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Binfield FC'S Official Matchday Programme



# Binfield GLUB INFORMATION

Binfield FC is a FC Charter Standard Community Club committed to providing football for all ages, male and female players.

Starting at Soccer School and on to our Senior Team who play in the Isthmian League South Central Division. The club runs over 36 teams and is a great place to enjoy your football.

## CLUB OFFICIALS/CONTACTS

Chairman: Andy Cotton - chairman@binfieldfc.com

Club Secretary: Kieran Wickham - clubsecretary@binfieldfc.com

Match Secretary: Rob Sutton - rob.sutton@binfieldfc.com Head of Media: Ollie Cherrill - ollie.cherrill@binfieldfc.com Club Photographer: Daisy Spiers - mediateam@binfieldfc.com

Community Engagement Officer: Jack Craske - jack.craske@binfiedfc.com Marketing/Commercial Officer: Andrew Spiers - mediateam@binfieldfc.com Safety and Welfare Officer: Craiq Gilbert - craiq.qilbert@binfieldfc.com

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer: Simon Andrews - Simon, Andrews@skanska.co.uk

Clubhouse Manager: Angela Knightlev - angela.knightlev@binfieldfc.com

In accordance with the Football Association Rule 2.13 Publication of Ownership in relation to Step 1 to Step 6 Clubs in the Football Pyramid, we hereby confirm that the legal status of Binfield Football Club as an Unincorporate Association (Members Club).

Vat Registration: 25825964

Registered Office: 4 Symondson Mews. Binfield. Berkshire. RG42 5TE

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# WELCOME TO BINFIELD FG

# From Our Chairman, Andy Gotton

A very warm welcome to Hill Farm Lane for today's Pitchin In Isthmian Division One South Central tie vs Leatherhead FC



It's always a pleasure to welcome back the Leatherhead Club officials and their faithful travelling supporters here at Hill Farm Lane. We've had a number of excellent games against our opponents in the past and with Leatherhead quickly establishing themselves as this seasons title favourites, tonight will be another tough test for our young Moles team who despite some terrific performances of late, have struggled to covert game dominance into points.

Saturday's game away at Hendon was another game which we dominated for large parts, playing the better football and arguably created more chances. Our dominance should have resulted in us being at least two goals to the good at halftime. Save for the referee deciding to IMPACT the game by making some bizarre errors, i.e. not showing the Hendon number 5 a clear 2nd yellow on 35 minutes and then deciding to make up his own rules by sending off Natty for kicking out the ball play when he reacted to being penalised for being fouled himself. We are not bitter, just completely disappointed that the game was taken away from us somewhat. The lads did brilliantly well to twice come back into the game with only 10 players on the park, tonight will be then lose the game with the last kick of the match. Still, we won't let this get us down too much - it's been a joy to watch the side play this season and I'm sure better results are just around the corner for our talented young squad-after all, its only a game so they say:-).

As always, let's hope it's another cracking game of football and another great advert for the division

We hope Leatherhead supporters enjoy visiting our lovely little ground and we hope you all have a great day here at the home of the Moles and have a safe journey home!!!!

**Cmon vou Moles** 

**Andy Cotton** Binfield FC Chairman





## BINFIELD FG HISTORY

Binfield FC first played in 1892, during the reign of Queen Victoria, making us one of the oldest Association Football clubs in the world! The team comprised young men from the local brickworks and those who worked on the land around Binfield. The club's early years were spent in the Ascot and District League, where we enjoyed many successful seasons winning the Fielden Cup for the first time in 1924 and on eleven further occasions since.

During the 2nd World War, we joined the Great Western Combination League, winning the championship in 1947. During that period we also won the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup and the Maidenhead Norfolkian Cup and it was not unusual to see crowds in excess of 1,000 at our Forest Road ground.

In 1950 we joined the Reading and District League, where we remained for the next forty years. In 1972 Binfield won promotion to the Premier Division for the first time and although relegated two years later we returned in 1976 as 1st Division Champions. A huge crowd, reminiscent of the 1940's, packed Forest Road to witness our promotion. In 1980, the club made an important decision to move from Forest Road, where facilities were shared with the cricket club, to our current site in Hill Farm Lane. Turning that field into the football ground we see today was a massive task. Thanks to an enormous amount of physical work by the members of the club the area was levelled and drained within three years. The members then set about building the club house. This progress off the field was matched on it when in 1987 and 1988 we won Division 2 and then Division 1 of the Reading and District League. In 1989, we joined the high-profile Charrington Chiltonian League, winning the Division 1 title at the first attempt - a feat we repeated in 1996 - and reaching the final of the League Cup. The following year we finished runners-up to Peppard, despite remaining unbeaten from November until the end of the campaign.

