



**The Pitching In
Isthmian League
South Central
Division**

**SUTTON
COMMON
ROVERS**

**Friday
1st November**

**at Cobham's
Reg Madgwick
Stadium**

**7.45pm
Kick-Off**



Respect



**ASHFORD TOWN
(MIDDX)**

PITCHING IN

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WELCOME NOTES

Good evening everyone and we welcome Sutton Common Rovers to Cobham for this Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division fixture along with the referee Scott Crowhurst and his assistants Richard Doorbar and Ryan Hetherington.



It comes on top of our match on Tuesday evening against Farnham Town which we lost 2-0. Yet again manager Luke Tuffs introduced some surprisingly impressive young players to wear the tangerine and white for the first time and yet again lady luck played a considerable part in our defeat. To quantify we lost Callum Hope following his second caution for an unintentional handball following an earlier booking, which also looked harsh. Trying to play the league leaders with eleven men is not easy, but with ten it is obviously more difficult.

Yet again though, there was no shortage of effort on our part and all our players could leave the pitch with their heads held high.

We all knew this would be a difficult season. Cobham are proving great hosts but when we are not able to use our own ground, it makes life exceptionally difficult financially. We do not blame those players who left us for more money elsewhere but on the flip side a huge thank you goes to those members of the squad who are sticking with us. While we have not had the results recently, we have remained highly competitive and that is unlikely to change this evening as we welcome SCR to the Leg of Mutton ground. Our opponents this evening are three places above us in the table and have a three point advantage. Their two wins have come over Met Police (3-1) and Badshot Lea (3-0) both away from home. In the FA Cup and Trophy they made early exits, to South Park and Sittingbourne respectively. One player within their ranks who has played for us is Danyaal Iqbal, who was quite a favourite with Ashford supporters when he was at Short Lane.

After tonight we have two more home games coming up, firstly on Saturday 9th November, when we entertain Leatherhead, who now seem to have found some form and then on Tuesday 12 November when we play host to Balham FC in the Surrey Senior Cup. Balham are experiencing a difficult season themselves but there are no easy games. If we are able to beat Balham we have a further home match in the First Round Proper against South Park.

One thing about playing on Fridays and/or Sundays is that it leaves Saturdays free. Tomorrow Cobham have a home match against Chipstead in the CCL, kick-off 3.00 p.m. Cobham are up with the pack in the CCL, chasing promotion, and will be favourites against the Chips who are in danger of a second consecutive relegation if they don't start winning a few more. Why not come and support our temporary landlords.

One or two people have enquired about where our ground sharing partners, PFC Victoria London are playing their home games at the moment. The rules are less strict in the CCL so they can move around a bit and have latched on to Thame United for a number of games. That might have seemed a long journey a short while ago but now that there are three clubs from Oxfordshire in the CCL, it becomes a perfectly reasonable venue and no ULEZ to pay!

That is all for now. Enjoy the game.

Ashford Town (Middlesex) Football Club Limited

The Robert Parker Stadium, Short Lane, Stanwell, Middlesex TW19 7BH

Telephone: 01784 245908

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Website: ashfordtownmiddlesexfc.com

Member of the Pitching In Isthmian League, affiliated to Middlesex and Surrey FA's,
and an FA Charter Standard Community Club.

Company Registration Number: 07904731 Company Limited By Guarantee

Directors:

Nick Bailey (Chairman)

Steve Clark (General Secretary/Finance Director)

Patrons:

Russell Grant - The Lord of Ashford in Middlesex

Ray Dorset

President:

Robert Parker

Vice-Presidents:

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Graham Felce

Lynne Morgan

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Life Vice-Presidents:

Paul Burgess

Russell Canderton

Alan Constable

Gareth Coates

Eddie Hutchinson

Vice-Chairman and Head of Youth: Neil Mears

Match Secretary: Paul Blair

Vice-Chairman (Youth): Dave Sampson

First Team Manager: Luke Tuffs

Assistant Manager: Ken Hope

Sports Therapist: Callie Lansley

Groundsman: Liam Balmer

Season Ticket Secretary: Chris Canderton

Membership Secretary: Chris Canderton

Social Media Manager: Luke Mitschke

Programme Editor: Alan Constable

Women Manager/Physio: Martin O'Connell

Women Secretary: Matthew Corry

Women Match Secretary/Media: Paul Gully

Women Treasurer: John Gully

Clubhouse Manager: Vikki Ovenell

Follow us on social media



@ashfordtownmx

RESPECT STATEMENT

The League's Respect Statement : 'The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination.

