

the Seasideers

THE OFFICIAL 2023/2024 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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Seasideers v Hertford Town

SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023, 3PM
ISUZU FA TROPHY SECOND QUALIFYING ROUND



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CHAIRMAN: **ANDY CLARKE**



A very warm welcome for today's FA Trophy encounter against Southern League (Central) Hertford Town.

We hope the players, officials & supporters of Hertford have an enjoyable trip to the AGL Arena and safe, albeit a losing journey home.

Tuesday night gave the lads the opportunity to show their bounce-back ability as we returned to the league with a home match against Bowers & Pitsea, following our FA Cup exit to Enfield Town last Saturday.

In what was to be an evenly fought game, the boys didn't let us down, to take the three points with a 3-2 victory. We had to come from a goal down to take a 2-1 lead, with goals from Charlie Warren and Callum Harrison before Bowers equalised on the stroke of half time, thus changing the management's team talk at the break... or so we thought, only for Sam Ford to complete the first half scoring in added time so we went in on the ref's whistle 3-2 up!

For all the goals, quality football and energy from both sides in the first half, the second in

many ways failed to live up to the first.

However, some gutsy, brave and at times desperate defending coupled with some poor finishing allowed us to come away victorious. It was so pleasing to see the side dig in and show they have it in their locker to produce the ugly side of the game. I'm sure that won't be the last time we have to show that spirit this season.

The times we currently live in seem to affect everything, and football is no different. Never would I have imagined that such a long-established club as East Thurrock would no longer be in existence. From once being a conference club with massive support to having to close the doors on all senior football is not only a terrible loss for non-league football, but highlights how fragile a time we live in and how many clubs continually sail close to the wind.

Further to that, never ever would I imagine the successful Ipswich Wanderers management duo of Goldy and Bucks would be sacked after just three games in level 4 football. Having led the side to back-to-back promotions, many cup victories along with their unquestionable passion to build the club off the pitch, you would have thought they deserved more time than three league games? However, that's football and we wish them both the best in the future.

Next week sees us begin our journey into the Suffolk Premier Cup with an away fixture at Lakenheath. We were successful there in pre-season... however, that will count for nothing on Wednesday and I'm sure they will fancy a cup upset if we don't go there in the right frame of mind.

Enjoy the game.
Andy

FROM THE DUGOUT:
ANDY CRUMP



Good afternoon and welcome back to the AGL Arena for our second home game in five days. After a short return to league action in midweek, we welcome Hertford Town as we look to continue our run in this seasons FA Trophy competition.

The Trophy gives clubs like Felixstowe (and our opponents) a genuine opportunity to experience the joys of a cup run that can create great memories for the club like we experienced two seasons ago - it's no surprise that in the same season, the good feeling of a cup run spilled over into success in our league campaign and we hope this year will give us a chance to do the same.

I'm sure Ben and his Hertford side will come into today's game full of confidence off the back of victory against a good Grays side in the last round. We know that we will have to be at our best if we want to leave here with a result that would give us another game to look forward to in the competition.

On the subject of having to be at our best, Tuesday's game came at a perfect time following the disappointing exit from the FA Cup. As cruel as football was to us on Saturday, it was kind enough to quickly give us a fixture that pitted us against a good Bowers & Pitsea side who came into the game off the back of three successive wins. You could argue the first half was perfect for the neutral - 0-1 behind, 2-1 ahead, 2-2 and just before half time Sam Ford was back on the scoresheet to put us 3-2 in front and score the deciding goal of the game. Whilst there was plenty of good football on display in the first half, we never really found the same levels in the second half and chances for either side were few and far between. It would be easy for us to get caught up in our second half performance but as we've learnt, the final result will always be the most important outcome and I thought overall we fully deserved the three points on the night. One big positive was the impact of our



summer signings and in particular Bully and Jack whose experience of managing these types of games when they get tense going into the final minutes made sure that the three points were never in doubt!

Hopefully we can find a sweet spot today that combines the creative flair from the first half and the defensive resilience of our second half performance. If we can, I know you will be in a for a great afternoon of football!!

Finally, a quick shout out to all our junior teams starting league and cup campaigns of their own in recent weeks. It was great for our u9's to be with us as mascots vs Brentwood and hopefully it's something more age groups can experience over the course of the season. With my own son playing in the u8's this year, I see first hand the commitment our volunteer managers and coaches make to ensuring hundreds of children can enjoy their football each weekend in a Felixstowe & Walton Utd kit - a huge thank you to you all and we hope to see you and the players at a game soon!!