In 2001 we merged with Binfield's junior club, Binfield Forest FC, and in doing so significantly increased the member-ship, with over 20 teams playing every weekend - this season we will field 36 teams each week. The junior part of the club is very important to Binfield with FA Charter status having been achieved in 2007 and in 2013 we were awarded the Berks & Bucks FA and South East Regional FA Charter Status Community Club of the Year awards, culminating in the club being invited to the FA Community Shield at Wembley in August 2013.

Since 2005, progress at the club has been swift, with the addition of floodlights and later a seated stand. The club is tirelessly working to improve our facilities with our "continuous improvement" plan making further change to the car park, to the club house and a new stand around our Tea Bar. We constantly strive to improve all elements of the facilities from changing rooms to a playing surface we are extremely proud of, to benefit everyone from our Under 6s up to our 1st Team. We won the FTL Hellenic League Division 1 East title in 2008-09 and gained promotion to the next level of English football, where we finished runners up in the 2010/11 Uhlsport Hellenic Premier Division, 3rd in 2012/13 and 5th in 2014.

August 15th 2009 will long be remembered as Binfield's first game in the legendary FA Cup - and we have enjoyed some good runs reaching the 1st Qualifying round in each of the last two seasons with 400 supporters enjoying the visit of Margate in 2010 and a trip to Slough Town and narrow defeat in 2011. In 2013 the side reached the 2nd Qualifying round, losing to a 96th minute free kick as Leatherhead came from behind. Binfield entered the FA Vase for the first time in season 2008-09 and enjoyed three rounds, before reaching the 4th round (last 32) in 2011/12 in an incredible season of cup success. The 2011/12 team is the most successful in our history, winning both the Berks & Bucks FA Senior Trophy and the AM Print & Copy Floodlit Cup in five glorious April 2012 days. We also reached the final of the Hellenic Challenge Cup.

In the two Covid disrupted seasons, the first team were sitting in second place in the Hellenic Premier. Positions when used to calculate points per game resulted in promotion to the Isthmian League South Centre, our 1st season ever at Step 4. However the 2020/21 season will, of course, be remembered for our amazing run in the Buildbase FA Vase when playing every game behind closed doors bar one and all away from home we reached the Final at Wembley where we came up against a very good Warrington Rylands side and narrowly lost 3-2.

In 2021/22 season in the Isthmian South Central, the team finished 8th after a good start. Disappointing FA Cup but a very good run in the Trophy. Winning at North Leigh, Herne Bay before a home win vs Chippenham and finally bowing out against Truro, missing a last minute penalty. In the 2022/23 season, the team finished 6th in the Isthmian South Central - our highest ever league position. In the FA Cup, we reached the 3q round, again our best ever performance, losing 5-3 away to Beckenham Town. In the FA Trophy, we lost in the 1st round proper away to Tavistock.

The 2023/24 will always be remembered as the season of the Great Escape. At Christmas, the team had no wins in the league, only 4 points and were rooted to the bottom of the table. Their only win was a 2-0 victory over Wokingham in the FA Cup. They were knocked out of the FA Cup after a replay at Northwood. There was poor performances in the FA Trophy and Velocity Cups with 7-1 and 6-0 defeats respectively. A management change just before Christmas with Ross Weatherstone taking charge. In his time in charge, Ross managed to guide the team to their first win against Met Police FC. The team finished with 8 wins and managed to finish 4 points and one position above the relegation zone.

2024/25 was the year of the cup run and giant killings. In the Velocity Cup, the Moles were on the road for every game and made it through to the semi-final beating Premier Division sides Dulwich Hamlet and Hasting United before losing to a strong Billericay Town. In the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup, they defeated National League side Maidenhead United before losing in the quarter finals to Flackwell Heath. In the league, the Moles improved slightly from last season finishing one position higher and with nine more points.

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# THE VIEW FROM THE DUGOUT



Good afternoon,

Tonight we host Leatherhead FC, everyone at the club wishes everyone here today a warm welcome to Binfield FC. I'd like to wish the Leatherhead Management Team, their players, all their officials & fans a pleasant stay with us & a safe journey home after the game.

Tonight's League game will be tough against the current League leaders. Sells is a great football guy & is doing a great job, we all are prepared for a tough tactical challenge tonight.

Last Tuesday we played Hartley Wintney FC in the League Cup where we won 2-1 & fully deserved the win based on how the team played, scoring 2 excellent team goals by Amari & Natty.