Any inappropriate conduct towards others, including but not limited to that based on individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national, origin, age, marital, domestic-partnership status, disability,

sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities.

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

AWAY TRAVEL

Kingstonian - 16th November



Kingstonian - Prince George's Fields (Raynes Park Vale) - SW20 9DZ

Directions: From the Robert Parker Stadium aim for Clockhouse Roundabout via Short Lane, London Road/A30.

At Clockhouse Roundabout, take 4th exit on to Bedfont Road. Go through 1 roundabout. Turn right on to Chertsey Road and slight right on to Chertsey Road/A244. Turn left on to Groveley Road. Turn right on to Vicarage Road.

At Sunbury Cross Roundabout take the 2nd exit on to Staines Road East/A308. Follow A308.

At Hampton Court Roundabout, take 2nd exit on to Hampton Court Way/A309. At roundabout take 2nd exit and stay on A309.

At Scilly Isles Junction take 2nd exit on to Kingston Bypass/A309. Take the slip road on the right on to Kingston Bypass/A3.

Take the A298 exit towards Wimbledon. Continue on to Bushey Road/A298. Turn right on to Grand Drive/B279.

HALF-TIME TEASER

1. Who are the six English UEFA Europa League 2024-25 goalscorers?
2. Which three clubs are without a 2024-25 Premier League clean sheet after Matchday 9?
3. Which six clubs were Greek Football League champions?
4. Who were the three Spanish Ballon d'Or winner.
5. Who is the player pictured?



Answers on Page 9



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PARTNERS WITH
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PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

THE PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

RAYNES PARK VALE have announced the signing of striker Kyen Nicholas midway through their match against Binfield on Saturday- and he emerged from the bench twenty minutes from time but couldn't prevent defeat, as his former side Hanworth Villa leapfrogged his new one into fifth place.

Kyen has scored five goals in nine appearances for Villa this season, following an exceptional 23-24 which saw him score 23 goals in 41 appearances. There was nine in 20 appearances in the second half of the 22-23 campaign, too, when the Villains reached the Play Off Final.

He was previously with Hartley Wintney during their Pitching In Southern League

days, and also played for Hendon in the same league. Walton Casuals, Dulwich Hamlet, Maldon & Tiptree and Guildford City are among his other previous clubs.

KINGSTONIAN have announced the signing of defender Joe Bell- and he doesn't have to move far, as he transfers from the K's landlords Raynes Park Vale. Joe joined Vale in the summer, and has made five appearances.

Joe spent the second half of last season in our Premier Division with Carshalton Athletic, playing nineteen times and helping out with four goals. He started last season at South Park Reigate, where he played 18 times and scored two goals.

THE PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

LEAGUE TABLE

| | P | W | D | L | GD | Pts |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Farnham Town..... | 13 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 27 | 32 |
| Harrow Borough | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 26 |
| Kingstonian..... | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 17 | 25 |
| Hartley Wintney | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 25 |
| Hanworth Villa | 11 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 21 |
| Raynes Park Vale | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 20 |
| Hayes & Yeading Utd... | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 18 |
| Ascot United | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4 | -1 | 18 |
| Uxbridge | 10 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 17 |
| Westfield..... | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | -3 | 17 |
| Leatherhead | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 15 |
| Horndean..... | 12 | 4 | 3 | 5 | -1 | 15 |
| Rayners Lane | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | -3 | 14 |
| Southall..... | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | -3 | 14 |
| Binfield..... | 11 | 4 | 2 | 5 | -13 | 14 |
| Metropolitan Police | 12 | 3 | 3 | 6 | -7 | 12 |
| Sutton Common Rov ... | 11 | 3 | 2 | 6 | -3 | 11 |
| South Park..... | 10 | 2 | 4 | 4 | -5 | 10 |
| Moneyfields | 12 | 2 | 4 | 6 | -10 | 10 |
| Ashford Town (Middx) | 13 | 2 | 1 | 10 | -18 | 7 |
| Guernsey | 12 | 1 | 3 | 8 | -13 | 6 |
| Badshot Lea | 11 | 0 | 2 | 9 | -25 | 2 |

