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THE

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF NORTHWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

# WOODS

SEASON 2022-23 | ISSUE 08 | £2.00



SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2022

KICK-OFF 3.00PM

**MERSTHAM**

THE PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE – SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION



TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2022

KICK-OFF 7.45PM

**ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)**

THE MIDDLESEX FA SENIOR CHALLENGE CUP – FIRST ROUND



**Respect** 

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## HONOURS

Isthmian League Division One North champions: 2003

Isthmian League Division Two runners-up: 2000

Isthmian League Division Three promotion: 1997

Isthmian League Cup winners: 2002

Isthmian Charity Shield winners: 2002

Isthmian Associate Members Trophy winners:

1993, 2000

Middlesex Senior Cup Winners: 2007, 2016

Middlesex Senior Cup finalists: 2000, 2002,

Middlesex Senior Cup semi-finalists:

1992, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2006, 2008, 2010

Middlesex Senior Charity Cup finalists:

1994, 2003, 2005, 2012

Middlesex Intermediate Cup winners: 1979

Middlesex Junior Cup winners: 1938

Middlesex Junior Cup finalists: 1935, 1936

London Spartan League Premier Division champions: 1992

London Spartan League Premier Division runners-up: 1990

London Spartan League Cup winners: 1990, 1992

Hellenic League Division One champions: 1979

Hellenic League Premier Division Cup finalist: 1982

Hellenic League Division One Cup winners: 1979

Middlesex League Premier Division champions: 1978

Middlesex League Premier Division runners-up: 1972, 1977

Middlesex League Challenge Cup winners:

1975, 1977, 1978

Harrow, Wembley & District League champions:

1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1948, 1949

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# IAN'S INSIGHT

With Woods Chairman, Ian Barry



**W**elcome to The Skyline Roofing Stadium for this amazing double the value for one cost programme! Our welcome is extended to the two visitors for these games; Merstham FC and Ashford Town (Middlesex) FC. We trust you will both enjoy your short stay here.

Writing on the Sunday evening the day after our defeat at Ashford Town, I genuinely still haven't calmed down too much! I don't take defeat too well as everyone probably knows by now and especially when I don't feel we have done ourselves justice. For the last three halves of our games in that past week, we have been way below par and the standards we have set ourselves.

Today, we come back home where our form is very good in the league; which is a stark difference to last

season where our away form was incredible, following the change of management.

We can have a bad week, but I feel that if we get back to basics and also possibly one or two tweaks to the squad to cover injuries and lack of form, we can get back to winning ways and continue to enjoy being where we are.

Pondering what to write about, my thoughts this last week have been reverting to hospitality at clubs we visit and how, in my opinion, standards have fallen over the years; we have been to clubs this season who have provided a small tray of sandwiches which is to cater for about ten people to other clubs who decide to order in a pizza or two and leave you to it in their boardroom!

We certainly push the boat out, in my opinion and continue to set the standards; just ask one of our recent visitors who had about fourteen people eating before we did!

So, my message to all clubs is to 'up their game' and make an effort with your opponents.

We have our ground grading visit shortly and hopefully will be able to maintain our current status, once a few details are completed this week. On that note, I hope everyone now likes the look of our ground and are enjoying the hospitality offered by our new 'horse box' kiosk in the stadium.

Enjoy these games and get behind the lads.

Up the Woods!

Ian

## The League's Respect statement:

"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination.

Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action

by that Association." **(The FA 0800 085 0508 – Kick it Out 020 7253 0162).**

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





Direct from the Management

# DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL

# STEVE RINGROSE

**A** very warm welcome to you all and thank you again for your support.

On Saturday we welcome a Merstham side who will be looking to improve their current points total and on Tuesday yet another match against Ashford Town, our fourth meeting of the season already with these cup draws pairing us together.

We hope you all enjoy your stay with us and wish you a safe journey home.

Last week, we were on the road with journeys to Walton & Hersham on the Tuesday followed by an away league trip at Ashford Town last Saturday.

Like ourselves, Walton had been enjoying a terrific start to the season with some great success in the cups.

We did our homework against our opponents and in the first-half much went to plan with Syd earning us a 1-0 lead from the penalty spot.

However, we knew what a dangerous side they can be with their variety of short passing football followed by a system that works remarkably well from them drawing out defending players then using mid-field runs to exploit spaces.

Unfortunately, as much planning and information you can give to players, Walton are very good at pulling the opponents into their trap and the two goals we conceded, whilst disappointing, could have been prevented and this led to our first league defeat of the season.

Lots of positives however and we went into Saturday's

game at Ashford looking to bounce back quickly.

Unfortunately, that was not to be and we started very slowly allowing our opponents several chances before they took the lead early on.

As we started to play our way into the game, we soon got on equal terms after newcomer Jake Tabor was fouled in the penalty area and Syd dispatched the resulting penalty to send us into the half time interval at 1-1.

With a positive half-time talk, we expected an improvement in the second half but clearly, we struggled to get any consistency and we conceded a second and winning goal when a defensive mistake resulted in another penalty which Ashford dispatched for a deserved win.

This Saturday it is important that we aim to return to winning ways in the league and the emphasis will be on good attacking play, something which we have achieved on many occasions so far this season.

On Tuesday, the opportunity to progress in the County Cup will be a good incentive and we must put the current form against Ashford firmly to the backs of our minds and strive harder to get what would be a much-valued win.

Once again, I would like to close by saying thank you to every one of you, your support is outstanding. The club will hopefully continue to grow, thanks to everyone's hard work both on the pitch and behind the scenes.

See you supporters in the Bar after the game - Keep believing!

Steve.

# WOODS OUTLOOK

## WELCOME TO THE MOATSIDERS & THE TANGERINES

A warm welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium this afternoon to you all but especially those here from Merstham FC who we meet for the first-ever time following their relegation from the Pitching In Isthmian League Premier Division at the end of last season.

History shows that the Woods moved from the Hellenic League to join the London Spartan League in 1984; exactly the same season that our visitors made the move from the Spartans to join the Combined Counties League so we only just missed each other then.

Since relegation, the Moatsiders have had a change of Manager, appointing former Carshalton Athletic player-boss Peter Adeniyi in the summer, and a new squad but that group has taken a little time to settle at the lower level so far and are yet to taste a victory in five league fixtures. They have picked up two points from goalless draws at Tooting & Mitcham and, last Saturday against Marlow but have lost at home to Southall and South Park as well as 4-0 at unbeaten Binfield. Their only success to date was in the Isuzu FA Trophy when they notched a solid 3-0 home win over Isthmian South-East Division side Hythe Town.

A few weeks ago, Merstham disrupted our own squad with a successful seven-day approach for attacker Lindell Stewart who chose to team up with the Moatsiders and is expected to line-up against us this afternoon.

You may have noticed that this is a double-header programme though so we also welcome, once again, everyone connected with Ashford Town (Middlesex) for a midweek Middlesex Senior Cup First Round fixture. Three games against our opponents this season already and our visitors certainly have gained a big advantage with two wins and a draw so far. We go again for this one.

## 100% RECORD FALLS

After having won our last home game, 2-1 against Sutton Common Rovers to make it six League wins on the bounce to start the season, it was expected to be a really tough game when we then travelled for a midweek fixture at Walton & Hershham who have been flying this season following promotion.

And so, it proved. The Woods deservedly led 1-0 at the break thanks to a Sydney Ibie penalty after he had

been taken down in the box in the act of shooting. But the Swans changed things around for the second-half and their more direct approach got in behind us more frequently and it paid off with two goals in seven minutes turning things around. We battled on and when Walton were reduced to ten men there was perhaps a sniff of what would have been a good point but it was not to be.

Going back to the Sutton game, the Woods made a rare quick start to the game and an early own-goal followed by a Josh Helmore strike saw us gain a 2-0 lead after just 17 minutes. We were unable to kick-on from there though and although we were pretty solid defensively, when Rovers notched a goal with five minutes to go from pretty much their only shot on target, it made it closer than it should be for the closing stages.

Last Saturday we looked to bounce back at familiar foes, Ashford Town (Middlesex) who we had already played twice (and failed to beat them twice) in the FA Cup earlier in the season. Though the home side were without a number of players, they again looked sharper and hungrier at the start and they took an early lead. That was cancelled out with another penalty from Sydney Ibie, this time for a foul on Jake Tabor who was making his first start but the Woods were never flowing. Ashford then got their noses back in front with a penalty of their own with twenty minutes to go which proved enough to take all three points.

## OTHER CUP NEWS

Next Tuesday night we start our campaign in the Velocity Trophy (the Isthmian League Cup) with a return visit to Walton & Hershham. It's a 7.45pm kick-off as usual and we hope to see a few of you there. It is a competition that the Woods have won once before – back in 2001/02 when we defeated Hampton & Richmond Borough 3-2 in a final played at St Albans City FC. Andy Cook scored twice and there was one from Lawrence Yaku to ensure that Northwood's name was on the Trophy.

The only other Cup competition yet to come is the Middlesex Charity Cup but we received a bye to the Second Round and that hasn't been drawn as yet so no news on that one!

## PLAYER NEWS

There was another new recruit just prior to our last

home match against Sutton Common Rovers with young striker Jake Tabor being added to the ranks to replace the departing Lindell Stewart. Jake has Step 4 experience at Berkhamsted but has also played for Oxhey Jets and, more recently for Harpenden Town. We welcome Jake to the Woods and hope that he enjoys a long and successful stay with us. Injuries continue to rule out Romario Jonas and Teddy Stacey while Sam Jenkins missed last Saturday's game but should be back for today.

### SEASON TICKETS GET YOURS NOW!

Many of you have already kindly renewed your Season Tickets once again and taken advantage of the huge discount available, able to gain entrance to every home Isthmian League game for the price of just £49.00. We've only played four League games prior to this Saturday game so there is still plenty of advantage in getting a Season Ticket now and receive it in time for our next home game. There is an on-line link to pay from the website or, by all means pay cash to me this afternoon! They Season Ticket also get you access to all the Under-18s home games in the Isthmian Youth League. They don't count however, for any Cup fixtures!

### PLAYER SPONSORSHIPS

Many of the current squad are available for both kit and tracksuit sponsorships (See elsewhere in the programme) so if you haven't yet sponsored one of our players then now would be the time to do so before your favourite is snapped up. You can pay cash or online via the website.

### LONDON MARATHON

Woods striker Josh Helmore ran in the London Marathon last Sunday, 2nd October to raise funds for Crohn's & Colitis UK. He ran what was his first-ever marathon with a superb time of 3 hours and 37 minutes so a brilliant showing for sure. His fundraising set a target of raising £2,000 and he was close to it as I write these notes so I'm sure he would have got there. But if not, and you have a few pounds to spare (and if he scores in these two games), I'm sure he would appreciate you adding to the current sum he has raised to date. The Link to his fund-raising page is [justgiving.com/fundraising/Joshua-helmore12/](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/Joshua-helmore12/)

### UNDER - 18s

It was a step too far for the Under-18s when they went down 1-3 at home to Langley FC in the Second Qualifying round of the FA Youth Cup ten days ago. The Woods took the lead early in with a superb strike from Fabjan Toci but the visitors looked pretty slick and they levelled just before the break. They then scored twice in the first fifteen minutes of the second period to wrap up the win.