Saturday saw us travel into London to play Hendon FC, Hendon played at Step 3 last season, another tough game where we dominated possession & had the better goalscoring opportunities. A harsh red card contributed to us not getting a result, conceding in injury time to come away with a 3-2 defeat was definitely a point dropped.

My management team & all of the players appreciate your continued support, I hope you all enjoy the game.

Rosco First Team Manager



## THE BIG PREVIEW



#### BINFIELD VS LEATHERHEAD

Football under the lights at Hill Farm Lane this evening - we're back! It might be the first time coats are coming out of the wardrobe as the weather begins to turn but hopefully the football on the pitch this evening will keep everyone warm as we welcome Leatherhead to our home this evening.



It's been a mixed set of results for the Moles over the month of September. A return to the Velocity Cup last week allowed the Moles to build some confidence with victory over Hartley Wintney for the second time this season. Amari Fashanu finished off a great team move to put the Moles ahead in the first half before Natty Boakye strike from the edge of the box with eight minutes to go was enough to send them into the third round.

The Moles then faced a trip to Hendon on Saturday. After going a goal and a man down, they rallied to equalise twice - first through Logan Coles and then Ajani Giscombe from the penalty spot. But a late winner from Hendon meant they took home the points and the Moles will be looking to try and respond against a tough opponent this evening.

Leatherhead are the team to beat this season and what a brilliant start it has been. 19 points from their opening eight games - scoring plenty of goals in the process. After a near perfect August, September has been slightly tougher for the Swans but the only blip came at home against Hartley Wintney. They were made to work again for their three points at home on Saturday against Horndean - they had to rally from 2-0 down at half-time but came through with a brilliant second half to win 3-2 with Anas Igozouln grabbing the all important goal. They sit top of the table after eight games and could extend that lead tonight so a tough task ahead for the Moles.



# LAST TIME OUT



### BINFIELD VS LEATHERHEAD

#### Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec: Binfield 2-2 Leatherhead

Monday Christmas football at Hill Farm Lane opened up with Leatherhead taking an early lead through Ruben Bartlett-Antwi



But as had been a theme this season, the Moles grew

into the game and Rahzir Smith-Jones levelled two minutes before half time. And the Moles continued that momentum into the second half, Smith-Jones again with the goal to put the Moles ahead.

But as the Moles tried to cling on for all three points, Leatherhead broke their hearts in the 98<sup>th</sup> minute. Lukas Franzen-Jones smashing the ball in from close range as the points were shared.



#### Mon 21st Apr: Leatherhead 4-1 Binfield

It was more bank holiday football in the reverse fixture when the Moles took a trip down to the River Mole

Despite chances for both sides, it was a goalless first half before Rechan Esprit putt he Moles ahead shortly after half time - finishing off a flowing move from the Moles.

But Leatherhead showed why they were fighting for the playoffs with a dominant final half an hour which included a hat-trick from Bartlett-Antwi as they took all three points.



# MATCH PHOTOS

By Daisy Spiers @bellisphotography\_





# MATCH PHOTOS







"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association." (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162)

The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community.

Lose Respect Lose the game TheFA.com/Respect



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# EET THE SQU











SALIL DAS







ROSS WEATHERSTONE



1st Team Manager

















TOBY LAWES



MORRISON



THEO PENICOTT-BOWEN



JOSHUA SANDY



TOBY THOMPSON





MONTY BRADY



LOGAN COLES



**OWEN CUMMINS** 



AARON GARDINER



AJANI GISCOMBE



**ZACH GOODMAN** 



**DANIEL LEWIS** 



AUNDE TODD



MATT TWEED



**EJIRO ABBEY** 



AMARI FASHANU



**OLLIE HENRY** 



SHAE LINDO-LEE



**QUR'AN RAYNOR** 



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**TOMMY WHITBY** 



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Sat 09	Horndean	1-4	115	Scott	Griffiths	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Cummins	Brady
Tues 12	Ascot United	1-3	252	Scott	Griffiths	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Thompson	Todd	Fashanu
Sat 16	Marlow*	1-2	266	Fubler	Griffiths	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Cummins	Coles
Sat 23	Southall	2-1	102	Fubler	Thompson	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Giscombe	Fashanu
Mon 25	Hartley Wintney	2-1	178	Fubler	Thompson	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Giscombe	Fashanu
Sat 30	Moneyfields	4-4	90	Fubler	Thompson	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Giscombe	Fashanu
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Sat 06	East Grinstead Town***	3p-3	130	Scott	Griffiths	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Giscombe	Fashanu
Sat 13	South Park	0-2	116	Scott	Thompson	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Heholt	Brady	Fashanu
Tues 16	Met Police	3-3	70	Fubler	Campbell	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Sandy	Giscombe	Fashanu
Sat 20	Raynes Park Vale	0-3	115	Fubler	Campbell	Daniel-Spray	Lewis	Heholt	Giscombe	Fashanu
Tues 23	Hartley Wintney**	2-1	68	Scott	Campbell	Daniel-Spray	Jones Jr	Heholt	Todd	Fashanu
Sat 27	Hendon	2-3	236	Fubler	Campbell	Daniel-Spray	Jones Jr	Heholt	Todd	Fashanu
Sat 30	Leatherhead			(Additional)						
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Tues 07	Slough Town****									
Sat 11	Hayes & Yeading Utd									
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# INTRODUCING OUR VISITORS LEATHERHEAD