Thanks to you all for the quite brilliant support you continue to show the squad and I hope our performance today sets you up for a great end to your weekends!

Andy



SEASIDER PHIL GRIFFITHS



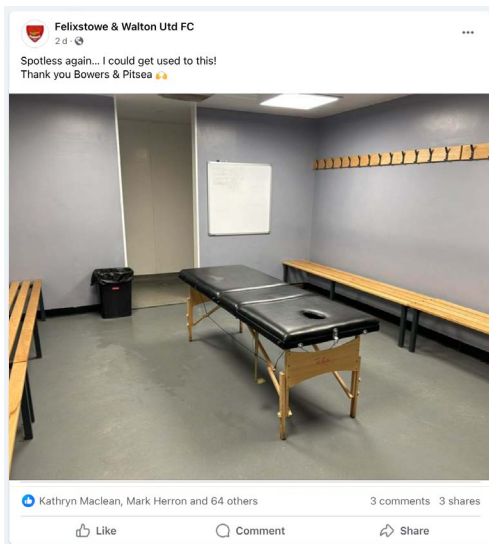
Not many people know this...

Lots of things go on around a football club that are unnoticed by the general punter, of which I now class myself as one, sort of.

Keeping it all going is a seven day a week job and we are fortunate here at Felixstowe & Walton to have a grand old gang of helpers who are willing to put their shoulder to the wheel when required. This is just a sort of verbal clap for them all... if you are one of them reading this, then that means YOU!

It's all pulled together by Chris Daynes of course, and he posted a couple of pictures recently of the away changing room... after the visitors had left - and both pics showed the room in immaculate condition, with Chris expressing his gratitude for the thoughtfulness of the visitors. To Chris, it was one time consuming job less to do, on his list of many 'To Do's'.

After a 12 or 14 hour shift (sometimes more) it's the little things in life that bring the most pleasure, and here is just a small example.



NEXT MATCH...

Lakenheath v Seasiders - Suffolk Premier Cup

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7.45PM KICK OFF

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"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."

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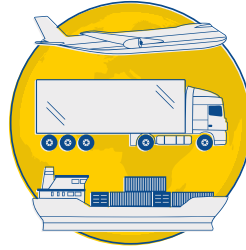
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MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS
BY TOM
BRADFORD

TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER
ISTHMIAN NORTH

**Felixstowe & Walton Utd 3
Bowers & Pitsea 2**

Two teams intent on playing high tempo, passing football produced a cracking game on a blustery evening at the AGL Arena. The visitors took the lead after just 8 minutes, Oluwasemo scoring a fine effort from the right side but

Felixstowe soon turned up the heat on the away defence with several clearcut chances coming in the next 30 minutes, two of them were converted with **Charlie Warren** heading home Hitter's cross on 24 minutes and **Callum Harrison** brilliantly slotting home on 35 minutes. Between the goals the Seasiders saw four chances cleared off the line, Harrison smacked the foot of the post with a fearsome shot and Zak Brown denied by a last-gasp deflection from the keeper. Bowers struck back on 45 minutes, somewhat against the run of play at the time, although they always looked dangerous when going forward, Popo finding space near the penalty spot to head past Robinson. Felixstowe took advantage of the added time when **Sam Ford** beat a couple of markers, rounded the keeper and finished through two defenders to score a superb third. The second half clearly did not live up to the first but Felixstowe stood firm and deservedly ran out winners based on their first half attacking display.



HOW WE LINED UP

1. Callum Robinson
2. Callum Bennett
3. Joe Whight
4. Noel Aitkens
5. Jack Ainsley
6. Tom Bullard
7. Zak Brown
8. Josh Hitter
9. Sam Ford
10. Callum Harrison
11. Charlie Warren