The side were due to play their first home Isthmian Youth League game on Wednesday night against Hampton & Richmond Borough so hopefully they will have bounced back to winning form.

### OUR TENANTS - SPARTANS YOUTH

Spartans picked up a valuable point, coming behind to draw 1-1 against British Airways last Saturday here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium. They are away at Rayners Lane today but then play Berks County here next weekend followed by a Cup game against FC Deportivo Galicia on the 18th.

### COMING UP ....

Next Saturday we travel for the first of two games on 3G pitches, the first another tough Isthmian League fixture at Basingstoke Town, followed by a League Cup match back at Walton & Hershham. The Woods are back here in two weeks' time for the visit of Thatcham Town.

### Next Fixtures at the Skyline Roofing Stadium

Saturday 15th October - **Spartans v. Berks**

**County** - Combined Counties League - 3pm

Tuesday 18th October - **Spartans v. Deportivo**

**Galicia** - CC Divisional Cup - 7.45pm

Wednesday 19th October - **Under-18s v. Uxbridge**

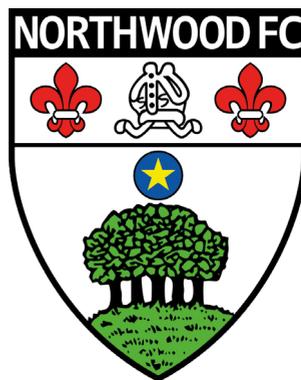
- Isthmian Youth Cup - 7.45pm

Saturday 22nd October - **Woods v. Thatcham**

**Town** - Isthmian League - 3pm

Enjoy the game this afternoon, thanks for your support once again and see you all soon.

Alan





# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# LEADER OF THE PACK

With Captain, Keagan Cole

## A week of ups but a few too many downs...

**S**tarting on a high we arrived at The Skyline Roofing Stadium in good spirits following a great result last time around against Chertsey Town FC.

The boys started quickly scoring inside just the first ten minutes again at home. The quick start continued adding another goal eighteen minutes into the game through a fantastic passing move finished off by a classy finish from Josh Helmore.

Our second half performance did not echo our first half show which lead to us being on the back foot for the majority of the half, conceding late on too a good finish. Something that we as players were not happy with, conceding at home late on and losing a clean sheet is frustrating.

We went into Tuesday's game away against Walton & Hershaw again in good spirits and with confidence in our game plan. Our first half performance was the perfect hard working, professional, well-organised half where the players played our plan down to a tee coming in with a 1-0 lead and having chances to possibly another goal up. The second-half came around quick and Walton changed

their own game plan from the get go... we struggled to deal with the pressure and changes they made to exploit our open areas. All credit to Walton they were a great side and probably edged the game on the day.

As a collective team and management, we went into last Saturday's game away at Ashford Town with the mindset that we do not accept being beaten two games on the spin and anything less than points on the board is unacceptable. We didn't seem to come out the blocks at all. A slow start which gradually improved after going 1-0 down, following on from drawing level we had a good 10-minute spell before going in at half-time still in the game at 1-1 with performance levels being more than below average. These levels did not improve in the second half and we came out losing 2-1 because of it. An unacceptable performance.

We move on to today's fixture following two back-to-back training sessions within the week and hope to getting back to winning form.

Look forward to seeing you all this afternoon.

Up the Woods,  
Keags x

# ON THIS DAY 8TH OCTOBER

By Ken Green

In the club's history, dating back to 1926, there have been 16 games on this date; the results and details of these are shown below, and I take a look at three matches in more depth.

Date	Venue	Competition	Opponents	Result	Goalscorers	Att
Sat 8 Oct 1932	A	Harrow & District Lge Premier	Wembley B O B	W 4-2	Gill 3, T Bell	
Sat 8 Oct 1949	H	Middx Junior Cup round 1	PARK ROYAL VEHICLES	W 5-2	Smith, Jones 2, Westfallen 2	
Sat 8 Oct 1955	H	Harrow & Wembley Premier Div.	PARKFIELD	L 2-7	Millward 2	
Sat 8 Oct 1960	H	Harrow & Wembley Premier Div.	TOKYNGTON	W 3-2	?	
Sat 8 Oct 1967	H	Harrow & Wembley Senior Div.	NORTH HARROW	L 3-5	?	
Sat 8 Oct 1977	A	Middlesex League	Hillingdon British Legion	L 2-4	Harvey, Tidd	
Sat 8 Oct 1983	H	FA Vase Prelim.	KEMPSTON ROVERS	W 3-2	James 2, Ellis	
Sat 8 Oct 1988	H	FA Vase Prelim.	LETCHWORTH GARDEN CITY	W 2-0	Blackman, Pacquette	
Sat 8 Oct 1994	H	Diadora League Div 3	EPSOM & EWELL	D 0-0		86
Tue 8 Oct 1996	H	Middx Charity Cup round 1	HANWELL TOWN	W 1-0	Holmes	
Sat 8 Oct 2005	A	Southern League Premier	Gloucester City	L 1-4	Kirkland	264
Wed 8 Oct 2008	A	Ryman League Div. 1 N	Thamesmead Town	L 1-2	Yoki	83
Sat 8 Oct 2011	A	FA Trophy Prelim.	Sittingbourne	D 1-1	Senior	109
Tue 8 Oct 2013	H	Southern League Div. 1 C	CHERTSEY TOWN	W 8-3	Brown 2, Grant, Muir 3, Lawrence, Nicholas	83
Sat 8 Oct 2016	A	FA Trophy Prelim.	Dorking Wanderers	W 6-3	Stead 3, Debuttista, Bircham, J. Burgess	130
Tue 8 Oct 2019	A	BetVictor Isthmian Div.1 C	Chertsey Town	L 2-8	M'Baye, Witham	178

## 1983 Woods 3 Kempston Rovers 2 (a.e.t.)

Martin Ellis saw the Woods through to the first round proper of the FA Vase at Northwood Park with a goal in the dying seconds of extra time. It was a thrilling end to a thrilling cup tie that could have gone either way.

Kempston, of the United Counties League Division One, had started in tremendous style, but it was Hellenic League Premier Division Northwood who drew first blood when a superb bail from Alan Routledge was headed into the middle, where a defender needlessly handled and Viv James hammered home the resultant spot-kick.

The Woods seemed set to romp



home in the second half, but missed chances kept Kempston in touch, and the home side's complacency was paid for in full when Suki Shadira put the visitors level.

A brilliant move inspired and finished by James after beating two defenders and playing a one-two with Mark Nelhams restored the Northwood lead, and their passport seemed assured until Shadira struck again in the final minute to send the game into extra time.

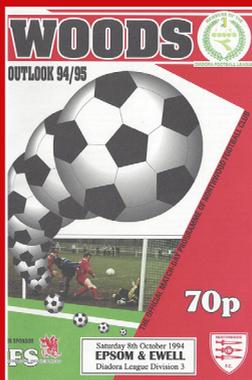
The see-saw battle continued and in the last minute James hit a through ball for Ellis to chase; Kempston keeper Andrew Webb's hacked clearance rebounded off the Woods striker and the ball rolled over the line for the winner.

**Northwood:** John Toogood, Steve Floodgate, Steve Revell, Peter Lammin, Peter Davies, Mick Byron, Alan Routledge, Viv James, Martin Ellis, Bobby Bennett, Mark Nelhams, sub. Terry Hurt.

## 1994 Woods 0 Epsom & Ewell 0

The midweek celebrations after going top of the table fell horribly flat as Northwood turned in a lacklustre performance. Manager of the Month John Walsh could hardly have been pleased with a performance that was in marked contrast with the 4-2 mid-week win at Leighton.

Though Hylton, Morris and Payton were out with injury and Ponnou suspended, Northwood were way below their best, though to their credit Epsom battled away for the whole 90 minutes and could have snatched all three points



Kevin Dobson got in some excellent early runs and crosses while Holmes twice headed straight at visiting goalkeeper Trevor Jones,

who had a good game throughout.

Bryan Hammatt, a new signing from Boreham Wood, also looked dangerous and linked well with Holmes, but overall Northwood played in fits and starts without their normal cohesion.

There was a slight improvement in the second half, though the midfield lacked flair and gave the ball away too often, while Woods goalkeeper Paul Henderson had to make a super save from a free kick.

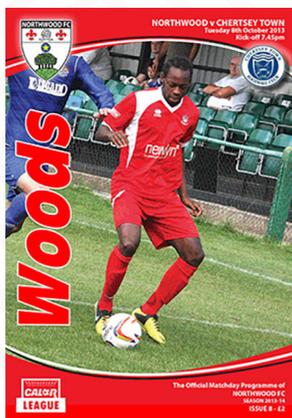
**Northwood:** Paul Henderson, Andy Dale, Kevin Dobson, Rod Romain, Matt Allen, John Walsh, Peter Davey, Simon Walsh, Chris Gell, Lawrence Holmes, Bryan Hammatt.

## 2013 Woods 8 Chertsey Town 3

Records are there to be broken but with the Woods having scored just six goals in nine previous league games in the season, the goal-rush against the division's bottom club was unexpected but nonetheless very welcome.

The opening score in this goal-fest came on 16 minutes when a half-cleared free-kick saw Niko Muir's cross met by a powerful header from Steve Brown. Joakim Ehui saw an effort blocked soon after but then Reece Grant showed his pace on the left to cut in and blast a shot past debut goalkeeper Garry Aulsbery at the near post into the roof of the net.

After just 25 minutes, the Woods added a third when Ryan Phillips got forward down the left and knocked in a cross which gave Muir a simple chance to convert from close-range. Chertsey did pull a goal back on 34



minutes. Andy White setting up striker John Pomroy to convert at the far post.

Brown headed an Ehui corner back across goal where Muir turned sharply to fire a shot into the roof of the net and restore Northwood's three-goal cushion on 41 minutes. Dave Lawrence added another two

minutes later when his shot arrowed another past keeper Aulsbery and inside the far post.

On 54 minutes, Craig White was tripped in the box and Muir confidently tucked the penalty home to complete his hat-trick and make it 6-1.

Chertsey's O'Regan netted a second goal on 68 minutes as a punched clearance from Knight dropped to him and he lobbed it back into an empty net, and four minutes later Jordan Wain made it 6-3 with almost 20 minutes to play.

But then Brown notched his second with a firm header at the near post, and on 83 minutes George Nicholas slotted home number eight.

**Northwood:** Jake Knight, Ramil Sheriff, Ryan Phillips (Rashaun Raphael), Mark Burgess, Steve Brown, George Nicholas, Joakim Ehui (Sonny Bailey-Aird), Craig White, Niko Muir, Dave Lawrence, Reece Grant



THE VISITORS

# MERSTHAM FC

## A BRIEF HISTORY

In the early years, Merstham FC began life playing on a pitch at the old Merstham Lime Works which was accessed via Jolliffe Road.

The level of football played in the first five years is unclear, but in 1897 the club were founder members of the Redhill & District League and playing in Division Two along with our old friends Whyteleafe.