I FATHERHEAD FOOTBALL CLUB can trace its history back to the formation of Leatherhead Rose in 1907. Rose were crowned Champions of the Dorking & District League in 1910 and 1919 before joining the Kingston and District League where they won the League title three times, the last in 1938-39 Leatherhead United were formed in 1924 and in 1925-6 won Division One of the Sutton and District League. In the early 1930s, United joined the Surrey Junior League becoming Champions in 1933-4. After the War, officials of the two clubs met and in May 1946, Leatherhead Football Club was officially formed at a public meeting. United's Fetcham Grove ground was to be used as the home ground. The Tanners went on to win four consecutive Surrey Senior League Championships before spells in the Metropolitan, Delphian and Corinthian Leagues. Tanners were Corinthian League champions in 1963 before moving into the Athenian League. Leatherhead won promotion from Division One at the end of the first season and inaugurated their floodlights with a match against a Fulham side. Leatherhead won the Surrey Senior Cup for the first, and to date, only time in 1969.

After being elected in to the Isthmian League, Leatherhead made national headlines in 1974-5 when they reached the Fourth Round proper of the FA Cup, defeating League sides Colchester Utd and Brighton & Hove Albion before bowing out to First Division Leicester City 2-3. In subsequent seasons, the Tanners defeated two more Football League sides at the Grove – Cambridge United and Northampton Town.

After the disappointment of defeat in FA Amateur Cup semi-finals in 1971 and 1974, the Tanners finally reached Wembley Stadium in 1978 but were beaten in the FA Trophy Final. The Club then entered a period of decline and were relegated in 1983 and in 1990, slipped down into Division Two South but were back in Division One in 1997. Finances were a problem and in the summer of 2000 the club was within a few days of folding but was saved by its supporters who took over following a crisis meeting.

In 2006-7, Leatherhead were the lowest ranked team to reach the First Round Proper of the FA Cup, Iosing 1-2 at Football League side, Torquay United. Mick Sullivan was appointed First Team Manager in May 2009. Under Sullivan's guidance, the club had its most successful season in years, winning the Isthmian League Cup (the first major trophy for some 40 years) and finishing the season in fifth place in the League before losing a play-off semi-final. The following season, a dramatic play-off

victory against Dulwich Hamlet (4-3 after extra time), saw The Tanners return to the Premier Division for the first time since 1983. Tanners stay lasted just the one season though. In 2013-14 Tanners reached the play offs again, this time edging out Guernsey 3-2, before winning a penalty shootout at Folkestone Invicta to return to the Ryman Premier Division.

Sammy Moore was appointed in the summer of 2017. In his first managerial job Sammy steered Tanners to the second round of the FA Cup, a County Cup Final and a top eight finish in the League before departing for Concord Rangers along with the majority of the team. He was replaced by former Margate boss Nikki Bull who, despite having to rebuild the squad, took the team to an 8th place finish narrowly missing out on the plav-offs. After a poor start to the 2021-22 season Luke Tuffs was appointed manager in January 2022, but was unable to steer the club out of the relegation places, although from a seemingly impossible position it was very close.

After an indifferent start to 2022-23 Hayden Bird was appointed to the Fetcham Grove hot seat in October. He led Tanners to the play-off final in 2024 but Marlow prevailed in the final. At the start of the current season lan Selley was appointed as manager.

