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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
Middleson Sonier Cup Winners: 2007, 2015

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
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** NSGH

With Woods Chairman, Ian Barry



ood afternoon and welcome to the Skyline Roofing Stadium for today's Pitching In Isthmian League fixture. We extend our welcome to our visitors from Thatcham Town FC and trust they enjoy their time here.

For me, today is a very sentimental day, as I have named the day after my Dad, Pete, who most of you will remember. He was a very special man and was certainly an integral part of the club; he would 'man' the turnstiles for first-team games and Under-18 games and help me with the pitch sprinklers in the summer and come in for a chat about everything NFC. I miss him dearly as my role can often be lonely and we all need someone to bounce off. He was that. He would often be found sitting on the wall just outside the club, always donned in his Chelsea FC gear and happy to chat everything football.

Dad, today is for you; he sadly passed away on a Friday evening, suddenly and we were at home the next day. The same scenario has happened this year with the anniversary of his passing yesterday and our game today. A few of my family will be here today to pay their respects and I'm hoping for another good home performance.

On the pitch, I have got to say how impressive we were at Basingstoke last Saturday and also against Ashford in the cup on the previous Tuesday. They were both different performances, but showed what a great team spirit we now have as well as the desire and commitment to win these tough games. Well done all.

Thanks to Shamira for again being very generous and sponsoring today's game.

A very proud Chairman hopes you all get behind the lads today and enjoy the game.

Up the Woods!



## 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 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

# **HEAD COACH** BEN BUKOWSKI

#### Good afternoon, Woods fans,

oday is a special day for our club, "Pete Barry Day". I am hoping we are playing our part in a time at the club I am sure he would be very proud of. Please join our chairman and his family in raising a glass for Pete in the bar this afternoon.

This week I owe a massive well done and thank you to my management team. I have been away for two weeks (yes, the players have already been discussing my hefty fine) and was missing the dugout badly. But with the management team we have of Steve, Keagan, Andy, Rich, Dan, Elizabeth and Harry, I knew the team was in good hands. The work and effort each of them puts into the team and the club is a vital part of our huge success so far this season.

Basingstoke away planning started on a sun bed in Greece for me. This game stands out for me especially last season, as you would have read in my interview with Robin Piper. We know how important it is to do your homework on your opposition, even at our level. The standard of teams is high as is the professionalism of your opposition on the touchline. I speak to the Basingstoke management team quite a lot and I know for a fact they do their research on teams. It gives us great joy to see that hard work and the right preparation pays off when you come away from there with another 3 points.

Ten games in with a return of twenty-four points is something we should all be proud of. But as we know, seasons at this level of football are long and testing. It is important, like Saturday when your opponents are chomping at the bit to catch you and close the gap, to keep putting points on the board. We will be doing everything we can today to ensure more points are added to our total.

I would like to give a special mention to Ryan Young, who most of you know was an important player in last season's turn around. His management and players of the Under-18s have picked up some excellent results this season already. We have also created a pathway together for players, one of which Joe Reade has already made his first team debut. Joe also featured in Tuesday night's away game with Walton and Hersham in the Velocity Trophy. I am hoping we can introduce some more players into the first-team soon, and congratulations to Youngy for this.

Once again, on a special day in a special time for our club, please raise a glass for Pete Barry. Today will be for Pete, I hope we can put another three points on the board for him.

Up the Woods!

Ben

WORDS: ALAN EVANS

# WOODS OUTLOOK

#### **Welcome to the Kingfishers**

A warm welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium this afternoon to you all including everyone connected with Thatcham Town Football Club. We are also delighted to designate today as "Pete Barry Day" in memory of Chairman Ian's dad who passed away six years ago yesterday having been a great help to Ian and the club when he took over the role some fifteen or so years ago and is much missed by us all here at Northwood FC.

The history of games against our visitors dates back to our first season of Hellenic League Division One fixtures back in 1978/79. Thatcham won their home game 3-1 but the Woods triumphed 5-0 here at Northwood Park on the way to promotion to the Premier. Games between the two clubs have been rare since though and last season the Kingfishers got the better of the Woods. It was a 1-1 draw on the opening day over at the Stacatruc Stadium but they notched a narrow 1-0 victory here with a late goal from Josh Edwards back in December 2021.

One-time Woods Assistant Manager Yashwa Romeo is in charge at Thatcham this season and the Berkshire side have made a slow start to the campaign. They went out of the FA Cup in the extra preliminary round, losing 2-3 at home to Wessex League side Horndean and then started the League campaign with home draws against Guernsey and Marlow before losing narrowly at home to Leatherhead and at Uxbridge. A good FA Trophy win at Cinderford finally got them off the mark but defeats at Hanworth Villa and at Binfield left them in the bottom three. AFC Dunstable knocked them out of the FA Trophy but the arrival of young striker David Nyarko on work experience from Reading has lifted their form. A hat-trick on debut earned the Kingfishers a 5-1 defeat of Bedfont Sports to open their league account of wins and that was followed by two more in a creditable 2-2 draw at Southall. He scored again last Saturday but it was not enough as they lost 1-2 at home to Sutton Common Rovers and they currently sit in fifteenth place in the league table.

#### **Back to winning ways**

Having played a friendly against Step 2 side Hampton & Richmond Borough following our poor performance at Ashford Town (Middx), losing 4-3 with goals from Jake Tabor, Micah Jackson and Rahim Jude-Boyd, we went into our home league match against Merstham with confidence restored but it was tighter than we would have liked as we had to come from behind to win 3-2.

But the side went on to make it three wins in eight days as we followed that with a Middlesex Senior Cup victory over Ashford Town (Middlesex) on the Tuesday night and then a superb win at Basingstoke Town back in the league last weekend. Both were only 1-0 but it was good to keep back-to-back clean sheets for the first time this season and the latter maintained our cushion at the top of the table, though some of the chasing pack do have plenty of games in hand.

This includes the impressive promoted side Walton & Hersham who, now they are out of the FA competitions following long runs in both, can concentrate on their unbeaten league record. We were of course due to be at Walton & Hersham again on Tuesday night in the Velocity Trophy (League Cup) but these notes had to be prepared before the result of that rematch was known.

#### **Other Cup News**

Should we have been successful at Walton on Tuesday night, the third round draw will have granted us a home tie against Southall to be played on Tuesday 8th November.

Our victory in the Middlesex Senior Cup puts us into the Second Round where we will be one of only seven teams from outside of Step 3. The nine sides that received a bye to round two are all Step 3 and upwards (though this includes Brentford B who don't officially have a level!). The draw has not been made at the time of writing.

#### **Plaver News**

There was another new recruit just prior to our last home match against Merstham and we welcome striker Juwon Akintunde to our squad as we look to bolster our attacking options. Juwon has joined us from rivals Uxbridge and he came straight into the side and then scored the winning goal in the midweek win over Ashford Town (Middlesex). We hope he enjoys a long and successful stay here with the Woods

Since then, we have added two further players to the first-team squad. Under-18s skipper Joe Reade was registered and, still a couple of months short of his 17th birthday, he made his first-team debut against Ashford Town (Middx) in the Senior Cup and will continue to stay





involved in training. Finally, Sandro Costa Dias Fernandes, who was with the Woods in pre-season training, returned to the club after making a few appearances for Southall. He has dual-registered at Broadfields United to get some minutes in the tank but should be involved soon.

Congratulations to Sam Jenkins who made his 50th Isthmian League appearance for the Woods at Basingstoke Town last Saturday, though he did have to limp off with an injury! We have a few other players approaching milestones too, which has been a rare occurrence in the last few years.

#### Season Tickets - Get yours now!

Most of you have already kindly renewed your Season Tickets for the season 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. But we are getting more regulars arriving all the time and we've only played five League games prior to this Saturday game so there is still plenty of advantage (14 more to come) 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 do so before your favourite is snapped up. You can pay cash or online via the website.

#### **Under-18s**

Ryan Young's side notched their first three Isthmian League points a couple of weeks ago with an emphatic 6-1 win over Hampton & Richmond Borough here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium. There were goals from Oscar John, Fabjan Toci, Londin Latifi 2, Calvin Wyatt and Ben Crowder. The side were due to be back in action on Wednesday night against Uxbridge in the League Cup but these notes had to prepared prior to that result being known. Their next home game is at home to Beaconsfield Town on Wednesday 2nd November.