As at 31st October

FIXTURES

Friday 1st November

Ashford Town (Middx) v Sutton Common Rovers

Saturday 2nd November

Binfield v South Park
 Guernsey v Hayes & Yeading Unitedf
 Hanworth Villa v Rayners Lane
 Hartley Wintney v Westfield
 Horndean v Metropolitan Police
 Kingstonian v Harrow Borough
 Leatherhead v Raynes Park Vale
 Moneyfields v Badshot Lea
 Southall v Ascot United
 Uxbridge v Farnham Town

4th November/5th November/6th November

Sutton Common R v Raynes Park Vale (Mon)
 Ascot United v Hartley Wintney (Tue)
 Horndean v Westfield (Tue)
 Leatherhead v Guernsey (Tue)
 South Park v Badshot Lea (Tue)
 Uxbridge v Binfield (Tue)
 Kingstonian v Moneyfields (Wed)

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

2024-25 SEASON

| FIX | DATE | OPPOSITION | COMP | KO/RES | ATT | POS | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|--------|--------------------------------|------|--------|-----|-----|------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| M1 | Aug 03 | Northwood | FAC | 2-0 | 179 | -- | Fisher | R-Solanki | Larkham | King | Kandolo! |
| M2 | Aug 10 | Harrow Borough | IL | 0-1 | 154 | - | Fisher | Larkham^ | Hope | King* | Kandolo! |
| M3 | Aug 17 | Uxbridge | FAC | 1-1 | 79 | - | Fisher | Larkham | Hope | King^ | Kandolo! |
| M4 | Aug 20 | Uxbridge | FAC | 2-1 | 140 | - | Fisher | Larkham* | Hope ¹ = | King | Kandolo! |
| M5 | Aug 24 | Ascot United | FAT | 1-1 | 90 | - | Fisher | Blakeborough^ | Hope | Humphreys+ | Kandolo* |
| M6 | Aug 26 | Hanworth Villa | IL | 1-4 | 230 | - | Chisolm | Larkham | Hope | King+ | Kandolo |
| M7 | Aug 31 | Herne Bay | FAC | 0-2 | 97 | - | Chisolm | Blakeborough | Larkham | Hope | McKay* |
| M8 | Sep 18 | Southall | IL | 1-1 | 109 | - | Brzozowski | Blakeborough+ | Larkham | King ¹ | McKay |
| M9 | Sep 21 | Farnham Town | IL | 1-2 | 473 | - | Brzozowski | R-Solanki | Larkham | Cullen* | Hope |
| M10 | Sep 24 | Hartley Wintney | IL | 1-0 | 185 | - | Brzozowski | Larkham | Hope | King^ | Kandolo |
| M11 | Sep 28 | Uxbridge | IL | 1-2 | 135 | - | Brzozowski | Larkham | Blakeborough^ | King^ | Kandolo |
| M12 | Oct 04 | Raynes Park Vale | IL | 0-5 | 201 | | Brzozowski | Larkham | Hope | King | Kandolo |
| M13 | Oct 08 | Kingstonian | IL | 7-4 | 146 | | Brzozowski | Barsa | Hope | King | McKay |
| M14 | Oct 12 | South Park | IL | 0-3 | 163 | 20 | Brzozowski | Barsa | Hope* | King | McKay |
| M15 | Oct 20 | Metropolitan Police | IL | 1-2 | 101 | 20- | Brzozowski | Larkham | Blakeborough | King* | McKay |
| M16 | Oct 22 | Leatherhead | IL | 0-4 | 359 | 20 | Jupp | Larkham | Hope | King+ | McKay |
| M17 | Oct 26 | Rayners Lane | IL | 1-2 | 96 | 20 | Jupp | Hope | Larkham^ | King | Kandolo |
| M18 | Oct 29 | Farnham Town | IL | 0-2 | 134 | 20 | Jupp | Larkham | R-Solanki | Atkinson | Hope |
| M | Nov 01 | Sutton Common Rov | IL | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 09 | Leatherhead | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 12 | Balham | SSC | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 16 | Kingstonian | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 19 | Hendon | MSC | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 23 | Uxbridge | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 26 | Hartley Wintney | ASC | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Nov 30 | Horndean | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Dec 07 | Guernsey | IL | 1.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Dec 14 | Hayes & Yeading Utd | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Dec 20 | Binfield | IL | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Dec 26 | Westfield | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Dec 28 | Harrow Borough | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Jan 01 | Hanworth Villa | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Jan 04 | Moneyfields | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Jan 11 | Ascot United | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Jan 18 | Badshot Lea | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Jan 26 | Horndean | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Feb 01 | Guernsey | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Feb 08 | Raynes Park Vale | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Feb 15 | South Park | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Feb 22 | Metropolitan Police | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Mar 01 | Rayners Lane | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Mar 07 | Sutton Common Rov | IL | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Mar 15 | Hayes & Yeading Utd | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Mar 21 | Binfield | IL | 7.45 | | | | | | | |
| M | Mar 29 | Badshot Lea | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Apr 05 | Ascot United | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Apr 12 | Moneyfields | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Apr 19 | Hartley Wintney | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Apr 21 | Westfield | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |
| M | Apr 26 | Southall | IL | 3.00 | | | | | | | |