#### MAIN CLUB HONOURS

FA Challenge Cup 4th Round 1974/75 2nd Round 1975/76, 1976/77, 1978/79, 2017/18 1st Round 1977/78, 1980/81, 2006/07

FA Trophy Finalists 1977/78

FA Amateur Cup Semi-finalists 1970/71, 1973/74
Isthmian Division One South Play-off Winners
2010/11, 2013/14

Isthmian Division Two Runners up 1996/97

Isthmism League Cup Winners 2009/10 Finalists 1977/78

Isthmian Charity Shield Winners

2010/11, 2011/12

Premier Midweek League Runners up 1969/70 Surrey Senior Cup Winners 1968/69

Finalists 1964/65, 1966/67, 1974/75, 1978/79,

2010/11, 2017/18

London Senior Cup Finalists 1974/75, 1977/78

Athenian League Division One Champions
1962/64



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# GETTING TO KNOW: AMARI FASHANU

Amari joined us at the start of this season and he been involved in so many good things going forward already this season. Seven goal involvements in his opening 12 Moles games and hopefully there's more to come this season

Name: Amari Fashanu Position: Midfielder Appeareances: 12 Goal Contributions: 7



**Why I chose Binfield:** For me it was finding a club that believed in me and can push me further in my development

Name on a football pitch: **Marz** Football Team vou support: **Chelsea** 

Favourite Footballer: Morgan Gibbs-White

Sport you would play if you weren't a footballer:

Basketball #





Dream Job: **Professional Football (\*)**Favourite Holiday Destination: **St Lucia** 

Favourite Food: Nandos 🤲

Favourite TV Show/Film: Power

#### Favourite Sporting Memory you've been part of: Playing for Reading FC 🕌

## Favourite Sporting Memory you've watched:

#### France v Argentina World Cup final 🟆

#### Pre-Match Routine:

- Have to go for a walk before the game  $\lambda$
- Listen to music 🐽

Biggest strength as a Player: Creativity 🏩

Something you want to achieve this season: 15 goals & 15 assists























## **Leatherhead, Villa, Hayes, Yellas, Row, K's, Field and Hendon are our South Central winners- whilst Sports Cup run comes to a heroic end**

Each of our matches today was preceded by a minute of silence in memory of Chichester City's Billy Vigar, who sadly passed away earlier this week. We'd like to once more send our condolences- and indeed the condolences of all of our clubs- to Billy's family and friends, and to all at City.

Leaders Leatherhead got back to winning ways in the FA Trophy last weekend, but they hadn't won a league match since the end of August. That said, they'd only played two since then, prior to the arrival of Hornden! At half time it looked as if that winless run was going to continue as the Deans were two up, Ryan Carroll on four minutes and Michael O'Connell on forty five doing the damage, but the Tanners hit back hard after the break. Mark Waters quickly got a goal back, George Hedley levelled sixteen minutes from time, and almost immediately Anas Igozouln completed the turnaround. Three-two Tanners, who are two points clear at the top.

Second place Raynes Park Vale had the chance to go top in midweek, but Hayes & Yeading United put a halt to their three match unbeaten run. Vale were at home to fifth place Littlehampton Town in our South Central match of the day, the travelling Golds three matches unbeaten and having won their last two by three goals to two- and the two sides delivered a thriller. Littlehampton went ahead on seven minutes, Horsham loanee Freddie hammond the scorer, and Hammond added a second just before the break- but next came a Vale fightback. Kareem Akinnibi halved the deficit on sixty four minutes, and almost immediately Calvin Ekpiteta found an equaliser. The Golds weren't happy with that, and David Herbert q uickly restored their lead from the spot, and it looked like that would be that, but eight minutes into added time Ekpiteta earned his side a point-nine minutes after the visitors went down to ten men with a red card from Kyle O'Brien.

Third place Hanworth Villa had suddenly found their form, which might have worried visitors Bognor Regis Town, who seemed to have lost theirs. The Villains had won three in a row and scored eleven goals in the process, whilst the travelling Rocks found themselves second from bottom, and without a win since opening day. Villa went ahead on eighteen minutes, Sam Merson the scorer, but it seemed as if the Rocks had taken a point when Dan Gifford levelled four minutes from time. Villa, however, had other ideas, and two minutes into added time were awarded a penalty, George Wells keeping calm to slot home for two-one. That's eight defeats from nine in all competitions for the visitors.

Hayes and Yeading United welcomed AFC Portchester to the Skyex. United started the day in top form, having won six in a row in all competitions, including their last five at home- and that's now seven and six! Kaylen Hinds put the hosts ahead on sixteen minutes, Sam Ashton made it two just before the break, and Ryan Ewhare got a third just before the hour. The visitors got a late consolation through Brett Pitman, and saw their hosts reduced to ten men with a red card for substitute Didi Ndombe, but that was that.

Ascot United, in sixth, were at home to a side who were behind them only on goal difference, Harrow Borough. The Yellas had played seven matches at their Racecourse Ground this season and won six of them, so the home crowd was full of confidence- and they were right to be. Borough went ahead nine minutes before the break, Lenny Farhall continuing his fine scoring form, but that simply roused the hosts, who delivered a second half blitz. Jaheim Kamara levelled a minute into the second half, Luis Le Paih got number two fifteen minutes from time, Joden Trickett made it three-one with eight minutes left, and there was still time for Andrio Brandao to add a fourth. The Yellas climb to fifth.