#### **Our tenants - Spartans Youth FC**

Spartans were unlucky last Saturday against Berks County as they made a stirring second-half comeback having been 4-1 down at half-time but still finished pointless as they lost 3-4. They were at home again against Deportivo Galicia in a Divisional League Cup game on Tuesday night but again that result is not known at the time of writing.

#### Coming Up.....

There is no midweek game for the Woods this week and we are back here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium next Saturday for a Pitching In Isthmian League home game against Chipstead.

#### **Next Fixtures at the Skyline Roofing Stadium**

Saturday 29th October - Woods v. Chipstead -Isthmian League - 3pm

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









#### **PARTNERS WITH** ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

























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PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# **LEADER OF THE PACK**

With Captain, Keagan Cole

#### The Basics Of Football...

Coming after back-to-back defeats away at Walton & Hersham and Ashford Town we, as a team, owed each other and the fans a week of performances.

Saturday's fixture at home to Merstham came around quickly off the back of a friendly game v. Hampton & Richmond which was a great workout for the boys and got minutes into the tank for a few which needed them. We knew that this fixture was a big game in our season as we had to show character and togetherness to pull through and pick up a result having lost those previous two games.

We started well... taking the lead in the fifteenth minute through a well-worked corner straight from the training ground but then we seemed to take our foot off the gas and slowed the tempo and began to play with no energy which led to sloppy passes and more chances for our opposition. We went in at half time 2-1 down.

Half-time the players were told - the performance in the first half was unacceptable. It was slow, lack lustred, lazy and half-hearted. Covering for Ben I expressed that the quality in the changing-room (we as a management team couldn't ask for much more than what we have in our changing room), but football games are won and lost from your heart. How much effort you put in, how much care you have for yourself and your teammates and how much you want to win a game. If you're not going to run, tackle and do all the ugly stuff you will not be as successful as you should be. The players went out in the second-half and reversed their first-half showing.

They showed all of the above and more.

Credit to them. A 3-2 win and three points, job done. On to Tuesday, a home Middlesex County Cup fixture against Ashford Town and an opportunity to back up the second-half performance against Merstham.

The squad was rotated and five changes were made from Saturdays starting 11.

A performance which showed true professionalism, quality and determination to get one back on Ashford. A fantastic team performance and a big congratulations to Joe Reade on making his debut for the club at just 16 years old!

The final game of the three this week was the toughest yet, coming up against a very good Basingstoke who were yet to concede in their previous four games.

We worked on our defence shape Thursday evening at training and frustrated Basingstoke as they struggled to play as often as normal through the opposition midfield. We created loads of chances and on another day could have had two more goals with both James Gurteen and Jake Tabor hitting the woodwork.

A successful day at the office against a very good side who will be up the higher end of the table.

A great week, three wins, two clean sheets and five goals scored.

We look forward to this afternoon's match and hope to see as many old and new faces as possible cheering us on. Up the Woods,

Keagsx



## **ON THIS DAY 22ND OCTOBER**

By Ken Green

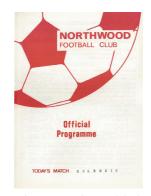
In the club's history, dating back to 1926, there have been 13 games on this date; the results and details of these are shown below, and I take a look at three matches in more depth.

Date	V	Competition	Opponents	Re	sult	Goalscorers	Att
Sat 22 Oct 1932	Н	Harrow & District Lge Premier		W	4-0	R Bell, T Bell 2, Gill ? ? Tuberville, Green ? Taylor Bennett Blackman McCormack, Randall Morris 86 111 Clark 2, Heselton 183	
Sat 22 Oct 1938	Α	Harrow & Wembley Lge Premier	Neasden Association	W	3-0	?	
Sat 22 Oct 1949	Α	Harrow & Wembley Lge Premier	Alperton O B	L	0-4	?	
Sat 22 Oct 1955	Н	Harrow & Wembley Lge Senior Cup	WOOD END	L	2-3	Tuberville, Green	
Sat 22 Oct 1966	Н	Harrow & Wembley Lge Senior Div.	HARROW WEALD ATHLETIC	W	3-1	?	
Sat 22 Oct 1977	Н	Middx Intermediate Cup rnd 1	ROLENMIL	W	1-0	Taylor	
Sat 22 Oct 1983	Н	Friendly	BERKHAMSTED TOWN	D	1-1	Bennett	
Sat 22 Oct 1988	Α	London Spartan League Premier	Walthamstow Pennant	W	1-0	Blackman	
Tue 22 Oct 1991	Н	Middx Senior Cup rnd 1	SOUTHALL	W	2-1	McCormack, Randall	
Sat 22 Oct 1994	Α	Diadora League Div. 3	Collier Row	L	1-4	Morris	86
Tue 22 Oct 2002	Α	Ryman League Div 1 N	Uxbridge	D	0-0		110
Sat 22 Oct 2005	Н	Southern League Premier	MANGOTSFIELD UNITED	L	3-5	Clark 2, Heselton	183
Sat 22 Oct 2016	Н	Southern League Div. 1 C	FLEET TOWN	D	1-1	Lomas	117

#### 1977 Woods 1 Rolenmil 0

In his first senior outing in his two years at Northwood, Bob Taylor snatched a dramatic last minute in extra time winner in this exciting County Cup tie. The match was an exciting affair, with the Woods' high-riding London-Spartan League opponents Rolenmil providing stiff opposition. Indeed, the visitors, riding high this season, came to Northwood Park fully expecting a comfortable passage into the next round

However, Northwood produced some fine football, the ball being pushed around with assurance and it was the midfield for the home side who controlled proceedings. Unfortunately, the Woods' fine approach



work was marred around the box. but this was by way of bad luck and good goalkeeping rather than any short comings with the Woods' strikers.

Martin Ellis had two fine, thrust-

ful runs, which saw two fine efforts saved, and one shot that thumped against a post and flew along the line to safety.

But it took a miraculous save from Dave Russell to keep the Woods level in the 80th minute when he scooped out a point-blank header. So to extra time, and in the final minute of a goal-less but exciting tie, Taylor struck Robin Tidd crossed from the left and the diminutive Taylor raced in on the blind side to glance his header into the corner of the net

Northwood: Dave Russell, Norman Heslop, Peter Carter, Martin O'Donnell, Alan Merison, Robin Tidd, Ian Harvey, Barry Gould, Roger Livingstone. Martin Ellis, Phil Castella, Subs. Bob Taylor, John Harman.

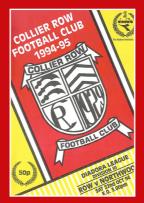


#### 1994 Collier Row 4 Woods 1

The Woods lost their unbeaten league record, having started disastrously and going behind after just Kevin Beckles in goal.

Then Milton and Warner both hit the bar for Collier Row in the first 15 minutes, with McAuliffe hitting back with a good cross which Holmes headed just wide.

Kevin Dobson and midfielder Tony Ponnou both shone for Woods but Beckles had to save well from Milton before he had little chance when Warner made it 2-0 for the home side after 25 minutes.



defence and, just before half time, Munday scored from 30 yards to

Dobson continued to make some

penetrating runs after the break but home keeper Allen McKnight was seldom tested. Northwood, with the rain at their backs, restored some pride to their game and the home attack was stemmed to a degree, though John Walsh did have to head off the line

Then, with 15 minutes left, the home defence failed to cut out a Chris Gell cross and Daren Morris

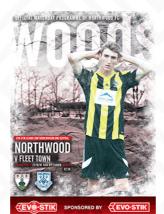
Northwood; Kevin Beckles, Troy McAuliffe, Kevin Dobson, Rod Romain. Matt Allen, Tony Ponnou, Peter Davey, Simon Walsh, Richard Hylton, Laurence Paul Henderson, John Walsh.

#### 2016 Woods 1 Fleet Town 1

Fleet had won seven of their previous eight games so were in a confident mood as they looked to get the better of Northwood for the first-ever time and the game started in a fairly open fashion. After just four minutes Ehui got forward down the right and found Wright in a good position on the edge of the box but his volley flew wide of the target.

Goalkeeper Montel Joseph was soon in action, getting down low to push away Dan Williamson's deflected cross which was heading for just inside the near post. Then Pat Cox got his head to a Simba Mlambo centre which held up nicely but again Joseph was behind it well.

But on 19 minutes Northwood took the lead as Andy Lomas got forward into space and let fly from 25 yards with a shot that flew into the top corner to give goalkeeper Ryan



Pryce no chance.

