

HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED 1907 (AS TUFNELL PARK F.C.)

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



HARINGEY BOROUGH v EAST THURROCK UNITED
(The Pitching In Isthmian League Premier Division)

SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2021 - 3.00pm

Respect



**CVS VAN HIRE
STADIUM**



Issue 2629

HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

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HARINGEY BOROUGH FOOTBALL CLUB

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

CLUB WEBSITE: www.haringeyboroughfc.net

FOUNDED 1907: Affiliated to the London Football Association

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Eastern Region League Division 1 (South) runners up 2011/12
Eastern Region League Premier Division Champions 2016/17
Eastern Region League Cup winners 2016/17

HARINGEY BOROUGH FC - A BRIEF HISTORY



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

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

where it was ended rather cruelly by AFC Wimbledon's last minute goal at Coles Park in front of a record crowd of 2,710. Having led the Premier Division for several weeks in mid-season it was somewhat surprising that we dropped from 2nd to 3rd on the last day of the season after a poor late run but still enjoyed home advantage in the Play-Off Semi-final in which a 45 minute second half onslaught on the Tonbridge Angels goal produced only one goal in response to the two they had scored before the interval. The 2019/20 season's early termination was less of a disappointment for us than for most other Isthmian Premier Division Clubs as we were marooned in mid-table with no realistic prospect of entering either the promotion or relegation zones. The highlight of the season should have been the visit of National League Yeovil Town in the Final Qualifying Round of the Emirates FA Cup but, as is well known, appalling crowd behaviour brought that game to an early end and the second game seemed something of an anti-climax. In fact, without making excuses, that unpleasant episode seems to have adversely affected our players for some time for, whereas we had been well in the promotion places mix, thereafter we just drifted downwards. The early termination of League Fixtures for 2020/21 was more of a blow than was the previous seasons voiding as we were well placed to make a charge towards a play-off place at least. However the Buildbase FA Trophy continued and we enjoyed a run through to the 4th Round Proper when Oxford City of the National League South finally eliminated us 4-2 after we had been two up; en route we had overcome Faversham Town, Bishops Stortford, Eastbourne Borough and Dartford, the last two also being National League South Clubs. The London Senior Cup also carried on and due to withdrawals, we reached the quarter-final without playing a game but lost a penalty shoot out to Hanwell Town after a 2-2 draw.

2016/17 saw the introduction of a much needed "second" team, formed to compete in the Ryman Development League it being basically intended for Under 21 players but with the facility to include up to 4 older players in every squad. The team held their own comfortably in the League finishing a very creditable 6th place and the benefits of the Club's participation were all too evident with the introduction of a number of players into the first team squad throughout the season and the opportunity for first team squad players to keep fresh and those who were returning from injury had a platform to get fit. Thereby proving the benefits of having such a side. The age restriction was amended to Under 23 for 2017/18 and the team has always been near the top of the table and continued to do well in the following seasons.

Youth teams were commenced and run successfully for many years at various age levels with some considerable success particularly at the older age groups including progress into the 2nd round proper of the FA Youth Cup in 2006/07. They were Divisional winners of the Southern Counties Floodlit Youth League in 2004/05 (and also winners of the League's Colwyn Cup competition) and 2009/10. After a few seasons absence from Youth football the Under 18s rejoined the Southern Counties competition in 2017/18, winning its Divisional Championship at the first attempt. This will again provide a pathway for talented local boys to make their way into the first team squad and ultimately the first team itself.

The Women's Team was formed in 1999 and competed in the Eastern Region Womens League winning promotion in its first season and then to its Premier Division for 2002/03; and there they have remained save for two seasons, the first being in 2011/12 following relegation to Division 1 from which they made an immediate Premier Division return as runners-up. Steady improvement began and we were extremely fortunate to have been approached midway through the 2014/15 season by renowned coach and former professional footballer Steve Browne who at the time was involved in the highly successful S & T Academy Girls football. Steve was duly appointed Manager and preserved the Women's Premier Division status. In 2015/16 a mid table position was easily secured from an uneven campaign which included convincing away wins at the top 2 Clubs and some surprisingly disappointing performances against lower placed teams. In 2017/18, by Christmas the team were runaway League leaders only to be thrown off course by the tragic early death of Steve on New Years Day but after a shaky period the Women re-asserted themselves to win the League Championship on the last day of the season and with it, promotion to the Women's Premier League and followed that up by adding the League Cup with a 5-1 win over Cambridge City to complete the double which was a fitting, lasting legacy for their Manager. The loss of many of the successful squad, several to American University Scholarships, proved too much of a handicap at the higher level and relegation back to the Eastern Regional League was an unsurprising outcome. Now under the stewardship of Bobby Cato significant steps forward seem certain and promotion is again a realistic prospect.

The foundations are in place for an eventual assault on the title to secure a National League place for the

men's senior side and an exciting season is in prospect in which a challenge for at least a Play-off position is a realistic prospect as we pursue our ambition to achieve promotion to the National League should be within the capabilities of our talented squad. The facilities and structures are in place for all the Club's teams to improve and enhance on recent successes.

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

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

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





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HISTORY OF EAST THURROCK UNITED FC



The idea of forming a senior club to represent the rapidly growing area around Corringham and Stanford-le-Hope gradually evolved from the successful Corringham Social Club Sunday team towards the late 1960's.

On Sunday 27th April 1969 a meeting was held at the Corringham Club, and it was agreed that we should form East Thurrock United FC.

A major force in getting the new club off the ground was Brian Fayres, who was to become the "Rocks" first ever team manager.

In their inaugural season, 1969-70, the club played in the Southern Essex Combination, with home games being played at Corringham Rec, and the fledgling Rocks finished third in the table.

For the next season the Rocks gained use of the former LATHOL company sports ground in Billet Lane Stanford le Hope, and with the improved facilities there, switched to the Greater London League, playing in their reserve section.

1970-71 saw the Rocks winning their first league title, becoming champions of Greater London reserve division two, and following promotion they became reserve division one champions in 71-72.

The club then gained senior non-league status, but in order to achieve this had to move to groundshare with Grays Athletic.

Despite facing considerably stronger opposition, the Rocks went on to finish champions of senior division two of what had become the Metropolitan London League. The Rocks third championship and promotion in successive seasons.

