the club achieved 16th place. Chris Taylor resigned before the start of 2023-24. He was replaced by former manager Garry Kimble, who led the team to a 14th place finish. The club won silverware in the shape of the Tolleshunt d'Arcy Cup after beating Chelmsford City 4-3 in the final.

Garry and his management have remained at the helm in 2004-25 and the club have made a solid start to the season.



PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

THE SECRETARY'S MUSINGS

We offer a warm welcome to Witham Town, their players, supporters and committee, we also welcome our officials, referee Derrick Lilley, assistants Manny Chandwani and Stephen Williams, and fourth official Steven Walsh.

After Monday's fourth consecutive loss in the league, our league form is almost the total opposite of our cup form, after all we've played 4 won 3 drawn 1 in cup games this season. It's also a worry that this season is starting to mirror that of last season, early cup success masking the poor results in the league. Anyway, our attentions turn away from the league today and next Tuesday, oh and next Saturday, as we face a further 3 cup games in 3 different competitions.

Monday was particularly disappointing given the two previous results, we started well, conceded two goals, lost Scott Mitchell to a sending off and then annoyingly left us all hanging on to the fact we played well in the last fifteen minutes. To put that fifteen minutes in perspective we were playing a team that had a comfortable lead and were seeing the game out. Not sure we should be getting overly excited.

Another disappointment about Monday was it followed a classic Boro day out on the Saturday at the same ground, supported in large numbers to grab a win in the last minutes of a game was welcome as normally it happens the other way round. If pushed I'd rather have won Monday than Saturday but hey that's easy to say after an away draw to Wroxham, albeit that is a winnable game in my view.

To finish the review of the 3 games since the last programme the Brightlingsea game under the lights was a throwback to great nights of previous seasons, it was superb to see Derek and Fred give us a two goal advantage and whilst Brightlingsea came back into the game the relief and satisfaction at the end was there for all to see. Maybe we should treat every game like it's a cup game, I seem to remember saying that last season, unfortunately.

I am not downbeat, today is a great game and a great opportunity for the club, the FA may tinker with the format of the FA Cup such as removing replays but for clubs at our level, the gate money, the prize money and the prestige of being in the competition makes days like today special. The club has also gone through two eras as a result of the FA Cup, pre-Wimbledon and post-Wimbledon. Asking each other are you pre or post Wimbledon is how most Boro fans feel each other out.

With all these cup games brings additional work, cup fixtures need arranging and league fixtures need rearranging. The game we were due to play today Sporting Bengal at home is now Tuesday 15th October. Next Saturday we have been drawn away to play Wroxham in the FA Trophy, that means the Waltham Abbey away league game is now Tuesday 22nd October. Should today's game finish in a draw the Tilbury, Isthmian Cup game here on Tuesday night will need to be re-arranged. My advice, just keep Saturday's and Tuesday's free for the foreseeable future.

One other cup game to mention involved the U18s in the FA Youth Cup, as they won 8-1 away at Saffron Walden Town, in what was a very good game and certainly from the first half the scoreline doesn't reflect the true nature of the game, as in truth if it wasn't for our goalkeeper who made two fantastic saves we'd have gone in behind. As it was clearly the half time team talk from coaches James Edgerley and Glen Hicks worked as 7 (seven) second half goals gave the team a great win. Credit to the team Dilhan Gunay (Goalkeeper), Gesild Veizay, Euyéal Hagos, Kai Williams, Maksym Bobyciak, Jaden Tucker (Captain), Aleksander Dimitrov, Alessandro Maroto Sola, Joene Mampousia, Cairo Kelly, Josepua Osaretin, Kieran Kelly (Goalkeeper), Camero McKenzie, Tristan Coffey and Tiago Fonseca Freitas. The goal scorers on the night were Alessandro Maroto Sola with a hat-trick, Aleksander Dimitrov with a brace, and one each for Cairo Kelly, Camero McKenzie and Tristan Coffey.

In the next round they have been drawn away to May & Baker Eastbrook Community, the game will take place next Wednesday, 18th September.

Back to today's game let's get behind the team, forget the league form and come on Boro!!

Women's Team

A good 4-0 win away at Cambridge City sees the team occupy 2nd spot in the league, tomorrow they are at home to Watford Development in the league and then next Sunday (22nd) they have an FA Cup match against Royston Town at home. Royston currently sit top of the league table so an exciting game is in prospect. If you are able please come along and give the team your support.

Under 23s

The U23s lost their first game of the season away to Philip United 2-1, today they are away to Walthamstow

Reserves, 2pm kick off and next Friday at home in a 7.45pm kick off versus Bakers693

U18s

I've already covered the FA Youth Cup victory and on Thursday they played Amersham Town in the Brian Hitchings Cup and were 7-1 losers.

Their first League fixture has been announced and they will meet Ickenham at Colesa Park on the evening of 23rd September.

MEMBERSHIPS & SEASON TICKETS

We have partnered with Fanbase to bring a new ticket, membership and news experience, please see the links below or download the Fanbase App and select Haringey Borough

Memberships can be purchased by clicking this link:

<https://app.fanbaseclub.com/Fan/Memberships?clubId=258>

Season Tickets can be purchased by clicking this link:

<https://app.fanbaseclub.com/Fan/SeasonTickets/SelectClubTicket?clubId=258&saleWindowId=732>

There are Frequently Asked Questions here:

<https://www.haringeyboroughfc.net/memberships-and-season-tickets-2024-2025/>

And if you do not have access to a smart phone to be able to download the Fanbase App please send an email to ClubSecretary@HaringeyBoroughFC.net outlining what you require, together with your name and address. Once the email is received a Membership and / or Season Ticket can be provided for collection from the club or via email.

TRAVEL PLANS AND PUBS – GERARD WALKER

Wroxham FC v Haringey Borough FA Trophy, 3pm

Saturday 21 September 2024 – 3pm kick off

Trafford Park, Skinners Lane, Wroxham, Norfolk, NR12 8SJ

Travel.

Trains from Liverpool Street or Stratford are fairly regular. The 10.37 from Stratford arrives Norwich at 12.18. Advance tickets and group travel (groups of three or more travelling together) will reduce price. Bus to Wroxham, Stop DD Norwich Station, bus 5B towards Stalham, 39 minutes past the hour, ride 31 stops, 39 mins to Park Road, 0.3 mile walk to ground. Alternative is an Uber from Norwich station about £20, takes about 25 mins. Buses back to Norwich Station leave from Park Road at 17 minutes past the hour. Trains back are fairly regular, but you'll need to be on a booked train for cheap fares.

Norwich are at home on the day, 12.30 kick off, so we are unlikely to get access to pubs near the station on the way up. However, the Wroxham Club House serves the very decent local beer, Woodfordes. So you might want to go there before the game and stop for a drink in Norwich on the way back.

An alternative route for Wroxham is to get train from Norwich to Hoveton and Wroxham. It's 45 mins past the hour and takes 14 mins. Then 20-25 minute walk through the picturesque centre of Wroxham to the ground.

NEXT HOME GAME FOR MEN'S 1ST TEAM

Tuesday 17th September – Isthmian League Cup – Kick off 7.45pm

Haringey Borough v Tilbury – Isthmian League North Division

Or

Tuesday 17th September – FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round Replay – Kick off 7.45pm

Witham Town v Haringey Borough

NEXT GAMES FOR OUR OTHER TEAMS BEFORE NEXT MEN'S 1ST TEAM HOME GAME

Saturday 14th September – Essex Alliance League – Kick off 2pm

Walthamstow Reserves v Haringey Borough

Sunday 15th September – Eastern Region Women's League - Kick off 2pm

Haringey Borough v Watford Development

MATCH REPORTS - Jim Shepherd

Haringey Borough 2 Brightlingsea Regent 1 – FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round Replay

It's been a long time coming. Boro's first home win since early March embodied by that late evening roar as the final whistle blew and the smiles on the faces of management, players and supporters.

