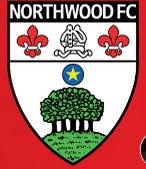


The

WOODS



WELWYN GARDEN CITY

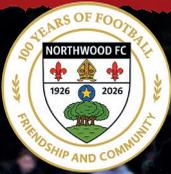
SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026 | 3PM
PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL



BEACONSFIELD TOWN

TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026 | 7.45PM
PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF NORTHWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB



THE WOODS

v Welwyn Garden City

MATCH & MATCHBALL SPONSOR

GERRY PIMM

v Beaconsfield Town

MATCH SPONSOR

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Ken Green

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Terry Brumpton

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James Brown

CLUB HONOURS

Founded 1926

Isthmian League South Central Division play-off semi-finalists	2023
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, 1997, 1999, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2022
Middlesex Senior Charity Cup finalists:	1994, 2003, 2005, 2012, 2023
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

THE WOODS is the official Matchday Programme of Northwood Football Club and is printed and designed by JJ Sports Promotions Ltd. For further information, please contact Terry Brumpton, Tel **07771 802 048** or email terrybrumpton@yahoo.co.uk

IN THIS ISSUE

3 IAN'S INSIGHT

Chairman, Ian Barry brings us the latest thoughts from the Boardroom.

4 WOODS OUTLOOK

Club Secretary Alan Evans brings us up to date with all of the latest news.

9 STOP PRESS

Tommy Cooney announced as the Woods new manager.

12 CENTENARY NEWS

A look at some of the events lined up to help celebrate the 'Woods' centenary.

14 THREE OF A KIND

Ken Green looks back at three past memorable games between Woods and Welwyn Garden City.

16 YESTERDAY TODAY

Ken Green looks back at memorable games that the Woods have played on the 28th February.

18 MATCH ACTION

Alan Evans reports on the Woods heavy defeat at Ware last Saturday.

20 MATCH BY MATCH

The Woods Progress through the 2025/26 season.

26 UNDER 18's

The latest update from the Woods youth team.

28 VISITING THE SKYLINE

A look at our visitors from Welwyn Garden City.

32 MATCH ACTION

Alan Evans reports on the Woods defeat at the hands of Milton Keynes Irish.

34 VISITING THE SKYLINE

A look at our visitors from Beaconsfield Town.

36 SQUAD & SPONSORS

Introducing your 2025/2026 Woods squad.

40 THE TEAMS



IAN'S INSIGHT

**WOODS CHAIRMAN, IAN BARRY, WELCOMES YOU
ALL TO THE SKYLINE ROOFING STADIUM.**

Good afternoon and welcome to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and our C & G Scaffolding Ltd sponsored Clubhouse for our Pitching In Southern League matches today and on Tuesday night. We welcome our opponents from both Welwyn Garden City FC and Beaconsfield Town FC and trust they both enjoy their short stay here.

I write on Monday evening after the defeat at Ware on Saturday and also here against MK Irish the week before. Both games I genuinely felt were winnable and both very different games. To throw away a two-goal lead after seventy five minutes here was nothing short of criminal and to capitulate after an even first-half at Ware was the same. Concentration levels were low and to throw in the towel is unacceptable. It's happened too often this season and I won't stand for this any longer. Too much effort goes in behind the scenes here for us to just sit back and accept defeat lightly.

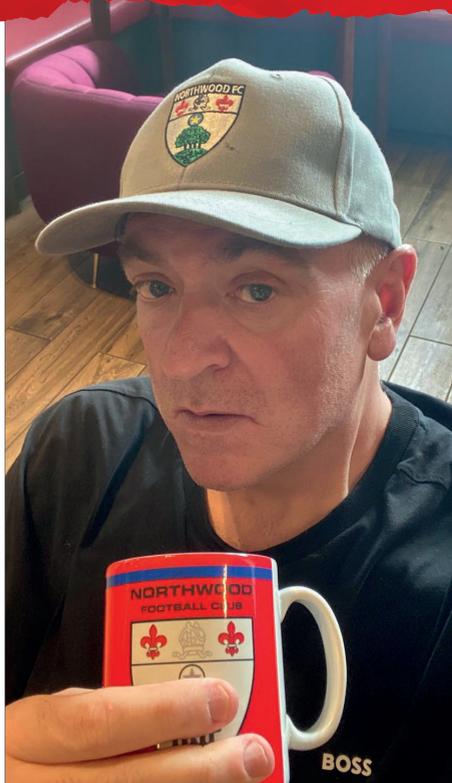
As you can tell, I'm not exactly happy at the moment and things have to change. Everyone needs to take a hard look at themselves and up their game.

Interesting to hear the views about our excellent matchday programme and how people still enjoy reading it; though it would seem they are being phased out in the near future for online replacements in the main, which is a shame. I was surprised that so many read my column and appreciate the view I take on things, but these are all my honest opinions and it's best to write them down and share them I feel. Of course, you don't have to read them.....maybe once or twice our editor, Alan, might have to tone down my words a little, but you get the gist of what I'm saying.