So, the 1973-74 season saw the Rocks playing in the top division of the Met-London League, but after making an excellent start with wins over fancied sides Cray Wanderers and Swanley Town, things turned somewhat sour, and we ended the season just avoiding relegation.

A period of struggle then followed. The club lost the use of Grays Rec, and had to move back to the very basic, slowly deteriorating, and now council owned Billet Ground.

We also lost a number of key figures, as it slowly became obvious that finding a site on which to develop a home ground was a much more difficult proposition than we had originally envisaged.

At the end of the 1974-75 season the committee proposed at a general meeting that the club be wound up, and only a decisive casting vote from chairman Ted Comer ensured the club survived to fight another day.

During the mid-late seventies, the club consolidated their position as members of the Met-London/London-Spartan League, while off the field the committee continued their search for a site on which to develop a ground.

In 1979 the club switched from the London Spartan to the Essex Senior League.

In the early 1980's the club became interested in a site in Rookery Hill, Corringham. It had been purchased by a Housing Association, but they had subsequently been refused planning permission, and had to sell the site.

In August 1982 the club exchanged contracts, and Rookery Hill was ours. All we had to do then was convert a couple of rough farm & grazing fields into a football ground!

After a lot of hard work, the club marked their first ever home game with a 7-0 win over Coggeshall Town on 25th August 1984.

Under manager Roger Bond the Rocks gradually improved their placings in the Essex Senior League, and after going close on two occasions, finally won promotion to the Isthmian League in 1992.

Tommy Lee became the manager for four seasons in the late 1990's, but a big change took place in 2001 when the club fell into financial difficulties, and local businessman Benny Bennett took control of the club.

Under Benny, and new manager Lee Patterson the Rocks moved up, making it to the Isthmian Premier in 2005.

In late October 2007, Lee was enticed away to manage National League side Braintree, and his assistant John Coventry became the new manager.

Despite suffering relegation from the Isthmian Premier by the narrowest of margins at the end of his first

season, under "Covo" the Rocks went on to enjoy the most successful period in their short history to date. In 2009, Covo brought in a young striker named Sam Higgins. Higgs was well known to Covo, having been part of the Thurrock District Schools team which John had coached.

Having been with Southend and Millwall youth sides, at 19 years old Sam had already tried his luck with Conference South sides Fisher Athletic and Bishops Stortford.

However, it was under John Coventry at the Rocks that he was to make his name, smashing the club goalscoring records, and ending his Rocks career in 2019 with 275 club goals.

Under John Coventry the team made club history, reaching the first round proper of the FA Cup on two occasions, won two promotions, enjoyed their best ever FA Trophy run, won their first ever Essex Senior Cup, and enjoyed three brilliant seasons mixing it with the big boys in National South.

Sadly, our third season in National South ended in relegation back into the Isthmian Premier.

2019-20 was to be a sad season at Rookery Hill, as firstly our much loved owner Benny Bennett sadly passed away, and a few months later John Coventry announced that he would be standing down at the end of the season.

Then Covid hit, meaning all football at our level was brought to a halt in early March.

Things looked bleak for the club's future for a while, as most of the off field management and administration teams also left the club.

However, the arrival in the spring of 2020 of a new owner in Alfie Best, founder and chairman of the Thurrock based Wyldecrest Parks residential park homes empire, and a new admin team recruited mostly from supporters kept the show on the road.

Former long time Romford FC boss Paul Martin was appointed the new team manager, but sadly we only managed nine league games before the second covid wave caused another lockdown, bringing a second successive season to a premature conclusion.



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Chairman - Haringey Borough FC

A warm welcome to everyone from East Thurrock United who have been successful in the FA cup over the last week, overcoming Needham Market in a replay and progressing to the third qualifying round. I wish them well on their journey. As for us a blank weekend after our narrow last minute defeat at Peterborough Sports and we seem to have fallen in to the habit of conceding late goals. As you are all aware a late one cost us in our last home game against Corinthian Casuals and even worse a late late goal consigning us to defeat against Enfield Town some 11 days ago. Certainly a habit we have to end today if we are to move forward with what was a very promising start to the season. Everyone knows nothing is decided in August and the early season matches but what everyone will have seen is that once again the old adage that anyone can beat anyone has been amply demonstrated.

Our opponents have had narrow defeats against the top sides and some of the so called lesser sides have beaten top of the table opposition. Despite losing half our games thus far we are still well in contention and if we can perform to our best today and secure a win we will have hopefully made some inroads against the current sides ahead of us. I was unable to do any notes for the Corinthian Casuals home game and was therefore unable to make reference to the FA Cup defeat. Whilst we lost to a decent side we played really well and at the very least deserved the chance to bring them back to our place. A difficult pill to swallow, particularly as our recent history perhaps swaying our mentality a little and whilst one can never expect as of right to progress we have been blessed recently and I have to say it was a bit of a shock to the system. The following week again we created some clear chances and against Corinthian Casuals the fine margins between success and failure came to the fore, hitting the bar and post and succumbing to a late sucker punch is always hard to take. Worse to follow some 3 days later when we played probably our best game thus far only to throw it away with virtually the last kick as I have already alluded to. I have to comment on the significant increase in our away numbers and the terrific support you are giving the boys, I have said before it is really appreciated and it is worth repeating, I believe we probably take more away fans than almost every club that comes here. You are a credit to the Club and long may it continue, sing your hearts out as usual and enjoy the game - Come on Boro!

Aki Achillea - Chairman Haringey Borough F.C.