Met Police were the hosts for Egham Town. The Boys in Blue had really found their feet, with only one defeat in seven in all competitions coming into this one, whilst the Sarnies picked up their first League win of the season in midweek and had lost only one of five in League and Cups. Those statistics suggested that this one would be close, and indeed it was. The match can perhaps be categorised as the Jamal Sharpe and Luke Heneghan show, as the former scored twice in the first half for Met, and the latter scored twice in the second half for Town, two-two the final score.

South Park Reigate welcomed Hartley Wintney to Whitehall Lane. The Sparks, in eleventh as we kicked off, were a point behind their visitors but had lost four of their previous five- and now that run is five from six, The Row taking the points. The only goal of the match arrived eighteen minutes from time, Alex Body scoring it.

Kingstonian travel to Fareham Town. The K's had been both very good and rather poor so far this season, the epitome of inconsistency- but they were very much the former on this occasion, sweeping their hosts away. Ethan Lindo and Dennis Kelmendi made it two-nil to the visitors within ten minutes, Ethan Lindo added a third seven minutes from time, and the K's are up to eighth.

Finally Westfield were at home to bottom side Southall. Field had been very good at home, and indeed hadn't lost at Woking Park since opening day- that was five unbeaten home matches with four wins- and they confirmed another three points and more misery for The All. Tom Dryer scored just before and just after half time for Field, and a goal from Anthony O'Connor fifteen minutes from time wasn't enough to earn anything for the visitors, who played most of the match with ten men after a red card for Eoin Fraser six minutes before the hreak

#### Emirates FA Cup Third Qualifying Round

Bedfont Sports hosted Slough Town. Sports had defeated Guernsey, Kingstonian, Littlehampton Town and Hanwell Town to reach this stage, and had five wins from five at home, but sadly they couldn't make it six. They went ahead on nineteen minutes, Ollie Davidson the scorer, but the visitors levelled just before the break, went ahead on the hour, and, despite some Sports pressure, held on to win.







THERE can't be many clubs with a better record of producing players fit for the EFL - and higher - than FC Halifax Town.

The number that have passed through the Shay down the years is quite something.

Our Chris Dunlavy, chief writer on sister title The Football League Paper, caught up with a former Shaymen last week after he called time on his career.

One of the privileges of this job is watching young footballers thrive in Non-League before getting their chance and then carving out a successful career in the higher levels.

Lee Gregory certainly did that, scoring 112 EFL goals for the likes of Millwall, Stoke, Sheffield Wednesday and Mansfield Town.

The striker began his journey at Staveley Miners Welfare and Sheffield FC and Glapwell before ripping it up at FC Halifax Town - alongside a certain Jamie Vardy.

But Gregory still remembers the conversation he had with Nicky Law during a brief spell on trial at Alfreton two decades ago.

"I was 17 or 18 and Nicky was the manager at Alfreton," he recalls. "He said to me one day, 'You don't have to be a professional. You can have a good career in Non-League. Get a job, do this on the side, put the extra money towards a house and you'll pay it off in 15 or 20 years'.

"I remember thinking 'You know, he's right'. That was my mentality when I was playing for Staveley Miners Welfare and Sheffield FC and Glapwell.

"By the time I got to 23, when I joined Halifax, I was like 'OK, this is my life - let's buy that house and stop dreaming'."

Thankfully for Gregory, now 37, an intervention from Kim Holloway - wife of lan - changed the course of his life.

Gregory scored 29 National League goals for Halifax in the 2013-14 campaign. Holloway, then in charge of Millwall, was considering making an offer but feared the forward would struggle with the jump to the Championship.

"You could be the best player in the world but if you've not got the right opinion behind you, you're not going to go anywhere," says Gregory.



"It only takes one person to believe in you and in my case it was lan's wife. She was the one who said 'Go on, why don't you take a chance on the lad from Non-League?' That one opinion changed my life.

"I did have other clubs in the pipeline. I was always going to end up in the EFL that summer. But none of them were in the Championship. I know you make your own luck, but you need help along the way. I was very lucky that she said that to him, and that he listened to her."

Gregory is just another example of how different players will take different routes into the Football League. We're lucky we get to see a lot of them at before they really make it.