CUP MATCHES

Ashford Town (Middx) have a number of forthcoming Cup matches.

These are as follows. On Tuesday 12th November we play here at Cobham against Balham in the Surrey Senior Cup. That date is provisional at present as Balham had a match arranged in the Southern Combination Cup, which they are trying to change.

The following week on 16th November we have a home tie in the Middlesex Senior Cup, against Hendon, our last meeting being in the FA Cup in a home replay which we finally lost 9-8 on penalties. More on that one in due course.

Finally, we travel to Hartley Wintney on Tuesday 26th November in the Aldershot Senior Cup, which we were invited to re-enter this season.

Key

IL: Isthmian South Central Division

FAC: Emirates FA Cup

FAT: Isuzu FA Trophy

MSC: Middlesex Senior Cup

SSC: Surrey Senior Cup

ASC: Aldershot Senior Cup

* Decided on Kicks From The Penalty Spot

BOLD FIXTURES - HOME GAMES (1,2) - GOALS SCORED

* First Sub; + Second Sub; ^ Third Sub ! Fourth Sub = Fifth Sub **Bold Blue**: Man of the Match

| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | S | S | S | FIX |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|------------|
| Hope | Sweeney ² | Holder* | Mcleish [^] | McAllister | Kelly+ | Khallouqi*, Arnold+Day [^] | | | M1 |
| McKay | Sweeney | Holder+ | Mcleish | McAllister | Arnold | Humphreys*, Kelly+Khallouqi [^] | | | M2 |
| McKay | Sweeney ¹ | Holder+ | Arnold | McAllister | Kelly* | R-Solanki*, Humphreys+Day ^j | | | M3 |
| McKay | Sweeney | Humphreys+ | Arnold! | McAllister | Kelly [^] | Blakebor*Mcleish+Holder [^] RSol!Day= ¹ | | | M4 |
| McKay | Sweeney ¹ | Holder | Mcleish | Day | R-Solanki | Kelly*=McAllister+Larkham [^] Khallouqi! | | | M5 |
| McKay | Day | Holder | Arnold ¹ | McAllister | Khallouqi* | Mcleish*Blakeborough+ | | | M6 |
| Kandolo | Sweeney+ | Holder | Mcleish | McAllister | Arnold | Day* R-Solanki+ | | | M7 |
| Hope | Basim* | Humphreys | Mcleish | McAllister | Cullen | Day* R-Solanki+ | | | M8 |
| McKay | Basim ¹ | Day | Mcleish | Humphreys | King | Blakebrough* | | | M9 |
| McKay | Basim ¹ | Day* | Mcleish | Humphreys | Cullen+ | McAllister*Barsa+R-Solanki [^] | | | M10 |
| McKay+ | Basim! | Humphreys | Mcleish | McAllister* | Cullen | Barsa*R-Solanki+Day [^] SSweeney! ¹ | | | M11 |