For the third time this season Boro and Brightlingsea squared off, and after a defeat in the league, then forcing this replay last Saturday, Boro overcame their Essex opponents to progress to the Second Qualifying Round with a home tie versus Witham Town on September 14th.

Having shown improvement in every game this season Tom made only one change from last Saturday's starting line up. Alaa was also available after serving a 3 match suspension.

Boro lined up:

Reuben Rabstein; Tosin Olufemi; Edz Addo-Kuffour; Jorge Djassi-Sambu; Dan Carey-Evans; J'Ardell Stirling; Richard Ennin; Manny Yeboah; Fred Agyemang; Derek Asamoah; Tommy Boxer

Subs: Michael Acquah (GK); Alaa Oujdi; George Aresti; Stephane Mgbada; William Ademiluyi

As the sun set and Brightlingsea kicked off we wondered if they would pick up where they left off on Saturday. But Boro were able to match their opponents. Bar a couple of half chances, at best, that fell to the visitor's centre forward neither keeper was being worked.

The first real anxious moment came after 20 minutes, but a Brightlingsea free kick from in advanced position was swung wide.

The back 3 of Dan, Tommy and J'Ardell were standing tall and positionally sound, and supported by Tosin and Ebz in wider areas Boro were able to gradually start to gain more possession.

It was still nearly half an hour in before the visiting keeper had to rush out of his area to hack clear as Fred closed in on a through ball. As half time approached a Boro free kick produced a few seconds of pinball, with the ball ultimately going wide then Dan attacked a corner but couldn't quite direct his near post header on target.

As the half ended 0-0 seemed fair. It had been a very even 45 minutes with half chances only to each side.

The second half started in much the same vein until 10 minutes in Boro produced the first decisive moment. Use whatever word you like for Richard's cross; succulent, delicious, pinpoint. Whatever it was after working space down the left the ball to the far post bypassed the keeper and there was Derek in a yard of space to emphatically head home.

Brightlingsea almost immediately made a change but Boro weren't giving this up easily. Reuben, on the occasions he was called upon, showed impeccable handling, the midfield were working tirelessly and Derek and Fred up front making sure the Brightlingsea defence had to work equally as hard to snuff out any danger. George was introduced for Derek as Boro looked to close out the game and all that work and endeavour paid off with quarter of an hour to go. Boro pressed high and a loose touch was picked up by Manny. He drove into the area, engaged the only defender between him and the goal and played the ball across to Fred, centrally, who had pulled into space as the defence were caught out of position. He didn't need to take a first touch and left-footed, fired in for a 2-0 Boro lead.

Almost inevitably, Boro slightly retreated, which allowed Brightlingsea to start exerting a bit more control. A clear chance at the back post was mishit and dribbled into a grateful Reuben's grasp, and with 7 minutes to go Boro's lead was halved. Following a couple of blocks and attempted clearances a Brightlingsea sub was able to toe poke into the corner to set up a nervy last few minutes.

Just 3 minutes later Brightlingsea thought they'd equalised. Dan had been fouled on the edge of the Boro box, but in the half second it had taken for the referee to whistle the ball had been arrowed into the top corner from 25 yards. It was the best disallowed goal you're ever likely to see, and the collective relief around Coles Park was palpable.

Alaa replaced Fred in a late change and we entered 6 minutes of added time. It wasn't quite all Brightlingsea, but as they pushed defenders forward, and even sent the keeper up for set pieces, Boro were put under pressure. But that hard work stayed until the end and when needed again Reuben's handling was exemplary. We haven't heard that Coles Park final whistle roar for a nearly 6 months, and while there might be bigger victories to come this was greeted as if it was the first.

Att: 183

Redbridge 1 Haringey Borough 3 – FA Trophy 1st Qualifying Round – 7th September 2024

After progressing to the next round of the FA Cup in midweek Boro made it two cup wins in a row at fellow Isthmian North side Redbridge.

Redbridge put Boro out of the same competition last season and came into the game off back-to-back league wins.

Boro lined up:

Michael Acquah; Ebz Addo-Kuffour; Alaa Oujdi; Jorge Djassi-Sambu; Dan Carey-Evans; J'Ardell Stirling; Manny Yeboah; Richard Ennin; Fred Agyemang; Derek Asamoah; Tommy Boxer

Subs: Reuben Rabstein (GK); Scott Mitchell; Joe Waight; George Aresti; Demmy Nicolaou

The game kicked off under grey east London skies and for 20 minutes watching the clouds was about as interesting as it got.

The first half chance fell to Manny as a ball reached him in the area, but by the time he'd shifted it to his left the Redbridge defence were able to block.

Ebz was showing adventure down the right and drew the first booking of the afternoon, being unceremoniously upended after powering past two opponents.

The chances on goal were still few and far between with the better chances coming the way of the hosts. First, a dangerous cross flashed across Boro's six yard box, and away. Then, a free kick on the edge of the area was palmed away from the top corner by Michael, who then claimed the loose ball.

But, despite finding it difficult to create a clear cut chance Boro took the lead 8 minutes before the break. Ebz played Derek in down the channel and his shot was blocked behind. Manny's corner was cleared and worked back to him by Richard. His second attempt hit the perfect spot between defence and keeper. As Tommy challenged, a defender's toe poked the ball beyond the advancing keeper and Jorge was on hand to gleefully prod home from half a yard. With no further action of note Boro went into the break 1 up.

It was so nearly 2 just a couple of minutes into the second half.

The Redbridge keeper, under pressure failed to deal with a corner and the ball looped goalwards only for a retreating defender to head off the line. But if we thought Boro would be able to press home their advantage, we were wrong. Over the next 15 minutes Redbridge took the ascendancy and really should have been level. Three headed chances were spurned, either straight at Michael or over, when well placed and unmarked. The third seemed to be the most egregious miss with the goal gaping.

To freshen things up Mitchell, Aresti and Waight replaced Boxer, Ennin and Agyemang, and Waight was soon in the action firing wide across goal.

Aresti dragged a shot wide before Waight narrowly missed getting on the end of Derek's whipped, low cross. But the chances Redbridge had spurned earlier in the half were forgotten soon after. Boro failed to clear decisively and, out of shape, a return cross to the far post was volleyed in, unmarked. Level with 10 minutes to go until the prospect of penalties to decide the tie.

Boro thought they had retaken the lead just moments later. As the keeper, a defender and Waight challenged for the ball, a scramble on the floor saw the ball come free and tucked away. The ref initially seemed to give the goal, but ultimately called a foul on the keeper, deeming him to have had the ball in both hands, and it being kicked out.

Scott took a blow to the face, and was on the sidelines as Boro defended a dangerous free kick, and as 6 minutes of added time were indicated, George won a free kick near the byline on the left.

His ball in was blocked away from the near post and ran towards the edge of the area. There, a lurking Manny stepped onto it and unleashed a rocket of a left foot shot in to the top corner. It was a strike worthy of winning any game, and better was to come.

As Redbridge pressed for an equaliser they won another attacking free kick. They threw everything forward, including the keeper. Jorge cleared the free kick and as the ball was played back in was on hand to hoof it clear. And Waight took off after it. He outpaced a defender and collected the ball on the right edge of the Redbridge area. He turned inside, taking the defender out of the play, and with the keeper and another defender straining every sinew to get back, calmly slotted in to an empty net make the game safe.

Boro find out their next opponent in Monday's draw, the same day we return to Redbridge in league action.

Att: 132

Redbridge 2 Haringey Borough 0 – 9th September 2024

Boro made a quick return to Redbridge on Monday evening. Buoyed by the FA Trophy win over the same opponents on Saturday, and the FA Cup win over Brightlingsea the previous week, hopes were high the our league season would get up and running.

Tom made 3 changes to the starting line up, with a first start for Joe Waight, and returns for Reuben and Scott. Boro lined up:

Reuben Rabstien; Ebz Addo Kuffour; Alaa Oujdi; Jorge Djassi-Samsbu; J'Ardell Stirling; Manny Yeboah; Dan Carey-Evans; Fred Agyemang; Joe Waight; Richard Ennin

Subs; Derek Asamoah; George Aresti; Demmy Nicolaou; Caleb Dennis; Tommy Boxer

Boro started brightly and within a minute Fred's near post run had forced a corner Fred would look like Boro's likeliest threat throughout the half, but none of his opportunities were clear cut and defenders and keeper managed to snuff out any danger.