SUBS

12. Henry Barley
14. Josh Mayhew
15. Stuart Ainsley
16. Harry Blackburn
17. Lamell Howell









ISTHMIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2023/24

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Lowestoft Town	4	3	1	0	7	3	+4	10
2	Walthamstow	4	3	1	0	6	2	+4	10
3	Heybridge Swifts	3	3	0	0	8	2	+6	9
4	Brightlingsea Regent	3	3	0	0	5	1	+4	9
5	Felixstowe & Walton United	4	2	2	0	10	6	+4	8
6	Redbridge	4	2	1	1	6	5	+1	7
7	Gorleston	3	2	0	1	6	3	+3	6
8	Enfield	4	2	0	2	7	7	0	6
9	Bury Town	4	1	2	1	4	6	-2	5
10	Wroxham	3	1	1	1	4	2	+2	4
11	Bowers & Pitsea	4	1	1	2	6	5	+1	4
12	Basildon United	3	1	1	1	6	6	0	4
13	Brentwood Town	4	1	1	2	5	6	-1	4
14	East Thurrock United	3	1	1	1	4	6	-2	4
15	Witham Town	3	0	2	1	1	2	-1	2
16	Maldon & Tiptree	4	0	2	2	3	6	-3	2
17	Grays Athletic	4	0	2	2	3	8	-5	2
18	Stowmarket Town	4	0	1	3	4	7	-3	1
19	New Salamis	3	0	1	2	3	7	-4	1
20	Ipswich Wanderers	4	0	0	4	1	9	-8	0

UPCOMING ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES



SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER - 3PM

Basildon United	v	Felixstowe & Walton
Brightlingsea Regent	v	Maldon & Tiptree
Enfield	v	Wroxham
Gorleston	v	East Thurrock United
Grays Athletic	v	Lowestoft Town
Heybridge Swifts	v	Witham Town
Ipswich Wanderers	v	Bowers & Pitsea
Redbridge	v	New Salamis
Stowmarket Town	v	Bury Town
Walthamstow	v	Brentwood Town



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OUR SQUAD

Introducing the Felixstowe & Walton United playing squad and management team of 2023/2024.



STUART BOARDLEY MANAGER

Stuart started his footballing career at Ipswich Town leaving in 2004 after 10 years. He went on to play for Torquay United, Sudbury, Leiston and Felixstowe. In 2018 he was appointed as Manager of Leiston but left in 2019 to become Manager of Felixstowe & Walton United.



ANDY CRUMP ASSISTANT MANAGER

Andy returned to Felixstowe & Walton United as Assistant Manager following the appointment of Stuart Boardley in 2019. Having enjoyed success in previous spells at the club as both player and First Team Coach.



DANNY POTTER GOALKEEPER COACH

A former pro footballer/TV star, Danny was cast into the Sky TV programme 'Dream Team' where he played for the fictional team Harchester United. Danny boasts clubs such as Torquay, Colchester and Cambridge as former employers. Recently appointed as Goalkeeper Coach, Danny brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and professionalism to Stuart's management team.



STUART STEVENSON COACH

After hanging up his boots Stuart joined Felixstowe Utd as a fitness coach/physio, then on to Trimley to help coach his son's team from the U8s-U16s. Stuart rejoined the Seaside's to coach the U18s which lead him on to being part of the first team staff. Stuart is an FA level 2 coach and an FA level 1 mentor.



CHARLOTTE LONG SPORTS THERAPIST

Charlotte graduated from the University of Worcester in 2014 with a BSc (Hons) in Sports Therapy. She had previously worked with Leiston FC before joining the Seaside's in 2019. Her main focus is overseeing the recovery programmes of injured players through her private practice.



DOUG FRENCH **KIT MAN**

Doug started his career in 1986 and played for East Anglian Customs, Walton United, Felixstowe United and Tattingsstone, breaking his leg four times in the process. Whilst playing for Ipswich Wanderers vets, Doug finally hung up his boots. Having found his vocation in washing players dirty pants, Doug is excited for a new challenge with the Seaside.



CALLUM ROBINSON **GOALKEEPER**

Callum joined the club in 2020 from Stowmarket Town. He started his career at Colchester United before playing for Wroxham, AFC Sudbury and spent time on loan at Brantham Athletic.



STUART AINSLEY **LEFT BACK**

Stuart joined the club for his second spell in 2014 from Lowestoft Town. Previous clubs include Chelmsford City and AFC Sudbury. Stuart spent 10 years at Ipswich Town, winning the FA Youth Cup in 2005. Stuart has a sweet left foot and a great work ethic.



JOE WHIGHT **DEFENDER**

Joe came through the ITFC Youth system before playing for the likes of Needham, Bury and most recently AFC Sudbury where he captained their side. A left sided defender, Joe offers composure, a wonderful left foot and a toughness and desire to defend to the back line.



CALLUM BENNETT **RIGHT BACK**

Callum is in his second spell at the club having re-joined in late 2018. An attacking full back with one of the best ball deliveries in non-league football. Callum has plenty of experience from his time at Ipswich U18s, Stoke City U21s and Notts County.



JACK AINSLEY **DEFENDER**

Rejoins from Stowmarket. Jack played professionally for ITFC after coming through their academy and went on to make 4 appearances playing under Roy Keane. Jack went on to have spells at Step 3 Lowestoft and Leiston but finds himself back at the Seaside where many describe him as a "Rolls Royce" type of player who can play in any position for the team.