Five minutes later Lomas was forward again to latch onto Ryan Debattista's touch to another Ehui cross but this time his shot straight at the grateful keeper.

But Fleet were level with the very last kick of the half. A ball was played deep into the Northwood area and

although Joseph appeared to have it covered, he was impeded and the ball ran loose. A quick pass bounced nicely for Cox to get his close-range header on target and level the scores.

The visitors came out full of running in the second half and a quick break saw skipper Ben White put through on goal. His shot was parried by Joseph and then Mark Burgess completed the needed clearance. At the other end, Wright knocked in a corner at the second attempt and when Mark Burgess headed it down, James Burgess volleyed over the bar from ten yards; neither side, could find the net again and the game petered out to a draw.

Northwood: Montel Joseph, Alex Nolan, Andy Lomas, Mark Burgess, James Budden, Louis Stead, Joakim Ehui (Luke Heneghan), James Burgess, Ryan Debattista, Myles Stephenson (Louis Bircham), Callum Wright



# MATCH REPORT





#### **BASINGSTOKE TOWN 0 NORTHWOOD 1**

Saturday 15th October 2022 Kick-Off 3.00pm

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



Team: McCorkell, Jenkins (Kalu 68), Lomas, Alexander-Greenaway, Tingey, Gurteen, (C) Stewart, Jackson (Hutchins 89), Helmore (Akintunde 81), Ibie, Tabor Unused Subs: Pepaj, Jude-Boyd,

Yellow Cards: Tabor Attendance: 470

orthwood made it two wins out of two at Winklebury as they followed up last season's success with another win over an in-form Basingstoke Town to extend their lead at the top of the table.

Woods welcomed back several players who were rested for the midweek Senior Cup win over Ashford Town, left-back Andy Lomas replacing Brandon Kaluwhile skipper Luke Tingey returned to central defence in place of the suspended Harry Gallagher. Carl Stewart was restored to the midfield with Ergys Pepaj making way while in attack, Juwon Akintunde and Rahim Jude-Boyd reverted to the bench with Josh Helmore and top scorer Sydney Ibie coming back in.

The hosts were pushed onto the back foot from the off as Jake Tabor had a shot blocked from Tingey's throw into the box before Micah Jackson threaded a ball through to Ibie who shot wide of the near post.

Northwood proceeded to keep the 'Stoke pinned back as they forced a series of corners, James Gurteen seeing his shot rebound off the far post as he latched onto Jackson's delivery before Tabor and Helmore had bites at the cherry as the ball bounced around the home box.

Woods' high pressing was preventing Basingstoke from creating any meaningful passages of play. However, the hosts managed to win a corner in a rare foray into opposition territory which resulted in Billy Upton's shot being charged down by the Northwood defence. And Woods threatened again before half-time as they worked another good position, but Jackson was slightly off balance as his speculative effort flew wide of the target.



## GOAL - 50 mins 0-1 SYDNEY IBIE (penalty)

Woods came out for the second period in a positive frame of mind and Stewart and Helmore combined to play Tabor into the box, the attacker upended by a lunging Upson with the referee pointing to the penalty spot-Ibie stepping up to send keeper Mark Scott the wrong way for his fifth penalty success in six appearances to give Northwood the lead on fifty minutes.

Woods looked to build on their lead as they continued to ask all the questions, Jackson seeing his low shot kept out by Scott with Ibie's follow up being blocked while Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway saw his strike from distance fly wide of the woodwork.

Basingstoke eventually began to offer more an attacking threat, Ezio Touray flicking the ball over Sam Jenkins before unleashing a low drive which was deflected onto



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the inside of the post by the fingertips of Woods keeper Andrew McCorkell and cleared away to safety.

The 'Stoke maintained their attacking tempo with Ashleigh Artwell running at the Northwood defence before releasing a shot which was dealt with by McCorkell.

Woods made a change with twenty minutes left on the clock with Jenkins making way for Kalu who slotted into right-back. And having dealt with a spell of Basingstoke pressure, Northwood began to probe the hosts once again - Alexander-Greenaway's shot being blocked with Jackson's follow-up clearing the bar before a Tabor free-kick was touched onto the crossbar by Scott.

Woods continued the search for another strike which might put the game to bed, Jackson releasing Ibie whose low cross was intercepted by Scott Armsworth as Helmore looked to pounce.



Akintunde was introduced for Helmore on 81 minutes while Basingstoke utilised their full quota of substitutes as they looked to get something out of the contest. But the hosts were growing increasingly frustrated as Upton and Bradley were cautioned in the closing minutes.

Woods made their final change with a minute left on the clock as the impressive Jackson made way for Ronan Hutchins. And the visitors had another moment to deal with in added time as Touray had a shot blocked before dragging the rebound wide.

But Basingstoke were unable to find a way through an obdurate Northwood defence, which had been superbly marshalled by the imperious Tingey, with Woods securing the points to open up a seven-point gap over second-placed Marlow.







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Words by Robin Piper

# BASINGSTOKE RACK

In the company of Andy Lomas, Sydney Ibie,

## Luke Tingey & Teddy (not Stacey) Lomas

riday night and discussions turn to plans for the weekend. After my better half decides that Basingstoke has nothing exciting to offer her in the way of retail therapy, it's agreed I will travel west on my own. Or will I? A quick WhatsApp message to fellow Leighton Buzzard resident Mr. Lomas and travel arrangements

for the next day's mouthwatering encounter in deepest Hampshire are sorted – I will jump in with our esteemed left-back and a couple more of the Bedfordshire contingent.

Technically speaking, Mr. Tingey - born and bred in our historic market town - can no longer be described



as one of the Bedfordshire contingent having decided to go over to the dark side, crossing the border into Buckinghamshire, and is now a resident of Aylesbury. But we know where his heart lies.

Saturday morning – with excitement mounting – Mr. Lomas confirms a pick-up time of just after 11.00 am. And with the timing to match the execution of one of his tackles, the White Polo appears with Mr. Tingey occupying the passenger seat and calls for me to sit in the back with Teddy. Sorry, was I hearing things? Had our talismanic midfielder, sadly absent with a long-term knee problem, made a miraculous recovery? Alas no, it was the canine Teddy, Andy's delightful Cockapoo whose enthusiastic greeting more than made up for the initial sense of disappointment.

Next stop Dunstable to pick up golden boot hopeful and 12-yard specialist Mr. Ibie - no chance of the senior member of the entourage occupying the front seat today but I was more than happy to afford our leading scorer all the room he required to prepare for the tough task ahead.

After a little diversion via Hemel Hempstead to drop off my new canine friend, we hit the motorway and the chat turns to the task ahead and the season so far. The boys are in agreement that we find ourselves top of the table without firing on all cylinders but have found a way to win games which bodes well for the months ahead. We all concur that nothing other than at least a play-off place would be a disappointment come April.

What about personal targets? Sydney is targeting 25 league goals and the coveted golden boot- he's well on his way. Talk turns to his recent prowess from the penalty spot and which way he might go should the opportunity present itself today. I was keen to know a little more about Sydney's football history.

I started training with Luton Town when I was 14 but then I dropped into Sunday football. I joined Hemel Hempstead and was given a two-year contract when I was 18 but spent time on loan at a few clubs including Barton Rovers and Welwyn Garden City before joining Chalfont St Peter. I then moved onto Potters Bar where I met Andy, Luke and Keags, but Covid got in the way. I jumped at the chance to come to Northwood and from the first training session and

scoring on my debut at Chipstead, I have really enjoyed being at a club where I feel comfortable and part of the team, in a great dressing room. I really value the support of the management and coaching team and trust in them.

#### I asked Sydney what players he admired as he was growing up.

I loved watching Thierry Henry, especially as I have a soft spot for Arsenal. I'm also a big fan of Cristiano Ronaldo despite him playing for Man United.

Luke followed a similar path to Sydney, starting out with Luton Town before joining the M.K. Dons Academy.

I was with the Dons where I was originally a midfielder. But I was converted into a right-back and then a central defender. There was a strong philosophy about playing from the back and I developed into a ball playing centre-back but sadly there was no professional contract at the end of it and I was training with Hemel Hempstead when I was 18. I moved onto Hendon and spent four good years with them playing a lot of the time as a defensive midfielder. The biggest disappointment was losing the Isthmian Premier play-off final to Dulwich Hamlet in a game we should have won. We had some great players including the likes of Niko Muir and a number of that team went onto play at a higher level. Next stop was Potters Bar under Lee O'Leary & Scott Cousins but when Sammy Moore came in as manager and brought in his own players, I grabbed the chance to join up with some old friends at Northwood and after struggling a little for consistency, a good pre-season has really set me up and I am now feeling strong and good about my game.