Manager - Haringey Borough FC

It is always difficult writing notes after defeats and we have now suffered 3 in a row. Not all doom and gloom however. I am actually really happy with the performances in all 3 games. The Cup exit was difficult, hostile atmosphere that we coped with right up to the last minute when we switched off and were punished after yet another appalling decision from the officials. It is galling when the opposition sympathise and agree that they were fortunate to get a clearly wrong decision and the impact of it was to remove us from the Cup. We have such a tradition that we have built up over the last few seasons and I am finding it difficult to show any interest in the competition now, not because we are out of it, I am not that arrogant!! but because of the way we went out and what might have been. The players and the followers of the Club all suffer when things like that happen. However the only advantage is that we have less midweek games and time for the boys to recover. We haven't played now for 11 days and with everyone fit I have a difficult choice to make regarding selection for this game. I had East Thurrock watched last weekend and no one should assume that today will be any easier than any of the games we have had this far, a strong powerful side who have character and belief and I know we will have to be at our best to get anything from the game. We have shown ourselves good character this week in training, we had a brief team talk Thursday when we reminded the players of our targets and the way to achieve them Everyone seems to be on board. I believe this squad is on a par if not better than the one we had a couple of seasons ago when we did so well. I don't mind us staying under the radar for a bit longer. Let the money men at the big payers have the anxiety. Our chairman can rest easy, calm man that he is!!! Enjoy the game, come on boro!

Tom Loizou - Manager Haringey Borough F.C

THE SECRETARY'S MUSINGS

This afternoon we welcome the players, Officials and supporters of EAST THURROCK UNITED FC to the CVS Van Hire Stadium for this Pitching In Isthmian League Premier Division match. Likewise our match officials who are Farai Hallam in the middle with Neil Keirs and Josh Osofa on the lines. Whatever the outcome we hope all will leave having enjoyed an entertaining afternoon's sport and have a safe journey home. This will be the third visit of "The Rocks" as a Senior Club, the first having been in season 2019/20 when an August visit saw us run out 2-0 winners and last season our October game resulted in a 3-1 win. But in December 2019 it was their turn to secure victory by a two goal margin as they triumphed 4-2 at their Rookery Hill Stadium. Sadly the early Covid termination of both seasons rendered all three results meaningless. Prior to that they had visited Coles Park in the early 1970s as a very newly formed Saturday Intermediate football team to play us when we had just changed our name from Wood Green Town having lost Senior status after some forty years in the Spartan League. At that time their home ground was in Stanford-le Hope. Having gained Senior status they progressed through the Essex Senior, Isthmian, and Southern Leagues and secured promotion into the National League in 2016 but were relegated into the Isthmian Premier at the close of the 2018/19 season. In season 2011/12 our Women's teams were in the same Division of the Eastern Region Women's League and two eight goal-feasts took place as we ran out 6-2 winners away from home and at Coles Park it finished 4-4.

Our last home game two Saturdays ago with Corinthian Casuals was an altogether déjà vu occasion as despite all our second half pressure, following on from a somewhat uninspiring first half, we fell to the only goal of the match secured by the visitors in one of their relatively few second half sorties. An occurrence so common that I could probably fill the rest of the article with a list of similar disappointments. The bar and the post saved Casuals and their goalkeeper made some fine saves. Their defence deserves credit for the dogged way they crowded us out and when we did thread our way into a shooting position accuracy was not the order of the day. Worse was to follow three days later as we again lost by the only goal of the match at Enfield Town not netted until the 93rd minute. This time it was Borough who had reason to be grateful to both bar and post, both rattled in the space of a few second half minutes. It was 90 minutes of excitement – a tremendous advert for the game at our level – and no doubt any "travellers" present will number it among their most enjoyable sorties despite the lack of goals for it could easily have finished 3-3 such were the chances created but spurned or thwarted. A screamer towards the top corner seemed sure to give Enfield the lead seconds before half time until an airborne Tiernan Parker suddenly appeared out of nowhere to push it away one handed. And he made an equally noteworthy, if less spectacular save, early in the second half. Although the Enfield custodian was kept busy we could not fashion any attempts to give him the chance to produce anything as noteworthy as Tiernan's efforts. We went agonisingly close on a number of occasions, interspersed with the customary high and/or wide and/or distinctly unhandsome efforts. After their framework frustrations it was Enfield's turn to be fortunate for halfway through the second half a quick Borough breakaway saw Roman Michael-Percil streaking goalwards and there was only one way to halt his progress, the unfair one. But the perpetrator somehow escaped with just a yellow card. Maybe there were some defenders lurking in the penalty area invisible to all the 1,000+ eyes in the Stadium save the two of the decision maker. But if that sounds critical of the referee it is only fair to record that his overall performance was excellent and contributed to the enjoyment of the occasion with an unfussy performance keeping the game flowing as much as he reasonably could. Even when there was an outbreak of half-hearted handbags a few minutes from time he resisted the temptation to make himself the centre of attention with a flurry of cards and quietly defused the situation. Of course, referees and assistants are the only three of the 25 fallible beings on the field who are not permitted to make mistakes. Quite OK for the other 22 to do so. Football being a game of opinions I, a mere occasional Club linesman, may well be wrong about the "no red" decision anyway. The referee was not one I can remember having handled a Borough match beforehand and his name (Lawrence Torz-Brown) is not one easily forgotten; any further appointments to our games would be welcome. So chances came and went at both ends and the match looked set to end, entirely justly, as a no-score draw but not remotely like a bore-draw until the dying seconds of stoppage time when Enfield forced a corner which led to the ball being stabbed home from close range to terminate the ensuing melee it caused.

So starting with the Peterborough heartbreak **three** one goal margin defeats in quick succession, all of games when a draw at the very least was what our fine performances deserved, is rather a bitter pill to swallow. At each game opposition officials have expressed their admiration of the quality of our performances and

commiserated on our bad luck – and I am sure it was meant kindly and sincerely. But how pleasing it would be if just for once we could have the opportunity to express similar sentiments after taking a 90 minute battering and sneak a thoroughly underserved victory with a scruffy goal. Of course, it won't happen as there are no Club's in the League capable of keeping us under the cosh for the whole game and Lady Luck would never allow it. Anyone who has followed the Club's fortunes for nigh on 70 years and still believes in the law of averages probably also still believes babies are delivered by storks! Lets conveniently forget the 4096-1 chance of our playing 12 consecutive home FA Cup ties in seasons 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. She obviously decided that it was time we were punished and out of the hat we came Immediately after Peterborough Sports, undeniably the toughest possible draw, when there were still plenty of Step 5 survivors in the mix too.

Our Under 23s started their League campaign with a convincing 6-0 Coles Park victory over Bury Town on September 13th. Their next game will be this coming Thursday 30th September when they visit Potters Bar Town.