TOM BULLARD **DEFENDER**

Another who joins us from Stowmarket. 'Bully' has experience across Step 3 and 4 with long and successful spells as captain at both Leiston and Bury Town. Tom is a serial winner who's experience, defensive qualities and leadership skills will add to an already impressive back line.



HARRY BLACKBURN **RIGHT BACK/MIDFIELDER**

Like Charlie Warren, Harry graduated through the Needham Market academy and joins the Seasideers predominantly as an attacking fullback. Harry plays with confidence in possession and supporters will enjoy seeing him create chances for our forward players.



BILLY HOLLAND **MIDFIELDER**

Billy started life at Ipswich Wanderers and has had spells at Needham, Leiston and AFC Sudbury. He's established himself as a mainstay in the centre of midfield. Players player and Supporters player of the year last season has led to him being appointed captain for the forthcoming year.



NOEL AITKENS **MIDFIELDER**

Noel's signing for the club in 2020 caused a stir amongst the non-league world, joining from step 3 Leiston and being described by manager Boardley as "the best midfield player in this area". Noel is quick, strong, can tackle, is athletic and can really play football!



LEON OTTLEY-GOOCH **MIDFIELDER**

Leon signed for the club in 2020 and is another vastly experienced player at step 3 and 4 level. Previous clubs include Leiston, Bury Town, Hadleigh Utd and Stowmarket Town. Leon is very versatile but is predominantly a dynamic midfield player.



JOSH HITTER **MIDFIELDER**

Josh signed for us in 2021 having played his football at Step 3 side Leiston for the previous three seasons and gained a vast amount of experience at that level. Josh is a dynamic attack minded player who likes to arrive in the box late and score goals.



CALLUM HARRISON **MIDFIELDER**

Former Colchester United, Needham, Sudbury and more recently Chelmsford midfielder joined the Seasiders for the 22/23 campaign. A highly sought after creative and technically gifted midfielder player that loves to get forward and provide the team with both goals and assists.



IVAN COSTA **MIDFIELDER**

Promoted into the first team squad from our Academy after a strong pre-season. Ivan is an industrious central midfielder player whose work ethic and attitude is second to none.



KUBI KUSSAN **MIDFIELDER**

Another young player promoted to the first team squad from our Academy. Kubi is a technically gifted midfielder player who enjoys moving with the ball. He has an edge to his game that has impressed the management throughout pre-season.



HENRY BARLEY **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Henry signed for the club in 2019 following his contract expiring at Ipswich Town. Another popular young player who had also been on loan from the then EFL Championship club the previous season.



LAMELL HOWELL **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Lamell signed from Brightlingsea Regent in 2020. He can play on both wings or in the number 10 position and brings pace and trickery to the side. He has previously played for Stowmarket Town, Debenham FC and Brantham Athletic.



CHARLIE WARREN **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Having initially joined on loan from Needham Market, Charlie made an instant impact on his debut in the FA Trophy win at Hastings. Following a number of impressive performances, manager Boardley moved quickly to secure the permanent services of one of Suffolk's brightest young players.



ZAK BROWN FORWARD

A sought after and highly rated young striker with blistering pace and a great goal scoring record. At just 17, Zak penned a two year pro contract with ITFC where he was a regular marksman in the U23's. Zak started life in the Seaside's Youth sections and has returned to lead the forward line as the club's No. 9.



SAM FORD FORWARD

Having spent a successful period with Arbroath last season that saw them just miss out on promotion to the Scottish Premiership, Sam spent the Summer with Hume City FC in Australia before returning to Felixstowe. Coming through ITFC and later West Ham's academy, Sam is a local talent who will provide real firepower in front of goal.



JOSH MAYHEW FORWARD

Josh joins us from promotion winners AFC Sudbury. An experienced front man who has been prolific at Step 4 and 5 with an impressive spell at Stowmarket yielding 136 goals in 173 games. Josh's physical presence will bring a focal point to our attack as well as a being natural finisher who is a proven goalscorer at this level.

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THE OTHER SIDE HERTFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



The club was established in 1901 as Port Vale Rovers but were soon renamed Hertford Football Club to gain recognition as the town's main club. Following a merger with Hertford United, the club was renamed Hertford Town. After absorbing two more clubs – Blue Cross and Horns – in 1908, the club joined the Eastern Division of the Hertfordshire Senior County League for the 1908–09 season, which saw them finish as runners-up.