#### Lask Luke about his famous long throw and question how effective it has been.

I agree we don't really make the best use of it. I think we need to be smarter and could do with varying it a bit to keep the opposition quessing.

#### And on a personal level, are we going to see a few more goals from you this season following your bullet header against Southall the other week?

I would like to score more. Think I have scored four in a season before, and I did score from the halfway line once at M.K. Dons. But it's definitely something I would like to







improve on. Shame I can't get on the end of one of my throws!

With the journey continuing down the M3 and on target to meet the official meet time of 1.15 pm, I try and grab a word with our driver Mr. Lomas. I was keen to hear his thoughts on his previous successful stint at Northwood when he cleaned up by winning all three P.O.Y. trophies in his second season.

I loved my time at the Woods. It was great couple of seasons culminating in the Middlesex Senior Cup win. We had a great team spirit – very similar to what we have now- and we loved playing under Mark Burgess who was the sort of manager who you would run through brick walls for. All good things come to an end I guess and a few of us, including Steve Brown and George Nicholas, took the opportunity to make the step up to Harrow Borough before moving onto Potters Bar.

#### And that's where you scored that famous FA Cup goal in the televised game against Barnet, with no hint of an O.G. of course.

Definitely not! But it was a goal made in Northwood with Budden flicking on the corner and me doing the rest!

#### And a highlight of your time at the club?

It was a memorable day, although sadly we lost the replay and missed out on the first-round proper. The 3rd qualifying round win at Ware was a special day when we won with a goal in added time. But for me, the best day had to be when we secured promotion to the Isthmian Premier as champions with a last day win over Barking with a Budden header. The pundits had us down for relegation that season - sound familiar?

#### Another highlight in a career which began at Oxhey Jets of course.

Yes, starting out with the Jets as a 17-year-old with the likes of Steve Brown and Lewis Putnam. What a marksman Lewis was and still is - scoring 81 goals in a season in all competitions – a season where sadly we were denied promotion from the Spartan South Midlands due to ground-grading issues. But Jets, as do all the clubs I

have played for, mean a lot to me and I was happy to help out by scraping a team together and managing them, with the help of Mark Burgess, for that FA Cup tie against Kingstonian and taking them to a replay. Sadly, I had a holiday booked in Spain and couldn't make the replay.

And so, we arrive at our destination. And three and a half hours later we are celebrating a fantastic win over one of the in-form teams who are expected to be up there at the end of the season. As happened on our last visit to Winklebury, the Basingstoke drummer was silenced although this time he didn't pack up his drum and depart on 70 minutes and was generous in defeat – unlike some of his fellow supporters.

I do so enjoy it when 'little' Northwood upset the socalled big boys and their supporters, and occasionally club officials. Took me back to our 2004 trip to Dover Athletic early in our second Isthmian Premier season - Kevin Chakaodza's goal silencing the 500 plus crowd and prompting an urgent meeting between board, management and players while we waited for the customary post-match hospitality. How can we lose to the likes of Northwood! No Complaints btw with the hospitality we received from the 'Stoke.

With players showered and dressed, we made our way to the Winkle pub to enjoy a little post-match libation before saying our goodbyes and hitting the road back to Bedfordshire – setting up with a back three of yours truly as the spare man between Tingey and Bukowski, the Head Coach joining us for the return journey with instructions to make haste with a restaurant reservation for 9.00 p.m.

After an enjoyable, if rather cramped journey, where we reflected on the afternoon's events and looked forward to the challenges ahead, and with Messrs. Ibie & Bukowski safely delivered to their respective destinations we arrived back in LB. As I said goodnight to Messrs. Tingey & Lomas along with Teddy, who had rejoined us for the final leg of the journey, I considered how far we have come as a club in the last 12 months, what a great bunch of lads we have and what an exciting time to be a Woods supporter.

Thank you chaps for the company and a special thank you to our chauffeur Mr. Lomas. Here's to the next trip on the exciting journey ahead.

**Up the Woods!** 



# THE WOODS IN 2022/2023

DATE	OPPONENTS	H/A	СОМР	F/A	ATT	LINEUP	2	3	4	5
AUGUST		1		0.	4	W G I "-		l.		D 11
Sat 6	SOUTH PARK REIGATE	Н	FACEPR	2-1	128	McCorkell	Jenkins •	Lomas	Tingey	Budden
Sat 13	TOOTING & MITCHAM UNITED	Н	Lge	3-2	154	McCorkell	Tingey	Kalu	Cole	Budden
Wed 17	Bedfont Sports	А	Lge	1-0	111	McCorkell	Jenkins •	Lomas	Cole	Tingey
Sat 20	Ashford Town (Middx)	А	FACPR	2-2	136	McCorkell	Gurteen	Lomas	Cole	Budden
Tue 23	ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)	н	FACPRR	1-3	191	McCorkell	Kalu	Lomas	Tingey	Budden
Sat 27	Westfield	А	Lge	3-1	153	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	COLE 1	Tingey
Mon 29	SOUTHALL	Н	Lge	2-0	228	McCorkell	Jenkins • =	Lomas	Cole • -	TINGEY 1
SEPTEMBI								1.	l	I
Tue 13	HANWORTH VILLA	H	FAT1QR	0-3	85	McCorkell	Jenkins •	Lomas	Cole	Tingey
Sat 17	CHERTSEY TOWN	н	Lge	3-1	202	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
Sat 24	SUTTON COMMON ROVERS	Н	Lge	2-1	162	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
Tue 27	Walton & Hersham	А	Lge	1-2	248	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
OCTOBER				4.0	400		0 11 1 -			
Sat 1	AshfordTown (Middx)	A	Lge	1-2	126	McCorkell	Gallagher	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
Sat 8	MERSTHAM	H	Lge	3-2	164	McCorkell	Jenkins	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
Tue 11	ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)	Н	MSC	1-0	77	McCorkell	Jenkins	Kalu	Alexander-Greenaway	Gallagher
Sat 15	Basingstoke Town	A	Lge	1-0	470	McCorkell	Jenkins •	Lomas	Alexander-Greenaway	Tingey
Tue 18	Walton & Hersham	A	VILC			W. Janes	486	4. Com		130
Sat 22	THATCHAM TOWN	Н	Lge							- 402
Sat 29	CHIPSTEAD	Н	Lge							
NOVEMBE										
Sat 5	Uxbridge	A	Lge							
Sat 12	LEATHERHEAD	Н	Lge						1	
Sat 19	Guernsey	A	Lge						1	in a 🗡
Sat 26	Marlow	А	Lge				re Second	10		<b>建</b>
DECEMBE Sat 3	SOUTH PARK REIGATE	н	Lee					120		
			Lge					1		
Sat 10	SuttomCommonRovers BINFIELD	A H	Lge							•
	Southall	_	Lge				A. C. C.		N. C.	RI
Mon 26  JANUARY	Southall	А	Lge					WAVA	8	
Mon 2	HANWORTH VILLA	н	Lge					VIII		<u>"</u>
Sat 7	Tooting & MitchamUnited	A	Lge				ATTACK N	1 人		
Sat 14	BEDFONT SPORTS	Н	Lge				ACREA TWILD	ADMATIN		
Sat 21	UXBRIDGE	Н	Lge				Y			
Sat 28	Leatherhead	A	Lge				3 47			1
FEBRUAR\			-Bc							300
Sat 4	GUERNSEY	н	Lge					₩		AT A
Sat 11	Chipstead	A	Lge						Allalim	1
Tue 14	WALTON & HERSHAM	Н	Lge							
Sat 18	Merstham	A	Lge				7	· cons		1111
Sat 25	ASHFORDTOWN (MIDDX)	н	Lge					個人用		
MARCH								<b>原</b>		
Sat 4	Chertsey Town	А	Lge			3 4 4	a de	X		1
Sat 11	BASINGSTOKE TOWN	Н	Lge					(1)	1 1 1	
Sat 18	Thatcham Town	A	Lge				40.00			
Sat 25	WESTFIELD	Н	Lge							
APRIL			-8-				Back Roy	v (I -R)• Rah	im Jude-Boyd, Te	ddy Stacey
Sat 1	Binfield	A	Lge				Dack NO	- (L-1K) - IXdIII	Front Row: Ro	
Mon 10	Hanworth Villa	A	Lge						TIOHEROW-NO	nam nutti III
Sat 15	South Park Reigate	A	Lge			NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.				
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MARLOW

Sat 22

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**Key:** Goalscorer(s) in Bold**1**; Sub 1 •; Sub 2 •; Sub 3 •; Sub 4 •; Sub 5 •; Yellow Card ■; \* Own Goal.

