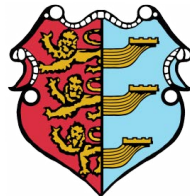


# the Seaside

THE OFFICIAL 2023/2024 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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v Brightlingsea Regent



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TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2023, 7.45PM  
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH

# CHAIRMAN: **TONY BARNES**



## **Good evening and a very warm welcome to the AGL Arena for tonight's top of the table clash against Brightlingsea Regent.**

Welcome to tonight's opponents, their committee members and supporters and best wishes for a safe journey home later this evening. Welcome also to tonight's match officials, have a great game and enjoy our hospitality.

Talking of match officials, I do often wonder why any of these guys would ever hold aspirations to make it to the very pinnacle of our wonderful game - recent weeks have highlighted just how much pressure these guys are under at the top level with every single decision scrutinised to the umpteenth degree, and then possibly face suspension for making a mistake! Hats off to the guys in black - we couldn't have matches without you and we are truly appreciative of everything you do as I am only too aware that it is not just 90 minutes of running around, a quick bite to

eat and a drink then forgetting about it, I'm sure you'll be up filling in forms and reports when the rest of us are tucked up in bed tonight! Still, it could be worse, at least you don't have the dreaded VAR to contend with down at our level!

*'Hats off to the guys in black - we couldn't have matches without you and we are truly appreciative of everything you do...'*

Like ourselves, tonight's opponents come off the back of an exit from the FA Trophy, going down 2-0 on Saturday to Premier League side Horsham whilst we put up a fantastic effort and gave a real scare to Billericay Town before going down 4-3.

I came away from Billericay a little disappointed after being 3-1 up, but reality clicked in and my disappointment soon turned to pride in the team's performance, a team that was without the heart of the side



with Billy and Noel both absent. Billericay were a real credit to Non-league football – fantastic facilities, welcoming committee members and they played some very attractive football. There was no gloating after the match just a few handshakes and some very complimentary comments from our hosts – great match and the boys can hold their heads high!

Billericay were also the conquerors of Brightlingsea in the FA Cup a few weeks back so both tonight's sides have had good experience of the quality that exists one division higher and I'm sure, having had the taste of it, will be renewing their efforts to mix with the likes of Billericay, Enfield Town and Horsham on a regular basis next season!

So, national cup games finished for another season, but with a few quid in the bank, it is now time to focus on the league

and strengthen our position near the top of table, six points from tonight and Saturday's game at Walthamstow will be very welcome indeed and give us a real indication of where we are and whether our promotion aspirations are just a dream or have some substance and reality about them despite us still being in the very early weeks of the season.

Our main man Chris continues to be busy behind the scenes, with Halloween and fireworks coming up at the club very soon, Christmas just round the corner, on top of Junior, Senior and Ladies fixtures coming thick and fast... it really is a tough task keeping so many plates spinning – maybe being a match official isn't too bad after all!!

Enjoy the game, and safe travels.  
Tony

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# FROM THE DUGOUT: **STUART BOARDLEY**

**Good evening to you all and a warm welcome back to the AGL where we face a fast-starting Brighton Regent side who have amassed maximum points from their four league games to date.**

I'm sure Brett's team will be aiming at an immediate return to the Isthmian Premier Division, and they've certainly started off in that manner.

Since my last notes we've had 4 games

(1 Home and 3 Away) with 3 of those producing victories with our only loss being away at Billericay in the FA Trophy on Saturday. Despite the loss, for me, I was proud to be involved with our group. The lads carried out the game plan to a tee and for 89 minutes we were pretty satisfied until a cruel last-minute winner saw us snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. It was a really tough one to take, having come so close but as I said above, I was extremely happy with each and every one of our lads who gave their all and for me







produced a level of performance that overshadowed previous wins over Hertford, Bowers and Lakenheath.

Goals, Goals, Goals.... An aim of ours this year was to both create and score more goals because we felt this was an area we felt we could improve upon. Well, sitting here, 12 competitive fixtures in and 37 goals scored, I think it's fair to say we are providing

a decent level of entertainment to those who come out to support us. That said, we've got to find a slightly better balance in terms of our goals against column that currently sits too high for my liking. This will certainly be a focus in training over the coming weeks as we won't always be able to score 4/5 to win a game.

Lastly, I'd just like to recognise and send our condolences on behalf of everyone at the club to the Robinson family. Many of you would have known Geoff as he was at pretty much every game supporting Callum and the lads both home and away. A wonderful family man who I'd often enjoy chats with before and after games. Geoff had been struggling with illness of late and sadly passed away recently so our thoughts are with his family, friends and of course Callum at this difficult time.

Rest in peace Geoff,  
Boards



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# SEASIDER PHIL GRIFFITHS



## Not many people know this...

Sadly, one of the major downsides of writing a column in a club programme such as this is having the job of writing bad or sad news, and as it's recently been writing obituaries on an almost weekly basis...

### **Albert (Bertie) Grainger 1934-2023**

Today has seen the funeral of Bertie Grainger, at the age of 88. Many of the players who were part of the Seasiders set up in the late 60's, early 70's will have warm memories of Bertie who moved up from London in the late 60's working for BT and settled in Felixstowe.

The Grainger family recently announced the sad passing of Bertie, aged 88.