These chances seemed to be fleeting as Redbridge began to exert more control. Reuben and Dan hesitated with no attacker close by to take advantage, a floated cross, covered by a backpedalling keeper then bounced off the top of the bar and out, then a sloppy ball across the back was cut out and J'Ardell had to recover to clear. Scott was booked for kicking the ball away after a free kick had been awarded near halfway, his reaction said sorry, but the time between the whistle and the action justified the caution.

In this period Fred had one of those half chances and Joe had not been able to climb high enough to meet a corner, but most of the action was coming at the other end.

Reuben had to make a couple of regulation saves as Redbridge found their range but the goal Redbridge's play deserved wasn't long in coming.

Boro were caught at the back post as a wide cross was allowed to bounce to be headed back across goal into the far corner.

They tried to press home their advantage. Reuben parried a free kick away and Jorge was booked as he tried to stop another break, from another poor giveaway.

And 5 minutes before halftime it was two. Dan was one on one with an attacker as they approached the 18 yard box. He stuck a leg out and the forward tumbled. It was close, but the referee awarded a free kick, rather than a penalty to the left of the D. No matter, as the kick was struck with power and accuracy into the far corner, to put Redbridge in control.

Tom brought on Demmy and Derek, for Fred and Richard at half time and, as in the first half a Boro chance arrived quickly. This time Joe was in space to get up and head Manny's free kick, but couldn't keep it under the bar.

But on 50 minutes Boro's night got worse. Scott narrowly lost a foot race towards a breaking ball and as the forward nicked the ball away dived in, caught him and promptly received his second yellow card.

The next 15 minutes were tough going as Boro tried to regroup. Redbridge were enjoying good dollops of possession without overly threatening or creating a good chance.

Boro's attacks were more sporadic. Joe's shot ballooned off a defender and a shot from the resulting set piece went over. A Manny free kick, following Boro's best move of the match involving Alaa and Derek too, 25 yards out, got up and over the wall but lacked the direction it needed.

With quarter of an hour to go Caleb and George replaced Alaa and a limping Dan, and it heralded Boro's best period of the game.

Ebz kept marauding down the right but crosses weren't quite finding their mark and Joe was finding a bit more space. He forced the keeper into a couple of saves, first as he tried to place a ball round defenders into the corner, and then a snapshot from a loose ball in the area was beaten away.

Redbridge's threat was still there, even if Reuben was rarely troubled and as we went into added time Boro were having the better attempts.

George's beautifully driven 50 yard cross was just an inch too high for Derek and Joe couldn't twist to direct another header from his cross on target. In the final throes Sambu got on the end of a corner but it was simple for the keeper.

So, in the league, it's Played 4, Lost 4 and a disappointing night after the encouragement of both performances and results in the previous week.

Att: 160

PAST ENCOUNTERS WITH TODAY'S VISITORS

Its always a little disappointing when the FA Cup draw pairs up teams from the same Division of the same League, thus denying the opportunity to meet relatively unknown opponents; but such has happened four times to us this season for it was Brightlingsea Regent we met in the First Qualifying Round. Additionally, our first opponents in the FA Trophy last Saturday were were Redbridge and in the next Round we will be visiting Wroxham. It is unlikely that we ever met Witham Town before we became Isthmians in 2015 as they had previously played only in Leagues with membership restricted to Essex and Suffolk Clubs. At First Team level we have now played them 7 times (3 wins each and 1 Draw) and 8 times in the now discontinued Isthmian Development Section. They have made a fine start to this season with 10 points from 4 games and have already eliminated one North Division Club by 4-1 - away to Grays Athletic in the Preliminary Round. They are now 3rd in the table. Its not the first time we have been drawn together in the FA Cup and they were comfortable winners when they visited Coles Park in 2016.

The complete list of games is below.

DATE	HOME TEAM	COMPETITION (all Isthmian League except where indicated)	RESULT
16.1.16	WT	Isthmian Division 1 North	HB won 3-2
5.3.16	HB	Isthmian Division 1 North HB 15/24 WT 19/24	WT won 3-2
3.9.16	HB	FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round	WT won 3-0
12.10.16	WT	Isthmian Development North Division	WT won 2-1
15.10.16	HB	Isthmian Division 1 North	Draw 2-2
23.1.17	HB	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 2-0
18.2.17	WT	Isthmian Division 1 North HB 5/24 WT 13/24	HB won 2-1
9.10.17	HB	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 6-4
6.1.18	WT	Isthmian Division 1 North	WT won 2-0
10.4.18	WT	Isthmian Development North Division	Draw 1-1
21.4.18	HB	Isthmian Division 1 North HB 4/24 WT 11/24	HB won 1-0
3.10.18	WT	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 2-1
14.1.19	HB	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 2-1
16.10.19	WT	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 3-0
23.3.20	HB	Isthmian Development North Division	HB won 4-1

WHAT WILL BE THE FUTURE FOR THE WINNERS OF TODAY'S GAME?

Over the last ten seasons it has become a regular occurrence for Clubs below National League Regional level (i.e step 3 and below) to reach the 1st Round proper and enjoy the thrill of being in the draw with the EFL Clubs. 70 clubs have done so - 50 Step 3's, 18 Step 4's and 2 Step 5's. Several of the 70 have done so more than once and some have also reached this stage when Members of the National League to do which they only needed to play in the 4th (Final) Qualifying Round if in the National Division or the 3rd and 4th if in The North/South Divisions. Those appearances are not included in the information below. In contrast Step 3 Clubs will have played in 4 rounds some Step 4's in 5 Rounds and some in 6 Rounds and all below Step 4 in every

6 Rounds of the Qualifying Competition. Those are the minimums but many will have played even more if involved in Replays.

So no reason at all why Witham or Haringey should not be among the minnows to reach the hallowed land this season – two more wins being needed. I use the word “minnows” reluctantly, but its how unimaginative sports journalists will describe the Clubs who succeed, even though minnows are actually inoffensive little fish whereas all the Step 3,4 and 5 Clubs which claw their way into the 1st Round proper will have got there after a “tooth and nail” struggle. Sharks eager to prey on any bigger fish who fail to show them the respect they deserve would be a more apt description.

2023/24 Step 4 Isthmians CRAY VALLEY PAPER MILLS were among the eight qualifiers and were rewarded with a live BBC television appearance for their game at Charlton Athletic, taking them to a replay. Their team included a certain Michael Ademiluyi who was making his second televised appearance in that round of the FA Cup having been in our team which entertained AFC Wimbledon in season 2018/19. Other Step 4 Isthmians to reach the 1st. Round were SHEPPEY UNITED and RAMSGATE who went through to the 2nd Round with a 2-1 home win over National League Woking but exited 5-0 at AFC Wimbledon in front of ITV4's cameras. All 3 were from the League's South East Division. Isthmian Premier Division HORSHAM lost a replay at home to EFL Division one opponents Barnsley after drawing 3-3 away. Southern League Premier Division CHESHAM UNITED and BRACKNELL TOWN together with Northern Premier Clubs MARINE and WORKSOP TOWN made up the total of 8 but all were losers.

2022/23 was not a good year for the lower Non League sides. No Isthmians reached Round 1 and no Club below Step 3 did so, SOUTH SHIELDS were the only Northern Premier representative but 5 Southern League Premier Clubs reached it – BRACKNELL TOWN, NEEDHAM MARKET, COALVILLE TOWN, MERTHYR TOWN and ALVECHURCH who secured a fine 2-1 win away at Cheltenham Town and were the only one of the 6 to go through to the 2nd. Round. in which they lost 2-1 away to Forest Green Rovers in a match shown live on BBC 1.