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# PLAYER STATS

						207	2/5	2025/26 Season	aso	u					2	lole	Moles' Career	Tree	_	
			Isthr	Isthmian League	anb				Cup			1	Total		League	H	Cups		Total	
Player	Moles Debut	Starts As Sub Total Goals	As Sub	Total	Goals A	Assists	Starts	Starts As Sub Total		Goals Assists		pps Go	Apps Goals Assists		og sdi	als Ap	Apps Goals Apps Goals Apps Goals	als Ap	99 sa	slac
Eijro Abbey	Aug 25 Winslow United	7	2	6	2	1	1	2	m	0	2	12	2 3		6	2	3 0		12	2
Natty Boakye	Aug 25 Winslow United	6	0	6	7	2	3	0	6	-		17	3 3			~			~	
Monty Brady	Aug 23 Ashford Town	m	ന	9	2	0	3	0	æ	-	0	6	3 0	2	22			7	_	
Ryley Campbell	Aug 25 Hordean	m	e	9	0	0	-	н	7	0	0	80	0 0							
Logan Coles	Apr 25 Rayners Lane	o	0	6	4	н	4	0	4	0	-	13	4 2							4
Owen Cummins	Aug 25 Winslow United	2	9	00	0	0	3	0	8	0	0	11	0 0							
Kyle Daniel-Spray	Aug 25 Winslow United	o	0	6	0	н	4	0	4	0	0	13	0 1	200					2	
Amari Fashanu	Aug 25 Winslow United	00	0	00	н	2	4	0	4	2	2	12	9				4 2		~	
Coleridge Fubler Jr	Sep 24 Hanworth Villa	9	0	9	0	0	1	0	н	0	0	7	0 0	30			8		2	
Aaron Gardiner	Mar 24 South Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	н		0	-	1 0	202						
Ajani Giscombe	Aug 25 Winslow United	Ŋ	4	6	н	0	1	3	4	0	0	13	1 0	0.5					13	
Harvey Griffiths	Dec 21 Ashford Town	2	7	4	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	7	0 0	m	37			52	2	
Levi Heholt	Sept 25 East Grinstead	ю	н	4	0	0	-	Н	7	0	0	9	0 0				2 0			
Ollie Henry	Sept 25 Raynes Park Vale	0	н	н	0	0	0	н	н	0	0	7	0 0							
Reese Jones Jr	Jan 24 Met. Police	1	н	2	0	0	1	0	H	0	0	m	0 0	00	34			88		2
Daniel Lewis	Aug 23 Ashford Town	00	н	6	0	0	3	0	e	0	0	12	0 0	00				Ħ	201	
Ethan Lindo	Dec 23 Guernsey	00	0	00	2	7	ю	0	m	ın	0	11	7 2	S.		17		25		2
Shae Lindo-Lee	Aug 25 Hordean	0	н	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0 0				0			
<b>Brighton Morrison</b>	Aug 24 Ascot	0	m	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	m	0 0						9	
Harry Pashley	Sept 25 Hartley Wintney	0	0	0	0	0	0	н	н	0	0	-	0 0							
Theo Pennicott-Bowen	Oct 24 SCR	0	ĸ	æ	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	0 0	554	53			35	un.	
Qu'ran Raynor	Sept 25 Raynes Park Vale	0	Н	-1	0	0	0	П	н	0	0	7	0 0							0
Josh Sandy	Aug 25 Winslow United	5	H	9	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	6	0 0							0
Hugh Scott	Aug 25 Winslow United	8	0	3	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	9	0 0						9	
Dagaio Stewart	Aug 24 Lordswood	п	н	7	0	н	-	0	н	0	1	8	0 2	Bail				21		0
Toby Thompson	Aug 25 Winslow United	Ŋ	ન	9	н	0	0	2	7	0	0	80	1 0							in the
Aunde Todd	Aug 25 Winslow United	2	4	9	0	7	1	2	3	0	1	6	0 2	_						0
Matt Tweed	Dec 24 Harrow Borough	0	2	2	0	0	0		↔	0	0	æ	0 0	b.m.ii					9	0
Tommy Whitby	Sept 25 South Park	0	ж	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0 0							
Lucas Wynn	Aug 24 Wokingham Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	н	н	0	0		0 0	200		6	2	-	200	0