Not many of you will know of Bertie - or those of you that do, the memories will be distant. He was signed to play for the Seasiders for the 1968/69 season by our (now) club President who at the time was the Seasiders manager, Dave Ashford.

At the time Bertie was 36 years old and went on to play another full season / before retiring. Having played at a professional level, he was a standout player with Felixstowe Town F.C.

who were at that time in the Essex & Suffolk Border league.

Bertie enjoyed a spell at Millwall reserves, but his favourite time as a footballer was during his National Service days, when he was picked to play for the Combined Services Representative team.

During his time as player with the CSR he often played with or against the international players of the day, but his proudest moment & the one that gave him most pleasure came when he was invited to play for the Football Association representative side.

During the late fifties & early sixties Bertie played for Tooting & Mitcham F.C. who competed in a very strong Isthmian League.

In 1959 they reached the 3rd round of the FA Cup and played Nottingham Forest at home, the game was drawn 2-2.

In the Tooting side that day was Albert Grainger, who scored the opening goal.

*With thanks to our President who collated the information.*

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

"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 be 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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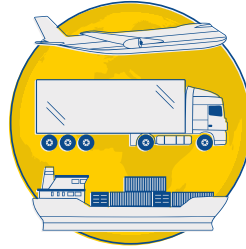
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# MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS  
BY STEFAN  
PECK

## SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER ISUZU FA TROPHY 2ND QR Felixstowe & Walton Utd 6 Hertford Town 3

Felixstowe & Walton United smashed Hertford Town for six in a pulsating tie at the seaside. **Callum Harrison** put the hosts ahead with a beautiful finish on 4 minutes, finishing from distance and off the post after a through ball from Sam Ford and **Billy Holland** headed in a second on 8 minutes from a corner. The visitors fought back with a cool finish from Sonny Coughlin-Brown on 13 minutes after a loose pass was intercepted before **Harrison** poked in his second goal on 19 minutes at the far post to restore the cushion. Hertford reduced the arrears once again just before half time with a Brian Garzon penalty following a handball. Felixstowe continued to look dangerous despite the away side having more of the ball second half and **Jack Ainsley** punished the away defence on 70 minutes with a back post volley. Garzon again pulled Hertford a single goal behind with his second penalty of the game on 80 minutes for another handball but Felixstowe finally stretched the lead out to win the game with **Henry Barley** (87) scoring from the right angle and **Josh Mayhew** (90+2) slotting home a near post effort for his first goal for the Seaside.



## HOW WE LINED UP

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

## SUBS

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















# ISTHMIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2023/24

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

## ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES



**TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER - 3PM**

Bowers & Pitsea	v	Heybridge Swifts
Brentwood Town	v	Redbridge
Bury Town	v	Gorleston
East Thurrock Utd	v	Grays Athletic
Felixstowe & Walton Utd	v	Brightlingsea Regent
Lowestoft Town	v	Ipswich Wanderers
Maldon & Tiptree	v	Basildon Utd
Witham Town	v	Enfield
Wroxham	v	Stowmarket 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 Seasideers 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 Seasideers 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 Seaside as 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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# MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS  
BY STEFAN  
PECK

WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
SUFFOLK PREMIER CUP

**Lakenheath 1  
Felixstowe & Walton Utd 4**

Felixstowe started brightly and created some half chances early on, Lamell Howell with an overhead kick that was saved, Josh Hitter with a header that flashed over the bar and Henry Barley with a sweet left foot strike that was just wide of the far post. Lakenheath grew into the game and although they created little they had a good share of possession. Henry Barley caught the eye with several mazy runs and looked the most likely to create scoring opportunities. There were no goals in the first half and Lakenheath were probably happier than Felixstowe with the scoreline. The second half started with Felixstowe forcing a corner in the first minute, the ball was half cleared then returned into the penalty area and **Josh Mayhew** calmly sidefooted the ball in from 8 yards to open the scoring, his second goal in two games. The lead was short lived and following a fierce shot from a 25 yard free kick the ball became loose and was knocked in by Lakenheath from short range. **Charlie Warren** came on for Callum Harrison, who was feeling



## HOW WE LINED UP

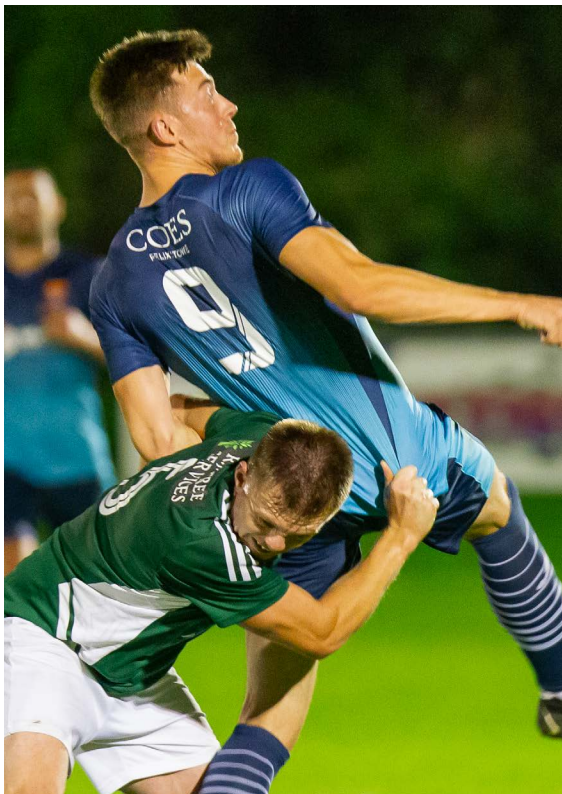
1. Callum Robinson
2. Harry Blackburn
3. Stuart Ainsley
4. Jack Ainsley
5. Joe Whight
6. Tom Bullard
7. Henry Barley
8. Josh Hitter
9. Josh Mayhew
10. Callum Harrison
11. Lamell Howell