| Day* | Sweeney | Humphreys | Richards | Cullen | Basim+ | Nwokebuife*R-Solanki+ | | | M12 |
| Day ¹ [^] | Sweeney | Humphreys ¹ | Richards* | Cullen ⁴ | Basim ¹ + | R-Solanki*Larkham+Nwokebuife [^] | | | M13 |
| Day | Blakeborough+ | Humphreys | Kandolo | Cullen | Basim ¹ | Larkham*Nwokebuife+ | | | M14 |
| Kandolo | Basim ¹ | Barsa | Day | Cullen | R-Solanki | Aryan* | | | M15 |
| Kandolo | Basim | Dillon* | Day | Cullen | R-Solanki | Aryan* Blakebrough+ | | | M16 |
| McKay | Humphreys | R-Solanki | Cullen ¹ | Day* | Basim+ | Noyan*Nwokebuife+Blakebrough [^] | | | M17 |
| Kandolo | Basim* | Day | N.Tajbakhsh | Humphreys | Blakeborough+ | Arnold*Dillon+ | | | M18 |

ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX) NEWS ROUND-UP

☐ Ashford Town (Middx) Ladies put in a battling away performance against a strong Chatham Town side in the National League Division One South East.

The Tangerines went down 1-0 and the team was Emma Vigolo, Nicole Leys, Hannah Duncan, Alissa Down, Lavana Neufville, Martha Riley, Brogan Moore, Erin Creedon, Anaisa Harney, Giuseppina Carnevale, Abigail Kargho, Subs: Summer Gayle, Laura Huse, Ellie Luscombe, Mary Southgate.

The Ladies are back in action on 10th November when they host London Bees in the League.

☐ There has been some player movement at Ashford Town (Middx) in recent weeks with defender Kyron McKay switching to Hastings United. Forwards Brad Sweeney and Callum McAllister have gone to Amersham Town.

Goalkeeper Nick Jupp has arrived from Chertsey Town while on Tuesday evening Reading Under-18s player Jayden Porter-Atkinson made his debut against Farnham Town while former Sutton Common Rovers defender Bradley Manning was on the bench.



HALF TIME TEASER ANSWERS

1. Chuba Akpom (Ajax), Samuel Edozie (Anderlecht), Marcus Rashford (Manchester United), Harry Maguire (Manchester United), Dominic Solanke (Tottenham Hotspur) and Ross Sykes (Union Saint-Gilloise).

2. Brentford, Southampton and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

3. Olympiacos (47), Panathinaikos (20), AEK Athens (13), PAOK (4), Aris (3) and AEL Larissa (1).

4. Alfredo Di Stéfano (1957 & 1959), Luis Suárez (1960) and Rodri (2024).

5. Ruud van Nistelrooy

ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE SOUTH CENTRAL
2024-25 Appearances and Goalscorers