The Under 18s continued their fine start to the season making it three wins from three games when they visited Romford in the First Qualifying Round of the FA Youth Cup on 15th September returning 3-1 victors. Their reward is an away tie with another Essex team – Aveley – with the match unfortunately scheduled for this coming Tuesday 28th September which is also the date of the first teams home game with Potters Bar Town.

The Women disappointed last Sunday as expectations were high after their two gutsy performances with less than a full team which had brought them four points from a 2-1 win and a 1-1 draw. But the "never say die" spirit which had carried them through those fixtures was not replicated when Luton Town visited Coles Park last Sunday and won quite comfortably by 5-2 against a full strength Borough side complete with substitutes. They now have a mid table position with 2 wins, two defeats and a draw and if a serious Championship challenge is to be mounted three points from tomorrow's game when, bottom of the League, St. Ives Town visit Coles Park (2pm) is essential. Then on Wednesday 30th they have a tough away trip to Royston Town to negotiate.

League fixtures for all our teams are shown on our supporters website www.haringeyboroughfc.com This season, the First Team will be playing 42 League games against the same teams as were in the Premier Division last season, there having been no promotion, relegation or sideways movements.

The League highlight for all Clubs will probably be the two games against Hornchurch in the light of their fantastic achievement in winning the Buildbase FA Trophy and we congratulate them heartily. We should have been visiting Hornchurch last Saturday but did not do so as they had an FA Cup 2nd. Qualifying Round tie which took precedence over League fixtures and the game has been re-arranged for Tuesday 9th November. HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH WE ARE OUT OF THE FA CUP WE WILL NOT BE WITHOUT A GAME NEXT SATURDAY WHEN THE NEXT ROUND IS PLAYED AS THE RE-SCHEDULED MIDWEEK MATCH AWAY TO LEATHERHEAD HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED BACK TO SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER – a circumstance which arose last Tuesday when Leatherhead were eliminated from the FA Cup in their replay with Corinthian Casuals and their intended League opponents, Cheshunt, have also reached the 3rd. Qualifying Round of the FA Cup

You can see our remaining 18 home League games without admission charge as we are maintaining the Free Season Ticket offer for another season. To obtain one go to the Club's official website www.haringeyboroughfc.net and use the "Ticket Store" option. By becoming a Club Member for the sum of £50 (again via the "Ticket Store" option) many benefits will be bestowed upon you as per the details shown. We will, of course be competing in the FA Trophy competition in which we are exempt until the 3rd Qualifying Round on 30th October. Also in the London Senior Cup where we have an attractive looking fixture, as yet undated, at home to AFC Wimbledon in the first round but they are unlikely to send their full first team. The Isthmian League have postponed a decision on whether to run a League Cup at all this season.



NEXT FIRST TEAM HOME GAME

TUESDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 7.45pm

v POTTERS BAR TOWN

(Isthmian League - Premier Division)

**OTHER GAMES AT COLES PARK BEFORE NEXT
FIRST TEAM HOME GAME:-**

**SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER WOMEN v ST. IVES TOWN
(LEAGUE) 2PM**

NEXT AWAY FIRST TEAM GAME

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER 3pm

v LEATHERHEAD

(Isthmian League - Premier Division)

at Fetcham Grove, Guildford Road, Leatherhead, KT22 9AS

Stadium is about half a mile from Leatherhead Station

which is served by trains direct from Waterloo at

24 & 54 minutes past the hour (approx. 45 minute journey)

and Victoria at 25 and 55 minutes past the hour

(approx. 50 minute journey)

HARINGEY BOROUGH FIRST TEAM 2021/22 FIXTURES & RESULTS

(All Isthmian League Fixtures unless otherwise indicated)

(All Saturday kick offs 3pm and midweek kick offs at 7.45pm unless otherwise indicated)

Sat 3 July	H	ROMFORD (Friendly)	L 1-2
Tues 6 July	H	ROYSTON TOWN (Friendly)	W 4-1
Sat 10 July	H	CHELMSFORD CITY (Friendly)	L 1-3
Sat 17 July	H	BILLERICAY TOWN (Friendly)	D 0-0
Tues 20 Jul	H	SUTTON UNITED (Friendly)	L 0-4
Sat 24 July	H	OXFORD CITY (Friendly)	L 0-4
Tues 27 Jul	H	ALDERSHOT TOWN (Friendly)	D 0-0
Sat 7 Aug	H	MARLOW (Friendly)	W 3-0
Sat 14 Aug	A	Kingstonian	L 0-1
Sat 21 Aug	H	HORSHAM	W 3-1
Sat 28 Aug	A	Bognor Regis Town	W 2-1
Mon 30 Aug	H	WINGATE & FINCHLEY	W 4-1
Sat 4 Sep	A	Peterborough Sports (FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round)	L 1-2
Sat 11 Sep	H	CORINTHIAN CASUALS	L 0-1
Tues 14 Sep	A	Enfield Town	L 0-1
Sat 25 Sep	H	EAST THURROCK UNITED	
Tues 28 Sep	H	POTTERS BAR TOWN	
Sat 2 Oct	A	Leatherhead	
Sat 9 Oct	H	CRAY WANDERERS	
Tues 12 Oct	A	Bishops Stortford	
Sat 16 Oct	A	Merstham *	
Sat 23 Oct	H	CARSHALTON ATHLETIC	
Sat 30 Oct		FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round (draw not yet made)	
Sat 6 Nov	H	MARGATE *	
Tue 9 Nov	A	Hornchurch *	
Sat 13 Nov	A	Lewes	
Sat 20 Nov	A	Bowers & Pitsea	
Sat 27 Nov	H	WORTHING	
Sat 4 Dec	H	BOGNOR REGIS TOWN *	
Sat 11 Dec	A	Folkestone Invicta	
Sat 18 Dec	H	KINGSTONIAN +	
Mon 27 Dec	A	Wingate & Finchley	
Sat 1 Jan	H	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	
Mon 3 Jan	A	Cheshunt	
Sat 8 Jan	A	Corinthian Casuals *	
Sat 15 Jan	H	ENFIELD TOWN +	
Sat 22 Jan	H	LEATHERHEAD	
Sat 29 Jan	A	East Thurrock United	
Sat 5 Feb	H	HORNCHURCH	
Sat 12 Feb	A	Potters Bar Town +	
Tues 15 Feb	H	BISHOPS STORTFORD	
Sat 19 Feb	A	Cray Wanderers	