## SUBS

12. Charlie Warren
14. Zak Brown
15. Callum Bennett
16. Sam Ford
17. Kubi Kussan







unwell and it didn't take him long to affect the game, scoring with a left foot drive into the corner of the net giving the keeper no chance. This was followed by man of the match, **Henry Barley**, cutting in from the right and rifling a left foot drive into the bottom corner to make it 3-1. The last goal was the best of the game a mazy run starting outside the box by **Charlie Warren** took him ten yards from the goal, going past three defenders before slotting the ball into the bottom corner to make the final score 4-1 and inflicting the first defeat of the season for Lakenheath. Also worthy of a mention was a 10 minute cameo appearance by Academy player Kubi Kussan who certainly acquitted himself well and didn't look out of place.







# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



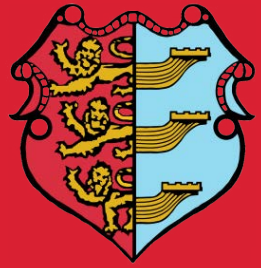
# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# THE OTHER SIDE BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT FC



Brightlingsea Regent, previously Brightlingsea United, have completed around 100 years of competitive football. Firstly, in the Border league, between 1908/1909 to 1970 when they joined The Essex Senior league for 20 years having much success, before going on to join the then Jewson League in 1990 and then back to the Border league in 2001/2002. Brightlingsea United FC and Regent Park Rangers FC amalgamated at the start of 2005/2006 season to become Brightlingsea Regent Football Club. During this time, the squad and club have continued to grow and develop, having success in the Border league Division 1 and cup.

In 2009/2010 new Management team James Webster and Mark Gridley guided Regent to a 4th place finish and followed up the following season in 2010/2011 by winning the Kent Blaxill Essex and Suffolk Border Premier League in a superb season by playing 34, winning 31, drawing 2 and losing just 1 game.

In season 2011/2012, James Webster added Tom Rothery to the Management team in September and they finished their first season back at Step 6 with a creditable 5th place finish. They also reached the quarter-finals of the Essex Senior Cup before losing to League 2 side Dagenham & Redbridge. The 2012/2013 season was successful for many reasons. Firstly, an FA Vase cup run, which was the longest in the clubs history before bowing out in round 3 (last 64). The club gained promotion back to step 5 and the Premier Division with a third-place finish which included a 22-game unbeaten run during the season. In the final game of the season the team won the First Division KO Cup final with a 1-0 victory over Gt Yarmouth.

The 2013/2014 season in the Eastern Counties Premier Division again proved to be successful for Brightlingsea, gaining promotion after finishing Runners-up to Hadleigh Utd, losing out on the final day by goal difference. The club also reached the last 16 of the FA Vase and in doing so again created more history.

The 2016/2017 season saw Brightlingsea Regent crowned as champions of the Isthmian North Division, notching up an impressive 103 points and finishing 12 points ahead of their closest rivals, ensuring an historic promotion to the Isthmian Premier League.

In October 2017 long-standing manager James Webster left the club to be replaced by former assistant manager and coach Tom Rothery, assisted by Pip Boyland, who maintained the R's Isthmian Premier league standing and won the Essex FA's Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup.

2018/2019 saw the Regent achieve their highest ever finish in the non-league pyramid, along with their best ever FA Cup and FA Trophy runs. They also retained the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup with a 1-0 victory at Maldon & Tiptree.

After Tom Rothery stepped down from the manager's position in September 2019, Colchester United legend Kem Izzet took the hot seat and avoided relegation in his first season in charge, in a season that was cut short in February due to Covid-19.

2020/2021 A later than usual start to the season saw Regent make an early management change as Kem Izzet departed the club in October, replaced with the management duo of Tom Austin and Ryan Salter, arriving from



IMAGE BY NEIL PAYNE

FC Clacton. The season was then curtailed in December and no more football was played.

2021/2022 Tom Austin and Ryan Salter resigned from their positions at the Beginning of November with the club positioned within the relegation places. The R's appointed Brett Munyard and his team of Mark Healy, Ricky Stubbs and Dave Limber who dramatically saved the club from relegation on the penultimate game of the season with a 3-0 victory over Haringey Borough to secure Step 3 football for the 6th season.

2022/2023 Brightlingsea Regent suffered their first relegation under the Regent name, finishing bottom of the Isthmian Premier Division following a 6-year spell. We now return to the Isthmian North Division for the 2023/2024 season.