League reorganisation in 1909 saw Hertford placed in the Central Division. They finished bottom of the division in its first season, before they were moved back into the Eastern Division in 1910. The club was also playing in the East Herts League, which they won in 1912–13. The following season saw the club retain the East Herts League title and finish second in the Eastern Division of the Hertfordshire Senior County League. After switching to the Middlesex League for the 1920–21 season, the club joined Division One of the Spartan League in 1921.

Following league reorganisation in 1928, Hertford were placed in Division One East, with an eleventh-place finish seeing them moved to Division One the following season when a Premier Division was created.

In 1938–39 Hertford were Division One runners-up and promoted to the Premier Division. However, the following season was abandoned due to World War II and when the league restarted in 1945, Hertford were placed in the Central Division, finishing bottom of the table in the 1945–46 season.^[7] Despite their poor performance, the club were placed in the Premier Division the following season, but went on to finish bottom of the table again. The club lost the use of its ground in 1947 and

left the league for a season before returning to the Spartan League in 1948, when they were placed in Division One East. After winning the division in 1949–50, they were promoted back to the Premier Division in 1950 and were runners-up in 1955–56 and 1956–57.

In 1959 Hertford transferred to the Delphian League and were runners-up in their first season. They went on to win back-to-back league titles in 1960–61 and 1961–62. The 1962–63 season was abandoned due to bad weather, but Hertford won both the League Cup and the Eastern Section of the emergency competition, going on to lose the title decider to Western Section Champions Edmonton 5–2 on aggregate. They also won the East Anglian Cup by beating Boston United 1–0 in the final, a match played at home in front of a 3,000 crowd. When the Delphian League was disbanded at the end of the season, Hertford joined the new Division Two of the Athenian League alongside most of the other former Delphian League clubs. A fourth-place finish in 1963–64 was enough to earn promotion to Division One at the first attempt and the club went on to win the league's Memorial Shield in 1967–68.

Hertford switched to the Eastern Counties League in 1972. They won the League Cup and finished third in the league in their first season, but left to join the newly-formed Division Two of the Isthmian League. The division was renamed Division One in 1977, and the club were relegated to Division Two North after finishing bottom of the table in 1984–85.

League restructuring in 1991 saw the club placed in Division Three. They were promoted to Division Two after finishing runners-up in



1998–99, but were relegated the following season. Further league restructuring saw Hertford placed in Division One North in 2002, but they finished bottom of the table in the division's inaugural season and were relegated to Division Two. After the division was disbanded in 2006, they joined the Premier Division of the Spartan South Midlands League. The club were Premier Division runners-up in 2016–17 and were promoted to Division One North of the Isthmian League after London Colney turned down promotion.

For 2018–19 Hertford moved sideways to the newly-formed South Central Division but the season was a difficult one, with 3 managers at the helm and close shave with relegation. Ex-pro Ben Herd and a new committee took over in the summer of 2019 and have fashioned a new-look side and club with a greater emphasis on bringing through young players via the manager's successful football academy.

Both the 2019–20 and 2020–21 seasons were curtailed due to the Covid pandemic the latter of which saw Hertford's best start to the season in recent years. The club were then moved to the Southern League (Division 1 Central) for the first time in their history prior to the commencement of the 2021/22 season. That season was a difficult one on and off the pitch with delays to the new 3G pitch meaning that no 'home' games were possible until October. Safety was achieved with two games to spare following good wins over two promotion candidates. Season 2022/23 started well with two FA Cup victories and a decent start in the league.

However results dipped later in the year putting the club in a relegation fight. The club retained its step 4 status due to a late run of form winning 6 out of the last 8 games including a will over champions Berkhamstead.

THE OTHER SIDE HERTFORD TOWN PLAYER PROFILES

Luke Mewitt Ex-regular custodian for Hertford who recently returned to his local club from Harringay Borough. Luke, who was previously on the books at Huddersfield Town, is good in the air, comfortable on the ball and a fine shot stopper.

Connor Clark – Right back signed from Barton Rovers last season: a solid defender and good crosser.

Ryan Bernal – Attack-minded right back formerly with Westfield.

Kurainashe Mushani – Composed left back most recently with Leverstock Green and London Colney.

Ben Herd – Player/Manager Ben is an experienced defender who started his career at Watford before amassing 400 football league appearances for Shrewsbury and Aldershot.

Harrison Datta – Stylish young defender previously with Bovingdon.

Horickson Assi – Tough-tackling left back from France.

Harry Gilzean – Composed and commanding young centre-back who joined last season from Stevenage.