| | League | | | Cup | | | Total | | |
|--------------------|--------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| | App | Sub | Goals | App | Sub | Goals | App | Sub | Goals |
| Toby Fisher | 1 | | | 4 | | | 5 | | |
| Deven R-Solanki | 5 | 5 | | 2 | 3 | | 7 | 8 | |
| Archie Larkham | 11 | 2 | | 4 | 1 | | 15 | 3 | |
| James King | 12 | | 1 | 3 | | | 15 | | 1 |
| Prince Kandolo | 10 | | | 5 | | | 15 | | |
| Callum Hope | 11 | | | 5 | | 1 | 16 | | 1 |
| Brad Sweeney | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 |
| Ben Holder | 2 | | | 4 | 1 | | 6 | 1 | |
| Aaron Mcleish | 5 | 1 | | 3 | 1 | | 8 | 2 | |
| Callum McAllister | 4 | 1 | | 4 | 1 | | 8 | 2 | |
| Chris Kelly | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Jack Arnold | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| Faris Khallouqi | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | | 1 | 3 | |
| Scott Day | 10 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 2 |
| Kyron H-McKay | 11 | | | 4 | | | 15 | | |
| Sam Humphreys | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 11 | 2 | 1 |
| Vishna Kelly | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 2 | |
| Josh Blakebrough | 5 | 4 | | 2 | 1 | | 7 | 5 | |
| Mac Chisholm | 1 | | | 1 | | | 2 | | |
| Marcin Brzozowski | 8 | | | | | | 8 | | |
| Basim Mirthamasebi | 11 | | 4 | | | | 11 | | 4 |
| Connor Cullen | 10 | | 5 | | | | 10 | | 5 |
| Barsa Mirthamasebi | 3 | 2 | | | | | 3 | 2 | |
| Adam Richards | 2 | | | | | | 2 | | |
| Emmanuel Nwoke | | 3 | | | | | | 3 | |
| Aryantaj Tajbakhsh | | 2 | | | | | | 2 | |
| Nick Jupp | 3 | | | | | | 3 | | |
| Gordon Dillon | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Noyan Tajbakhsh | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Jayden P-Atkinson | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX) CROWD FUNDING PITCH PROJECT



The last few years beyond the horrible COVID period has been highly challenging and has affected our lives in a whole host of ways.

Our amazing volunteers, supporters and players have all played their part to get Ashford Town (Middx) to where we are today. The club has just announced we've successfully secured grants worth over £1.2m for us start the transition to new beginnings as a community football club after years of effort.

We've spent a small fortune on legal and planning fees to ensure the project could get going but this has left the club in a highly challenging situation where we're unable to pay for junior winter training facilities, relying on generosity of supporters for paying for a ground-sharing arrangement to allow first team games to continue and to pay our critical utility bill debts we've acquired while prioritising getting the 3G project going.

While the long-term future looks bright for this club, in the short term the club needs a significant cash injection to maintain its role in the local community and cover the costs of keeping the lights on at our club.

We know that everyone has been hit financially, but any donation would go a long

way to helping us secure the future of the club. With over 300 junior players across our youth section, plus our senior men's and women's teams, it's imperative the club can continue to operate and set the club up for the future. All donations raised will go directly into the club for the direct benefit of everyone involved.

Thank you so much in advance for your generosity and kindness. If we can successfully navigate through this tough period, this club will re-assert itself as the top local community club in Spelthorne and remain so for generations to come.

To donate go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/atcmiddlesex>



GROUND IMPROVEMENTS LATEST

Early last week, we broke ground at Ashford Town Football Club's Robert Parker Stadium in Middlesex, marking the start of construction on a state-of-the-art artificial grass pitch. This significant development will replace the current grass surface, which has been plagued by poor weather conditions and limited usability for players.

Breaking ground at Ashford Town Football Club's Robert Parker Stadium in Middlesex, marking the start of construction on a state-of-the-art artificial grass pitch.

The new 106m x 70m stadium pitch, designed to meet FIFA Quality Pro standards, will provide an all-weather facility that can be used year-round. Once complete, it will provide local teams, schools, and community groups with a high-quality playing surface, expanding opportunities for everyone to participate in sport. The facility will help foster a thriving and inclusive environment for players of all ages and abilities.

PST Sport is delighted to partner with Ashford

Town FC on this transformative project. The construction will involve full groundworks, the installation of an enhanced drainage system and a dynamic stone base. The playing surface will feature Biplax 52, a high performance artificial grass laid over a preformed shock pad. BiPlex 52, specifically designed for heavily used pitches, incorporates two different fibres in each tuft, ensuring excellent appearance and resilience even under intense use.