## HONOURS

**1988-1989** – Essex Senior League Champions

**1989-1990** – Essex Senior League Champions

**1990-1991** – Eastern Counties Division 1 Runners up

**2005-2006** – Essex Junior Cup Runners Up

**2010-2011** – Essex & Suffolk Border League Premier Division Champions

**2011-2012** – AV Lee Memorial Trophy Winners

**2012-2013** – Eastern Counties First Division KO Cup Winners

**2013-2014** – Eastern Counties League Premier Division Runners-up

**2016-2017** – Isthmian League North Division Champions

**2017-2018** – Essex FA Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup Winners

**2018-2019** – Essex FA Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup Winners

# PLAYER PROFILES

# BRIGHTLINGSEA

# REGENT FC



**BRETT MUNYARD – MANAGER;** Brett joined Regent 18 months ago from White Ensign where he had been for the previous 6 seasons. Brett came to the R's during a very turbulent time and saved the club from relegation. Brett is a very bright young manager who is very passionate, ambitious and dedicated to football. Based in Billericay, the young manager has an extensive knowledge of football at all levels and is a perfect fit for the club's ethos. Brett can develop into a great leader for our club.

**CRAIG GLASHAN – ASSISTANT MANAGER;** Craig joined Regent over the back end of last season. Craig has great experience as a manager and as an Assistant Manager and is also a highly qualified coach that is superb on the training pitch. Brett played under Craig 10 years ago at Frenford and remained good friends ever since. Craig will be a big

asset to Regent on the side-lines and in the clubhouse too.

**RICKY STUBBS – COACH;** Ricky also arrived with Brett 18 months ago, where he also had been with White Ensign for the last 6 seasons. Ricky is more of a quiet, level-headed coach that will build a great bond with his players and help them with all areas of the game. Ricky will be someone that will work on the fitness side of the players and ensuring they are at the level required.

**NICK HARDING – GOALKEEPER COACH;** Nick joins Regent over the summer from Barking where he had a spell as first team manager, where he did a fantastic job, even delivering a trophy too. Nick brings much more than just being a goalkeeper coach, he is a winner and has acquired a great network of players too. Prior to Barking he was Goalkeeper coach



IMAGE BY NEIL PAYNE





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IMAGE BY NEIL PAYNE

at Redbridge and it is a great coup for Brett and Regent that he is able to bring Nick to the club.

**KURT SMITH – COACH;** Kurt joined the R's in the summer from Tilbury, where he originally decided to hang up his boots from playing, this meant that Brett could get him involved in his management team. However, having been involved within the R's pre-season, he has certainly shown that he can play a bit too. It's unknown how much playing time Kurt will have this season, but what we do know is he is a great coach and fantastic character to have in the dressing room. Another great asset to our club.

**ROB EARLE – PHYSIO;** Rob needs no introduction to anyone when it comes to East Anglian football, Rob has been the R's Physio for a few years now after leaving the club initially to join Needham Market. Rob is a top physio who works on injury prevention within all sports including Athletics. Earle will be key to any success the club has this season by keeping players patched up and on the pitch.

**LEWIS GREENE – GOALKEEPER;** Lewis joins the R's this summer from Hullbridge Sports where he was number 1 for the past 4 seasons, He is a fantastic shot stopper with a big presence between the sticks. His previous clubs include Canvey Island and Redbridge, we look forward to seeing Lewis in goal for the Regent.

**MARLON AGYAKWA – MIDFIELDER;** Marlon joins Regent this summer from Stowmarket Town, the pacey wide man has had spells with Grays Athletic, Hashtag United and Aveley, where he won the North title in 2021/22. His experience at the level will be key for Regent this season if the R's are to make a promotion push.

**MARLEY ANDREWS – DEFENDER;** Marley joins Regent from AFC Sudbury where he has spent the last 4 seasons, helping the club secure promotion from the Isthmian North division last season. The former Colchester United apprentice has also had spells with Maldon & Tiptree and Heybridge Swifts. Marley is well known to the town and its

younger supporters as he runs his own football coaching business which many of our youth players attend regularly. Marley is someone the club has chased for a while, and we have now get to see his ability in the red and black stripes!

**KOJO APENTENG – MIDFIELDER;** Kojo joins Regent this summer following a successful season with Hashtag United where he played 23 matches having led the club to the Isthmian North title. Having spent time at both West Ham and Southend United when younger, Kojo joined in the Tags in the summer of 2021. His other previous clubs include Corinthian Casuals, Brentwood Town, Barking and Great Watering Rovers.

**DANIEL BROCK – STRIKER;** Dan is a striker who was on a lot of clubs' radars but opted for Regent this summer. The former Southend United youngster was at Walthamstow last season where he made 20 appearances having joined Stow from Southend Manor early into the campaign.

**HARRY CRITCHLEY – DEFENDER;** Harry joins the R's this summer following a brief spell at Hashtag United. He's a 21-year-old left-back who progressed from AFC Sudbury's Academy and has represented both Coggeshall Town and East Thurrock United. He also spent some time on trial at both West Ham and Fulham after getting spotted during AFC Sudbury's good run in the FA Youth Cup a few years back.

**DEVANTE DAVIS – STRIKER;** Devante has joined Regent following a very good pre-season with Regent, the former Hastings United man was picked up from Brighton University having been top scorer for them in college football. Davis could be a fantastic find for the Regent management team.