7	8	9	10	11	SUBS	2	3	4	5
HUTCHINS 1	Alexander-Greenaway	HELMORE1 •	Ibie	(C)Stewart	Pepaj 🛑	(L)Stewart •	Jude-Boyd	Gallagher	Gurteen
HUTCHINS 1	Alexander-Greenaway	(L)Stewart	IBIE 2 •	(C)Stewart	Pepaj 🔵	Gallagher	Helmore	Jenkins	Jonas
Hutchins •	Alexander-Greenaway	(L)Stewart	Ibie	(C)Stewart	Helmore •	Kalu •	Gallagher	Pepaj	Budden
(L)Stewart	Alexander-Greenaway	HELMORE 1	IBIE 1	(C).Stewart	Taylor •	Gallagher	Pepaj	Kalu	Hutchins
Taylor •	Cole	Helmore	IBIE 1	(C).Stewart	Papaj 🌑 🗀	Hutchins •	(L)Stewart	Gurteen	Haile
HUTCHINS 1	Alexander-Greenaway	Helmore	IBIE 1	(C).Stewart	Pepaj 🔵	(L).Stewart	Gallagher	Haile	Kalu
Hutchins	Alexander-Greenaway	HELMORE 1 0	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 🛑	HELMORE 1	IBIE 2	(C).Stewart	Jude-Boyd	Cole •	Gallagher	Pepaj	Kalu
Pepaj	Jackson •	HELMORE 1	Ibie	(C).Stewart	Tabor •	Jude-Boyd	Kalu	Hutchins	Cole
Pepaj	Jackson	Helmore •	IBIE 1 •	(C).Stewart	Tabor •	Jude-Boyd	Kalu •	Hutchins	Cole
Tabor	Pepaj	Helmore	IBIE 1 O	(C).Stewart	Jackson 🛑	Jude-Boyd	Hutchins	Cole	Kalu
TABOR 1	JACKSON 1	Akintunde 🛑	IBIE 1 •	(C)Stewart	Helmore •	Hutchins	Jude-Boyd	Kalu	Pepaj
Jude-Boyd	Jackson	AKINTUNDE1	Helmore 🛑	Pepaj •	Hutchins •	(C)Stewart	Tabor •	Reade •	Lomas •
(C)Stewart	Jackson	Helmore •	IBIE1	Tabor=	Kalu 🔸	Akintunde	Hutchins •	Jude-Boyd	Pepaj



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



# MAIN CLUB SPONSORS - 2022/23 -

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#### **FRONT OF AWAY SHIRTS**



#### **BACK OF HOME SHIRTS**



#### **BACK OF AWAY SHIRTS**





2022-23 SEASON | WOODS CAREER | WOODS DEBUT

4 -	I to the Table One has been a				SE	SASON2	SEASON 2022/2023							WOODS CAREER RECORD	RREC	ORD		
on do	L/tn October 2022	21	ISTHMIAN LEAGUE	LEAGUI	ш	D C	CUPCOMPETITIONS	ITIONS		TOTALS	S.	LEAGUE		CUPS		OVERALL	-SALL	
•	Players' Name	Start	As Sub.	Total	Gls	Start	As Sub.	Total	Gls	Games	Gls	Lge Games	Gls	Cup Games	Gls	<b>Tot Games</b>	Tot Goals	Woods Debut
Juwon	Akintunde	п	п	2	0	п	0	1	1	ю	н	2	0	1	1	ж	1	Merstham (H) October '22
Riccardo	Alexander-Greenaway	10	0	10	0	4	0	4	0	14	0	10	0	4	0	14	0	Ashford Town (Mx) (A) Mar'22
Lewis	Batten			Dualf	Registe	red at Br	Dual Registered at Broadfields United FC	JnitedF	U			3	0	3	0	9	0	Uxbridge (H) Oct '21
Kristian	Belousas			Dualf	Registe	red at Br	Dual Registered at Broadfields United FC	JnitedF	U			9	0	2	1	8	1	CB Hounslow (A) Feb '22
James	Budden	1	1	2	0	3	0	3	0	5	0	61	7	12	0	73	7	Godalming Town (H) Dec '15
Keagan	Cole	4	1	2	1	3	0	es .	0	00	1	27	7	7	0	34	7	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Harry	Gallagher	1	2	3	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0	2	0	5	0	Tooting & MU (H) Aug '22
James	Gurteen	10	0	10	0	33	0	c	0	13	0	38	0	7	1	45	1	Uxbridge (A) Sept '17
* Nebay	Haile	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	17	0	0	0	17	0	Rushden & Diamonds (A) Nov '17
losh	Helmore	7	2	6	3	2	0	2	2	14	2	26	12	6	3	35	15	Bedfont Sports (H) Jan '22
Ronan	Hutchins	2	2	7	2	2	2	4	1	11	3	7	2	4	1	11	3	South ParkReigate (H) Aug '22
Sydney	lbie	10	0	10	6	4	0	4	2	14	11	33	16	5	2	38	18	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Micah	Jackson	2	1	9	1	1	0	1	0	7	1	18	9	2	2	20	8	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Sam	Jenkins	8	0	∞	0	3	0	c	0	11	0	20	3	14	0	64	3	Kings Langley (H) Sept '18
Romario	Jonas	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	South ParkReigate (H) Aug '22
Rahim	Jude-Boyd	0	5	2	0	1	2	3	0	8	0	5	0	3	0	8	0	South ParkReigate (H) Aug '22
Brandon	Kalu	1	4	2	0	2	0	2	0	7	0	5	0	2	0	7	0	Tooting & MU (H) Aug '22
Andy	Lomas	6	0	6	0	4	1	2	0	14	0	114	п	32	1	146	2	Kettering Town (A) Aug '14
Andrew	McCorkell	10	0	10	0	2	0	Ŋ	0	15	0	12	0	5	0	17	0	Uxbridge (A) Sept '17
Ergys	Pepaj	4	2	9	0	2	2	4	0	10	0	9	0	4	0	10	0	South ParkReigate (H) Aug '22
Joe	Reade	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	Ashford Town (Mx) (H) October '22
Will	Robinson				Trainin	gelsewh	Training elsewhere at present	sent				4	0	2	0	9	0	Westfield (A) Jan '22
Teddy	Stacey											18	3	3	1	21	4	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Carl	Stewart	6	1	10	0	3	2	2	0	15	0	32	1	6	0	41	1	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
* Lindell	Stewart	2	2	4	0	1	2	3	0	7	0	4	0	4	0	89	0	Wembley (H) Nov '21
Jake	Tabor	3	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	9	1	5	1	1	0	9	1	Sutton Common Rovers (H) Sept'22
David	Taylor	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	9	0	2	0	8	0	Moneyfields (A) Dec '17
Luke	Tingey	10	0	10	1	4	0	4	0	14	1	22	1	7	0	29	1	Tooting & MU (H) Feb '22
Ryan	Young				Man	agingth	Managing the Under 18s	S				17	1	3	0	20	1	Chipstead (A) Nov '21





#### WOODS NOTCH BIG WIN

The Under-18s finally returned to Isthmian League action against Hampton & Richmond Borough a couple of weeks ago and picked up their first points of the season with a superb 6-1 victory.

They dominated for much of the game and took an early lead with Oscar John notching his first of the campaign with a deft back-post strike. It was top scorer Fabjan Toci who doubled the advantage and then Londin Latifi got in on the act with two goals either side of the break.

The visitors battled on and did pull a goal back with an excellent strike into the top corner which gave 'keeper Max Bretayne no chance. But substitute Calvin Wyatt showed great skill to make it 5-1 and then Ben Crowder scored his second of the season with a cracker from 30 yards to round off the victory.

The side were due to play at home to Uxbridge in the Isthmian Youth Cup on Wednesday night but these notes had to be prepared before the result of that one was known. They have no game scheduled this week.