Key elements of the project include the installation of 352m of spectator fencing, boundary fencing, recycled trek boards, and 8 no. 15m floodlights. For added safety, the pitch will also feature 60m of 15m high ball-stop netting and pitch divider netting, making it a versatile and secure facility.

The new pitch will be a major asset to both Ashford Town FC and the wider community, supporting the continued growth of sport in the area and providing a top-quality playing surface for all.

This project is supported by the Football Foundation.



● The Robert Parker Stadium as you have never seen it before. Soon it will have a state-of-the-art G3 surface.

SUTTON COMMON ROVERS HISTORY

Chairman and life president Alan Salmon founded Sutton Common Rovers in 1978, when the club began life as Inrad, based in Carshalton.

The club entered a new era when Alan moved to Sutton and arranged sponsorship with his new neighbour, Centre 21 FC was born. This era saw the club running one Saturday side, three Sunday sides and three youth sides. Centre 21's sponsorship continued until the club's youth players were no longer under-21 years old.

The club again sought new a identity, Sutton Common Road was formed and subsequently abbreviated to SCR FC.

Since then the club has had five major sponsors whose names have been incorporated into the clubs affiliated name: SCR Plough (twice), SCR Grapes, next the club's longest sponsor SCR Litten Tree (seven years) and finally SCR Kingfisher, Ewell with whom we started our venture in Saturday football in 2004-05.

It was at this point that the club took the decision to revert back to using the SCR name alone, feeling that as we strive for continued promotion we needed to disassociate ourselves with the whole 'pub team' image.

The club however did take sponsorship form the Fox & Hounds, Carshalton for the Saturday first team in 2006-07, but the decision was made that the pub name would

not be incorporated into our own, for the above reason...

The club entered yet another new era this season, with the introduction of a third Saturday side and the firsts moving to the Middlesex County League and a name change to Sutton Common Rovers in the pursuit of Combined Counties League football, having made an unsuccessful application from the Surrey South Eastern Combination at the end of season 2006-07 having finished joint top.

Our first season in the Isthmian League in 2020-21 saw a 17th place finish, on goal difference behind both Westfield and Tooting & Mitcham United.

A run of 13 games without a point saw us slip perilously close to automatic relegation in our second season at Step Four, but a late season recovery, saw us secure a relegation play-off spot, where Crawley Down Gatwick were defeated 2-0 to preserve our Isthmian place

Darren Salmon stepped down after nigh on 30 years at the helm at the end of the season, with assistant Sam Morgan stepping up to overall control of the side.

Rovers achieved their highest ever league position in 2023-24, finishing in 14th spot in the table. Morgan stepped down after one game of the 2024-25 season, to be replaced by joint managers in the returning Darren Salmon and Lee Flavin.

FOCUS ON SUTTON COMMON ROVERS

There may be a familiar Sutton Common Rovers player in the Ashford Town (Middx) squad this evening.

Right-back Bradley Manning appeared on the Tangerines bench on Tuesday evening when they went down 2-0 to Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division leaders Farnham Town.

Manning did not get on to the field of play and will be

hoping for better luck this evening.

Prior to his departure, Manning made seven League appearances for Sutton Common Rovers.

It has been a tricky campaign so far for Rovers and they are currently sitting just above the relegation zone, having picked up only three wins from their 11 League games along with two draws and six

defeats,

Their cup form has also been disappointing. They were knocked out of the Emirates FA Cup at the Extra Preliminary Round stage when they went down 3-1 to South Park.

They exited the Isuzu FA Trophy when going down 2-0 at Sittingbourne. They were also defeated 2-1 in the Velocity Cup by Ascot United.



Respect



The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination.

Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities.

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

With our focus on positivity, The Isthmian League aims to ensure that all our footballers are able to play in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment and all supporters can enjoy the game in surroundings free from discrimination and hate.



THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



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Ask any manager or coach, proven goalscorers are so desperately hard to come by these days, so, to see not one, but two, non-league striker legends hang up their scoring boots, it's only right their achievements are celebrated.

Both Sam Higgins and Dave Tarpey have bowed out of the game these last few weeks with their legendary status intact. Stacks of goals wherever they've played and trophies gleaming in the cabinet back home/

When Sam Higgins first stepped into non-league football as a fresh-faced 17-year-old, little did he know he would forge a career to bring joy to so many.