In the early 1920s the club moved to its present location in Albury Road.

The club's first major success was winning the league in 1927. In 1930, the East Surrey Junior Cup was added to the trophy cabinet. In 1935 and 1936, Merstham won the Redhill League Premier Division in consecutive years, a record later repeated in 1950 and 1951. In 1951, the club applied for intermediate status and accepted into the Eastern Section of the Surrey Intermediate League for the 1952/53 season. The move to the new league could hardly have got off to a better start, as the club claimed the title at their first attempt.

There was progress off the field too. In 1960, the changing room and tea-room were built, and training lights erected. But it wasn't until 1974 that a small stand was built with a modest capacity of 90. Merstham continued to play in the Surrey Intermediate League until they gained senior status in 1964 and joined the Surrey Senior League. In fourteen years in the Surrey Senior League, Merstham managed to win the title just once in 1971/72. In 1978 they again switched leagues, joining the London Spartan League and finished a creditable third in their first two seasons. Those two seasons proved to be amongst the club's best as they also claimed the Surrey Senior Charity Cup and the London Spartan League Challenge Cup in the first season, adding the East Surrey Charities Cup the following year.

By the 1984/85 season Merstham had decided that the travelling involved in the Spartan League was too much and they joined the Combined Counties League. That season also saw the completion of the new clubhouse. Merstham were runners-up in the Combined Counties League in the 1987/88 season and the following year reached the 4th round of the FA Vase before losing to Billericay Town at home 2-3 after throwing away a 2-0 lead. They also won the Dan Air Class Elite Cup beating local rivals Chipstead 2-1 aet. This came as some consolation as Chipstead had pipped Merstham to the league title by a point.

The 1990/91 season saw the erection of floodlights and an official 'Floodlight Opener' against Crystal Palace, whose side included current England Manager, Gareth Southgate. Merstham's defence of the League Cup saw them again reach the final, but Frimley Green defeated a tired Merstham side 1-0, after extra time, in a replay. The next few seasons saw Merstham generally settle for mid-table anonymity. The 1995/96 season brought some success to Merstham, finishing fourth in the League, but it was the reserves that won silverware by beating Godalming in the Reserve League Challenge Cup. The FA Cup of 1996/97 saw Merstham's biggest home defeat when they crashed out in the First Qualifying Round, 1-8 to Aldershot Town.

The 2000/01 season was Merstham's most successful for nearly a decade. They reached the Second Qualifying Round of the FA Cup and finished eighth in the league after being in the top six for most of the season. The 2002/03 season brought AFC Wimbledon into the league and their visit to Merstham attracted 1,582 fans, then the club's record attendance. Unfortunately, the visitors won 2-0. A successful application to the FA Stadia Fund enabled the

club to build the new changing rooms and a perimeter fence. Silverware returned to Merstham in the 2004/05 season when they beat AFC Guildford 3-0 in the final of the Premier Challenge Cup and they also won the East Surrey Hospitals Charity Cup (ESHCC) with a victory over local rivals Redhill. 2005/06 was an excellent season, but with nothing to show for it; beaten finalists in the Premier Challenge Cup and ESHCC and runners up in the Combined Counties Premier Division. More disappointment followed when the club was denied promotion to the Isthmian League because their stand was delivered two weeks late.

For the 2006/07 season manager, Mick Sullivan, along with new assistants Micky Stratford and Rhys Williams built a team which surpassed expectations as the club enjoyed their best season for 20 years, finishing second in the league and winning the Premier Challenge Cup by beating North Greenford Utd 4-1 in a hard fought final. In the league they notched up a fantastic 100 goals, nearly a quarter of which were scored by striker Kwabena Agyei.

The Southern Combination Cup was shared between Merstham and Staines Lammas when a fixture date for the final could not be agreed.

The final of the ESHCC against Redhill was delayed until the start of the 2007/08 season when Merstham won 3-2. However, when many thought Merstham had peaked, the 2007/08 season, Mick Sullivan's seventh year in charge, brought the Club into a new era with a treble winning side, a fantastic run in the FA Vase and promotion to the Isthmian League South Division as they finally finished top

of the league after two seasons as runners up. After losing on the opening day of the season at Cove, Merstham went undefeated in the league for the rest of the season winning 35 times and drawing six for a total of 111 points and 114 goals with Kevin Lock and Kwabena Agyei scoring 53 between them.

The dream of a Wembley final in the FA Vase vanished in the Quarter Final when they lost at home to Needham Market 2-3 in extra time in a game watched by a crowd of 841.

Merstham successfully defended the Premier Challenge Cup beating Bedfont Green 4-2 in the final. In the Surrey Senior Cup semi-final they beat local rivals Redhill 4-3 with the help of a hat-trick from Mark Simmons. The final against Isthmian League side Whyteleafe, saw Merstham's passing skills pay off and they won 3-2 in extra time after twice being behind.

With promotion to the Isthmian League South officially confirmed in May 2008, Merstham left behind them many friends they have made during the 24 seasons they had spent in the Combined Counties League.

The 2008/09 was Merstham's first season in the Isthmian South and many thought that the team would struggle at that level. Happy to disappoint the pessimists, Merstham had a good season finishing eighth, narrowly missing out on a play-off position. Their defence of their Surrey Senior Cup title was ended by Woking in the semi-final. Merstham Ladies also had a great season winning their League and League Cup and finishing runners up in the La Senza Ladies Cup. However, in May manager Mick

## PAST YEARS – OUR VISITORS RECENT PLAYING RECORD

Season	Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Isthmian League Division One South								
2012-2013	12th	42	16	8	18	67	76	56
2013-2014	7th	46	23	7	16	82	64	76
2014-2015	4th	46	27	12	7	107	51	75
Premier Division								
2015-2016	10th	46	18	8	20	74	80	62
2016-2017	14th	46	15	11	20	70	72	56
2017-2018	18th	46	15	11	20	69	80	56
2018-2019	5th	42	20	10	12	60	50	70
2019-2020	21st	33	6	7	20	34	70	25
2020-2021	22nd	8	1	1	6	8	18	4
2021-2022	22nd	42	10	3	29	43	84	35

Sullivan announced that, after eight seasons at the helm, he was leaving the club for local rivals Leatherhead. Former Banstead boss Graeme Banyard was appointed as the new manager.

Merstham's second season in the Isthmian League went the way of many promoted sides who had found it far more difficult than their first. Banyard found himself in a difficult situation as a number of the previous season's team had joined Sullivan at Leatherhead. Only skipper Craig Vernon, winger David Smith and veteran goalkeeper Ian Chatfield stayed at the Moatside. Many new players came and went as Merstham's form took a turn for the worse, though the team eventually finished in a comfortable mid-table position.

The 2010/11 season will be remembered for the resignation of Graeme Banyard. Andy Martin took over as Caretaker Manager as Merstham slid towards the relegation zone. Martin managed to keep the side up and was duly appointed manager for the 2011/12 season. But after just twenty games in charge, Martin left and Antony Williams and Rob Smith took over as caretaker managers. In January 2012, the Board announced that former Bromley manager Hayden Bird would take up the post with immediate effect. Bird rang the changes, bringing in several new players and Merstham finished a creditable ninth.

The 2012/13 was Hayden Bird's first full season in charge and it didn't quite live up to expectations with Merstham finishing 12th and without a noticeable run in any cup completion. With a small budget Bird again rang the changes for the 2013/14 season bringing in more experienced players and Merstham attained their highest place in the club's history, finishing seventh with their highest tally of points and goals since gaining promotion to the Isthmian League.

It was a proverbial season of two halves for the Moatsiders. At Christmas Merstham were languishing in 18th place with just 25 points from 21 games, however, with the return of Fabio Saraiva, Merstham went on an unbeaten run, just missing out on the play-offs. Tommy Hutchings deservedly won the Players and Supporters' 'Player of the Season' awards.

The 2014/15 season was to be the best in the club's history to date, gaining promotion to the Isthmian Premier Division by winning the play-offs in style and finishing runners up in the Surrey Senior Cup. Merstham's fourth place finish with 93 points and 107 goals put them into the play-offs. The play off semi-final went to penalties, which Merstham won 5-4 thanks to keeper Brannon Daly

making a match-winning save. In front of a crowd of 1465, Merstham gained promotion at Folkestone beating the home side 3-0 with goals from Taurean Roberts, Tutu Henriques and skipper Fabio Saraiva. Just four days later, a tired-looking Merstham lost 2-0 in the final of the Surrey Senior Cup to Met Police.

The 2015/16 season was to be yet another record breaking season for Merstham attaining their highest position in the 'Football Pyramid' finishing a very creditable tenth in their first season in The Isthmian Premier League.

This was in part due to 20 goals from Charlie Penny and 14 from Fabio Saraiva who were both signed by Woking after dumping the National League side out in the semis of the Surrey Senior Cup. The final was very one-sided, as Godalming Town were thumped 4-1.

In Merstham's second season in the Isthmian Premier, the Moatsiders reached the First Round Proper of the FA Cup for the first time in their history. They achieved this with some of the finest football ever seen at the Moatside; They beat East Preston (4-1), Colliers Wood Utd (2-1 in a replay), Thamesmead Town (5-1) and Ebbsfleet Utd (2-1) on the way to a meeting with League One side Oxford United. The loss of skipper Fabio Saraiva and Charlie Penny in the close season to Woking was a blow, but Manager Hayden Bird was determined to build on the success of the previous season. Penny did return to the Moatside after not getting regular football at Woking and scored twice in his first game back. However, an injury during the FA Cup game against Ebbsfleet United kept him out for the rest of the season. The obvious highlight of the season was the Oxford United game which saw a record breaking crowd of 1,920 at the Moatside. Although Merstham lost 5-0, the scoreline somewhat flattered the League One side. After the euphoria of the cup run, Merstham's season took a downward trend and finished with the club narrowly avoiding relegation on the last day of the season, which was not helped by the loss of three points for fielding an eligible player.

During the close season Bird made wholesale changes to his squad. Assistant Manager Mick Sullivan, who left the club, was replaced by Merstham player/coach Tutu Henriques.

The 2017/18 saw the club celebrate its 125th anniversary, finish 12th in the league and for the second time in four years, win the Surrey Senior Cup, beating Leatherhead 3-1.

The 2018/19 was Merstham's best-ever season in the topflight. At Christmas, the side were flirting with relegation, but a superb run saw the Moatsiders put themselves in the hunt for the play offs.

They finished the season needing to win away to Worthing to get into the play offs.

Amazingly the visitors went 3-0 up inside the first ten minutes and held on for a 4-2 win. In the play-off semi-final, another tough away game at Carshalton saw the Moatsiders shock the Robins with a 2-1 win, which set up a play-off final away to Tonbridge Angels in front of a crowd of 2,400.

It turned out to be a physical and rather dour encounter marred by a double sending off just before the interval with Merstham's Ollie Cook given his marching orders.

Tonbridge scored on 34' and the Moatsiders rarely looked like getting back on terms. A penalty in added time was largely irrelevant as the Angels clinched the play-off spot with a 2-0 win.