We now know that we will play each of our six opponents in the division three times this season with extra home games to come against Bedfont Sports, Beaconsfield and Fleet Town.

Dates for those now arranged as well as extra away games at Hampton & Richmond Borough, Uxbridge and Camberley Town.

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

## THE YOUNG ONES

#### NORTHWOOD UNDER-18S FIXTURES & RESULTS

Date	Opponents		Comp	R	Scorers
Mon 22 Aug	Bedfont Sports	(A)	IYLge	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)	IYLge	6-1	John, Toci, Latifi 2, Wyatt, Crowder
Wed 19 Oct	UXBRIDGE	(H)	IYLCup		
Wed 2 Nov	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	(H)	IYLge		
Thurs 24 Nov	Fleet Town	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 30 Nov	UXBRIDGE	(H)	IYLge		
Wed 7 Dec	FLEET TOWN	(H)	IYLge		
Mon 12 Dec	Camberley Town	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 11 Jan	BEDFONT SPORTS	(H)	IYLge		
Mon 16 Jan	Camberley Town	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 25 Jan	Hampton & Richmond Borough	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 1 Feb	Hampton & Richmond Borough	(A)	IYLge		
Mon 6 Feb	Beaconsfield Town	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 22 Feb	FLEET TOWN	(H)	IYLge		
Mon 27 Feb	Uxbridge	(A)	IYLge		
Wed 8 Mar	CAMBERLEYTOWN	(H)	IYLge		
Wed 15 Mar	BEDFONT SPORTS	(H)	IYLge		
Wed 22 Mar	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	(H)	IYLge		
Mon 27 Mar	Uxbridge	(A)	IYLge		

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

	League Table	P	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	NORTHWOOD	2	1	0	1	7	5	3	2
5	Uxbridge	1	0	1	0	2	2	1	0
6	Fleet Town	1	0	0	1	1	7	0	-6
7	Hampton & Richmond Borough	2	0	0	2	1	11	0	-10

# **WOODS MAGIC MOMENT**





#### **THATCHAM TOWN 1 NORTHWOOD 4**

**TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2012** 

**EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE CENTRAL DIVISION** 

Thatcham: Jon Beames, Damien Smith, Alex Charlick (Sam Flegg), Tom Mudge, Matt Bowler, Dave Asker (Stephen Noakes), Jacob Mingle, Charlie Hill (Adam Everiss), Miles Jones, Danny Seaward, Danny Langford Northwood: James Reading, Ricky Rogers, Lee Grant, Brad Hewitt, Reece Yorke (Adam Pepera), John Christian, Adamson Ajayi, Craig White (James Fraser), Spencer Bellotti, Leon Osei (Oliver Hawkins), Jack Hutchinson.

orthwood's first contest against Thatcham Town for over twenty years coincided with the arrival of former skipper Mark Burgess as the new first team manager and he replaced Gary Meakin in the dugout.

Thatcham had also seen recent changes at Waterside Park, with the experienced Dave Mudge coming in alongside Scott Tarr as a new management partnership after a poor start to the campaign had led to Neville Roach leaving his post. Several new players had arrived, including former Woods midfielder Miles Jones, and results had subsequently improved so the Kingfishers were looking to continue with that momentum.

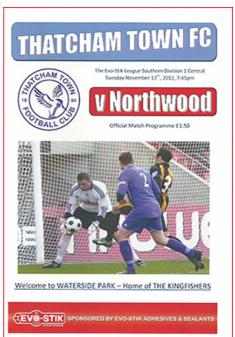
The home side started confidently enough with Jacob Mingle firing a shot from distance straight at James Reading and then the Woods keeper pulled off a fine reflex save to keep out a near-post header from Tom Mudge. The Woods started to settle with Osei knocking a Spencer Bellotti cross wide of the target and then Bellotti raced onto a neat Reece Yorke ball and would have been in on goal but for a poor first touch which saw the ball bobble wide.

But with Thatcham's defence looking far from solid, a similar ball, this time from Craig White put Bellotti in again after 14 minutes and this time he controlled well and fired a crisp shot past Jon Beames in goal for the opening goal. Just three minutes later the former Oxhev front-man was making a nuisance of himself again and his chip had Beames beaten but it drifted wide of the post.

Northwood continued to enjoy the majority of possession, with the home side only looking to threaten from

set-pieces and when a corner was only half-cleared out to Hutchinson he took aim and fired a shot which flashed only just over the top corner of the goal. Adamson Ajayi was starting to make inroads down the left and a typical run and good long-range strike was stopped by Beames in an unconventional manner of blocking the ball like a defender but it was effective enough.

The Woods snatched a second goal after 29 minutes when Hutchinson reached a loose ball first on the edge of the box and poked an accurate shot past a couple of defenders and inside the far post, giving Beames no chance. It was almost three after 36 minutes when John Christian threaded a neat ball through and Bellotti again



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Scorer Jack Hutchinson



Scorer Spencer Bellotti

finished in style but this time a late offside flag pulled the play back with the goal ruled out.

Beames made a good save to deny Osei two minutes later after he latched onto a knock-down from Bellotti but after 41 minutes Osei turned provider with a neat ball to Ajayi who drifted in and drilled a firm shot past the keeper. There was a further chance to increase that lead before the half-time break as Beames handled a tricky a back-pass but the low free-kick from eight yards never looked like breaching the defensive wall, though Beames was only a couple of yards away when he blocked with his legs.

Thatcham made a double change to start the second-half with former Wood Charlie Hill one of the players to be subbed and, having been forced into once replacement due to an injury in the first period, it meant that they had their eleven for the second forty-five minutes. It did seem to have the desired effect of creating a more solid unit, though Hutchinson almost added his second as he jinked into the box from a wide position and pulled a shot across the face of goal which flashed just inches wide of the far post.

Chances were fewer for the Woods but all seemed to fall to the teenager with Hutchinson hitting one long-distance shot straight at Beames and then another well over after the defence had cleared a Bellotti cut-back.

The Kingfishers finally managed to make some inroads

midway through the second-half and after 70 minutes another set-piece dropped kindly to substitute Stephen Noakes but he miskicked in front of goal. Reading also dealt comfortably with a header soon after while Osei had a chance to extend the Northwood lead when through with just Beames to beat but he went too wide to convert from an angle.

Oliver Hawkins and James Fraser replaced Osei and Craig White with ten minutes remaining and just two minutes later, the home side did pull a goal back to raise their hopes as a simple ball was slipped through and top scorer Danny Seaward finished coolly. If Noakes's effort had not crashed against the bar a minute later, it might have made for an interesting finale but the Woods survived and then finished back on top.

Hutchinson burst through again down the right and might have had a shot himself but instead fed Hawkins who looped his effort well over the bar. Christian fired a good shot not far wide soon after and, after Adam Pepera had replaced a limping Yorke, the Woods then notched a fourth goal just into stoppage-time. Ajayi won a challenge just inside his own half and then led the charge of three attackers against just one defender. He played in Hutchinson who returned the favour with a square ball that allowed Ajayi to fire in his second of the game.



## **TODAY IN THE PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE**

For the first time in several weeks we have a full league programme taking place across all four divisions this afternoon of the Isthmian

League as we can see by taking a look at the full list of games.

#### PREMIER DIVISION

Aveley vs Haringey Borough Billericay Town vs Bognor Regis Town Bishop's Stortford vs Carshalton Athletic Bowers & Pitsea vs Brightlingsea Regent Canvey Island vs Wingate & Finchley Corinthian Casuals vs Potters Bar Town Cray Wanderers vs Enfield Town Herne Bay vs Hastings United Hornchurch vs Horsham Kingstonian vs Folkestone Invicta Lewes vs Margate

#### SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

Binfield vs Walton & Hersham Chertsey Town vs Ashford Town (Middx) Chipstead vs Guernsey

Marlow vs Bedfont Sports Merstham vs Leatherhead Northwood vs Thatcham Tow Southall vs Hanworth Villa Sutton Common Rovers vs Tooting Mitcham United Uxbridge vs Basingstoke Town Westfield vs South Park (Reigate)

#### NORTH DIVISION

Basildon United vs AFC Sudbury Brentwood Town vs Witham Town Bury Town vs Hullbridge Sports Coggeshall Town vs Maldon & Tiptre Fast Thurrock United vs Gorleston Felixstowe & Walton United vs Hashtag United

Heybridge Swifts vs Tilbury Lowestoft Town vs Grays Athletic New Salamis vs Wroxham Stowmarket Town vs Great Wakering Rove