# ISTHMIAN LEAGUE TABLE

			P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
-	1	Leatherhead	8	6	1	1	18	6	+12	19
(PV)	2	Raynes Park Vale	9	5	2	2	22	15	+7	17
	3	Hanworth Villa	8	5	1	2	18	6	+12	16
•	4	Hayes & Yeading United	8	5	1	2	16	11	+5	16
	5	Ascot United	8	5	0	3	14	6	+8	15
	6	Littlehampton Town	8	4	2	2	12	14	-2	14
32	7	Hartley Wintney	7	4	1	2	11	5	+6	13
	8	Kingstonian	8	4	1	3	15	13	+2	13
	9	Metropolitan Police	7	3	3	1	15	15	0	12
<b>I</b>	10	Harrow Borough	7	4	0	3	12	15	-3	12
1	11	Westfield	5	3	0	2	8	8	0	9
	12	South Park (Reigate)	8	3	0	5	10	12	-2	9
<b>131</b>	13	Moneyfields	7	2	2	3	14	19	-5	8
Binfield	14	Binfield	9	2	2	5	15	24	-9	8
	15	Bedfont Sports	5	2	1	2	9	9	0	7
1	16	Fareham Town	6	2	1	3	8	9	-1	7
<b>E</b>	17	Hendon	7	1	4	2	12	15	-3	7
<b>©</b>	18	AFC Portchester	6	2	0	4	13	14	-1	6
0	19	Egham Town	5	1	2	2	7	9	-2	5
1	20	Horndean	9	1	2	6	13	23	-10	5
1	21	Bognor Regis Town	8	1	1	6	12	19	-7	4
0	22	Southall	7	1	1	5	8	15	-7	4



## ISTHMIAN SOUTH GENTRAL

## Today: (7:45PM)

Bedfont Sports vs Raynes Park Vale Hanworth Villa vs Egham Town Hendon vs Fareham Town Westfield vs Harrow Borough

## Saturday: (3PM)

AFC Portchester vs South Park
Bedfont Sports vs Hanworth Villa
Hartley Wintney vs Raynes Park Vale
Littlehampton Town vs Metropolitan Police
Moneyfields vs Binfield
South Park vs Egham Town



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## FIRST XI FIXTURES 2025/26

#### August 2025

09 Hordean

12 Ascot United

23 Southall

**25 Hartley Wintney** 

30 Moneyfields

### September 2025

13 South Park

16 Met Police

20 Leatherhead

27 Hendon

#### October 2025

04 Moneyfield

11 Hayes & Yeading Utd

14 Met Police

18 Fareham Town

25 Hanworth Villa

#### HOME

AWAY

#### November 2025

01 Egham Town

08 Raynes Park Vale

11 Ascot United

15 Kingstonian

18 Westfield

**22 Bognor Regis Town** 

29 Horndean

#### December 2025

06 Littlehamton Town

13 AFC Portchester

20 Moneyfields

27 Bedfont Sports

#### **January 2026**

03 Hartley Wintney

10 Harrow Borough

17 Leatherhead

24 Hayes & Yeading Utd

31 Westfield



Third Round

## February 2026

07 Hendon

14 Fareham Town

21 Hanworth Villa

28 Egham Town

#### March 2026

**07 Raynes Park Vale** 

14 AFC Portchester

21 Littlehampton Town

28 Harrow Borough

#### April 2026

04 Southall

O6 Bedfont Sports

11 South Park

18 Kingstonian

25 Bognor Regis Town

**Second Round** 

7th Oct - Slough Town



# Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

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## TODAY'S SQUADS



CJ FUBLER •

- Hugh **SCOTT**
- Nkenge **DURHAM** •
- Harvey **GRIFFITHS** •
- Kyle DANIEL SPRAY
  - Ryley CAMPBELL •
  - Toby **Thompson**
- Theo **PENNICOTT-BOWEN**
  - Toby LAWES
  - Josh **Sandy**
    - Dan **LEWIS** •
  - Monty **BRADY**
  - Owen **CUMMINS**
    - logan **coles** •
    - Natty **BOAKYE** 
      - Aunde TODD •
  - Aiani GISCOMBE
    - Ollie **HENRY** •
  - Our'an **RAYNOR**
    - Eiiro ABBEY
    - Lugas WYNN •
  - Shae LINDO-LEE
  - Tommy WHITBY
    - Ethan **LINDO**
  - Aaron **GARDINER** 
    - Matt TWEED •

- Cameron BLACK
- Jacob Breckon
- Niran BUTLER
- Ty BUTLER
- Seb Tauta-Caballero
- Kane FITZGERALD
- Lukas Franzen-Jones
- Jordan GALLAGHER
- Rileigh HEBDITCH
- George HEDLEY
- Nathan HOGAN
- Anas Igozouln
- Kelvin-Manuel MASSANGO
- Bill Montague
- Isaac Olaniyan
- Louie PAGET
- Sam DE ST. CROIX
- Ross Stepney
- Mark WATERS
- Sonny WHEELER

**ASSITSTANT**MATTHEW TOPP

REFEREE Chad Greatorex **ASSISTANT** KWAME HINSON