Shortly after the play-off final, Manager Hayden Bird decided that he had taken the club as far as he could and made the decision to move to Kingstonian, taking the entire first-team squad with him. Former Tooting and Mitcham boss Frank Wilson was appointed in June 2019 and had to start from scratch to build a brand new team, bringing in former Moatsiders Omar Folkes and Peter Wedgeworth.

No one could have predicted the impact of Covid-19 as the pandemic swept the world just as the 2019/20 season neared its conclusion.

Manager Frank Wilson had endured a real baptism of fire as his new team struggled to maintain their Premier League status.

As the pandemic surged throughout the UK, football was no longer a priority and when the season was final-

ly brought to an end, with all records being expunged, Merstham were fighting relegation and sat in 21st place, although with home games against relegation rivals to play, most were confident that the drop could be avoided. We will never know! The 20/21 season lasted just 11 games before the surge in Covid cases brought the new season to an inevitable early closure.

When football finally returned at the start of the 2021/22 season, the Moatsiders made a decent start in the league and progressed through two rounds of the FA Cup before losing at home to Hereford United. In the FA Trophy, Welwyn Garden City came to the Moatside and caused something of an upset by winning comfortably 3-0.

In November, the team went through a purple patch of form with the front two of Korrey Henry and John Ufuah forming a lethal combination and the team playing some superb football. In the home game against Haringey, Merstham were 5-0 up at the interval!

However, other clubs has taken note and sought to poach the two marksmen. Ufuah departed for the Welsh Premiership and Henry to Carshalton. Without their front two, the Moatsiders struggled to score goals and combined with a horrendous run of injuries that reduced the squad to the bare bones, Merstham began to slide down the table.

The team lost their final 13 league games and relegation was confirmed on the final day of the season.

Wilson departed and he was replaced for the 2022/23 season by former Carshalton boss and ex-Merstham midfielder Peter Adeniyi.



Words by Robin Piper

# MATCH REPORT



## ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX) 2

## NORTHWOOD 1

Saturday 1st October 2022

Kick-Off 3.00pm

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



**Team:** McCorkell, Gallagher, Lomas, Alexander-Greenaway, Tingey, Gurteen, Tabor, Pepaj (Jude-Boyd 78)

Helmore, Ibie (Jackson 46), C Stewart

**Unused Subs:** Hutchins, Cole, Kalu

**No Yellow Cards**

**Red Card:** Gallagher

**Attendance:** 126

**N**orthwood suffered their second away defeat in five days on a disappointing afternoon at the Robert Parker Stadium.

There were a couple of changes from the team which started the midweek game at Walton & Hersham - Harry Gallagher coming in for his first league start at right-back in place of the unavailable Sam Jenkins while Jake Tabor replaced Micah Jackson in the forward line for his full debut with the latter reverting to the bench.

Woods looked very tentative in the early stages as Ashford began on the front foot with Chad Goulter forcing keeper Andrew McCorkell into a full-length save with a low strike from distance.

The Tangerines maintained the early pressure on the visitors, McCorkell having to deal with a Matthew Kellett-Smith header following a corner while Luke Tingey was on hand to block a close-range shot from Luke Maguire.

Following their unconvincing start to proceedings Northwood gradually found their feet and a good combination between Ergys Pepaj and Andy Lomas created an opening for Tabor whose low shot was parried by keeper Callum Coulter with the rebound just evading the lurking Josh Helmore.

The home side were soon back on the offensive with Nathaniel Kenlock inches away from getting on the end of a flicked on freekick into the Woods box.



### GOAL – 11 mins 1-0 – LUKE MAGUIRE

However, Northwood were not so fortunate moments later as Ashford opened the scoring on eleven minutes after possession had been squandered in a dangerous area with Maguire unleashing a shot from the edge of the box which flew beyond McCorkell's reach.

Woods looked to respond as they forced a corner which was cleared to Carl Stewart on the edge of the box and his first time shot flew wide of the Ashford goal.

### GOAL – 18 mins 1-1 – SYDNEY IBIE (penalty)

And Northwood pressed again as a cross-field pass from Lomas was met by Ashford left-back Isy Nzelo, but his attempted back-pass was intercepted by Tabor who was caught by Coulter as he looked to round the keeper – Sydney Ibie stepping up to convert his third penalty in four games to level the scores on eighteen minutes.

Having restored parity, Northwood would have been

hoping to build on this before the half-time break, but it was Ashford who looked the more likely as Danyaal Iqbal missed a glorious chance as he stumbled after taking the ball beyond McCorkell, while Kenlock and Maguire also went close for the Tangerines.

Northwood were forced into a change at the break as Jackson replaced Ibie, who appeared to have a hamstring problem, the substitute assuming the central striker's role with Helmore moving to the left.

The hosts created an early opportunity as a smart turn and shot from Prince Mbengui flew across the face of the Northwood goal, while at the other end, Helmore headed over after Tingey's throw was helped on by James Gurteen.

Woods were enjoying their fair share of possession but were struggling to create clear opportunities with too many passes continuing to go astray. And they had some defending to do as Tingey's headed clearance fell to Mbengui who snatched at the chance with his shot flying the wide before Ben Peden fired a shot beyond the far post.

The Tangerines were managing to keep Woods at arm's length, a Tingey header which cleared the crossbar following a Gallagher free kick, a rare moment of threat for the home defence on an increasingly frustrating afternoon for Northwood.

### GOAL – 71 mins 2-1 – LUKE MAGUIRE (penalty)

And those frustrations were exacerbated as Ashford regained the lead from the penalty spot on seventy one

minutes after McCorkell brought down Kenlock, Maguire stepping up for his second strike of the afternoon.

Pepaj made way for Rahim Jude-Boyd as Woods looked for a way back and they had a wonderful opportunity as Tabor combined with Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway to play in Helmore but the latter delayed his shot allowing Clyde Ondo to make a covering block.

Northwood were growing increasingly desperate, and this was evident as an over-stretching Gallagher caught Goulter in the tackle to earn himself a red card with three minutes left on the clock.

Woods maintained their work rate but continued to lack the guile to break down the resolute Tangerines, Tabor shooting wide and Jackson lifting a shot from the edge of the as Northwood's disappointing afternoon drew to a close.



# MATCH REPORT



## WALTON & HERSHAM 2 NORTHWOOD 1

Tuesday 27th September 2022

Kick-Off 7.45pm

PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE, SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION



**Team:** McCorkell, Jenkins, Lomas, Alexander-Greenaway, Tingey, Gurteen, Pepaj, Jackson (Kalu 84), Helmore (Tabor 60), Ibie (Jude-Boyd 75), C Stewart  
**Unused Substitutions:** Hutchins, Cole  
**Yellow Cards:** Lomas, Gurteen  
**Attendance:** 248

League leaders Northwood's 100% record came to an end as highly-fancied Walton & Hersham produced a second-half comeback to take the points.

Woods named an unchanged side for their first visit to the Xcel Sports Hub as they looked to extend their winning run against the recently-promoted Swans.

The contest began at a brisk pace with both sides moving the ball around well on the slick 3G surface which had been given a greasy top by the early evening showers.

And there were early chances at both ends – Woods' Andy Lomas creating a good opening for Sydney Ibie who didn't get enough on his shot to trouble home keeper Liam Allen while Joshua Millo's cross picked out Max Blackmore on the penalty spot, his snapshot drawing a fine reaction save from Woods keeper Andrew McCorkell.

Northwood began to exert some control on proceedings as they pressed the Swans onto the back foot, Josh Helmore almost finding a way through before being crowded out as he looked to get his shot away while Micah Jackson's corner was met by Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway at the far post with his firm header being deflected behind.

Woods continued to probe as Jackson combined with Helmore whose shot on the angle was kept out by Allen before the former had a close-range stab blocked following a Luke Tingey throw into the box. And Jackson was to the fore again as his 30-yard free-kick cleared the bar before another long-range attempt flew wide of the target.

Northwood kept pushing with the hosts having some more defending to do as Sam Jenkins released Ibie who



cut in from the left flank before firing in a shot which was diverted for a corner.

### GOAL – 38 mins 0-1 - SYDNEY IBIE (penalty)

And Woods finally got their reward for a strong first-half showing by taking the lead from the penalty spot on thirty eight minutes - Ibie winning possession in the centre circle and accelerating through the home defence before his progress was ended by a challenge from Joe Hicks who was shown a yellow card, the Woods speedster's spot-kick too strong for Allen despite getting a hand on it.

The Swans responded well before the break, Jordan Adeyemi firing over while a John Gilbert free-kick into the Northwood box just bounced beyond the stretching Max Blackmore as he looked to apply the finishing touch.

The hosts carried on in a similar vein after the break as Gilbert exchanged passes with substitute Eddie Simon in the box before the danger was cleared by Lomas.

**59 mins 1-1 - HARRY MILLS**

But Woods were unable to prevent the scores being levelled just before the hour when sweeper/keeper Allen's lofted ball picked out Hicks on the edge of the box, his header finding its way to Harry Mills who swept the ball home.

Jake Tabor replaced Josh Helmore in attack as Northwood made their first substitution. But all the action continued to be in the Woods half as McCorkell saved at the feet of Simon before gathering up the loose ball.

**65 mins 2-1 - TAUREAN ROBERTS**

However, McCorkell was unable to prevent the Swans completing the turnaround as they took the lead on sixty five minutes, substitute Taurean Roberts finishing off an incisive move with some clever footwork and crashing the ball into the roof of the net.

Woods gathered themselves and threatened as Tingey's throw was flicked on by Alexander- Greenaway but there was no blue shirt to latch on at the far post. And Northwood worked themselves into home territory once more as a direct run from Tabor won his team a corner.

Woods had to reorganise on 75 minutes as Rahim Jude-Boyd replaced Ibie who was struggling after receiving a knock, the substitute moving into the right attacking berth,

Tabor moving left with Jackson going down the middle.

But it was the Swans who went close to putting the game to bed as Northwood survived a goalmouth scramble.

The hosts made things a little more difficult for themselves when they were reduced to ten men on 77 minutes after Hicks received a second yellow card for a reckless challenge on Tabor.

And Woods immediately looked to take advantage as Carl Stewart teed up Jackson but his low shot from range was comfortably dealt with by Allen.

Woods were struggling to make the numerical advantage count and their attacking threat was further reduced as the tiring Jackson was replaced by Brandon Kalu. And as the contest moved into stoppage-time, Adeyemi almost punished Northwood for some sloppy play as he fired over when well placed.

Northwood had opportunities to get something out of the game during the five minutes of added time, Lomas firing a low shot narrowly wide of the upright before a Tingey throw in the dying seconds led to a game of pinball in the home box - Jenkins and Tabor having shots charged down before Alexander-Greenaway's header was gratefully gathered by Allen to make sure of the points for the Swans.