#### SOUTH EAST DIVISION

Beckenham Town vs Three Bridges Burgess Hill Town vs Faversham Town Chatham Town vs Chichester City Cray Valley PM vs Haywards Heath Town Hythe Town vs Ashford United Lancing vs VCD Athletic Ramsgate vs Corinthian Sheppey United vs Sevenoak Town Sittingbourne vs Littlehampton Town Whitehawk vs East Grinstead Town



### PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION TABLE

Up to & Including Tue 18th October 2022

	P	W	D	L	F	Α	PTS
Northwood	10	8	0	2	20	11	24
Marlow	9	5	2	2	15	8	17
Binfield	7	5	1	1	16	6	16
South Park (Reigate)	8	5	1	2	10	10	16
Ashford Town (Middx)	9	5	1	3	11	14	16
Chertsey Town	10	4	3	3	21	13	15
Walton & Hersham	6	5	0	1	16	9	15
Basingstoke Town	9	4	2	3	15	7	14
Southall	10	3	5	2	15	12	14
Westfield	7	3	2	2	12	5	11
Uxbridge	7	3	2	2	10	8	11
Chipstead	9	3	1	5	10	17	10
Sutton Common Rovers	10	3	1	6	12	21	10
Hanworth Villa	7	2	3	2	10	11	9
Thatcham Town	9	1	3	5	12	17	6
Tooting & Mitcham United	8	1	3	4	6	11	6
Bedfont Sports	8	1	3	4	5	11	6
Leatherhead	8	1	3	4	5	12	6
Guernsey	9	1	3	5	4	15	6
Merstham	8	0	3	5	8	16	3





Words: Guest Reporter, Sarim Ahmed

# MATCH REPORT



Attendance: 164



## NORTHWOOD 3 **MERSTHAM 2**

Saturday 8th October 2022 Kick-Off 3.00pm

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



Team: McCorkell, Jenkins, Lomas, Alexander-Greenaway, Tingey, Gurteen, Tabor, Jackson (Hutchins 78), Akintunde (Helmore 59), Ibie (Jude-Boyd 83), (C) Stewart Unused Substitutes: Pepai, Kalu Yellow Cards: Alexander-Greenaway. Gurteen

orthwood welcomed Merstham for the very first time on Saturday afternoon, in a game which saw league leaders take on the league's lowest.

Top of the table Northwood were in fine form this season, winning six games on the trot but their previous two matches saw them suffer narrow defeats in each. On the other side of the spectrum. Merstham were winless

this season but managed an impressive 0-0 draw last week with ten men, so confidence must've been high with the away side.

Northwood made a few changes after last week's disappointing loss to Ashford. Micah Jackson came in for Ergys Pepaj which saw Jake Tabor play in a more central role. The second change saw Josh Helmore being given a rest as Juwon Akintunde came in up top to make his debut after signing from Uxbridge. Finally, Sam Jenkins had replaced Harry Gallagher due to the red card he received in the previous game.

Despite Merstham having the first chance of the gamewith Lindell Stewart's wide header, it was Northwood who were the team to take the lead. In the 1twelfth minute.







debutant Akintunde had nicked the ball off Malakai Hyman, a couple of passes were put together and the ball was played out wide to Ibie, which he set back to Lomas who swung a peach of cross in. Merstham had dealt with the situation well for the time being, but it was at the sacrifice of a corner. Jackson stepped up to take and his wand of a left foot whisked up an excellent strike directly from the set piece into the top left of the goal.

The goal had injected energy into the game and chances started to come thick and fast. Aziz Sankho skied one over Andrew McCorkell's net, with Ibie and Jackson each emulating him on the other side of the pitch a few minutes later.

Merstham soon saw their efforts rewarded in the twenty third minute when they managed to breakaway swiftly on the counter-attack after a Northwood throw was hooked away. Lorenzo Lewis ran through and played a neat ball towards Charles Greenwood and with the help of a slight deflection, the ball travelled past an unfortunate McCorkell to make the game level.

A match which had been very stop start saw two penalty shouts not given in quick succession.

In the twenty seventh minute, Tabor had probed into the box and received a nice pass which he greeted with a lovely turn. The moment was soon shut down after Tabor dropped to the floor due to what appeared to be a push, but referee Jack Shepherd waved play on. Merstham then had a turn for a claim after Bryan Zepo cleverly let the ball run through to goalscorer Greenwood which led to a strong challenge on him by a Northwood defender. Screams were pelted by the away fans, but Shepherd was unfazed and once again let play continue.

Merstham were growing in confidence. Their defence looked compact and composed and the team just seemed to be clicking. This was evident in the fortieth minute as captain Michael Kamara played a long ball out wide to Lewis, who expertly flicked the ball on with the outside of his boot. The number 10 continued to stride forward towards the keeper, where he emphatically finished into the far corner to make it 2-1. Merstham had taken the lead for only the second time of their season and Northwood seemed shellshocked

As the referee blew for half time, the home side knew something needed to change. And change it did. Northwood started the second-half with high intensity and a lot of hunger. Shots were being let off, tackles were being committed and spirits were being lifted. Merstham wouldn't go down without a fight though and decided to fight fire with fire, putting a couple tackles in themselves. The referee had to call a lot of fouls as well as a few verbal warnings as he tried to play peacemaker between the sides.

Unfortunately for Lindell Stewart and his team, it appeared he bit off more than he could chew whilst trying to defend against Ibie in his own box.

In the fifty eighth minute, the former Wood made a







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mark on his return to The Skyline Roofing Stadium by being drawn into a diving tackle and giving away a penalty after Ibie shimmied past him. The latter then stepped up and slotted it into the right corner to score his fourth spot-kick in five games but more importantly, Northwood were back on level terms.

This home side were buzzing and almost instantaneously they got another chance. Ibie got down the left-hand side again, this time playing a looping ball towards the back post where Tabor was waiting patiently to head the ball in off the bar for his first goal in a Northwood shirt. 3-2 to the home side!

The game was now open and had started to become end-to-end. Helmore, who had recently come on for Akintunde, saw his shot saved by Otuyo and the resulting rebound fell kindly to Jackson, but the central midfielder could only drag his shot off target. After Lewis had curled a free kick just wide, plenty of brilliant last-ditch tackles were made by each side, showing just how much this

game meant to them. Northwood missed chances to put the game to bed with Otuyo spectacularly saving Tabor's low shot with a strong hand and another direct corner hitting the crossbar.

The game from the seventieth minute saw many breaks in play, and it appeared Northwood's best defender on the day was the linesman and his offside flag - much to the frustration of the Merstham players.

The fans remained in full voice and created an amazing atmosphere which certainly contributed to Northwood's willingness to keep hold of the lead. That stubbornness was nearly broken during stoppage time, however, as Sankoh raced down the left wing and zipped a good ball into the box and directly onto the head of sub Charlie Alexiou but it wasn't meant to be as he smacked the bar from close range. After another scare from a cross into the box it appeared as if Northwoods hard work had paid off. They had survived.











THE VISITORS

# THATCHAM TOWN **FOOTBALL CLUB**

#### **CLUB HISTORY**

hatcham Town Football Club was founded in 1894. The club were originally known as Thatcham, with Town being added to its name in 1974. In the early years Thatcham played at The Marsh on Dunston Green, Brownsfield (home of the Cricket Club) and Station Road, before moving to Lancaster Close in 1949.

Floodlights were erected in January 1983 with Fulham FC visiting for a commemorative friendly match. To provide improved facilities, the club moved to Waterside Park in 1992/93, with the ground becoming known as The Stacatruc Stadium from August 2019.

The club joined the Reading Temperance League in 1896, winning Division Two in 1905/06. In 1953 Thatcham became founder members of the Hellenic League and won promotion to the Premier Division as Division 1 champions in 1958/59, 1964/65 & 1972/73. The club then won the Hellenic Premier Division title in 1974/75. Following spells in the Athenian and London Spartan Leagues, the club joined the newly formed Wessex League in 1986 and won the title in 1995/96. After finishing second in 2005/06, ground requirements were met and promotion to step four achieved.

The Kingfishers spent eight seasons in the Southern League Division One – seven in the South & West Division and one (2012/13) in the Central. After sixth-place finishes in 2006/07 and 2008/09, the club achieved its highest ever position in 2010/11. Despite being in the bottom half of the table at Christmas, the club earned 38 points from the final 15 matches to finish in fifth, however Thatcham were beaten at Sholing in the play-off semi-final.