**CHARLIE DURLING – MIDFIELDER;** 'Duris' re-joined Regent from FC Clacton two seasons ago having been away from the club for 4 seasons. Charlie's last match for Brightonsea Regent was back in 2016 under manager James Webster, when he departed

IMAGE BY NEIL PAYNE





in the summer to go to University in Brighton. Charlie is a strong, tireless midfielder, who will break up play with his never say die attitude and being a Brightlingsea lad, he will put in everything on the pitch with his love for the town.

**ANDRE EMBALO – MIDFIELDER;** Andre joins the R's from Stansted where he made 37 appearances last season, prior to Stansted he made 30 appearances for Ilford, and at a young age has lots of first team experience. Another pacey wide man, who will work hard, and will be keen to show what he can do as he moves up a level of football.

**ANDREW GEORGE – DEFENDER;** Andy joined the R's in last November from White Ensign where he had played over 150 times for the Essex club, also wearing the captains armband on multiple occasions. Andy can play as a full back and centre back with his great versatility, he is a solid, no-nonsense defender who has bundles of energy with a never give up attitude. Andy can become a club legend at Regent!

**MILO GRIMES – DEFENDER;** Milo needs no introduction to anyone at Regent having had a spell at the club a few seasons back. The local lad started at AFC Sudbury before moving on to Coggeshall Town and then last season Felixstowe & Walton United. The strong, no-nonsense defender has been over in USA this pre-season playing for his college team Southern Soccer Academy. He will no doubt be an integral part of this Regent team and fans will no doubt be singing Milo's name on the terraces!

**BILLY HARRIS – MIDFIELDER;** Billy joins Regent this summer having been someone Brett has chased for some time. Billy was previously with Hullbridge Sports and has previously played for Great Wakering and Tilbury where he was the club captain. Harris has been previously compared to Jake Turner with his qualities on the ball and his range of passing.

He is another very integral part of this Regent team.

**HARRY HONESTY – MIDFIELDER;** Harry joins the R's bringing bags of experience with him, the former reality TV star is Hashtag United's record appearance holder with 107 appearances, which included 25 goals and 25 assists. Harry also includes Haringey Borough and East Thurrock United as his previous clubs, and last season was at Witham Town.

**EMMANUEL OKUNJA – MIDFIELDER;** Eman is another Hashtag United title winner joining the R's this summer. He is often described as the 'Non-League Kante' and can seriously play. With 36 appearances last year for the Tags, having joined in the summer of 2022. Prior to Hashtag, Eman was with Hullbridge Sports before joining Walthamstow. He's a great character off the pitch too, always laughing and joking. We can't wait to see Eman in a Regent shirt.

**BABU OMBOK – MIDFIELDER;** Babu has followed Nick over from Barking, which has helped Regent beat off a host of clubs after the teenager's signature. The hard working, battling, Central midfielder is a star in the making. He was previously with Enfield Town's academy and is now ready to show what he can do at senior football level.

**KYRELL PALMER – DEFENDER;** Kyrell joins the R's after a successful pre-season with Regent. The Right Back was Leyton Orient's Academy captain and had a loan spell with Saffron Walden Town. Following his release from Orient, Kyrell signed for Merstham and made several appearances in the Isthmian Premier Division, before joining Barking, where he was a regular last season.

**BRADLEY RUSSELL – MIDFIELDER;** Brad joins Regent in November from Stansted where he began this season, last campaign Brad was playing for Hullbridge Sports. Brad is a strong, hardworking central midfielder who will give



IMAGE BY NEIL PAYNE

100% in a Regent shirt. He will be looking to get a run of matches as injuries haven't been too helpful in the past. If he settles, and stays injury free, he could have a big impact for Regent.

**LUKE SKINNER – MIDFIELD;** Luke was another White Ensign signing made in November 2022. Luke is a ball winning Centre Midfielder who has a great attitude with tremendous work rate. Luke came in and hit the ground running for the R's as an ideal partner for Charlie Durling. Unfortunately, a serious injury hampered Luke last season, but he is looking to be back to his best now after a strong pre-season.

**OLLY SOTOYINBO – STRIKER;** Oly has Returned to Regent where he began last season's campaign with 2 goals in 12 appearances, before getting a money move to Stowmarket Town. However, he finished the season with Chatham Town despite his 8 goals in 13 games for Stow. Oly went on to win the Isthmian South East Division with Chatham last campaign with 7 appearances. His former clubs include

Welling Town and Hullbridge Sports and has always added goals wherever he has been. We look forward to a big season from Oly!

**JAKE THOMPSON – DEFENDER;** JT returned to club where he initially joined in 2019 from Witham Town, but whilst studying at university, he only made a handful of appearances. JT completed his first full season with the club last term and the 6'4 Centre back has shown to be a great addition for us, not only does he bring a physical presence to our back 4, but he can also use the ball in key areas.

**ELJAY WORRELL – DEFENDER;** Eljay has joined Regent this summer and has been made the club captain by Brett Munyard. Eljay has bags of experience as a leader having been captain at his previous clubs Barking, Basildon United, Tilbury and Billericay Town. Eljay is a left back by trade but is comfortable wherever he plays, he will bring great energy and enthusiasm to the team, and we look forward to seeing what he can do in a Regent shirt.

# MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS  
BY TOM  
BRADFORD

SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
ISTHMIAN NORTH

**Basildon United 2**  
**Felixstowe & Walton Utd 4**

Felixstowe & Walton United preserved their unbeaten Isthmian League record with a 4-2 win on the road at Basildon United. **Joe Whight** slotted home a penalty on 15 mins following a foul on Sam Ford. **Tom Bullard** rose highest to head in a second a minute later and Zak Brown, Jack Ainsley and Charlie Warren all went close to putting the game out of sight within the first 30 minutes. The home side were gifted a goal back on 38 minutes from Kye Jude after a mistake at the back but **Charlie Warren** fired in a third just before the break to restore the two goal advantage. **Zak Brown** finished superbly from distance on 48 minutes for the perfect start to the second half for the Seasideers who were reduced to ten men on the hour mark with Warren receiving his second yellow card, retaliating with a push to the defender. Basildon pushed hard and scored a consolation on 68 minutes through Kai Brown but Felixstowe saw the game out comfortably, despite the home side having the greater possession.



## HOW WE LINED UP

1. Danny Crump
2. Callum Bennett
3. Stuart Ainsley
4. Jack Ainsley
5. Joe Whight
6. Tom Bullard
7. Zak Brown
8. Charlie Warren
9. Sam Ford
10. Josh Hitter
11. Josh Mayhew

## SUBS

12. Lamell Howell
14. Henry Barley
15. Callum Harrison
16. Kubi Kussan
17. Ivan Da Costa















# 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
<b>SAT 26</b>	<b>BURY TOWN</b> <i>Ford, Harrison, Hitter</i>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>	<b>W 3-0</b>	<b>ATT 401</b>
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
<b>SAT 9</b>	<b>BRENTWOOD TOWN</b> <i>Whight (P), Aitkens</i>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>ISUZU FA TROPHY</b>	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>ATT 371</b>
SAT 16	ENFIELD TOWN	A	3PM	FA CUP SECOND QR	L 3-0	
<b>TUE 19</b>	<b>BOWERS &amp; PITSEA</b> <i>Warren, Harrison, Ford</i>	<b>H</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>ISTHMIAN LEAGUE</b>	<b>W 3-2</b>	<b>ATT 263</b>
<b>SAT 23</b>	<b>HERTFORD TOWN</b> <i>Harrison 2, Holland, J Ainsley, Barley, Mayhew</i>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>ISUZU FA TROPHY</b>	<b>W 6-3</b>	<b>ATT 225</b>
WED 27	LAKENHEATH <i>Mayhew, Warren 2, Barley</i>	A	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREM CUP	W 4-1	
SAT 30	BASILDON UNITED <i>Whight, Bullard, Warren, Brown</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 4-2	ATT 112

## OCTOBER

SAT 7	BILLERICAY <i>Mayhew (2), Ford</i>	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	L 4-3	ATT 527
<b>TUES 10</b>	<b>BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7.45PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
SAT 14	WALTHAMSTOW	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
<b>SAT 21</b>	<b>WROXHAM</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>		
SAT 28	GRAYS ATHLETIC	A	3PM	LEAGUE		

## NOVEMBER

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

## DECEMBER

<b>SAT 2</b>	<b>GORLESTON</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 9	NEW SALAMIS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 16</b>	<b>MALDON &amp; TIPTREE</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
TUE 26	IPSWICH WANDERERS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 30	BOWERS & PITSEA	A	3PM	LEAGUE

## JANUARY

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

## FEBRUARY

SAT 3	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 10</b>	<b>WALTHAMSTOW</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>
SAT 17	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE
<b>SAT 24</b>	<b>GRAYS ATHLETIC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3PM</b>	<b>LEAGUE</b>

## MARCH

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

## APRIL

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



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Director of Football	Kevin O'Donnell		

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# THE REFUGEE WHO BECAME A LEGEND

BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME

Find more at [TheUntoldGame.co.uk](http://TheUntoldGame.co.uk) or on social media @TheUntoldGame



Outside the impressive spectacle that is the Camp Nou there is a statue. It is dedicated to the player chosen, in 1999, as Barcelona's greatest of the twentieth century. In full flight, with the ball at his feet, he looks ready to take a shot, one more that would no doubt nestle into the corner of the net. Obvious candidates leap out of the history books for this accolade. Diego Maradona, Johann Cruyff, Romario, Ronaldo. Some of the greatest players of all time, playing some of the most exciting football the world has ever seen. So it is something of a surprise, then, that the player voted Barca's greatest, is Laszlo Kubala.

Kubala was one of a golden generation of players. Under different circumstances, he probably would have formed part of the Magical Magyars side that, statistically, is the greatest of all time. But the postwar politics of Eastern Europe were complicated. Kubala

started his career at Ferencvaros, playing alongside the legendary Sandor Kocsis, but did not agree to the military service that was required of all Hungarian men. He fled to Czechoslovakia, then back to Hungary, before the Soviet Union occupied his country and he made a permanent exit. Agreeing a plan with his wife, he joined a group of refugees headed for Austria, and then made for Italy. Anna would swim across the Danube, with their infant son in tow, and join him later.