# THE WOODS IN 2022/2023

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	COMP	F/A	ATT	LINEUP	2	3	4	5	6
<b>AUGUST</b>											
Sat 6	<b>SOUTH PARK REIGATE</b>	H	FACEPR	2-1	128	McCorkell <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> , Jenkins <span style="color: purple;">●</span>	Lomas	Tingey	Budden	Jonas	
Sat 13	<b>TOOTING &amp; MITCHAM UNITED</b>	H	Lge	3-2	154	McCorkell	Tingey	Kalu	Cole	Budden	Gurteen
Wed 17	Bedfont Sports	A	Lge	1-0	111	McCorkell	Jenkins <span style="color: green;">●</span>	Lomas	Cole	Tingey	Gurteen <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
Sat 20	Ashford Town (Middx)	A	FACPR	2-2	136	McCorkell	Gurteen <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Lomas	Cole	Budden	Tingey
Tue 23	<b>ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)</b>	H	FACPRR	1-3	191	McCorkell	Kalu	Lomas	Tingey <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Budden	Gallagher
Sat 27	Westfield	A	Lge	3-1	153	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	<b>COLE 1</b>	Tingey	Gurteen
Mon 29	<b>SOUTHALL</b>	H	Lge	2-0	228	McCorkell	Jenkins <span style="color: green;">●</span> , <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Lomas	Cole <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	<b>TINGEY 1</b>	Gurteen <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>											
Tue 13	<b>HANWORTH VILLA</b>	H	FAT1QR	0-3	85	McCorkell	Jenkins <span style="color: green;">●</span>	Lomas	Cole	Tingey	Gurteen
Sat 17	<b>CHERTSEY TOWN</b>	H	Lge	3-1	202	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Alexander-Greenaway <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Tingey	Gurteen <span style="color: purple;">●</span>
Sat 24	<b>SUTTON COMMON ROVERS</b>	H	Lge	2*1	162	McCorkell	Jenkins <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey	Gurteen
Tue 27	Walton & Hershaw	A	Lge	1-2	248	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey	Gurteen <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
<b>OCTOBER</b>											
Sat 1	Ashford Town (Middx)	A	Lge	1-2	126	McCorkell	Gallagher <span style="color: red;">■</span>	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey	Gurteen
Sat 8	<b>MERSTHAM</b>	H	Lge								
Tue 11	<b>ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)</b>	H	MSC								
Sat 15	Basingstoke Town	A	Lge								
Tue 18	Walton & Hershaw	A	VILC								
Sat 22	<b>THATCHAM TOWN</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 29	<b>CHIPSTEAD</b>	H	Lge								
<b>NOVEMBER</b>											
Sat 5	Uxbridge	A	Lge								
Sat 12	<b>LEATHERHEAD</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 19	Guernsey	A	Lge								
Sat 26	Marlow	A	Lge								
<b>DECEMBER</b>											
Sat 3	<b>SOUTH PARK REIGATE</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 10	SuttonCommonRovers	A	Lge								
Sat 17	<b>BINFIELD</b>	H	Lge								
Mon 26	Southall	A	Lge								
<b>JANUARY</b>											
Mon 2	<b>HANWORTH VILLA</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 7	Tooting & MitchamUnited	A	Lge								
Sat 14	<b>BEDFONT SPORTS</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 21	<b>UXBRIDGE</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 28	Leatherhead	A	Lge								
<b>FEBRUARY</b>											
Sat 4	<b>GUERNSEY</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 11	Chipstead	A	Lge								
Tue 14	<b>WALTON &amp; HERSHAM</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 18	Merstham	A	Lge								
Sat 25	<b>ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)</b>	H	Lge								
<b>MARCH</b>											
Sat 4	Chertsey Town	A	Lge								
Sat 11	<b>BASINGSTOKE TOWN</b>	H	Lge								
Sat 18	Thatcham Town	A	Lge								
Sat 25	<b>WESTFIELD</b>	H	Lge								
<b>APRIL</b>											
Sat 1	Binfield	A	Lge								
Mon 10	Hanworth Villa	A	Lge								
Sat 15	South Park Reigate	A	Lge								
Sat 22	<b>MARLOW</b>	H	Lge								



**Back Row (L-R):** Rahim Jude-Boyd, Teddy Stacey, Riccardo Alexa  
**Front Row:** Ronan Hutchins, Lindell Stewart

Key: Goalscorer(s) in Bold1; Sub 1 ●; Sub 2 ●; Sub 3 ●; Sub 4 ●; Sub 5 ●; Yellow Card 🟡; Red Card 🟥; \* Own Goal.

	7	8	9	10	11	SUBS	2	3	4	5
<b>HUTCHINS 1</b>	Alexander-Greenaway 🟡	<b>HELMORE 1</b> ●	Ibie	(C)Stewart ●	Pepaj ●	(L)Stewart ●	Jude-Boyd ●	Gallagher	Gurteen	
<b>HUTCHINS 1</b> ●	Alexander-Greenaway 🟡	(L)Stewart	<b>IBIE 2</b> ● 🟡	(C)Stewart	Pepaj ●	Gallagher ●	Helmore	Jenkins	Jonas	
Hutchins ●	Alexander-Greenaway	(L)Stewart 🟡	Ibie	(C)Stewart	Helmore ●	Kalu ●	Gallagher	Pepaj	Budden	
(L)Stewart	Alexander-Greenaway ●	<b>HELMORE 1</b>	<b>IBIE 1</b>	(C)Stewart	Taylor ●	Gallagher	Pepaj	Kalu	Hutchins	
Taylor ●	Cole ●	Helmore ●	<b>IBIE 1</b> 🟡	(C)Stewart	Pepaj ● 🟡	Hutchins ●	(L)Stewart ●	Gurteen	Haile	
<b>HUTCHINS 1</b>	Alexander-Greenaway ●	Helmore 🟡	<b>IBIE 1</b> ●	(C)Stewart 🟡	Pepaj ●	(L)Stewart ●	Gallagher	Haile	Kalu	
Hutchins	Alexander-Greenaway	<b>HELMORE 1</b> ●	Ibie	Pepaj	(C)Stewart ●	Budden ●	(L)Stewart ●	Gallagher	Kalu	
Hutchins	Alexander-Greenaway	Helmore	Ibie	Pepaj ●	(C)Stewart ●	Jude-Boyd ●	(L)Stewart	Gallagher	Kalu	
Hutchins ●	Jackson ●	<b>HELMORE 1</b>	<b>IBIE 2</b> 🟡	(C)Stewart	Jude-Boyd ●	Cole ●	Gallagher ●	Pepaj	Kalu	
Pepaj	Jackson ●	<b>HELMORE 1</b> ●	Ibie ●	(C)Stewart	Tabor ●	Jude-Boyd ●	Kalu ●	Hutchins	Cole	
Pepaj	Jackson ●	Helmore ●	<b>IBIE 1</b> ●	(C)Stewart	Tabor ●	Jude-Boyd ●	Kalu ●	Hutchins	Cole	
Tabor	Pepaj ●	Helmore	<b>IBIE 1</b> ●	(C)Stewart	Jackson ●	Jude-Boyd ●	Hutchins	Cole	Kalu	



Alexander-Greenaway, Sydney Ibie, Sam Jenkins, Andrew McCorkell, Josh Helmore, Romario Jonas, Luke Tingey, James Gurteen, Harry Gallagher, Keagan Cole, Carl Stewart, Andy Lomas, Brandon Kalu, Ergys Pepaj, Dave Taylor.

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# IN CONVERSATION WITH...CARL STEWART

Robin Piper caught up with the popular midfield maestro following the recent defeat at Walton & Hersham.

**Disappointing defeat last night and losing the 100% record – what are your thoughts on it 24 hours later?**

*Very disappointing but we came up against a very good footballing side who are technically very strong. The gameplan worked in the first half, pressing well and restricting their build up from deep positions and going into half-time with the lead. But they changed things in the second-half going a bit more direct and we were unable to maintain the levels we had shown in first-half unfortunately.*

**Yes, that seems to be a trait of ours where we struggle to piece two good halves together – can you put your finger on the reasons?**

*Not really, but it is something that is discussed regularly as a group. The management team addressed it at length in the dressing room after the Walton & Hersham game. I don't think it is a fitness issue as we are sometimes stronger in the second half, but I guess as players we need to be better at responding to the changes the opposition might make during the game. But I'm confident we can get back*

on track and get another winning run going.

**That would be nice. I guess the run had to come to an end and I think we have surprised a few people with our start.**

*Most definitely, especially when you consider a lot of the pre-season predictions had us down for relegation which I think was unfair when you consider how we did last season.*

**Yes, a season where you won the coveted Players' Player of the Year award.**

*Yes, the award meant a lot – to be recognised in such a way by your teammates means everything.*

**And fully deserved in my opinion.**

*That's very kind. Winning the award at a club which feels like home and where I have been able to start enjoying my football again, makes it even more special. The club has been so welcoming and my girlfriend and family have seen the difference it has made to me and my football and they enjoy coming down to the club and watching.*

**That's great to hear and the off-field environment at a club is so important in creating a successful team on the pitch. The team spirit is clear to see and we certainly seem to have some characters in the dressing room.**

*We certainly do. The banter is great especially from the likes of James Gurteen and Sam Jenkins and we are looking forward to Teddy getting back to fitness as he is great in the dressing room as well as on the pitch.*

**Speaking of characters, can I ask who is the worst dresser in the squad?**

*I would have to say Andrew McCorkell leads the way in that department, especially on our recent team day out!*

**You mention Teddy Stacey – you two were the mainstays in central midfield last season and this season you are playing alongside Riccardo and that partnership seems to be developing well.**

*Definitely. The partnership is growing with every game, and we now have a real connection and understanding and think we complement each other really well. I felt we could make a good partnership just from the single game we played together last season at Ashford.*

**And young Ergys has also featured in the midfield and done well in recent games.**

*He has, and credit to him for biding his time and making the most of the opportunity.*

**Going back to last season, how did the move to Northwood come about?**

*I started last season at Beaconsfield but wasn't getting much game time when Northwood spoke to Gary Meakin (Beaconsfield manager) who agreed on a dual-registration arrangement as a good way of getting me some much-needed minutes. But as soon as I came to the club, I knew this was the place for me and was able to make the move permanent.*

**Beaconsfield's loss was certainly our gain and being part of a team, which was being assembled from scratch by the new management team must have been very exciting.**

*It certainly was. And it was like a 'getting to know you' for everyone in the one training session we had together before the first game at Chipstead. But because we were all in the same boat with no preconceptions everything seemed to click.*

**And that was the first of many good days on the road. Looking back, what were the highlights for you last season?**

*For me, the win at Chertsey was special as no-one outside of our group saw it coming and the Basingstoke game also for similar reasons.*

**And talking about Chertsey, I remember you scored a goal in the home game against them later in the season.**

*Yes, my only goal of the season, but I was unable to celebrate as we lost the game unfortunately.*

**And can we expect to see more goals from you this season?**

*I would like to think so. Last season I was asked to play more of the holding role when earlier in my career I saw myself as more of a box-to-box midfielder who could pop up with the odd goal here and there.*

**And are there any players that have particularly influenced you?**

*I have always admired the Spanish duo of Xavi and Iniesta who like me were not the tallest of players but that didn't stop them from having fantastic careers.*

**And a career that started with a long association with Watford.**

*Yes, I joined the Watford Academy at the age of eight and worked my way up through the age groups before*

being offered a professional contract and finally making a first team appearance coming on as a substitute in an FA Cup tie versus Burton Albion.