Sat 26 Feb	H	MERSTHAM	
Sat 5 Mar	A	Carshalton Athletic	
Sat 12 Mar	H	LEWES +	
Sat 19 Mar	A	Margate	
Sat 26 Mar	H	BOWERS & PITSEA	
Sat 2 Apr	A	Worthing	
Sat 9 Apr	A	Horsham	
Sat 16 Apr	H	CHESHUNT	
Mon 18 Apr	A	Brightlingsea Regent	
Sat 23 Apr	H	FOLKESTONE INVICTA	
Undated	H	AFC WIMBLEDON (London Senior Cup)	

* Match would be postponed if either Club engaged in the FA Cup

+ Match would be postponed if either Club engaged in the FA Trophy

HARINGEY BOROUGH U 23 DEVELOPMENT TEAM 2021/22 FIXTURES & RESULTS

(All Isthmian League Development Division North Fixtures unless otherwise indicated)

Mon Jul 19	H	COCKFOSTERS (Friendly)	W 5-4
Fri Jul 30	A	Barking (Friendly)	W 2-1
Mon Aug 23	H	JH Sports FC (Friendly match)	W 5-0
Tue Sep 6	H	NORTH LONDON FC	L 1-2
Mon Sep 13	H	BURY TOWN	W 6-0
Thur Sep 30	A	Potters Bar Town	
Thur 7 Oct	A	Tilbury	
Mon 11 Oct	H	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	
Mon 18 Oct	A	Barking	
Tues 26 Oct	A	Bowers & Pitsea	
Mon 1 Nov	A	Bury Town	
Thur 18 Nov	A	Potters Bar Town	
Mon 22 Nov	H	TILBURY	
Wed 1 Dec	A	Heybridge Swifts	
Mon 6 Dec	H	BARKING	
Mon 13 Dec	H	BOWERS & PITSEA	
Mon 10 Jan	A	Heybridge Swifts	
Mon 24 Jan	H	BARKING	
Mon 31 Jan	H	TILBURY	
Tue 8 Feb	A	Bowers & Pitsea	
Mon 14 Feb	H	POTTERS BAR TOWN	
Mon 21 Feb	A	Bury Town	

HARINGEY BOROUGH UNDER 18 TEAM 2021/22 FIXTURES & RESULTS

(All Southern Counties Floodlit Youth League - Delphian Division Fixtures unless otherwise indicated)

Tue 31 Aug	H	SOUTHEND MANOR (FA Youth Cup)	W 4-0
Tue 7 Sep	H	BRIMSDOWN	W 12-0
Wed Sep 15	A	Romford (FA Youthb Cup)	W 3-1
Tue Sep 28	A	Aveley (FA Youth Cup)	
Tue 5 Oct	H	EDGWARE TOWN	
Wed 13 Oct	A	Hammersmith	
Tue 19 Oct	H	BRIMSDOWN ROVERS	
Wed 27 Oct	A	Rayners Lane	
Wed 10 Nov	A	Hendon	
Mon 15 Nov	A	Brimsdown	
Tue 23 Nov	H	LANGLEY	
Tue 30 Nov	H	POTTERS BAR TOWN	
Wed 8 Dec	A	Edgware Town	
Tue 14 Dec	H	HAMMERSMITH	
Thur 6 Jan	A	Brimsdown Rovers	
Tue 11 Jan	H	RAYNERS LANE	
Tue 25 Jan	H	HENDON	
Undated	A	Potters Bar Town	
Undated	A	Langley	
Undated	H	WOODFORD TOWN	
Undated	A	Woodford Town	

HARINGEY BOROUGH WOMENS TEAM TEAM 2021/22 FIXTURES & RESULTS

(All Eastern Region Womens League Fixtures unless otherwise indicated)

Sun 11 July	H	BILLERICAY TOWN RESERVES (Friendly)	W 9-1
Sun 18 Jul	H	HUTTON (Friendly)	W 15-4
Fri 23 Jul	A	Derby County Academy (Friendly)	W 4-2
Sun 25 Jul	A	Long Eaton United (Friendly)	L 2-4
Sun 8 Aug	A	Hounslow (Friendly)	L 3-6
Sun 15 Aug	A	Kings Lynn Town	W 3-2
Sun 22 Aug	H	WROXHAM	L 2-3
Sun 29 Aug	H	BOWERS & PITSEA	W 2-1
Sun 5 Sep	A	AFC Dunstable	D 1-1
Sun 12 Sep	A	Wymondham Town	L 2-5
Sun 19 Sep	H	LUTON TOWN	
Sun 26 Sep	H	ST. IVES TOWN	
Wed 29 Sep	A	Royston Town	
Sun 3 Oct	H	CLAPTON COMMUNITY (WFA Cup)	
Sun 10 Oct	H	BEDFORD	
Sun 17 Oct	A	Colney Heath	

Isthmian League Premier Division 2020/21 - up to and including 18/9/2021

	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1 Kingstonian	6	5	0	1	13	6	+7	15
2 Lewes	7	4	2	1	17	8	+9	14
3 Folkestone Invicta	6	4	2	0	9	3	+6	14
4 Enfield Town	6	4	1	1	9	6	+3	13
5 Worthing	6	4	0	2	14	9	+5	12
6 Margate	6	3	2	1	9	6	+3	11
7 Bognor Regis Town	7	2	4	1	9	7	+2	10
8 Haringey Borough	6	3	0	3	9	6	+3	9
9 Hornchurch	6	3	0	3	9	6	+3	9
10 Cheshunt	6	2	2	2	9	6	+3	8
11 Carshalton Athletic	6	2	2	2	7	5	+2	8
12 Bishop's Stortford	6	2	2	2	9	10	-1	8
13 Corinthian-Casuals	6	2	1	3	8	7	+1	7
14 Wingate & Finchley	6	2	1	3	9	12	-3	7
15 Potters Bar Town	7	2	1	4	8	14	-6	7
16 Brightlingsea Regent	7	2	1	4	6	14	-8	7
17 East Thurrock United	6	1	3	2	8	11	-3	6
18 Cray Wanderers	6	2	0	4	7	11	-4	6
19 Merstham	6	2	0	4	3	10	-7	6
20 Horsham	6	1	2	3	6	8	-2	5
21 Bowers & Pitsea	6	1	2	3	9	12	-3	5
22 Leatherhead	6	1	0	5	6	16	-10	3

"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."