2021/22 Step 4 AFC SUDBURY, then of the Isthmian North Division, made it through the Qualifying Competition along with Isthmian Premier BOWERS & PITSEA and HORSHAM, Northern Premier BUXTON and Southern Premier BANBURY UNITED, HARROW BOROUGH, HAYES & YEADING UNITED and YATE TOWN. None of the 8 won.

2020/21, although disrupted by the Covid tragedy, was a great year for the lower echelons. The shutdown for Clubs below Step 2 had not been imposed prior to the First Round Proper although many Qualifying Competition games had been played in front of a limited number of spectators. A Step 5 Club – SKELMERSDALE UNITED of the North West Counties League - was joined by 4 Step 4 Clubs and 5 Step 3's. Three of the Step 4's were Isthmians, MALDON & TIPTREE and CANVEY ISLAND from the North Division and CRAY VALLEY PAPER MILLS from the South East Division with the other being MARINE of the Northern Premier North West Division. Of the Step 3's only BISHOPS STORTFORD were Isthmian the others being SOUTH SHIELDS and FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER from the Northern Premier together with HAYES & YEADING UNITED and BANBURY UNITED from the Southern Premier. 2 Clubs went through. Canvey Island with a 2-1 win at Banbury United; Marine via a penalty shoot out at Colchester United after which they went on to win 1-0 at home to Havant & Waterlooville in the 2nd Round before falling to Tottenham Hotspur in the 3rd. in front of the TV cameras. A run which Non-League Clubs dream of made flesh. A total of 10. in the 1st Round Proper

2019/20 was the first of the two seasons to be disrupted by the Covid pandemic – so much so that the Final was not played until 1st August 2020 and then behind closed doors at Wembley Stadium. However it had no effect on the Qualifying Competition or the first 5 Rounds of the Competition Proper as all had been played before mid-March when the authorities deemed a lockdown necessary. Two Step 4 Clubs, both Isthmians, made it to the First Round Proper; MALDON & TIPTREE of the North Division had a fine 2-1 win at Leyton Orient but then went down by the only goal at Newport County on BBC 2; the other was CHICHESTER CITY of the South East Division who, unusually for this stage of the Competition received a bye, but lost 5-1 to Tranmere Rovers in their 2nd Round match shown live on BT Sport. 5 Step 3 Clubs came through the qualifying stages but only Isthmian Premier KINGSTONIAN progressed with a 4-0 win at struggling Macclesfield Town, then went out 0-2 at home to AFC Fylde in the 2nd. Round. Isthmians CARSHALTON ATHLETIC, Southern Premier STOURBRIDGE and HAYES & YEADING UNITED and Northern Premier NANTWICH TOWN brought the total participants to 7 but all four lost.

2018/19 was a poor year for Clubs in the lower reaches of the Pyramid. Only 3 reached the First Round Proper, they were all Step 3 Premier Division Clubs, all got a home tie, none of them scored a goal and all lost.

Two were Southern Leaguers – METROPOLITAN POLICE and HITCHIN TOWN who lost 0-2 to Newport County and Solihull Moors respectively. The Isthmian representative was HARINGEY BOROUGH in a match played on a Friday evening in pouring rain and shown live on BBC 2. Losing by the only goal scored with a deflected shot just two minutes before a replay at AFC Wimbledon had been earned was a grievous blow but as the first and only game for the Club against EFL opponents it remains the highlight of our existence to date.

2017/18 a total of 8 Clubs – 2 Step 4's, Isthmian North HEYBIDGE SWIFTS and Northern Premier Division One North HYDE UNITED and 6 Step 3's (2 from each League) got safely through the Qualifying Rounds. The Isthmians were BILLERICAY TOWN and LEATHERHEAD; HYDE UNITED and SHAW LANE from the Northern Premier; SLOUGH TOWN and HEREFORD from the Southern Premier. Only 3 made it to the 2nd Round. Leatherhead won a replay at Billericay Town 3-1; Slough Town won 6-0 away to Gainsborough Trinity; Hereford won 1-0 at home to AFC Telford United. All three lost in Round 2 but Hereford did take Fleetwood Town to a replay.

2016/17 saw 5 Step 3 Clubs, 2 Step 4's, and 1 Step 5 appear in the First Round proper. Only one got through and that was Northern Premier League Step 3 STOURBRIDGE who won a home replay against Whitehawk and then eliminated Northampton Town with a 1-0 home win but were not favoured with a game against a Premier League giant and exited 2-1 at Wycombe Wanderers. The other Step 3's were Isthmians HARROW BOROUGH and MERSTHAM, SPENNYMOOR TOWN of the Northern Premier and CHESHAM UNITED of the Southern Premier. TAUNTON TOWN (Southern Premier Division 1 South) and STAMFORD (Northern Premier Division 1 South) were the other Step 4's and WESTFIELDS, a Step 5 Club based in Hereford and then in the Midland League, bought the total up to 8.

2015/16 a season in which 2 Step 4's and 5 Step 3's reached Round One of the Competition Proper. One of the 4's was DIDCOT TOWN of the Southern Premier Division 1 South & West and the other was NORTHWICH VICTORIA of the Northern Premier Division 1 North who were 2-1 replay winners at Boreham Wood but went out at Northampton Town by 3-2 in the 2nd. Round. Isthmian STAINES TOWN were Step 3 losers as were BARWELL of the Northern Premier. Southern Premier CHESHAM UNITED won 1-0 at Bristol Rovers and the other two Northern Premier Clubs both won, STOURBRIDGE 2-1 at Dover Athletic and SALFORD CITY beat Notts County 2-0 in a BBC 1 televised game, In the 2nd Round Chesham went down 4-0 at Bradford City, Stourbridge lost 0-2 at home to Eastleigh and Salford City went out 0-2 after extra time in a replay at Hartlepool United, So four winners out of 7 was a fine outcome.

2014/15 was not a great year in terms of quantity with only 2 Step 4's and 3 Step 5s surviving the Qualifying Rounds. But three of them were winners. WARRINGTON TOWN of the Northern Premier Division 1 North beat Exeter City 1-0 but lost in the 2nd round at Gateshead by 2-0. Isthmian's MAIDSTONE UNITED won a replay at Stevenage by 2-1 but lost 3-1 at Wrexham in the 2nd Round,. But BLYTH SPARTANS of the Northern Premier beat Altrincham at home by 4-1 and went on to win 2-1 at Hartlepool United before going down 2-3 at Birmingham City in Round 3. The two losers were EAST THURROCK UNITED of the Isthmian Premier and NORTON UNITED of the Northern Premier Division 1 South - both of those Clubs have since folded at Senior level. So 5 Clubs through with a 60% success rate.

It would not be fair to conclude this article without acknowledging the main source of the information, namely the Non-League football "bible", more formally known as the annual NON-LEAGUE CLUB DIRECTORY now in its 47th year of publication but inevitably threatened by falling sales as the internet eats in to the demand for printed publications. No doubt I could have trawled through umpteen internet sites and accessed all the above year by year details; but how much more enjoyable it is to have all the information instantly to hand in one publication composed so efficiently by genuine lovers of the Non-League game. This years edition runs to 704 pages but some past editions have exceeded 1,000. It covers in great depth Clubs at Steps 1 to 6 of the Pyramid and to a lesser extent those at Step 7 and those below the Pyramid. The results from all Rounds of the 6 FA Competitions - Cup, Trophy, Vase, Youth, Women's, Sunday – are included. As an example of the detail it provides, a random opening at page 354 reveals the final Table for what is effectively the 11th Division of the Cambridgeshire County League. Its £20+ well spent and available from Waterstones, W.H.Smith and the like, or cheaper on line from Amazon. Its an endangered species so all who purchase one will increase its chances of reaching 50 editions and hopefully more. All 47 editions take pride of place on my bookshelf so if anyone seeks some information which they cannot source via the internet I will gladly have a hunt through them and would be disappointed should it not be ascertainable; just e-mail " he who (The Bell End Choir believe) there is only one of" on baconjw@hotmail.com.



HARINGEY BOROUGH MEMBERS CLUB

Thank you to those that have become members of the club for the 2024/2025 season.