**That must have been a special moment?**

*It was. I remember feeling really nervous as the manager told me to get ready and then frustrated as the ball wouldn't go out of play to allow me to come on. But once I got on all the nerves went and I just got on with the job.*

**And then I understand you had spells playing in Italy and then later Poland.**

*Yes, Udinese was a great experience, learning a new culture and learning a new language. And then later on after my contract at Watford wasn't renewed, I had a spell playing in Poland for Zagłębie Sosnowiec but that all came to an end when Covid struck.*

**And away from football, how do you spend your time?**

*I like to spend time in the kitchen and cooking up a few dishes, especially a bit of Italian. Me and my mum do have a little dream where we will run a winery and restaurant together, so who knows in the future.*

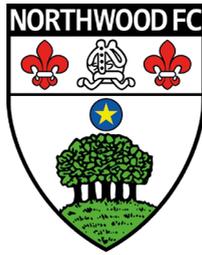
**I wish you all the best of luck with your future dreams. And in the near future, what are your hopes for the season?**

*I think we are fully capable as a team of staying in and around the top end of the table. Staying top will be a big ask but I would be very disappointed if we are not featuring in the play-offs come the end of the season and me chipping in with a few more goals would be good.*

**I like the sound of that. Thanks for your time, Carl. Wishing you well for the rest of the season and looking forward to seeing you on the next series of Master Chef.**

*Cheers!*





# MAIN CLUB SPONSORS

## - 2022/23 -

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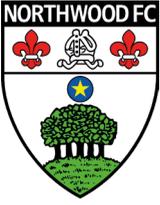


**BACK OF HOME SHIRTS**



**BACK OF AWAY SHIRTS**





# ROLL CALL

2022-23 SEASON | WOODS CAREER | WOODS DEBUT

Up to 7th October 2022	WOODS CAREER RECORD														
	SEASON 2022/2023						WOODS CAREER RECORD								
	ISTHMIAN LEAGUE			CUP COMPETITIONS			TOTALS		LEAGUE		CUPS		OVERALL		
Players' Name	Start	As Sub.	Total	Gls	Start	As Sub.	Total	Gls	Lge Games	Gls	Cup Games	Total Games	Tot Goals	Woods Debut	
Ricardo Alexander-Greenaway	8	0	8	0	3	0	3	0	8	0	3	0	11	0	Ashford Town (M) (A) Mar '22
Lewis Batten	Dual Registered at Broadfields United FC														
Kristian Bebovas	Dual Registered at Broadfields United FC														
James Budden	1	1	2	0	3	0	3	0	61	7	12	0	73	7	Godalming Town (H) Dec '15
Keagan Cole	4	1	5	1	3	0	3	0	27	7	7	0	34	7	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Harry Gallagher	1	2	3	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	Tooting & MU (H) Aug '22
James Gurteen	8	0	8	0	2	0	2	0	36	0	6	1	42	1	UXbridge (A) Sept '17
* Nobby Hale	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	0	Rushden & Diamonds (A) Nov '17
Josh Helmore	6	1	7	3	4	0	4	2	24	12	8	3	32	15	Bedfont Sports (H) Jan '22
Ronan Hutchins	5	0	5	2	2	1	3	1	5	2	3	1	8	3	South Park Reigate (H) Aug '22
Sydney Ibie	8	0	8	7	4	0	4	2	31	14	5	2	36	16	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Micah Jackson	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	16	5	1	2	17	7	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Sam Jenkins	6	0	6	0	2	0	2	0	48	3	12	0	51	3	Kings Langley (H) Sept '18
Romario Jonas	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	South Park Reigate (H) Aug '22
Rahim Jude-Boyd	0	4	4	0	0	2	2	0	4	0	2	0	6	0	South Park Reigate (H) Aug '22
Brandon Kallu	1	3	4	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	5	0	Tooting & MU (H) Aug '22
Andy Lomas	7	0	7	0	4	0	4	0	112	1	31	1	143	2	Kettering Town (A) Aug '14
Andrew McConnell	8	0	8	0	4	0	4	0	10	0	4	0	14	0	UXbridge (A) Sept '17
Ergys Pepaj	4	2	6	0	1	2	3	0	6	0	3	0	9	0	South Park Reigate (H) Aug '22
Will Robinson	Dual Registered at Levenshock Green FC														
Teddy Stacey	Dual Registered at Levenshock Green FC														
Carl Stewart	7	1	8	0	3	1	4	0	30	1	8	0	38	1	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
*Lundell Stewart	2	2	4	0	1	2	3	0	4	0	4	0	8	0	Wembley (H) Nov '21
Jake Tabor	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	Sutton Common Rovers (H) Sept '22
David Taylor	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	6	0	2	0	8	0	Moneysfields (A) Dec '17
Luke Tinggy	8	0	8	1	4	0	4	0	20	1	7	0	27	1	Tooting & MU (H) Feb '22
Ryan Young	Managing the Under-18s														
									17	1	3	0	20	1	Chipstead (A) Nov '21





## Woods exit FA Youth Cup

The Under-18s excellent run of form in the FA Youth Cup came to an end with a home defeat against an impressive Langley side but not before they gave them a fright having taken an early lead.

The second qualifying round match saw the Woods storm into a 13th minute lead when in-form striker Fabjan Toci let fly from outside the box, out wide on the right, and it gave the keeper no chance.

The game progressed fairly evenly but the visitors began to get on top as half-time approached and they did level the scores at an ideal time with a neat finish and they continued to dominate after the break. Ten minutes into the second-half, a free-kick came back off the crossbar and when it was put back in the box, the ball was fired home to see Langley in front.

The Woods looked to get back into it but the visitors then bagged a somewhat lucky third when a shot took a massive deflection to give Max Bretayne no chance in goal and that proved the killer. Despite a late rally which saw Toci, Ben Crowder and Oscar John all go close, it was not to be.

The side finally plays their first Isthmian Youth League home game of the season a week later, against Hampton & Richmond Borough on Wednesday 5th October.

The side were finally due to be back in Isthmian League action on Wednesday night with their first home game of the season against Hampton & Richmond Borough. These notes had to be written before the result of that match was known. There is no game again this coming week but they do play at home to Uxbridge in a League Cup fixture on Wednesday 19th October.

**Team:** Max Bretayne, James Payne, Arinze Moneke, Joe Reade, Liam Osborne, Harrison Clemow, Ben Crowder, Max Lousley (Luke De Souza-Sterling), Oscar John (Calvin Wyatt), Fabjan Toci, Londin Latifi (Sebastian Fernandez).  
**Unused Subs:** Mason Harding, Max Wheeler, Ethan Bradford, Marco Ristea.



RYAN YOUNG

# THE YOUNG ONES

## NORTHWOOD UNDER-18S FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Comp	Result	Scorers
Mon 22 Aug	Bedfont Sports	(A)	YLge	1-4 Crowder
Wed 31 Aug	Uxbridge	(A)	FAYCup	4-1 Toci 3, Kwaku-Scholz
Wed 14 Sept	Hemel Hempstead Town	(A)	FAYCup	3-1 Toci 2, Reid
Wed 28 Sept	LANGLEY	(H)	FAYCup	1-3 Toci
Wed 5 Oct	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	(H)	YLge	
Wed 19 Oct	UXBRIDGE	(H)	YLcup	
Wed 2 Nov	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	(H)	YLge	
Tues 22 Nov	Fleet Town	(A)	YLge	
Wed 30 Nov	UXBRIDGE	(H)	YLge	
Mon 12 Dec	Camberley Town	(A)	YLge	
Wed 11 Jan	BEDFONT SPORTS	(H)	YLge	
Wed 25 Jan	Hampton & Richmond Borough	(A)	YLge	
Mon 6 Feb	Beaconsfield Town	(A)	YLge	
Wed 22 Feb	FLEET TOWN	(H)	YLge	
Mon 27 Feb	Uxbridge	(A)	YLge	
Wed 8 Mar	CAMBERLEY TOWN	(H)	YLge	

### Key:

YLge = Isthmian Youth League | FAYCup = FA Youth Cup  
 MCYCup = Middlesex County Youth Cup

	League Table	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	G-D
1	Bedfont Sports	2	1	1	0	6	3	4	3
2	Beaconsfield Town	1	1	0	0	7	1	3	6
3	Camberley Town	1	1	0	0	5	0	3	5
4	Uxbridge	1	0	1	0	2	2	1	0
5	Northwood	1	0	0	1	1	4	0	-3
6	Hampton & RB	1	0	0	1	0	5	0	-5
7	Fleet Town	1	0	0	1	1	7	0	-6

# MATCH REPORT



## NORTHWOOD 2 SUTTON COMMON ROVERS 1

Saturday 24th September 2022

Kick-Off 3.00pm



Pitching In Isthmian League, South Central Division

**TEAM:** McCorkell, Jenkins, Lomas, Alexander-Greenaway, Tingey, Gurteen, Pepaj, Jackson Tabor (68), Helmore (Jude-Boyd 78), Ibie (Kalu 90), C Stewart  
**UNUSED SUBS:** Hutchins, Cole  
**YELLOW CARD:** Jenkins  
**ATTENDANCE:** 162

The Woods made it six wins out of six to equal the start of the 1990-91 London Spartan League campaign as they consolidated their position at the top of the table with a deserved win over their South London rivals whose team contained the popular Matt Surmon, who along with Nebay Haile and Daniel Purdue were making early returns in opposition colours.

There was one change to the Northwood line-up with midfielder Ergys Pepaj replacing Ronan Hutchins who hadn't recovered sufficiently from the ankle knock which he suffered in the win over Chertsey Town.

The Woods began at a good tempo and they forced an early corner which was cleared to Carl Stewart on the edge of the box and his first time shot drew a flying save from Purdue.

### GOAL – 7 mins 1-0 – Bertie Lloyd (own goal)

Northwood maintained their bright start as they moved the ball around with confidence and they were rewarded with the lead on seven minutes, Andy Lomas firing in a cross which diverted off the head of Bertie Lloyd and looped over Purdue for an own goal.

The Commoners were struggling to get any sort of foothold on proceedings with Woods controlling the midfield with Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway particularly dominant, a long-range attempt from Shawn Lyle, which flew well wide of the target, the visitors' only moment of note in the early stages.

### GOAL – 17 mins 2-0 – Josh Helmore

Woods continued to probe and they extended their

lead on seventeen minutes with a delightful move which saw Pepaj thread the ball through to the overlapping Sam Jenkins whose low cut-back was met by Josh Helmore for his third league goal of the season.

The game entered a scrappy period with neither side creating any clear-cut openings - Pepaj firing over from distance before Micah Jackson sent a free-kick whistling past the far upright for Northwood, while at the other end, Tyler Cox was off target with a speculative shot.

The second-half began with Woods looking to reassert their authority and put the contest to bed and they went close as Pepaj combined with Sydney Ibie following an Andy Lomas throw-in on the edge of the box, the ball finding its way back to the latter who had two bites at the cherry before the visitors cleared their lines.

Rovers had struggled to find any sort of attacking cohesion up to this point but by adopting a more direct approach, they were beginning to offer a threat and they went close as Haile fired a free-kick into the side-netting.