Respect



THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

THE WARNING from the Kent FA on the fall in numbers of match officials for grassroots fixtures makes for worrying reading. Put simply, without referees, the football system cannot function properly.

In an open letter to clubs, the county FA's referee development officer Nick Dunn explained the issues they, and many other county associations, seem to be facing in grassroots football.

He said: "We closed the 2020-2021 season with over 1,634 match officials affiliated; the most we have ever received. Ensuring transparency, at this present time of the 2021-2022 season we have 1,247 affiliated match officials, representing almost a 24 per cent loss.

"To put this loss into footballing terms, if each of those 400 referees lost were to referee approximately 20 games a season it results in approximately 8,000 matches being played without a referee."

Dunn says the matches under their control without a referee are at an all-time high. Not only does this not help the grassroots game, but it makes the development of referees and the progression through the system tougher.

At The NLP, we've experienced first-hand the good work the FA are putting in to encourage the development of referees, and therefore retain them. But it's always going to be hard to keep filling the tank when they are subjected to some of the abuse we see all too often.

Dunn points out that the conduct and behaviour of a minority of participants is not the sole reason for the drop-off, but he believes it is a fundamental one.

Where are we as a society and sport if a match official can't turn up on a Saturday afternoon or a Sunday morning without fear of what might happen should they dare make a decision somebody doesn't agree with?

Remember, it might not just come from a player. But spectators or parents overstepping the mark, managers and coaches failing to conduct themselves as they should.

Football is a passionate game. Nobody wants to take that out of it. But there is a very clear line that shouldn't be crossed. And passion isn't a good enough reason for losing control over a game of football - something everyone is supposed to be involved in because they enjoy it.

Verbal threats, physical attacks, abusive comments on social media after the game – yes, it's a minority but it's far too much.

Often culprits will be handed fines and suspensions. The authorities can only do what they can do, individuals have to take responsibility.

But the game as a whole must also pull together to stamp it out. Clubs must hand out their own individual punishments to the people associated to them who go too far.

Often, this concerns adults going over board at kids football. That's even more worrying when a parent can't control their reactions. We'd like to think they would realise the impact it has on their own child's enjoyment.

The majority of people get involved as a match official because they enjoy the game too. No wonder some are choosing to walk away. Let's put on a united front to keep them safe – and in the game.

By David Richardson



HARINGEY PLAYER PROFILES 2021-22



GEORGIOS ARESTI – Cypriot International midfielder who numbers AEK Athens among his previous Clubs; 2017/18 deadline day signing and near automatic selection last season.

BOBSON BAWLING – attacking midfielder who joined us from Enfield Town at the start of this season having previously been with Crawley Town, Woking and St. Albans City

SAMI BESSADI – attacking midfielder who has come right through the ranks with the Under 18s and Under 23s and is now a challenger for a First Team berth.

ADEYINKA COLE – much travelled attacking midfielder signed from Heybridge Swifts a few weeks into the current season who has appeared for many other Isthmian Clubs including Grays Athletic, Enfield Town, Aveley, Romford and Leiston; as well as Clubs now in the National League - Dulwich Hamlet, Billericay Town, Hemel Hempstead Town and Braintree Town.

CHRISTOS DJAMAS – Cypriot Under 21 International signed in October 2020. Midfielder who was most recently on contract at Othello Athienoy and previously with Apoel Nicosia and Agia Napa

JORGE DJASSI-SAMBU – midfield powerhouse now in 7th season with Club; opponents know when they have been tackled by this non-stop box to box player. Dangerous in opponents box at set piece situations.

CALLUM ISMAIL – skilful young full back previously with Bowers and Pitsea who joined us in September 2018 and after establishing himself in the Under 23s and on the bench made his first start in December 2019

ANTHONY McDONALD – fast tricky wide player entering his 9th season with us; excellent finisher with 13 League goals in an injury hit 2016/17; first team regular but appearances have been interrupted by injuries.

MEKHI LEACOCK-McLEOD – recent signing lastly with Romford. Wide attacker who numbers Halifax Town, Accrington Stanley and Eastleigh among his previous berths and Fulham, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Glasgow Rangers at Under 23 level.

ROMAN MICHAEL-PERCIL – our first signing of 2020 from Potters Bar Town; a winger who has been with several Isthmian Clubs after moving on from Tottenham Hotspurs Under 21s

JONATHAN MILES – December 2019 signing; goalkeeper most recently with Ramsgate whose other past Clubs include Ebbsfleet United and Margate after leaving Tottenham Hotspur Under 18s

SCOTT MITCHELL – a summer 2017 signing; 22 year old central defender who was previously with Dagenham & Redbridge. Almost an ever present in 2017/18 season and now an established member of the squad

JAMIE-LEE O'DONOGHUE – strong running striker re-joining us this season; was with Baldock Town last season and numbers Cleethorpes Town among his previous Clubs. Older brother of our full back, Michael

MICHAEL O'DONOGHUE – powerful full back rejoining us after a year away at National League side Concord Rangers. Formerly a professional with Colchester United.

TIERNAN PARKER – back up goalkeeper signed just before start of the season when released by Luton Town Academy. Has already made promising first appearance. Has represented Northern Ireland at Youth levels from Under 15 to Under 19

DAVID "TOSIN" OLUFEMI – attack minded full back who rejoins us this season after a year away with National League side Concord Rangers. Also numbers Colchester United among his former Clubs.

CHIDUBEM ONOKWAI – strong, powerful centre forward now in his second spell at the Club. Was with St. Albans City last season and numbers Hayes & Yeading United among his previous Clubs.

TYRESE OWEN – Tall ball playing central defender or midfielder who was with National League South Hemel Hempstead Town last season. Numbers Potters Bar Town and Carshalton Athletic among his previous Clubs and spent a season in Sweden.