Adam Morton	Gerard Walker	Marcus Cerny
Adrian Smith	Gnosoulla Tsioupra-Lewis	Maritsa Tsioupra-Lewis
Ally Doig	Greg White	Michael Lyons
Angus Nanan	Harley Tsioupra-Lewis	Neil Evans
Anis Choudhury	Helen Walker	Neil Le Milliere
Ben Bloom	Ian Chapman	Nick Hoare
Brian Dunne	Ian Hanahoe	Paul Fisher
Burkhard Gravis	Ian Lamey	Peter Pinto de Sa
Chris Auchterlonie	Ivor Davies	Phil Venton
Chuck Jordan	James Jacob	Robert Brownlees
Dave Groves	James Jaulim	Robert Guymer
Dave Lockwood	Jamie Scott	Roddy McDougall
Dave Shepherd	Jim Shepherd	Sean Davin
Dave Worley	John Bacon	Steve Wilkins
David Fuller	John Heffernan	Steve Finn
Devrim Beyzade	John McLaverty	Steven Rigby
Dewi Lewis	Kate Fray	Stewart Alazia
Dominick Lawson	Keith Fray	Stuart Mclellan
Doug McDougall	Kenny Willmont	Tania Dunn
Ed Steer	Kent Jolly	Tom Halliday
Fiona Bacon	Liam Rundle-East	Tommy Armstrong
Gary Davis	Marco Maserati	Tuncay Yavuz
George Hanna	Marco Zanelli	

If you wish to become a member please join via the Fanbase app under the menu item, join. Membership for the season costs £50 for Adults and £25 for Concessions. Cut off for appearing in the next home programme is sign up by the Wednesday before the game.

HARINGEY PLAYER STATS 2024-2025 SEASON - ALL COMPETITIONS

Name	League Starts	League Subs	League Goals	Cup Starts	Cup Subs	Cup Goals	Total Starts	Total Subs	Total Goals
Akiljo Balliu	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Alaa Oujdi	2	0	0	2	1	0	4	1	0
Alex Nicolaides	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	3	0
Alkeo Bani	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Caleb Dennis	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Dan Carey-Evans	4	0	0	4	0	0	8	0	0
Demmy Nicolaou	2	2	0	2	1	0	4	3	0
Derek Asamoah	3	1	0	4	0	2	7	1	2
Ebenezer Addo	4	0	0	3	1	0	7	1	0
Emmanuel Yeboah	3	1	1	3	1	3	6	2	4
Enrique Kalasi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fred Agyemang	1	3	1	4	0	1	5	3	2
Georgios Aresti	2	2	0	1	2	1	3	4	1
J'Ardell Stirling	4	0	0	4	0	0	8	0	0
Joe Waight	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Jorge Djassi Sambu	3	1	0	4	0	2	7	1	2
Louis Maffia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Michael Acquah	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Reuben Rabstein	4	0	0	3	0	0	7	0	0
Richard Ennin	4	0	0	3	1	1	7	1	1
Scott Mitchell	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	0
Stephane Mgbada	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Tommy Boxer	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Tosin Olufemi	3	0	0	3	0	0	6	0	0
William Ademiluyi	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



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HERE at NLP Towers, we love a good fundraiser.

We get to hear of some unbelievable tales of courage and bravery that you, the Non-League football supporter, carry out for worthy causes close to your heart. We just wish we could print them all.

Indeed, just in this last fortnight alone, we have run three very incredible fundraising stories which have really touched our hearts.

Take Joseph Adams, for one. Joseph, a 21-year-old Altrincham super fan with Down Syndrome, embarked on a gruelling charity challenge, running ten 10ks in five days, across ten different European countries!

Joseph undertook the epic "No Limits" challenge with the aim of raising the £250,000 needed to hire a disability sports officer role as part of Altrincham's Community Sports charity and establish a programme for children and adults with Special Needs.

The challenge culminated in the Altrincham 10K on September 1 where Joseph passed the J. Davidson Stadium –home of his beloved club – to a hero's welcome, raising a whopping £300,000 along the way.

"Joseph is a truly remarkable young man who volunteers in our town centre store every week and throws himself wholeheartedly into everything he does," said Alty chief executive Sam Mackenzie.

"We are so proud of him, and it was an unforgettable moment when he walked through the door into the hall to applause all round in what was a symbol of how much emphasis we place on community work and relations here at the football club."

Joseph can be supported by visiting www.gofundme.com/f/josephs-challenge-no-limits

At the same time, our attentions were drawn to the efforts of another fundraising hero going beyond the call of duty, this time in the north-east.

Matthew Smith, who plays for Wearside League club Durham FC Corinthians, completed a gruelling 800-mile marathon run via every Premier League stadium in aid of a charity close to his heart.

The 30-year-old was raising money for north-east-based suicide prevention charity, If U Care Share Foundation – the charity he co-founded following the sad passing of his brother Daniel almost 14 years ago.

Starting at AFC Bournemouth's Vitality Stadium earlier this month, Smith ran over 30 miles per day, through all weathers, before eventually reaching St James' Park, home of his beloved Newcastle United.

The mammoth challenge was instigated after a cut to funding to suicide prevention services was announced with Smith looking to raise an initial £135,000.

"There is still a lot of fundraising to go - there is a long way to go and a big amount to hit," Smith told The NLP. "We will keep trying, I will keep asking – but I'm also realistic, I've raised a huge amount of money, it's not a small amount.

"I am still a little bit in shock to be honest and I think it's going to take a little while to appreciate what I've achieved. It feels brilliant to have special people here and people who have really helped along the way. I couldn't have done it myself."

Donations are still being accepted to help Matthew reach his target and can be made at www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/teamh135.

And last, but by no means least, wisecracks aimed at a lycra-clad commercial manager ended up inspiring a mammoth fundraising effort between Step 3 rivals situated almost 200 miles apart – and it may well happen all over again.

Bromsgrove Sporting's commercial guru Matt Foden responded to playful stick over rocking up at a pre-

season friendly in his cycling gear by vowing to pedal his way to last month's Southern League Premier Division Central fixture at Lowestoft Town.

The idea blossomed into a fundraiser for Bowel Cancer UK and mental health charity CALM – Campaign Against Living Miserably.

Foden's efforts were inspired by people at Sporting recently affected by bowel cancer and a university friend who died from the disease last year, while CALM has offered help and support to the family of former Bromsgrove player Tom Rankin who took his own life in March 2022.

Having taken the scenic route via the north Norfolk coastline, Foden arrived at Lowestoft to a warm welcome where club officials had the kettle on with fans contributing to the fundraising effort before potentially setting up a rerun.

"The fans at Lowestoft were so friendly and helpful when I arrived, Helen Nixon (director) in particular," said Foden.

"I met a guy there who is into cycling, he is half thinking of doing it in April when they come to our place. If he does, I am thinking of going to meet them there and cycle back to Bromsgrove with them."

More traditional transport options were used to get home in time for Sporting's home clash with Halesowen Town on Monday where more money was raised and further online donations have taken the tally past £3,000 with Gift Aid.

"The response from everyone has been fantastic," added Foden.

"It started with a bit of banter but with such great support we have raised more than £3,000, which is great."

Donations can still be made by visiting: justgiving.com/page/matt-foden-1722668965743

Three extraordinary people doing extraordinary things, backed by the Non-League football family. It's what we love to see.

Keep them coming and let's keep on supporting these tremendously worthy causes.

By Jon Couch



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FOOTBALL
LEAGUE**

HARINGEY PLAYER PROFILES 2024-25



MICHAEL ACQUAH – A goalkeeper who has played for Huddersfield Town's U19s and B Team, Farsley Celtic on loan and Norwich U21s

WILLIAM ADEMILUYI – A forward, William was with Burton Albion's U18s last season.

EBENEZER ADDO KUFOUR – Ebenezer played over 30 games for us last season mainly occupying the right back position he is versatile and was asked to perform other roles across the defence.

FRED AGYEMANG – Centre forward Freddie joins the Boro after finishing last season at Concord Rangers. He has also played for Ilford.