Northwood remained a threat on the break as Ibbie, who had so far had a relatively quiet afternoon, made a strong run through the middle but his shot was comfortably gathered by Purdue.

Woods made their first substitution on sixty eight minutes as Jackson was replaced by fellow attacker Jake Tabor for his debut following his switch from HarpendenTown.

And Tabor was quickly into the game as he was involved in a move which saw Pepaj's shot gathered by Purdue at the second attempt.

Northwood continued to push for a third goal and the visitors conceded a corner from which Pepaj's far post delivery was met by Tabor but his low header lacked the required purchase to beat Purdue.

The visitors used all their substitutions as they looked to retrieve what was looking like an increasingly lost cause while Helmore made way for Rahim Jude-Boyd who filled the right-sided attacking berth with Tabor moving into the centre-forward position.

The Commoners began to enjoy their best period of

possession but were restricted to long-range efforts from substitutes Francis Mampolo and Courtney Swaby which failed to trouble Woods keeper Andrew McCorkell.

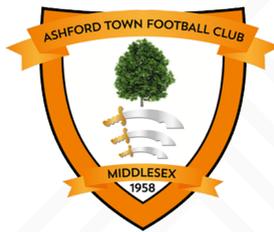
### GOAL – 2-1 85 mins – Mampola

However, Northwood switched off sufficiently to afford Mampolo a simple far-post finish to give the visitors a life-line on eighty five minutes, Jenkins receiving a caution after some fun and games as the Commoners looked to retrieve the ball from the net for a swift restart.

The visitors frantically went in search of an equaliser as they launched a series of balls into the Northwood box, but the home rearguard continued to stand firm with McCorkell once again displaying a safe pair of hands. And Woods countered as Tabor broke down the middle before laying off to Ibbie whose low shot was kept out by Purdue.

Brandon Kalu was introduced for Ibbie as Woods looked to negotiate the five minutes of added time and they did so without any further scares to secure the win which re-established the five-point gap at the summit of the table.





THE VISITORS

# ASHFORD TOWN

## A BRIEF HISTORY

**F**or many years, it was assumed that Ashford Town Football Club was formed in 1964. However, subsequent research indicated the club was formed in 1958 as Ashford Albion and first competed in the Hounslow & District League. The Club was elected to the Surrey Intermediate League (Western) in 1967 and promoted at the end of their first season.

The Ash Trees were League Cup finalists in 1970-71 and League runners-up in 1972-73. In 1974-75, Ashford enjoyed their best season under the managership of ex-Fulham player Frank Reid, winning the League by three points from perennial contenders Merrow.

In 1982-83 an invitation was extended by Surrey County FA to become founder members of the Surrey County Premier League. The invitation was readily accepted and Ashford played their first match in the new league on 4 September 1982, drawing 0-0 away to Farleigh Rovers.

The Club acquired its own ground in August 1985, when a long lease was signed with Spelthorne Borough Council, enabling the Club to move to its present home at Short Lane, Stanwell. Facilities were quickly developed, floodlights were erected in September 1995, whilst the pitch is railed all round and partly walled, with standing covered accommodation, plus a purpose built 150-seater stand, built in 1998. An additional 100 seats were installed on the opposite side of the ground to this stand in 2006, after the club won promotion to the Isthmian League Premier Division.

Runners-up spot in the Surrey Premier League was secured and with it the opportunity to enter senior football, as members of the Combined Counties League, senior status having been granted in May 1990. It was at this point that the club changed its name to Ashford Town (Middlesex) FC, to avoid confusion with the Kent club of

the same name.

During its ten year membership of the Combined Counties League, the Club never finished below sixth place, and after finishing 3rd and 2nd in seasons 1992-93 and 93-94, it went on to win the League Championship for four successive seasons. With the ground up to the required standard, Ashford took their place in the Isthmian League for season 2000-01 and by finishing in third place, secured promotion to Division Two at the first attempt. Further progress was made in 2003-04 as the Club finished 12th in Division 1 South. The Club embarked upon new adventures in season 2004-05 in the Southern League for the first time. The Fourth Qualifying Round of the FA Cup was reached for the first time and Mark Butler, renowned goal scorer in his day with Aldershot Town, Staines Town and others was promoted from Assistant Manager to Manager following the resignation of Nathan Wharf in December 2004. The play-offs were reached but resulted in a narrow defeat at Evesham United after extra time. In 2005-06, Ashford went one better, finishing second in Division One West of the Southern League, to secure promotion to Step 3. This brought about a return to the Isthmian League for season 2006-07 and saw Ashford competing at their highest ever level. The season brought consolidation of the new status with the added bonus of reaching and winning the Westview (League) Cup Final when Ashford triumphed 4-1 over Dover Athletic at Bromley.

The 2008-09 season saw Ashford begin the campaign in electrifying form, winning their opening six matches to top the table. Mark Butler's side followed this up with a fantastic FA Cup run which saw them come agonisingly close to eliminating Forest Green Rovers in the Fourth Qualifying Round at Short Lane. Rovers won the replay and went on to run Derby County close in the Third

Round. Ashford endured a difficult winter, which saw them flirt with relegation, before a late resurgence saw the side safely into mid-table. The cup competitions added much adventure to the season, as Ashford followed up their exploits in the FA Cup with runs to the semi-finals of both the Middlesex Senior and Isthmian League Cups and end their campaign by defeating Conference Premier outfit Woking 3-2 at Metropolitan Police to win the Surrey Senior Cup.

The 2009-10 season saw Ashford relegated back to Step 4 after a turbulent campaign. In 2011-12, in the Middlesex Charity Cup Final, the Ash Trees were 3-0 down to Northwood after 48 minutes before substitute Kofi Lockhart-Adams scored four times to put his team ahead. The game finished 4-4, with Ashford winning the penalty shoot-out 4-2. An awful start to the 2013-14 season saw the Ash Trees cut adrift at the foot of the Southern League Central Division and although they improved relegation back to Step 5 followed on the final day of the season.

The Ash Trees first campaign back in the competition saw Ashford finish third, while their second saw Town claim promotion and return to Step 4 after finishing second to Hartley Wintney whose ground didn't have a sufficient grading.

2018-19 saw Ashford start the season well and were contending for a play-off spot before a poor run of form saw them slip down and finish the season in mid-table. Another good run in the Middlesex FA Charity Cup saw them reach the final, finishing runners up after a 2-1 defeat to Uxbridge. A poor season the following year was curtailed due to Covid and the following year was pretty much wiped out by the pandemic too. Last season, Ashford eventually finished in thirteenth place but only a couple of points above the relegation play-off places having had to cope with Manager Luke Tufts moving on to Leatherhead. He was replaced by current boss, former goalkeeper Paul McCarthy.

## PAST YEARS – OUR VISITORS RECENT PLAYING RECORD

Season	Position	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Southern League Division One Central</b>								
2012-2013	10th	42	17	10	15	85	79	61
2013-2014	22nd <sup>®</sup>	42	5	6	31	32	107	21
<b>Combined Counties League Premier Division</b>								
2014-2015	3rd	40	25	5	10	94	54	80
2015-2016	2nd (P)	42	31	3	8	112	51	96
<b>Southern League Division One Central/East</b>								
2016-2017	10th	42	17	8	17	73	71	59
2017-2018	12th	42	16	8	18	81	68	56
<b>Isthmian League South Central Division</b>								
2018-2019	11th	38	15	5	18	55	70	50
2019-2020	17th	29	5	5	19	30	70	20
2020-2021	8th	8	4	1	3	8	8	13
2021-2022	13th	36	12	2	22	42	60	38

TEST YOUR FOOTBALLING  
KNOWLEDGE

# 10 TO TACKLE

## HOW MUCH CAN YOU REMEMBER ABOUT PREMIER LEAGUE MANAGERS?

1. Who was the first Premier League manager to be sacked?
2. Who was Jose Mourinho's first signing at Chelsea?
3. How many times had David Moyes won the prestigious LMA Manager of the year award?
4. Who was the first Italian manager to win the Premier League?
5. Which manager was in charge at Manchester City when they won their first Premier League title?
6. Who has managed Reading, Swansea City and Liverpool?
7. Which club did Glenn Hoddle join after being sacked as England manager in 1999?
8. How many times did Sir Alex Ferguson win the Premier League Manager of the Month award?
9. Who was the first English manager to win the Premier League Manager of the Year award?
10. Ron Atkinson last managed which club in the Premier League?



ANSWERS: 1 Ian Porterfield, 2 Paulo Ferreira, 3 Three, 4 Carlo Ancelotti, 5 Roberto Mancini, 6 Brendan Rodgers, 7 Southampton, 8 27, 9 Harry Redknapp, 10 Nottingham Forest.

# PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION TABLE

Up to & including Sat 1st October 2022

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
<b>NORTHWOOD</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>
Marlow	7	4	2	1	13	6	14
Binfield	5	4	1	0	12	1	13
Chertsey Town	8	3	3	2	18	10	12
Walton & Hershaw	5	4	0	1	13	7	12
Basingstoke Town	7	3	2	2	12	6	11
Southall	8	2	4	2	10	9	10
South Park	6	3	1	2	6	9	10
Ashford Town (Middx)	7	3	1	3	7	12	10
Hanworth Villa	6	2	3	1	9	9	9
Uxbridge	6	2	2	2	8	8	8
Westfield	5	2	1	2	10	5	7
Chipstead	7	2	1	4	7	12	7
Sutton Common Rovers	7	2	1	4	8	16	7
Tooting & Mitcham United	7	1	3	3	6	9	6
Leatherhead	7	1	3	3	3	9	6
Bedfont Sports	6	1	2	3	4	7	5
Thatcham Town	7	1	2	4	9	13	5
Guernsey	6	1	2	3	2	10	5
Merstham	5	0	2	3	2	8	2

## THE MIDDLESEX FA SENIOR CHALLENGE CUP

**T**he first round of the Middlesex FA Senior Challenge Cup gets underway this week with all seven ties due to take place.

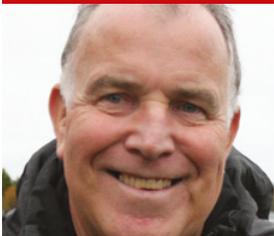
### The full first round draw is as follows.

Bedfont Sports v. St. Panteleimon  
 Harefield United v. Hanworth Villa  
 Hilltop v. Edgware & Kingsbury  
 North Greenford United v. Broadfields United

Northwood v. Ashford Town (Middx)  
 Southall v. Wembley  
 Uxbridge v. Spelthorne Sports

**Byes into the Second Round:** Barnet, Brentford B, Enfield Town, Hampton & Richmond Borough, Hanwell Town, Harrow Borough, Hayes & Yeading United, Hendon, Wealdstone.

**STEVE RINGROSE**  
DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL



Sponsored by Michael Payne

**BEN BUKOWSKI**  
HEAD COACH



Sponsored by Michael Payne

**RICHARD ELDERFIELD**  
COACH

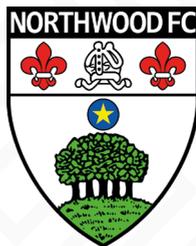


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**DAN DAGGETT**  
PHYSIO



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# NORTHWOOD FC

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**Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway**

The 22-year-old midfielder joined the Woods on a dual-registration basis from Southern Premier side Hendon in March 2022 but only played one game. Ric had previously played at Chalfont St Peter for two seasons, being named Player of the Year in 2019/20. However, he has now signed on permanently for the new 2022/23 season and should bolster the midfield area.