RAKIM RICHARDS – versatile player with us since 2010 and most usually to be found in a defensive role but quite at home in midfield and a menace in the opponents penalty area when corner kicks arrive.

MANAGEMENT

TOM LOIZOU (MANAGER) – a man with wealth of experience and knowledge of the game who is always running around for the club; his passion is there for everyone to see and he keeps everyone at the Club their toes - not just the players!

DAVID CUMBERBATCH (ASSISTANT MANAGER) Often sits in the main stand watching the game and recording bits for time to time known sometimes as 'Terry Connor or Howard the Halifax man' who gives you extra..."

JOHNNY FITSIOU (COACH) his extensive knowledge and experience of conditioning has made the Borough players more aware of how to exert their power and pace game plan.

THOMAS O'DONOGHUE (COACH) known as 'Tucker' is an experienced coach who joined the coaching staff at the Borough in 2016. Having started with the first team. Father of players Michael and Jamie.

EAST THURROCK UNITED FC PLAYER PROFILES 2021-22



ARTHUR JANATA - A Leyton Orient graduate, Arthur was with the O's right through their youth system from 8 years of age, and into their development sides. Arthur signed full time for the Orient in 2018, and spent time in and around the first team squad. However, despite being on the bench on a number of occasions, Arthur did not make a senior appearance for the O's. He was released in the summer of 2020, and teamed up with Paul Martin at the Rocks. The young keeper was well known by Paul having spent time on loan at Paul's former club Romford FC. Arthur also had loan spells at Bishops Stortford, Potters Bar Town and Waltham Abbey during his time at Brisbane Road. He continues to have ties with the Orient, as he works as a coach at their academy.

CHIEDOZIE NWOSU - Young Goalkeeper who has signed for the 2021-2022 season. Has looked impressive in Pre Season and will be looking to push Arthur Janata hard for the starting slot.

DANNY COSSINGTON - A regular member of Paul Martin's Romford side for five seasons, much of which he spent as skipper. A strong tacking defender/defensive midfielder, Danny departed from Romford in November 2019 when the Glen Tamplin whirlwind hit. Had previously been at Barkingside. Joined the Rocks around the turn of the year 2019-20, and took to Isthmian Premier football like a fish to water. Now working with Paul Martin as player-coach.

RIMMEL DANIEL - Experienced left sided defender, Rimmel has made several full international appearances for the Caribbean Island of Grenada. Rimmel spent four seasons in the Gillingham FC youth set-up, before moving into non-league, where he played at Aveley and Hornchurch before joining Tilbury where he spent two seasons. He then joined Waltham Abbey, where he spent six seasons between 2015 and 2021, quickly becoming an ever present in their side. Decided to move up to step three, when joining the Rocks in the summer of 2021.

RYAN MALLET - Was a key player in the highly successful Barking Abbey College side, and the excellent Hornchurch FC youth set-up. Ryan then played under Paul Martin at Romford before enjoying time with Barking, Brentwood, Bowers & Pitsea and Tilbury, before having a short spell with Basildon United prior to joining the Rocks in July 2021. An uncompromising central defender.

FAHAD NAZOR - Was a member of the successful Barking Abbey College side alongside fellow Rocks player Ryan Mallett. Defender who spent time honing his skills at Essex Senior League level with Waltham Forest and Walthamstow FC. Most recently with Brightlingsea Regent.

BEN WYSS - Young defender Ben joined the club during the summer from Ipswich Town. A product of the Ipswich Town academy, Ben progressed through their various age groups, to represent Town at under 18 and under 23 level. He will now be looking to make his mark in senior football with the Rocks. Great defensively, and also very competent with the ball at his feet going forward.

NANA ADARKWA - A talented young player, Nana spent several years working his way through the Blackpool FC development system, before making the first team squad on a couple of occasions. Following his release by the Seasiders, Nana joined Cheshunt FC, where he scored against us on the opening day of last season. After Covid caused all football to be suspended, Nana switched to the Rocks during the summer of 2021. A tricky wide man who loves to get forward, scoring and creating goals.

KENNY AILERU - Now in his second season with The Rocks. Kenny worked his way into the Phoenix Sports Isthmian South side during the 2018-19 season and made an immediate impact with the North Kent side. Very confident in possession of the ball, Kenny can play as an attacking midfielder or as a wide forward. Came through the Aldershot Town youth set-up. Quickly became a favourite with the Rocks fans.

JOHNNY ASHMAN - A product of the West Ham United youth set-up, Johnny first came to prominence in non-league as a teenager with Clapton FC, where he was their "Player of the Year" in his first season. He enjoyed a couple of seasons at Barking FC, and also spent time with Cheshunt, Aveley and Witham Town. Excellent on the ball, Johnny is best seen in a wide midfield role, and is something of a free-kick specialist.

TOM BARTON - Tom spent four seasons with our Isthmian North neighbours Tilbury, where he was a key part of the Dockers midfield. Earlier in his career, Tom was skipper of the Basildon United side which won promotion into the Isthmian League. Can also step into a defensive role if required. Joined the Rocks during the summer of 2021.

PAULIUS DITKEVICIUS - Paulius is a Lithuanian U21 international who came to England and played in the youth set ups at Concord Rangers & Hornchurch FC. Skillful midfielder who has also played at Kingstorian, Redbridge, Walthamstow and Cheshunt. Will be looking to show he belongs at this level, has looked impressive in pre season.

NECATI GENCH - Skilful left sided player who can adapt to a defensive or midfield role. Joined the Rocks early in the current season, his most recent club being Maidstone United. Previous clubs include Crawley Town, Ware and

Walthamstow. Has represented North Cyprus in the CONIFA World Cup.

ELLIOT KETTLE - Midfielder Elliot was bought up in the USA, and played soccer at Saint Xavier University Chicago, before moving to the UK in 2019. A hard working and competitive midfielder. He started his non-league career at Southern Leaguers Biggleswade before switching to Royston Town from whom he joined us.

ROB LACEY - Rob arrived quietly on the Isthmian League scene at Canvey Island after dual registering from Eastern Counties South side Benfleet FC, who shared Canvey's Park Lane ground. He quickly adapted to the step up, becoming a regular in the Gulls Isthmian North side. Like Tobi Joseph, Rob was a member of the Gulls squad which made it to the second round of the FA Cup in 2020. A hard working and skilful midfielder who likes to get forward.