Josh Rodrigues – Strong centre-back previously a regular at Harpenden Town.

Charlie Payne – Experienced ball-winning midfielder and captain who arrived from Welwyn two seasons ago and made a big impact.

Archie Locke – Strong midfielder signed over the summer from Hoddesdon Town. A local lad.

Ergys Pepaj – Midfielder previously at Northwood

Potchu Mendes-Calucane – Midfield ball-winner signed from Leatherhead and who has played much of his career at Step 3.

Oliver Turner – Composed midfield playmaker recently signed on loan from Aldershot Town.

Billy Mardell-Smith – Classy young playmaker, formerly with Watford, who has graduated from the development squad. Last year's Player's Player of the Season and supporters Young Player of the Season.

Mohammed Diaby – Powerful midfielder who recently joined from Waltham Abbey.

Sudayisi Sendege – Skilful winger with a fierce shot signed up after an impressive trial in the summer of 2022.

Sonny Coughlin-Brown – Tricky young winger who was at Letchworth last season.

Wilson Bernal – Industrious winger/striker previously with Barnes.

Deimar Cardoso Queni – Mobile striker previously with Southend Manor and Coggleshall.

Vlad Sighiardau – Experienced and hard-working striker with an eye for goal signed two seasons ago from FC Romania and returning after a stint at Colney Heath.

Jeferson Benito – Striker recently signed after experience in Portugal.



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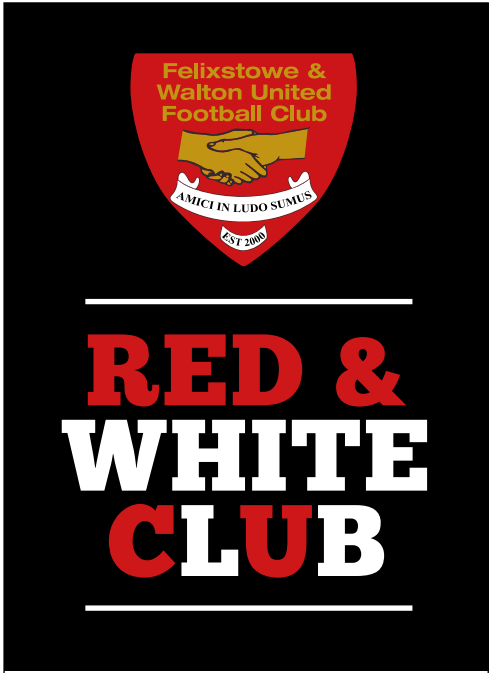
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FIXTURES 2023/24

AUGUST

SAT 12	MALDON & TIPTREE <i>Holland, Hitter</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 211
SAT 19	WELLINGBOROUGH <i>Ford, Harrison, Holland, Warren</i>	A	3PM	EMIRATES FA CUP	W 4-1	ATT 135
SAT 26	BURY TOWN <i>Ford, Harrison, Hitter</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 401
MON 28	STOWMARKET TOWN <i>OG, Ford</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 433

SEPTEMBER

SAT 2	WOODFORD TOWN <i>Holland, Brown, Hitter, Aitkens</i>	A	3PM	FA CUP FIRST QR	W 4-1	ATT 225
SAT 9	BRENTWOOD TOWN <i>Whight (P), Aitkens</i>	H	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	W 2-0	ATT 371
SAT 16	ENFIELD TOWN	A	3PM	FA CUP SECOND QR	L 3-0	
TUE 19	BOWERS & PITSEA <i>Warren, Harrison, Ford</i>	H	7.45PM	ISTHMIAN LEAGUE	W 3-2	ATT 263
SAT 23	HERTFORD TOWN	H	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 2ND QR		
WED 27	LAKENHEATH	A	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREMIER CUP		
SAT 30	BASILDON UNITED	A	3PM	LEAGUE		

OCTOBER

SAT 7	REDBRIDGE	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
TUES 10	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 14	WALTHAMSTOW	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 21	WROXHAM	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 28	GRAYS ATHLETIC	A	3PM	LEAGUE		

NOVEMBER

SAT 4	ENFIELD	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 11	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 18	EAST THURROCK UNITED	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 25	WITHAM TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE		

DECEMBER

SAT 2	GORLESTON	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 9	NEW SALAMIS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 16	MALDON & TIPTREE	H	3PM	LEAGUE
TUE 26	IPSWICH WANDERERS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 30	BOWERS & PITSEA	A	3PM	LEAGUE