Once safety was assured in 2013/14, the club resigned from the Southern League to cut costs by playing at a lower level. Town finished twelfth in their first campaign back in the Hellenic Premier, then second and fourth in the following seasons. However, in 2017/18 the club embarked on an incredible 40 game unbeaten run which saw them overtake long-time leaders Highworth Town and eventually pip Bracknell Town to the title in a thrilling end to the season, on goal difference.

After a season adjusting to step four football, in 2019/20 Thatcham sat on top of the Southern League D1 South table with eleven games to play. But with the club looking certain to achieve its highest ever finish, and promotion to step three a strong possibility, the Coronavirus pandemic struck, causing the season to be terminated.

After the subsequent departure of the club's management and many senior players, the 2020/21 season was set to be one of rebuilding with greater use of young, local players planned. With that season terminated after only 8 games, 2021/22 will again feel like a new start for the Kingfishers, especially with the club being transferred into the Isthmian League South Central Division.

Thatcham Town FC have enjoyed some memorable success in Cup competitions over the years. In 1989 the club reached the last eight of the FA Vase before losing to local rivals Hungerford Town. In the same competition a record attendance of 1,400 was set when Aldershot Town won 1-0 at Waterside Park in 1993/94.

However, in 2017/18 Thatcham went all the way and lifted the trophy at Wembley Stadium on a brilliant day



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for the club. Victory over Bromsgrove Sporting brought realisation the club could be on the verge of something special, then over 2,200 attended the guarter-final win at Melksham Town as cup fever swept the town. Thatcham beat 1874 Northwich 1-0 and 3-2 in the two-legged semi-final, and took over 5,000 fans to Wembley as Stockton Town were defeated 1-0 in the final

While the club are yet to progress beyond the Second Round Qualifying of the FA Trophy, 1996/97 saw Thatcham's best FA Cup run as they reached the Fourth Round Qualifying stage. In September 2019 the First Round Qualifying tie at home to Salisbury was streamed live by the BBC which gave the club further national exposure, but unfortunately the visitors ran out narrow 3-2 winners.

Thatcham completed the Hellenic League and Cup double, by lifting the Hellenic First Division Cup in 1972/73 and the Premier Division Cup in 1974/75. During 2017/18 the club reached both League Cup finals, losing to Bracknell in the Challenge Cup and Binfield in the Floodlit Cup. Meanwhile during the 1990s Thatcham won the Wessex League Cup on four occasions, completing the double in 1995/96. In 1974/75 the club were beaten in the final of the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup but were awarded the trophy following a dispute between the victors, Wycombe Wanderers, and the Berks & Bucks FA.













#### STEVE RINGROSE





RICHARD ELDERFIELD



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# NORTHWOOD FC

PLAYER PROFILES

& PLAYER SPONSORSHIP 2022-23 SEASON

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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. 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 has been a regular goalscorer. The 20-year-old has impression at the higher level. He is dual-registered with Broadfields United for the 2022/23 season

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#### James Budden

Having started off at Hemel Hempstead, Aylesbury and Leverstock Green, he moved on to play Step now 30, he brings plenty of experience to the Woods



#### **Harry Gallagher**

arry 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.

#### **David Nolan**

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#### **Keagan Cole**

Keagan arrived at Northwood in a player-coach role n November 2021 having skippered Potters Bar Fown 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 Supporters Player of the Year award in 2022.



#### 🖁 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.

#### Frances Wallace

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#### Sean Moore

#### Jordan Gavaghan Vehicle Finance



#### James Gurteen

James was previously with the Woods as an 18-yeareturned in October 2021 on dual-registration from central defender has also appeared for Rayners Lane, Aylesbury United, Broadfields United and Southall. Back for a second season in 2022.



#### Sydney Ibie

Dutch-born striker who joined the Woods from Potters Bar Town in November 2021, where he had 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.

#### **Gerry Pimm**

#### **Available for Sponsorship**

#### The Vosper Boys

#### Rory O'Dwyer



#### **Ronan Hutchins**

Ronan is a former Brentford Academy player who nas joined the Woods in the summer of 2022 from Hampton & Richmond Borough. Still only 18, attackng-midfielder Ronan was loaned out to Hendon and hen Tring Athletic last season and he netted eight goals in 21 games for the Spartan South Midlands and progress at the higher level this season.



#### 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

#### Naomi La Croix & Dwayne Fernandez

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Available for Sponsorship









#### Rahim Jude-Boyd

Having once been part of the QPR Academy set-up, playing for Middlesex League side Cricklewood Nanderers and impressed in pre-season with the new season



#### **Romario Jonas**

Romario is a 25-year-old defender who joins the 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 spells with Bracknell Town and Chalfont St Peter but promotion through the play-offs back in May.

#### **Dwayne Fernandez & Naomi La Croix**

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#### Andrew McCorkell

Experienced 24-year-old goalkeeper who had a short spell with the Woods back in 2017 after release from in Northern Ireland's Under-19s. He had already In recent years he has had spells with Beaconsfield, Hayes & Yeading, Chalfont St Peter and, most recently, Bedfont Sports before joining Northwood for the new season.



#### **Andy Lomas**

**Graham Mann** 

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 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.

#### **Dennis Goulding**

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#### **Robin Piper**

**Robin Piper** 



#### Brandon Kalu

Experienced, left-back, Brandon has moved to Northwood having played at Chalfont St Peter and Bedfont Sports in recent seasons.

The 27-year-old also played for Hillingdon Borough.



#### **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 midfield player is only 20 and will be looking to establish himself in senior football.



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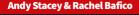
#### Teddy Stacey

25-year-old Teddy joined us from Hadley FC. He US where he represented, ironically, Northwood College in Michigan as well as playing for Greater Lowell Rough Diamonds. He's a versatile player who Player of the Year award



#### 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 for Zaglebie Sosnowiec. He has also had short spells at Oxford City, Banbury United, Bedfont Sports, won the coveted Players' Player of the Year award in 2022 and is back for the new season.



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**Robin Piper** 









#### **Jake Tabor**

Young striker who joined the Woods in September 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.



#### **Luke Tingey**

Luke is an experienced 25-year-old defender who Premier side Potters Bar Town. He started off at the 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.

#### **Available for Sponsorship**

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#### Tino Nannavecchia

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#### **David Taylor**

Vastly-experienced midfielder. Dave is back to Northplayed a handful of matches for the Woods back in 2018-19 before joining up with Chertsey Town and and the Combined Counties League. Now 28, Dave spent his early seasons with North Greenford and



#### Micah Jackson

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

Chalfont St Peter in February. He started this season with Walthamstow but be looking to boost the squad's attacking options.

#### Steve, Richard, David & Paul **Available for Sponsorship**

**Available for Sponsorship Available for Sponsorship** 





## **SQUAD LISTS**





## NORTHWOOD FC

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 GURTEEN

Harry **GALLAGHER** 

Carl STEWART

Riccardo ALEXANDER-GREENAWAY

Ergys **PEPAJ** 

Teddy **STACEY** 

Keagan COLE

Jake **TABOR** 

Ronan HUTCHINS

Josh HELMORE

Sydney IBIE

**Brandon KALU** 

Micah JACKSON

Juwon **AKINTUNDE** 

Sandro COSTA DIAS FERNANDES

## THATCHAM TOWN

Manager: Yashwa Romeo

Coaches: Shaun Allaway & Colin Charles

Physio: Declan Dowling Colours: Blue & White

Morgan CAMPBELL

Joshua ADJEI

Jamal BRANKER

Ramani MEDFORD-SMITH

Anton MILLER

Jordan **KYEZU** 

Joshua **EDWARDS** 

Oliver **BOURNE** 

Muhamadou CEESAY

Nathan JONES

Taylor **HARRY** 

David **NYARKO** 

McKoy PALMER

Alex MILLER

Cameron ROHART-BROWN

Jaime OBAMA-NVUMBA

Rob **GERRARD** 

Alex FRAGATA

Clive GWAVAVA

Referee: Howard Collins

**Assistant:** George Younger

Assistant: Stephen Matthews **NEXT UP AT HOME** 

CHIPSTEAD

Saturday 29th October 2022 Kick-Off **3.00pm** 

The Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division ON THE ROAD

**UXBRIDGE** 

Saturday 5th November 2022 Kick-Off **3.00pm** 

The Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