After nine years at the Millwall academy and a brief stint at Southend United, Higgins dipped his toes in non-league waters and the rest was history.

In 16 years, Higgins established himself as one of the part-time game's most decorated figures, scoring a whopping 403 career goals and picking up an unrivalled haul of collective and individual accolades along the way.

Undoubtedly, his highlight was an iconic first spell at East Thurrock United, which yielded 275 goals and no fewer than four Golden Boots, at Steps 2, 3 and 4. He also won the Isthmian Premier and North division titles and steered the Rocks to a first-ever Essex Senior Cup success.

At Hornchurch, he lifted the FA Trophy at Wembley and Isthmian Premier title as well as a Player of the Year and Golden Boot double.

With further success came at Chelmsford City (two spells), Bromley, Canvey Island, it's no wonder Higgins made such an impact in and around his native Essex

But, last week, after picking up a heel injury while playing for Hashtag United, the 35-year-old finally called time on his glittering career, to a social media fanfare from past clubs, managers, teammates and fans.

From his first loan spell at Fisher Athletic to his last hurrah at Hashtag United, Higgins was highly regarded by all and will go down as one of Non-League's all-time greats.

"It's been a very long time and, at some point, it had to come to an end, unfortunately," said Higgins, before admitting he has no burning desire to return to the game in a coaching capacity.

"It was a tough decision, but it felt like the right one. I've had quite a few injuries over the last few seasons and a couple of weeks back I had a heel injury which is probably going to take a few months to recover from.

"Having a lot of injuries can be mentally draining so to be able to come out of it with a sense of achievement is something to be proud of.

"The thing I will miss most about the game is the people. I've met friends for life; managers, players and the people working within the game. Those are the best relationships, ones to last a lifetime."

Tarpey, meanwhile, has a similar tale to tell.

A hat-trick of promotions, a deal to become a professional footballer and a record-breaking goalscoring season, the 35-year-old too boasts a CV that many aspiring footballers could only dream of. Tarpey announced his retirement last week after rupturing his ACL for a second time, while playing for Marlow against Biggleswade Town in the FA Trophy.

Jon Couch

THE TEAMS

Friday 1st November



**ASHFORD
TOWN (MIDDX)**

Tangerine

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| NICK JUPP | 1 |
| ARCHIE LARKHAM | 2 |
| DEVEN R-SOLANKI | 3 |
| JAYDEN ATKINSON | 4 |
| CALLUM HOPE | 5 |
| PRINCE KANDOLO | 6 |
| BASIM MIRTAHMASEBI | 7 |
| SCOTT DAY | 8 |
| NOYAN TAJBAKSH | 9 |
| SAM HUMPHREYS | 10 |
| JOSH BLAKEBROUGH | 11 |

SUBS

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| ARYANTAJ TAJBAKSH | 12 |
| JACK ARNOLD | 14 |
| GORDON DILLON | 15 |
| BRADLEY MANNING | 16 |
| CONNOR CULLEN | 17 |

Manager

Luke Tuffs

Referee: Scott Crowhurst

Assistants: Richard Doorbar, Ryan Hetherington

**SUTTON COMMON
ROVERS**

Blue

| |
|------------------------|
| KACPER ORLOWSKI |
| EMMANUEL KWATCHEY |
| CHARLIE STALLARD |
| DARNELL BROMFIELD |
| BERTIE LLOYD |
| EVANGELOS EMPOCHONTSIF |
| JEFFREY COBBLAH |
| LUKE IGE |
| CHRISTIAN GYAMFI |
| TROY WALTERS |
| FRANCIS SEY |

| |
|-----------------|
| DANYAAL IQBAL |
| FOLARIN AWOLEKE |
| OSARETIN OTETE |
| DANIEL PEPPLE |
| CAM DOBELL |

Joint Managers

Darren Salmon, Lee Flavin

OUR NEXT HOME GAME

ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)

v

Leatherhead

Saturday 9th November