JANUARY

MON 1	STOWMARKET TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 6	BRENTWOOD TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 13	LOWESTOFT TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 20	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 27	BASILDON UNITED	H	3PM	LEAGUE

FEBRUARY

SAT 3	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 10	WALTHAMSTOW	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 17	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 24	GRAYS ATHLETIC	H	3PM	LEAGUE

MARCH

SAT 2	ENFIELD	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 9	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 16	BRENTWOOD TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 23	LOWESTOFT TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 30	BURY TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE

APRIL

MON 1	IPSWICH WANDERERS	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 6	EAST THURROCK UNITED	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 13	WITHAM TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 20	GORLESTON	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 27	NEW SALAMIS	H	3PM	LEAGUE

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Club Secretary	Phil Barber		
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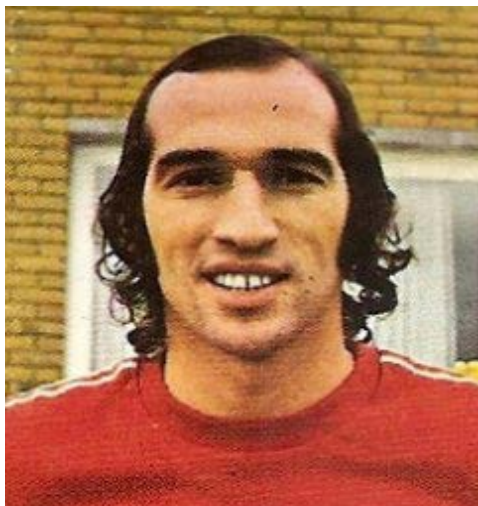
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Looking every bit like an Argentinian Larry David, Carlos Bianchi could have been one of the all-time greats as a player. A teenage sensation, he burst onto the scene at Velez Sarsfield as a precocious 18 year old, topping the scoring charts in his first season as a professional as his boyhood club won their first ever league title in 1967. For many fans, this was the greatest Velez side ever to take the field, but despite Bianchi's unstoppable efforts, they never built on their success. He continued to score freely, and after 121 goals in 165 games, earned himself a move to Reims.

Seven years in France saw him win top goalscorer five times, with a switch to PSG in 1977, where he was by many considered their finest import before the Qatari takeover. He returned to Velez in 1980 and added another

85 goals to his tally, before returning to Reims once more for a final season before retirement.

For all his individual success, Bianchi's goals had yielded just a single trophy; that early title with Velez. Worse, his move to Europe had marked him as a selfish, egotistical player and had cost him a career in the national side. It was an injustice that would drive him in his managerial career. A few years of struggle at Reims and a few more at Nice fed a reputation in Argentina that he was not capable of leading a side, but not at Velez, where he remained a legend in the truest sense of the word. In 1993, he was given his chance.

He transformed Velez, allowing his players the individual freedom to express themselves, within an unbreakable collective. The players loved their new mentor. In his debut season, just as when he was a player, he led Velez to the league title. But that was just the start.

The following season, they were irrepressible on the continental stage. They were drawn in the toughest group of the tournament, and



Bianchi wins Copa with Boca 2000

won it at a canter. More pleasingly, local rivals Boca finished bottom. Bianchi would lead his charges all the way, however, and in one of the tightest finals in Libertadores history, defeated Sao Paulo on penalties. The retained their league title too. In two years of management in South America, Bianchi had three trophies.

Later that year, he went one better. The Club World Championship saw Velez take on European Champions Milan, the Fabio Capello variant that was so dogged that they won the league scoring just 34 goals, and beat them 2-0. More trophies followed in 1995 and 1996.

A brief, unsuccessful spell at Roma followed, before Bianchi returned to his homeland, this time with Boca. Success wasn't immediate this time though, it took Boca two years to win the title instead.

Bianchi inherited a squad already brimming with talent. Martin Palermo, Fabio Coloccini, Walter Samuel, and the mercurial Juan Roman Riquelme were individually brilliant, but had failed to come together as a unit. Bianchi instilled a fierce tactical discipline, except for allowing Riquelme to float between the lines, and Boca slowly began to dominate Argentinian football. Three titles followed, in 1998, 1999 and 2000, but this simply gave Bianchi a way into the competition that really mattered to him; the Copa Libertadores.

In 2000, Boca scythed their way through continental competition, with Riquelme cementing his reputation as South America's best player as his side put Palmeiras to the sword in the final. Once again, Bianchi would follow up his success on the global stage, beating a Real Madrid side that contained Hierro, Raul, Figo and Guti in the Club World Cup. It wasn't just the brilliance of his side, it was their flexibility.