OLA OGUNWAMIDE - Joined the Rocks in September 2021 from Tilbury FC. Ola usually operates in a wide attacking role, is confident on the ball, scores his fair share of goals and possesses a spectacular turn of speed. Previously played at Barking, Woodford Town and St Albans City. Has represented English Universities.

SAM OWUSU - Sam joined from Witham Town FC during the summer of 2021, having previously played for Bentwood Town. Covers every blade of grass over 90 mins with his terrific engine. Has a great attitude too, and looks to be a really good addition to the Rocks squad.

GEORGE PUGH - A young player who has struggled to get his non-league career under way due to all the disruption brought about by Covid. Fresh out of college, George had short, Covid interrupted spells at Braintree, Harlow Town and Basildon United. After showing promise in a couple of trial games, George was invited to join the Rocks squad during the summer of 2021. Looks very comfortable on the ball, and could have a bright future in the game.

ALFIE CUE - Although Alfie's time with us has been hampered by injuries there is no doubt his ability, looking to get fit and make a big impact at what will be his 2nd season at The Rocks. An exciting young forward, Alfie is a product of the Dartford FC academy, where he was very much admired by long serving Darts manager Tony Burnham. Alfie made his National South debut for the Darts shortly after his 18th birthday. While at the Darts, he spent loan time at Leatherhead and at Hitchin Town, who he joined on a permanent basis in 2019, before switching to the Rocks during the summer of 2020.

ALEX HERNANDEZ - Exciting young forward who came through the youth ranks at Concord Rangers, featuring in their FA Trophy Final squad at Wembley. Highly regarded by many in the non league game, he will be looking to make his mark at this level, and after spending time at Great Wakering Rovers on dual reg during 2019-20, Alex joined the Rocks in August, also on a dual-reg deal with our National South neighbours. Tenacious, and possesses great finishing ability, really looking forward to watching his progress.

TOBI JOSEPH - A very experienced front man, Tobi joins from Canvey Island where he spent the past two Covid truncated seasons, and featured in the Gulls run to the second round of the FA Cup in 2020-21. Prior to joining Canvey, Tobi spent four seasons with Hornchurch, where he was very much a key player. As a teenager, Tobi graduated from the highly respected Nike Academy, and played National League football with Hayes & Yeading. He then moved out to Sweden, where he played for top level clubs Ostersunds FK and IK Brage. Great character who is popular with his teammates and supporters alike with his 100% performances. Works as a coach at Chelsea FC

HARRY LODOVICA - Harry came through the ranks at Hendon, playing for their successful Under 23 side before moving to Northwood. He made twenty three appearances for the Woods, scoring seven goals, before moving the short distance to Chalfont St Peter, where he'd played four more times, scoring twice, before the season came to an abrupt end. Had a spell with Cheshunt prior to joining the Rocks in September.

MANAGEMENT

PAUL MARTIN - Manager - Paul took over the first team manager's job at Rookery Hill in the spring of 2000, following the departure of long serving John Coventry. He had previously been a long serving manager himself, having spent thirteen years in charge of Romford FC, before a change of club ownership saw him unceremoniously sacked. A popular and highly respected figure around the non-league scene, Paul had worked his magic at Romford, running away with the Essex Senior League in his first full season, then performing wonders keeping his side in the Isthmian North despite operating on a minimal (and sometimes zero) playing budget.

MARK LORD - Assistant manager - Mark has worked alongside Paul Martin for the past fifteen years, originally at Romford reserves, and then moved to work alongside Paul when he took over the Romford first team. A former Rocks player "Lordy" actually scored the first ever Isthmian League goal for the club, in a one-all draw with Cove, back in August 1992.

JOHN BENSTEAD - Coach - Experienced and highly respected coach. "Benno" joined Paul Martin's back room team in August 2020.

DANNY COSSINGTON - Coach - A regular member of Paul Martin's Romford side for five seasons, much of which he spent as skipper. A strong tacking defender/defensive midfielder, Danny departed from Romford in November when the Glen Tamplin whirlwind hit. Had previously been at Barkingside. Joined the Rocks around the turn of the year 2019-20, and took to Isthmian Premier football like a fish to water. Now working with Paul Martin as player-coach.

OLIVER WOOSTER - Physio - Recently qualified Physio, Ollie links up with Paul Martin and his team for the first time this season. Came highly recommended and fought off some good competition from other applicants to secure the role. Really looking forward to having him at the club.

EMMA KENYON - Sports Therapist - Emma joins for the 2021-2022 season and will work alongside physio Ollie Wooster.



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TODAYS TEAMS



From

Tiernan PARKER

David OLUFEMI

Michael O'DONOGHUE

Rakim RICHARDS

Scott MITCHELL

Tyrese OWEN

Jorge DJASSI SAMBU

Georgios ARESTI

Roman MICHAEL-PERCIL

Adeyinka COLE

Bobson BAWLING

Mekhi LEACOCK-MCLEOD

Sami BESSADI

Anthony McDONALD

Chidubem ONOKWAI

Jonathan MILES

Manager: Tom Loizou

Assistant Manager: David Cumberbatch

Coaches: Johnny Fitsiou

Tucker O'Donoghue

Goalkeeping Coach: Robert Lewis

Physio: Montana Cameron

MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Farai Hallam assisted by
Neil Keirs & Josh Osofa

From

Arthur JANATA (GK)

Chiedozie NWOSU (GK)

Rimmel DANIEL

Danny COSSINGTON

Callum ROBINSON

Ben WYSS

Tom BARTON

Ryan MALLETT

Rob LACEY

Sam OWUSU

Necati GENCH

Elliot KETTLE

Ola OGUNWAMIDE

Johnny ASHMAN

Kenny AILERU

Paulius DITKEVICIUS

Alfie CUE

Tobi JOSEPH

Alex HERNANDEZ

Harry LODOVICA

Fahad NAZOR

George PUGH

Manager: Paul Martin

Assistant: Mark Lord

Coach: John Benstead

Player/Coach: Dan Cossington

Physio: Ollie Wooster

Therapist: Emma Kenyon