GEORGIOS ARESTI – A huge favourite with everyone at Haringey, Georgios has been with the club since 2018. A player that drives the team forward and always gives 100% although this means he plays on the edge given his desire to tackle and win the ball back. His career has seen him play for AEK Athens and numerous teams in Cyprus, he has also won international caps for Cyprus.

DEREK ASAMOAH – Derek returns to the Boro following a previous spell during season 2017-2018. His career has seen him play over 300 league appearances, scoring 45 goals for Northampton Town, Mansfield Town, Lincoln City, Chester City, Shrewsbury Town and Carlisle United. His football journey has also seen him play in France, Scotland, Bulgaria, and South Korea. He also has 4 Ghana caps and one international goal. Since leaving the Boro he has appeared for Cheshunt, Brightlingsea Regent and became the all-time top goal scorer for New Salamis.

AKILJO BALLIU – A winger, Akiljo joins from Clapton, he has also played for Great Wakering Rovers, AC Milano's and Redbridge Community.

BOBSON BAWLING – Bobson has had two spells with the Boro, a winger who previously played over 70 games in the football league for Crawley Town, scoring 6 goals. Other clubs Bobson has played for include Woking, Torquay United, Oxford City, St Albans City, Enfield Town, and Hendon. Known for his versatility, Bobson can play in various midfield positions and has also been deployed as a right-back.

TOMMY BOXER – An experienced centre back, Tommy was player-manager at New Salamis during the 2023/2024 season.

DAN CAREY-EVANS – Dan was on loan at the Boro from Cambridge United last season but has now registered to play this season, a centre half, he joined the Cambridge United Academy at the age of 13 after spending a significant part of his childhood in Spain.

CALEB DENNIS – A young full back who has signed from the U23s, Caleb has previously played for the West Ham Foundation and Shepherd's Bush.

JORGE DJASSI SAMBU – A huge influence on the team's success in recent years, Jorge is a centre midfielder that loves to tackle and is a commanding figure in the centre of the pitch. He has now been with the club for over 10 seasons but will always be held in the highest regard for his 2 goals in the play-off semi-final of 2018.

RICHARD ENNIN – A winger who has played for Enfield Borough and Leverstock Green, last season he made over 30 appearances for Ware.

OLIWIER FUSIEK – Centre back Oliwier impressed when stepping up from the Under 23s last season to finish the season as a first team player.

ENRIQUE KALSI – A young goalkeeper who will be looking to break into the team this season.

LOUIS MAFFIA – Louis is a centre midfield player who signed from West Essex, he impressed in trial games pre-season which earned him a place in the squad.

STEPHANE MGBADA – Stephane was a regular last season for the Under 23s, his performances earned him a call up to the first team where he made a good contribution in the games he played, scoring one goal at Potters Bar. An exciting forward, it is hoped Stephane continues his development and secures a regular first team spot.

SCOTT MITCHELL – Scott is a centre back who has been with the Boro since 2017, a huge favourite with the fans he has amassed over 200 appearances and won the supporters player of the year twice. A player who brings experience and brings a love of playing for Haringey, which is why everyone appreciates him.

ALEXANDER NICOLAIDES – The top scorer last season for the Under 23s, Alex played 10 times for the first team. A very skilful forward and only 17 years old, much is hoped that Alex can make the successful transition to first team football.

DIMITRI NICOLAOU – A dual registration signing with Chelmsford City, Dimitri plays in midfield and is always looking to get on the ball to start an attack.

TOSIN OLUFEMI – Tosin returns after two seasons at Bishop's Stortford where he won the Isthmian Premier League. Tosin was Haringey's captain when we won the play off in 2018 and his return is a real coup for the club. In his previous spells he played over 150 times and was top goal scorer in 2021/2022 despite being a right back.

ALAA OUJDI – A left back who likes to get forward, Alaa spent a several seasons at Ware making over 100 appearances before joining New Salamis where he was last season, 2023/2024.

REUBEN RABSTEIN – A goalkeeper who joins from Royston Town having also played for New Salamis last season, Reuben has significant stature standing 6 foot 4 inches, Boro fans will be hoping Reuben follows in the footsteps of previous Boro goalkeepers who have become favourites for their efforts. His previous clubs include Welwyn Garden City and Leverstock Green.

RAKIM RICHARDS – It would be easy to write a full page on the impact and influence Rakim has had on Haringey Borough, since our foundation as Haringey Borough no one has made more appearances than Rakim. Known as Raks, his first appearance was in the season 2010/2011 and has been a part of both the Essex Senior League winning team and the Isthmian North play off winning team. Club captain, Raks is currently recovering from injury and given his importance to the team, his injury played a key factor in the team suffering relegation last season.

SHAUN SANKANU – Sean a centre back joins from AFC Wimbledon's academy, he also played for Corinthian Casuals on loan last season and has played a couple of times for the U23s this season.

J'ARDELL STIRLING – Despite the struggles last season Boro fans were pleased to see centre back J'Ardell re-sign for 2024-2025. Previous clubs include Walthamstow, Wingate & Finchley and Dunstable Town.

RUBEN TAVARES BAPTISTA – Ruben has progressed through both the Under 18 and Under 23 teams into the first team, demonstrating proof if you are good enough there is structure in place to develop at Haringey. Ruben is comfortable operating in any position down the right and has shown a determination to succeed since establishing himself in the first team squad.

JOE WAIGHT – A forward, Joe joins from Bowers & Pitsea, having also played for Averley during the 2024/2025 season. Last season Joe was top goal scorer for New Salamis. Previous clubs include Reading City and Wembley.

EMMANUEL YEBOAH – A forward who spent the 2023/2024 season at Wingate & Finchley.

MANAGEMENT

TOM LOIZOU (CLUB MANAGER) A man with wealth of experience and knowledge of the game who is always running around for the club; his passion is there for everyone to see and he keeps everyone at the Club on their toes - not just the players! With us since early 2009.

JOHNNY FITSIOU (MANAGING DIRECTOR) Has a wealth of experience in professional and non-league football. He supports Tom and the Chairman, Aki, in everything football related.

DAVID CUMBERBATCH (ASSISTANT MANAGER) Long serving back up to the Manager and the first to judge the merits of the many applicants seeking trials with the Club.

THOMAS O'DONOGHUE (FIRST TEAM COACH) known as 'Tucker' is an experienced coach who joined the coaching staff at the Borough in 2016.

LYS DEMETRIOU – (FIRST TEAM ASSISTANT COACH) – Lys joined the coaching staff from New Salamis in the summer of 2024.

EMELIE FITZGERALD (FIRST TEAM PHYSIOTHERAPIST) qualified therapist with previous experience with Potters Bar Town & Wingate & Finchley.

TREVOR NOTTINGHAM (GOALKEEPING COACH) – Trevor joined the Haringey coaching staff during the 2023/2024 season.

WITHAM TOWN PLAYER PROFILES 2024-25



AYOMIDE ADELAJA joined us in July. He is an attacking midfielder who has played for Buckhurst Hill, St Margaretsbury and Takeley.

JOSEPH ALATISE is a defender who has captained the side on several occasions and he played more league minutes for us last season than any other player. He has played for Tilbury, Romford and FC Romania.

JAMES ASKEW is goalkeeper who joined us in August. His previous clubs have included Basildon United, Coggeshall Town, Stowmarket Town, Hullbridge Sports and Hadleigh United.

OLLIE BELL is a right back who joined us at the start of 2023/24. Ollie was a product of the Billericay Town academy before joining Coggeshall Town. He made 19 league appearances for us last season.

RYAN DEAR is a giant defender and an even bigger character who joined us at the start of 2023/24. Injury delayed his debut until 10th February but he made his mark. Seconds after joining the action from the subs' bench in the 90th minute against Ipswich Wanderers, he scored with his first and only touch of the ball.

ROWAN DORLING joined the academies at West Ham, Stevenage and Dagenham & Redbridge before playing for Coggeshall Town. He joined us at the start of last season and made an immediate and lasting impact in the centre of defence.