Where some of the great coaches get stuck in a tactical style and find it difficult to

adapt, Boca under Bianchi were like a different team every week. Against Vasco on the way to retaining the following season's Libertadores, they were an exceptional attacking side. In the next round against Palmeiras, they gave a dogged, determined defensive masterclass. The only thing all these different Boca sides had in common; they won. In 2003, with many of his stars sold to Europe, he led a young side to his fourth Libertadores title. A young Carlos Tevez led the scoring charts. Once more, he beat Milan in the Club World Cup. It was effectively a glorious coda on a remarkable managerial career.

Denied the chance to take charge of Argentina because of the reputation he had developed as a player, Mr. Libertadores had a couple of very brief stints in charge of Atletico Madrid and, later, Boca again. But he never took a long term job, and enjoyed his retirement. For such a short career, as his American doppelganger might say, he was pretty, pretty good.

Enjoy the game.



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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME



THE FA Cup first round proper will always be the Holy Grail for the majority of Non-League clubs.

Yes, of course, the third round proper can be - and often is - the stuff of fairytales.

But, for most, getting to the first round would be something talked about for years to come - especially if that ideal draw comes out.

It's not just about the finances, although they are huge and can help a club immeasurably. But it's also the profile it can bring to a small town or village, the increased interest and, ultimately, the memories for the hard-working volunteers who give their time and energy.

The dream is already on hold for another year at least for hundreds of clubs. The cards of defeat dealt while the summer evenings are still with us.

For others, it inched that bit closer last weekend - and in midweek - following the second round qualifying games.

The third round qualifying draw was released on Monday lunchtime with just two wins required to get into that famous first round proper hat in front of the live TV cameras.

But perhaps that doesn't tell the full depth of story in the FA Cup. With so many former ex-Football League clubs now in Non-League, these days the fourth round qualifying almost has the same feel of the first round proper.

Take last season when Anstey Nomads welcomed Chesterfield at that stage. Not many people at Coalville Town will forget their upset of Notts County on the same day South

Shields stunned then-Step 1 Scunthorpe United and Southern League Needham Market beat Maidstone United, also plying their trade in Non-Leagues top flight at the time.

Notts obviously ended up back in the Football League while Scunny and the Stones dropped down - making them big draws in these two qualifying rounds before the Step 1 clubs enter.

Maidstone travelled to Southern Combination side Steyning Town last Saturday in the second round qualifying - a huge day for the Step 5 club that may have ended in defeat, but was rewarded with a 1,000-plus gate and a will only boost the club's standing in the community. As manager Kev Green told us in the build-up to the Maidstone last week, it was a day to savour for the whole club.

"We've got 400 youth players, boys and girls, a fantastic women's section," he said.

"The players and staff are all getting loads of messages saying, unbelievable, well done.

"I dropped a message to the chairman to say, 'You guys deserve as much praise as anyone else for this. You've put it together'.

They deserve a lot of credit. Let's enjoy it." Throw in AFC Stoneham taking on Yeovil Town, Larkhall Athletic welcoming city neighbours Bath City and Tadcaster Albion giving Chester a scare on the BBC's red button.

The feel-good stories come long before the first round proper.

By Matt Badcock
Editor-at-large



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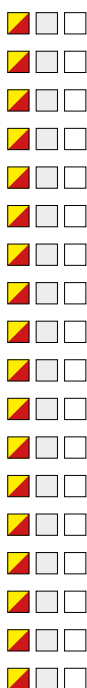
Isthmian League North
Saturday 23rd September, 3pm



Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley

Assistant Manager: Andy Crump



red/yellow - goals - played

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- Stuart **Ainsley**
- Noel **Aitkens**
- Henry **Barley**
- Callum **Bennett**
- Harry **Blackburn**
- Zak **Brown**
- Tom **Bullard**
- Sam **Ford**
- Callum **Harrison**
- Josh **Hitter**
- Billy **Holland (C)**
- Lamel **Howell**
- Josh **Mayhev**
- Leon **Ottley-Gooch**
- Callum **Robinson (GK)**
- Charlie **Warren**
- Joe **Whight**

Hertford Town FC

Manager: Ben Herd

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- Joe **Bennett**
- Deimar **Cardoso-Queni**
- Conor **Clarke**
- Sonny **Coughlin-Brown**
- Harrison **Datta**
- Mohamed **Diaby**
- Brian **Garzon**
- Harry **Gilzean**
- Ben **Herd**
- William **Kiers**
- Billy **Mardell-Smith**
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- Kurai **Musanhi**
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