**Pete Reynolds**

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**Kristian Belousas**

Kristian is a former Fulham Development attacking player who joined the Woods in February 2022 from Middlesex League side Shepherds Bush FC where he has been a regular goalscorer. The 20-year-old has been called up to Lithuania Under-19 and Under-21 squads in the past and will be looking to make an impression at the higher level. He is dual-registered with Broadfields United for the 2022/23 season

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### James Budden

James returned to Northwood in the summer of 2022 for a second spell having previously played from 2015 to 2017, ultimately winning the Player of the Year. Having started off at Hemel Hempstead, Aylesbury and Leverstock Green, he moved on to play Step Three for Hitchin Town and Potters Bar Town and now 30, he brings plenty of experience to the Woods back-line.

**David Nolan**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Harry Gallagher

Harry has come late to Saturday non-League football having only started playing last season with Broadfields United having trained with Northwood for much of 2022. Having continued to impress, the 24-year-old has now registered with the Woods for the new season but remains dual-registered at Broadfields United.

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### Keagan Arrive

Keagan arrived at Northwood in a player-coach role in November 2021 having skippered Potters Bar Town at Step 3 and after a short spell with Walthamstow FC. Prior to that he came up through the youth ranks at Hendon to become the youngest player to make over 100 appearances for Hendon. Just turned 23 and an inspirational skipper who picked up the Supporters Player of the Year award in 2022.

**Frances Wallace**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Josh Helmore

Experienced forward Josh moved to the Woods from divisional rivals Binfield FC in November 2022 and enjoyed an excellent season, totalling over twenty goals for both sides. The 30-year-old started out with Reading City and has also played for Gloucester City, Thatcham Town, Berkhamsted and Bracknell Town.

**Sean Moore**

**Jordan Gavaghan Vehicle Finance**



### James Gurteen

James was previously with the Woods as an 18-year-old in 2017 and made a couple of appearances but returned in October 2021 on dual-registration from Kings Langley. In the meantime, the 23-year-old central defender has also appeared for Rayners Lane, Aylesbury United, Broadfields United and Southall. Back for a second season in 2022.

**Gerry Pimm**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Sydney Ibie

Dutch-born striker who joined the Woods from Potters Bar Town in November 2021, where he had made a handful of appearances both this season and at the back of last season while also having a short spell with Beaconsfield Town. The tall forward started out at Hemel Hempstead Town and had loan spells with Welwyn Garden City, Aylesbury United, Wantage Town and Chalfont St Peter where he netted four times in nine appearances. The 21-year-old made a good impression with some crucial goals in his first season.

**The Vosper Boys**

**Rory O'Dwyer**



### Ronan Hutchins

Ronan is a former Brentford Academy player who has joined the Woods in the summer of 2022 from Hampton & Richmond Borough. Still only 18, attacking-midfielder Ronan was loaned out to Hendon and then Tring Athletic last season and he netted eight goals in 21 games for the Spartan South Midlands League side. He will be looking to establish himself and progress at the higher level this season.

**Naomi La Croix & Dwayne Fernandez**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Sam Jenkins

Sam originally joined the club in July 2018 having previously been at Harpenden Town. He won the Managers Player of the Year award at the end of that season but joined Chesham United where he stayed for three years, though with injury issues. He came to the Woods on dual-registration several times but has now returned permanently for the new season in 2022 and the 27-year-old will look to add to his 50 plus appearances

**Colin Harman**

**Available for Sponsorship**





### Rahim Jude-Boyd

Having once been part of the QPR Academy set-up, Rahim came to the Woods after an excellent season playing for Middlesex League side Cricklewood Wanderers and impressed in pre-season with the 22-year-old defender added to the squad for the new season.

**Dwayne Fernandez & Naomi La Croix**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Romario Jonas

Romario is a 25-year-old defender who joins the Woods on dual-registration with Hanwell Town in July 2022. He made his name with some impressive performances at Ashford Town (Middx) and earned a move to Step 3 side Hendon where he made almost 50 appearances over two seasons. He has had short spells with Bracknell Town and Chalfont St Peter but was then part of the successful Hanwell side that won promotion through the play-offs back in May.

**Graham Mann**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Andrew McCorkell

Experienced 24-year-old goalkeeper who had a short spell with the Woods back in 2017 after release from MK Dons where he picked up representative honours in Northern Ireland's Under-19s. He had already made appearances at Hendon and Chesham United. In recent years he has had spells with Beaconsfield, Hayes & Yeading, Chalfont St Peter and, most recently, Bedford Sports before joining Northwood for the new season.

**Dennis Goulding**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Andy Lomas

The experienced 32-year-old left-back returned to the Woods in a Player-Coach role in November 2021. He first arrived at Northwood Park in August 2014. Andy was virtually ever-present over the next two seasons, making over 100 appearances, being part of the Middlesex Senior Cup success in 2016 and enjoying a clean sweep of Player of the Year awards that same year. He then moved up to join Harrow Borough, spent a few games back on loan at Northwood the following season and then moved to Potters Bar Town where he spent another four successful years. He now has over 130 appearances behind him.

**Robin Piper**

**Robin Piper**



### Brandon Kalu

Experienced, left-back, Brandon has moved to Northwood having played at Chalfont St Peter and Bedford Sports in recent seasons. The 27-year-old also played for Hillingdon Borough.

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### Ergys Pepaj

Albanian-born Ergys joins the Woods in the summer of 2022 having enjoyed a good season playing for Potters Bar Under-23 side. The skilful midfielder is only 20 and will be looking to establish himself in senior football.

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### Teddy Stacey

25-year-old Teddy joined us from Hadley FC. He was at Tottenham as a youth and then went to the US where he represented, ironically, Northwood College in Michigan as well as playing for Greater Lowell Rough Diamonds. He's a versatile player who can play in defence or midfield and enjoyed a fine first season at the higher level, taking the Managers' Player of the Year award

**Andy Stacey & Rachel Bafico**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Carl Stewart

Former Watford youth midfielder Carl Stewart signed on a dual-registration basis from Beaconsfield Town in November 2021. Carl is a 25-year-old who was also at Udinese as a youngster and then played in Poland for Zagłębie Sosnowiec. He has also had short spells at Oxford City, Banbury United, Bedford Sports, Wingate & Finchley and most recently, Marlow. He won the coveted Players' Player of the Year award in 2022 and is back for the new season.

**Robin Piper**

**Robin Piper**





### Jake Tabor

Young striker who joined the Woods in September 2022 from Spartan South Midlands League side Harpenden Town. Rose through the youth ranks at Berkhamsted to make the first-team squad and had successful spells at Crawley Green and Oxhey Jets last season. Still only 19, he will be looking to establish himself at the higher level.

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### Luke Tingey

Luke is an experienced 25-year-old defender who joined the Woods in February 2022 from Isthmian Premier side Potters Bar Town. He started off at the MK Dons Youth Academy and then went on to notch almost 200 games at Step 3 for Hendon FC. He also had a short spell with St Albans City. Back for the 2022-23 season.

**Tino Nannavecchia**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### David Taylor

Vastly-experienced midfielder, Dave is back to Northwood for a second spell after an injury hit couple of years at Hanwell Town and Harrow Borough. He played a handful of matches for the Woods back in 2018-19 before joining up with Chertsey Town and being part of the squad that won both the FA Vase and the Combined Counties League. Now 28, Dave spent his early seasons with North Greenford and Harrow Borough.

**Steve, Richard, David & Paul**

**Available for Sponsorship**



### Micah Jackson

Micah is an attacking midfielder who was recruited from Enfield Borough FC in November 2021, where he had played his football for the last three seasons. Prior to that he had a short spell at Cockfosters. The 26-year-old established himself well with seven goals in 13 appearances but then chose to move to Chalfont St Peter in February. He started this season with Walthamstow but re-signed for the Woods in September 2022 and will be looking to boost the squad's attacking options.

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# SQUAD LISTS



## NORTHWOOD

**Director of Football:** Steve Ringrose

**Head Coach:** Ben Bukowski

**Coach:** Richard Elderfield

**Physio:** Dan Daggett

**Colours:** All Red

Andrew **MCCORKELL**

Sam **JENKINS**

Rahim **JUDE-BOYD**

Andy **LOMAS**

Luke **TINGEY**

Romario **JONAS**

James **BUDDEN**

James **GURTEEN**

Harry **GALLAGHER**

Carl **STEWART**

Riccardo **ALEXANDER-GREENAWAY**

Ergys **PEPAJ**

Teddy **STACEY**

Keagan **COLE**

Jake **TABOR**

Ronan **HUTCHINS**

Josh **HELMORE**

Sydney **IBIE**

Brandon **KALU**

David **TAYLOR**

Micah **JACKSON**



## MERSTHAM

**Manager:** Peter Adeniyi

**Colours:** Grey

Muhammed **OTUYO**

Joe **RINGER**

Charlie **ALEXIOU**

Jordan **WILSON**

Jamal **ABUBAKARI**

Michael **KAMARA**

Aziz **SANKOH**

Michael **AZIAYA**

Peter **ADENIYI**

Charlie **GREENWOOD**

Alpha **DIALLO**

Malakai **HYMAN**

Lindell **STEWART**

Ore **BELLO**

Lorenzo **LEWIS**

Raheem **STERLING-PARKER**

Stephane **TRAH**

Siao **BLACKWOOD**

Brian **ZEPO**

Malachi **MORRIS**



## ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX)

**Manager:** Paul McCarthy

**Colours:** Blue

Callum **COULTER**

Fred **CHAPMAN**

Abraham **HENAO-ENOMORADO**

Ben **PEDEN**

Isy **NZELO**

Chad **COULTER**

Dale **BURNHAM**

Matthew **KELLETT-SMITH**

Clyde **ONDO**

Wayne **RIDGLEY**

Danyaal **IQBAL**

Prince **MBENGUI**

Luke **MAGUIRE**

Daniel **BROWN**

Razy **MADEEM**

Ikpem **YAKUBU**

Nathan **KENLOCK**

Nash **DOUKOURE**

Tommy **BRUNTON**

Ricky **JOHNSON**

R'Marni **BLANKSON**

Leo **PEDRO**

Nathan **BEST**

### VS MERSTHAM

**Referee**

Jack Shepherd

**Assistant**

Andreas Anastasiou

**Assistant**

Colman O'Meara

### VS ASHFORD TOWN MIDDX

**Referee**

Nathan Briggs

**Assistant**

Noel Glavin

**Assistant**

Daniel Maragh

### NEXT UP AT HOME

#### Thatcham Town

Saturday 22nd October 2022

Kick-Off **3.00pm**

The Pitching In Isthmian League  
South Central Division

### ON THE ROAD

#### Basingstoke Town

Saturday 15th October 2022

Kick-Off **3.00pm**

The Pitching In Isthmian League  
South Central Division