HARRY FAIRS is a goalkeeper who has played for White Ensign, Great Wakering Rovers and Hashtag United. He joined us in February and quickly established himself as our first-choice goalkeeper, playing in eleven league matches.

CALLUM FITZER joined us in July. He is a left-sided attacker who was in the Southend United academy before playing for Canvey Island, Great Wakering Rovers and Basildon United. He has been a thorn in our side in a Basildon shirt, scoring four times against us in the last two seasons.

GOLDEN IGBINEWEKA is a midfielder who joined us in July. He is a midfielder whose last club was Romford. He is a former triallist at Hull City and Rotherham United.

LUKE IGE Defender and midfielder had extensive youth experience in the Under 18s Premier League and Professional Development League for Barnsley, Crystal Palace and Aston Villa. Luke joined us on loan from Colchester United in 2019 and rejoined us three years later.

FREDDIE KING is an influential midfielder who joined us in September 2023 from Stanway Rovers, having previously represented Coggeshall Town. He was our supporters' player of the year last season. He scored on his first start for us against Enfield.

DEESE KASIGA-MADIA who was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo is a left-sided attacker. He was a Newcastle United and Ipswich Town scholar before joining us in 2022. After spells at AFC Sudbury, Potters Bar and Waltham Abbey he rejoined us in January.

ANTON MATTHEWS is a left-back who joined us at the start of 2023/24. He won player of the season awards from the manager and his fellow players. A former Crystal Palace triallist, Anton has represented Sutton United under-18s, Brentwood Town and Bedfont Sports.

KAMANI MCFARLANE Attacker from Newham joined us in March and was previously at Maldon & Tiptree, Mousehole and Port Vale. In 2021 Kamani was a substitute in the Port Vale side that beat Liverpool under-21s 5-0 in the Papa Johns Trophy.

ARCHIE MCFADDEN plays in midfield and defence. He joined us last December from White Ensign, where he captained the side. In 2022/23 he played for Brentwood Town and a Great Wakering Rovers side that included Harry Fairs and Callum Fitzer.

HARRY MCKIE is a goalkeeper who joined us at the start of 2024-25, having previously played for Bowers & Pitsea. He missed some of last season through injury but we are glad to have him back this season.

JOSH OSUDE is a striker who joined us in November 2023. He had played for us previously. Between his two Witham spells he represented Grays Athletic, Sittingbourne, Bishops' Stortford and Coggeshall Town.

SHARN QUINN is a midfielder whose previous clubs have included Concord Rangers, Walthamstow and Welling United.

JAMIE RILEY is a defender who joined us in August. He has played for Bishop's Stortford, Coggeshall Town and Saffron Walden Town.

ANDREW SESAY Newham-born joined us in October 2023. He is a striker who has played for Bowers & Pitsea, Whitehawk and Tooting & Mitcham. He scored five goals in his first eight appearances for us.

ISAAC SKUBICH is a midfielder who was a member of the Ipswich Town academy before joining East Thurrock United. He made 35 league appearances for the Rocks in 2022/23 and 34 for Ipswich Wanderers last season.

MATT SMITH is a goalkeeper who joined us at the start of 2023/24 and made two league appearances for us.

LIAM WHIPPS has Witham Town in his DNA. He came through the club's youth and reserve teams before making his first team debut in 2016/17. He has made well over 100 first team appearances for us. He plays in defence and midfield and has a habit of scoring spectacular goals.



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Isthmian League North Division Table 2024/25 up to and including 11/9/2024

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Basildon United	4	4	0	0	9	2	+7	12
2	Bury Town	5	4	0	1	10	5	+5	12
3	Witham Town	4	3	1	0	10	5	+5	10
4	Felixstowe & Walton United	4	3	0	1	13	6	+7	9
5	Gorleston	4	3	0	1	5	3	+2	9
6	Redbridge	5	3	0	2	9	8	+1	9
7	Maldon & Tiptree	4	2	1	1	7	4	+3	7
8	Grays Athletic	5	2	1	2	6	5	+1	7
9	Cambridge City	5	2	1	2	8	8	0	7
10	Brightlingsea Regent	3	2	0	1	5	4	+1	6
11	Heybridge Swifts	4	1	3	0	5	4	+1	6
12	Waltham Abbey	4	2	0	2	4	4	0	6
13	Brentwood Town	4	2	0	2	9	11	-2	6
14	Sporting Bengal United	5	2	0	3	6	9	-3	6
15	Mildenhall Town	4	1	1	2	4	6	-2	4
16	Ipswich Wanderers	4	1	1	2	3	5	-2	4
17	Tilbury	4	1	1	2	3	6	-3	4
18	Walthamstow	4	1	0	3	6	6	0	3
19	Concord Rangers	3	1	0	2	5	6	-1	3
20	Haringey Borough	4	0	0	4	2	8	-6	0
21	Newmarket Town	3	0	0	3	4	11	-7	0
22	Wroxham	4	0	0	4	3	10	-7	0

“The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association’s statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual’s sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities. The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities.”

Respect



Haringey Borough First Team 2024/25 Fixtures & Results

PRE SEASON FRIENDLIES – FIRST TEAM

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Sat Jul 13	Coles Park	3pm	CHESHUNT	Lost 2-3
Sat Jul 20	away	2pm	Hendon	Drew 3-3
Tue Jul 23	away	7.45pm	Cockfosters	Won 3-1
Sat Jul 27	Coles Park	3pm	HERTFORD TOWN	Lost 3-4
Tue Jul 30	Coles Park	3pm	DULWICH HAMLET	Lost 2-3
Sat Aug 3	Coles Park	3pm	HAYES & YEADING UNITED	Lost 0-1
Tue Aug 6	Coles Park	7.45pm	AFC DUNSTABLE	Drew 3-3

COMPETITIVE FIXTURES – FIRST TEAM

(all Isthmian League North Division unless otherwise stated)

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Sat Aug 10	Away	3pm	Basildon United	Lost 0-1
Sat Aug 17	Away	3pm	Benfleet (FA Cup Prelim Rnd)	Won 5-1
Sat Aug 24	Coles Park	3pm	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	Lost 0-2
Mon Aug 26	Away	3pm	Tilbury	Lost 2-3
Sat Aug 31	Away	3pm	Brightlingsea Regent (FA Cup 1st Qualifying Rnd)	Drew 1-1
Tue Sep 3	Coles Park	7.45pm	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT (Replay of above)	Won 2-1
Sat Sep 7	Away	3pm	Redbridge (FA Trophy 1st Qualifying Round)	Won 3-1
Mon Sep 9	Away	7.45pm	Redbridge	Lost 0-2
Sat Sep 14	Coles Park	3pm	WITHAM TOWN (FA Cup 2nd Qual Rnd)	
Tue Sep 17	Coles Park	7.45pm	TILBURY (Alan Turvey (i.e League) Cup)	
Sat Sep 21	Away	3pm	Wroxham (FA Trophy 2nd Qualifing Round)	
Tue Sep 24	Coles Park	7.45pm	CONCORD RANGERS	
Sat Sep 28	Coles Park	3pm	BURY TOWN (see Note A)	
Sat Oct 5	Coles Park	3pm	MALDON & TIPTREE (see Note B)	
Tue Oct 8	Conles Park	7.45pm	BARKING (London Senior Cup)	
Sat Oct 12	Away	3pm	Ipswich Wanderers (see Note A)	
Tue Oct 15	Coles Park	7.45pm	SPORTING BENGAL UNITED	
Sat Oct 19	Coles Park	3pm	BRENTWOOD TOWN	
Tue Oct 22	Away	7.45pm	Waltham Abbey	
Sat Oct 26	Away	3pm	Gorleston (see Note B)	
Sat Nov 2	Coles Park	3pm	WROXHAM (see Note A)	
Tue Nov 5	Coles Park	3pm	REDBRIDGE	
Sat Nov 9	Away	3pm	Sporting Bengal United	
Sat Nov 16	Coles Park	3pm	WALTHAM ABBEY (see NOTE B)	
Sat Nov 23	Away	3pm	Bury Town	
Sat Nov 30	Away	3pm	Grays Athletic (see Note A)	
Sat Dec 7	Coles Park	3pm	FELIXSTOWE & WALTON UNITED (see Note B)	