In Italy, Kubala initially joined Serie A side Pro Patria, playing a handful of games but impressing fans with his trickery. Becoming a bit of a celebrity, he was invited to join the great Grande Torino side for a testimonial in Portugal. As he prepared to leave, however, Anna arrived, exhausted from her own escape,



and Kubala turned down the invitation. The decision saved his life; on the return flight, Torino's plane crashed into the Basilica di Superga. Everyone on board died.

The other side of Kubala's fame was that the Hungarian authorities finally discovered where he was. They demanded FIFA punish him, and FIFA obliged by banning him for a year. This allowed first Real Madrid, and then Barcelona to come calling for his signature. How he ended up at the Blaugrana is disputed, but the most plausible story is that, when Kubala demanded that they also hire his boyhood coach, fellow refugee, and father in law Ferdinand Daucik as manager, Real Madrid refused, while their great rivals accepted his terms.

His ban ran through most of the 1950–51 season, and when it finally came to an end the league was already over. The cup remained, however, and Kubala got to work. In seven games, he scored six goals, and helped bring a trophy to Les Corts, Barcelona's ground at the time. It was a telling introduction.

In his first full season as a Barcelona player, Kubala played 19 games, and scored 26 goals. The Catalan side romped to the league title, but in a show of exceptional dominance also brought all three domestic cups home with them. The cherry on top was winning the Latin Cup, the forerunner to the European Cup. Five trophies, the Hungarian influence was undeniable.

Kubala missed most of the following season with tuberculosis, but was able to return in time for another league and cup double. Daucik was nomadic by nature, and with his impressive CV moved on to Athletic Club, where he won the cup twice, and then a number of other Spanish clubs over the next two decades. But Kubala stayed, and continued building his legend.

More than goals and trophies, Kubala ignited a footballing passion in the people of his adopted city. Thousands of extra fans started turning out to watch Kuksi in action, and he didn't disappoint. Not just goals, but



excitement was what he brought to the pitch. He was quick, agile, strong and tricky. Against Botafogo, with his shirt ripped from his body, he scored bare-chested. Helenio Herrera claimed Kubala was the first player to ever curl a free kick over a wall. Unsurprisingly, Les Corts was too small to hold all of his adoring fans. In 1957, Barcelona had to move to the Camp Nou to accommodate them.

Despite Herrera's admiration, the two did not get on when the Argentine arrived at Barcelona in 1958. He brought Sandor Kocsis, a more recent refugee, with him, and tried to impose a strict discipline. For the partying, drinking, womanising Kubala, this would not work. He was dropped to the bench, and the trophies dried up. Herrera was sacked in 1960. Kubala took his job.

The Hungarian turned out to not be as successful in the dugout as he was on the pitch, but that probably had much to do with his love of playing. He turned out sporadically for sides for another seven years, until he was forty, flipping between management and playing. But it didn't matter in Barcelona, where he was already a legend. Of all the greats to have graced the Camp Nou, he may be the greatest.

**Enjoy the game.**

# MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS  
BY TOM  
BRADFORD

SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
ISUZU FA TROPHY

## Billericay 4 Felixstowe & Walton Utd 3

Felixstowe and Walton travelled to Isthmian League Premier side Billericay Town expecting a tough challenge.

Billericay started the game looking like a very accomplished side with Felixstowe more than holding their own until the 29th minute when Billericay took the lead with clean hit from the edge of the box that Robinson had little chance of saving. Virtually from the kick off Zak Brown made an impressive run down the right and he crossed the ball low into the six yard box and **Josh Mayhew** just beat the keeper to the ball and turned it into the goal.

A couple of minutes later the home fans were stunned when **Sam Ford** received the ball just inside the penalty area, sidestepped a defender and scored with a low drive giving the goalkeeper no chance as he looked unsighted with players in front of him.

Billericay made two changes at the break and they started the second half putting a lot of pressure on the Felixstowe defence, however another break and good run from Zak Brown in the 52nd minute, saw him shoot from 25 yards that crashed onto the bottom of the crossbar, **Josh Mayhew** was again in the right place to bundle the over the line from two yards out, his fourth goal in the last three games. From that time Billericay took over the game, Tom Bullard and Joe Whight were defending admirably and dealing well with numerous crosses that were coming into the box. Billericay scored their second goal in the 57th minute with a low drive from the edge of the box. It was all one way traffic now with Felixstowe defending for their lives. With a quarter of an hour to go a fierce strike from outside the box struck a defenders arm and the referee gave a harsh penalty as there was no arm movement towards the ball and the defenders arm was down by his side. They scored from the penalty with an unstoppable shot high into the roof of the net making it 3-3. For the rest of the game Billericay camped in the Felixstowe half of the pitch, Felixstowe held firm until the 88th minute when a cross from the



## HOW WE LINED UP

1. Callum Robinson
2. Callum Bennett
3. Stuart Ainsley
4. Jack Ainsley
5. Joe Whight
6. Tom Bullard
7. Zak Brown
8. Josh Hitter
9. Josh Mayhew
10. Sam Ford
11. Lamell Howell

## SUBS

12. Leon Ottley-Gooch
14. Callum Harrison
15. Ivan Da Costa
16. Noel Aitkens
17. Billy Holland
18. Henry Barley





right to the far post was headed back across the goal and forced over the line from four yards which won the game 4-3 for Billericay. A brave effort from Felixstowe, scoring three goals against a team that prior to today had only conceded 5 goals this season. On reflection Billericay deserved their victory but the Felixstowe players can be proud of their performance today.











# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

**FORGIVE** the self-indulgence, but some of my best memories of this job will be covering the FA Cup – more specifically, the FA Cup shocks.

For every long trip to Huddersfield Town – where they stuck two past Dover Athletic inside the opening eight minutes before playing out a 2-0 win – there's been an enjoyable drive back from Burnley or Torquay.

Lincoln City's run of 2016-17 stands out the most, largely because I was fortunate enough to be there for most of the ride.

Ipswich Town away in early January brought a 2-2 draw for the Imps but who could predict what would come with a journey that catapulted the club and its then managers – Danny and assistant Nicky Cowley – into another stratosphere.

Ipswich were finished off in the third round replay – I watched on TV – before Brighton & Hove Albion were turned over in the fourth round.

Out of the hat came Burnley where Sean Raggett's late goal won an incredible tie. Sitting in the press room after I felt I had to check over and over again that Lincoln City had reached the quarter-finals before writing into the match report.

Before we knew it, we were at Danny Cowley's house with the FA Cup for a special pre-Arsenal feature.

The Premier League Gunners were next but Arsene Wenger's side were in no mood to be part of any more history, seeing off the Imps 5-0 – not that the 10,000 travelling supporters ever lost their voice.

When Crawley Town went to Manchester United in 2011 it was a much closer encounter, striker Richard Brodie just inches away from a late equaliser only for the woodwork to intervene.

My in-person north-west record is pretty good. Macclesfield seeing off Cardiff City with two goals from Matthew Barnes-Homer.

Then I was there when Salford City beat Notts County 2-0 on a Friday night in November 2015. The next day legendary FA Cup giant killers Altrincham dumped out League One Barnsley 1-0, immediately justifying The NLP's hotel bill for my overnight stay!

But it hasn't just been the upsets or the near-misses. A privilege of the job is being able to tell the stories in the build-up or be at a club when it's all eyes on them. Paulton Rovers may have been turned over by Norwich City, but the buzz around the club through the week was heightened even more on match day as FA Cup fever swept through the small village.

We're inching closer to this season's FA Cup first round proper with the fourth round qualifying games just around the corner.

The exciting thing about the FA Cup is this year's stories are just waiting to be written. Experiencing them in person is definitely a job perk!

**By Matt Badcock**, Editor-at-large



# 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.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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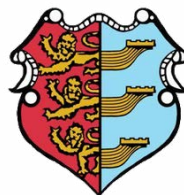


**ISTHMIAN  
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LEAGUE**



# MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian League North  
Tuesday 10th October, 7.45pm



BRIGHTLINGSEA  
REGENT FC

## Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley

Assistant Manager: Andy Crump

■ □ □	Jack <b>Ainsley</b>
■ □ □	Stuart <b>Ainsley</b>
■ □ □	Noel <b>Aitkens</b>
■ □ □	Henry <b>Barley</b>
■ □ □	Callum <b>Bennett</b>
■ □ □	Harry <b>Blackburn</b>
■ □ □	Zak <b>Brown</b>
■ □ □	Tom <b>Bullard</b>
■ □ □	Sam <b>Ford</b>
■ □ □	Callum <b>Harrison</b>
■ □ □	Josh <b>Hitter</b>
■ □ □	Billy <b>Holland (C)</b>
■ □ □	Lamel <b>Howell</b>
■ □ □	Josh <b>Mayhew</b>
■ □ □	Leon <b>Ottley-Gooch</b>
■ □ □	Callum <b>Robinson (GK)</b>
■ □ □	Charlie <b>Warren</b>
■ □ □	Joe <b>Whight</b>

red/yellow - goals - played

## Brightlingsea Regent FC

Manager: Brett Munyard

Assistant Manager: Craig Glashan

■ □ □	Marlon <b>Agyakwa</b>
■ □ □	Kojo <b>Apenteng</b>
■ □ □	Daniel <b>Brock</b>
■ □ □	Charles <b>Brown</b>
■ □ □	Harry <b>Critchley</b>
■ □ □	Devante <b>Davis</b>
■ □ □	Charlie <b>Durling</b>
■ □ □	Andre <b>Embalo</b>
■ □ □	Andrew <b>George</b>
■ □ □	Lewis <b>Greene (GK)</b>
■ □ □	Milo <b>Grimes</b>
■ □ □	Billy <b>Harris</b>
■ □ □	Harry <b>Honesty</b>
■ □ □	Dominic <b>Locke</b>
■ □ □	Manny <b>Ogunrinde</b>
■ □ □	Emmanuel <b>Okunja</b>
■ □ □	Babu <b>Ombok</b>
■ □ □	Kyrell <b>Palmer</b>
■ □ □	Bradley <b>Russell</b>
■ □ □	Ollie <b>Sotoyinbo</b>
■ □ □	Jake <b>Thompson (VC)</b>
■ □ □	Eljay <b>Worrell (C)</b>

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### MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Mr Alexander Shipp Assistant Referees: Mr Kevin Harrington and Mr Stephen Tymms