Sat Dec 14	Away	2pm	Witham Town
Sat Dec 21	Coles Park	3pm	NEWMARKET TOWN
Thur Dec 26	Away	3pm	Walthamstow
Sat Dec 28	Coles Park	3pm	BASILDON UNITED
Wed Jan 1	Coles Park	3pm	TILBURY
Sat Jan 4	Away	3pm	Heybridge Swifts
Sat Jan 11	Coles Park	3pm	MILDENHALL TOWN
Sat Jan 18	Away	3pm	Cambridge City
Sat Jan 25	Away	3pm	Felixstowe & Walton United
Sat Feb 1	Coles Park	3pm	GRAYS ATHLETIC
Sat Feb 8	Away	3pm	Maldon & Tiptree
Sat Feb 15	Coles Park	3pm	IPSWICH WANDERERS
Sat Feb 22	Away	3pm,	Brentwood Town
Sat Mar 1	Coles Park	3pm	GORLESTON
Sat Mar 8	Away	3pm	Wroxham
Sat Mar 15	Coles Park	3pm	WITHAM TOWN
Sat Mar 22	Away	3pm	Newmarket Town
Sat Mar 29	Coles Park	3pm	CAMBRIDGE CITY
Sat Apl 5	Away	3pm	Mildenhall Town
Sat Apl 12	Coles Park	3pm	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS
Sat Apl 19	Away	3pm	Concord Rangers
Mon Apl 21	Coles Park	3pm	WALTHAMSTOW
Sat Apl 28	Away	3pm	Brightlingsea Regent

Note A Will be postponed if either Club is engaged in the FA Cup

Note B Will be postponed if either Club is engaged in the FA Trophy

Haringey Borough Under 23s 2024/25 Fixtures & Results

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Tue Jul 9	Coles Park	7.45pm	ATHLETIC NEWHAM (Friendly)	Drew 4-4
Fri Jul 19	Coles Park	7.45pm	MET PROJECT (Friendly)	Drew 1-1
Fri Aug 16	Coles Park	7.45pm	FRENFORD DEVELOPMENT	Drew 2-2
Fri Aug 23	Coles Park	7.45pm	FAIRLOP ROVERS	Won 3-1
Sat Aug 31	Away	2pm	Chadwell Heath Spartans	Won 3-0
Sat Sep 7	Away	2pm.	Philip United	Lost 1-2
Sat Sep 14	Away	2pm	Walthamstow Reserves	
Fri Sep 20	Coles Park	7.45pm	BAKERS 693	
Fri Sep 27	Away	7.45pm	CSM London	

Fixtures for The Senior Division of the Essex Alliance in August have now been issued as above. The other 11 teams they will meet in League Competition are:- Bakers693, CSM London, FC Petrocub, Kulture Klub (West Essex), Lymore Gardens, Ongar Town, Sporting Hackney, Rapid Chingford, Walthamstow Reserves, Waltham Forest Borough, Woodford Town Reserves

Haringey Borough Under 18s 2024/25 Fixtures & Results

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Thur Sep 5	Away	7.45pm	Saffron Walden Town (FA Youth Cup Preliminary Round)	Won 8-1
Thur Sep 12	Away	7.45pm	Amersham Town (Brian Hitchings League Cup)	Lost 1-7
Wed Sep 18	Away	7.45pm	May & Baker Eastbrook Community (FA Youth Cup 1st. Qualifying Round)	
Mon Sep 23	Coles Park	7.45pm	ICKENHAM	

The Southern Counties Floodlit Youth League have only published their fixtures to the end of September. The other 6 teams in the same Division as Borough are:- Barnet, Cockfosters, Edgware & Kingsbury, Enfield Borough, Shefford Saints and West Essex.

Haringey Borough Women 2024/25 Fixtures & Results

PRE SEASON FRIENDLIES – FIRST TEAM

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Sun Jul 14	Coles Park	2pm	IN-HOUSE 11 a side TOURNAMENT	N/A
Sun Jul 21	Coles Park	2pm	REAL BEDFORD RESERVES	Won 7-1
Sun Aug 11	Coles Park	2pm	BILLERICAY TOWN DEVELOPMENT	Won 4-2

COMPETITIVE FIXTURES

(All Eastern Region Womens League Premier Division unless otherwise stated)

Haringey Borough Women 2023/24 Competitive Fixtures

DATE	VENUE	KICK OFF	OPPONENTS	RESULT
Sun Aug 18	Coles Park	2pm	DUSSINDALE & HELLESDON ROVERS	Won 8-1
Sun Aug 25	Away	2pm	Enfield Town	Won 4-2
Sun Sep 1	Coles Park	2pm	LUTON TOWN	Lost 1-4
Sun Sep 8	Away	2pm	Cambridge City	Won 4-0
Sun Sep 15	Coles Park	2pm	WATFORD DEVELOPMENT	
Sun Sep 22	Coles Park	2pm	ROYSTON TOWN (WFA Cup 2nd Qualifying Rnd)	
Sun Sep 29	Coles Park	2pm	STEVENAGE	
Sun Oct 6	Away	2pm	St. Albans City	
Sun Oct 13	Away	2pm	Wroxham	
Sun Oct 20	Coles Park	2pm	NEEDHAM MAEKET	
Sun Oct 27	Away	2pm	Bowers & Pitsea	
Sun Nov 3	Coles Park	1.30pm	HARPENDEN TOWN (League Cup)	
Sun Nov 10	Away	2pm	Dussindale & Hellesdon Rovers	
Sun Nov 17	Away	2pm	Luton Town	
Sun Nov 24	Coles Park	2pm	CAMBRIDGE CITY	
Sun Dec 1	Away	2pm	Watford Development	
Sun Dec 8	Coles Park	2pm	ROYSTON TOWN	
Sun Dec 15	Coles Park	2pm	ENFIELD TOWN	
Sun Jan 5	Away	2pm	Stevenage	
Sun Jan 12	Coles Park	2pm	ST. ALBANS CITY	
Sun Jan 19	Coles Park	2pm	WROXHAM	
Sun Jan 26	Away	2pm	Needham Market	
Sun Feb 2	Coles Park	2pm	BOWERS & PITSEA	
Sun Feb 23	Away	2pm	Royston Town	
Undated	Away	??	Carshalton Athletic or Guernsey (Isthmian Womens Cup)	



TODAYS TEAMS

From

Michael ACQUAH

Ebenezer ADDO

Fred AGYEMANG

Georgios ARESTI

Derek ASAMOAH

Akiljo BALLIU

Alkeo BANI

Bobson BAWLING

Tommy BOXER

Dan CAREY-EVANS

Caleb DENNIS

Jorge DJASSI SAMBU

Richard ENNIN

Louis MAFFIA

David MARTINS

Stephane MGBADA

Scott MITCHELL

Demmy NICOLAOU

Tosin OLUFEMI

Reuben RABSTEIN

Shaun SANKANU

J'Ardell STIRLING

Shaun SANKANU

Joe WAIGHT

Manny YEBOAH

Manager: Tom Loizou

Assistant Manager: David Cumberbatch

Coaches: Thomas O'Donoghue
Lys Demetriou

Goalkeeping Coach: Trevor Nottingham

Physio: Emelie Fitzgerald



From

1 Harry FAIRS

2 Anton MATTHEWS

3 Liam WHIPPS (capt)

4 Rowan DORLING

5 Ryan DEAR

6 Isaac SKUBICH

7 Archie McFADDEN

8 Golden IGBINWEKA

9 Josh OSUDE

10 Kamani McFARLANE

11 Callum FITZER

12 Joseph ALATISE

14 Ayomide ADELAJA

15 Oliver BELL

16 Andrew SESAY

17 James ASKEW

Manager: Gary Kimble

MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Derrick Lilley assisted by
Manny Chandwani & Stephen Williams