These two home games are significant. Not just for right now, but potentially for the future of the club and what level we operate at going forward, so I am expecting a lot more than we have been getting. Let's have faith.

Fantastic work and presentation by Liz Joyce at the last home game, where we introduced our plans for the year in our 100-year celebrations and a great turnout which was great to see! Lots to look forward to on and off the pitch coming up.

For now, we need all your support as we embark on our push to get clear of trouble. We live in hope.



Finally, we were all very sad to hear of the passing of Alan Piper recently. Alan was the father of Robin and was a very good man. He would regularly be seen at our games and was always very supportive when we had help days etc. He had recently moved back up North, where Robin had joined him, so his passing came as quite a shock to us all. I will treasure his memory and all of our thoughts remain with Robin and his family at this most difficult of times. Alan's funeral took place on Thursday.

Up The Woods!

ian

WOODS OUTLOOK

**CLUB SECRETARY,
ALAN EVANS,
BRINGS US ALL
THE LATEST NEWS
FROM AROUND
THE CLUB.**



WELCOME TO THE CITIZENS & THE RAMS

Facing two home games in quick succession here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium this week, we double up on our programme issue as we extend a warm welcome, firstly to Welwyn Garden City Football Club for a Saturday fixture and then Beaconsfield Town FC for a rescheduled midweek game that we try to stage for the fourth time this season!

Starting with The Citizens, they have slipped from play-off contention over the last couple of months with just one win from their last eight games (before their away game at Thame United on Tuesday night) during a period that has been interrupted by both injuries and a series of postponed games that have reflected our own. That one win though was an impressive 3-2 success away at play-off hopefuls Biggleswade and they have also drawn four times so they are clearly still a threat. Both sides have seven points from the last eight matches played.

Our visit to Herts Way came back in early November and an incident-packed fixture ended in a 2-2 draw. Bailey Stevenson put Welwyn in front after just two minutes but Gabe Cuthbert headed an equaliser just two minutes later and Dan Williams netted to put the Woods 2-1 in front midway through the first-half. Ten minutes into the second-half, Northwood skipper Manny Folarin was sent-off in bizarre circumstances but within seconds, newly-introduced substitute Carlos Velasco also saw red for a bad foul with his first touch. Lewis Taafe levelled with four minutes to go to share the spoils.

The corresponding game last season was played in early March last year and it was our visitors that secured a 2-1 win. It was Velasco that had put the Citizens ahead after just eight minutes before Josh Williams levelled soon after. Lewis Jones scored what proved to be the winner before half-time as the second-half proved disastrous

for the Woods, losing Harry McKenna to a dislocated shoulder and Alex Cathline to a red card in stoppage-time.

Beaconsfield Town arrive positioned just above Welwyn Garden City in the league table, five points better off but having played two more matches. They had been in tremendous recent form, unbeaten in seven games having scored nineteen goals and conceding just seven before last weekend's 0-4 home defeat at the hands of bang-in-form Thame United. The Rams went into the game missing some key players including inspirational skipper James Dobson and they are due to play away to second-placed Hitchin Town today (Saturday) before their visit to the Skyline. Former Woods striker Manu Oke-William is leading the line well, despite a brief sojourn at Step 3 with Welling United, having netted 16 goals to date for his side.

Our corresponding fixture last season came as early as August 2024, our first game back in the Southern League, and ended in a comfortable 2-0 victory for the Rams with goals from Ben Tricker and Josh Marcon. The Woods did get revenge in the return though, winning 2-1. Tricker again put Beaconsfield in front but goals from Godlove Oppong and then Ade Gbolahan won the three points. We're due to travel to Holloways Park on Easter Monday.

This Saturday afternoon's match, and also the Match Ball, has been kindly sponsored by Gerry Pimm and we trust that he and his guests will enjoy our hospitality in the Boardroom. For Tuesday night's game the Match has been sponsored by Shamira Hamirani, while the Match Ball has been sponsored by John Bridges and we thank them both for this kind gesture. We'd love to fill in all the spaces for Match Ball sponsors throughout the season so if you can help out with one of the remaining games, please take a look at the grid elsewhere in today's programme (just the final three more dates are available!) and let me know which you would like. The cost is £50.

NORTHWOOD FC CENTENARY LAUNCH

At our last home game, we were delighted to launch the events and initiatives that have been arranged for the club's Centenary year in 2026. These events are covered elsewhere in today's programme and will remain there for the rest of the season, together with any updates that we have. It was great to witness the excellent video put together by Liz and John Joyce which was supported by several well-known sports people while there were some excellent speeches given by MP Gagan Mohindra and Joan Parson, a long-serving volunteer from our chosen charity-partners, the Lynda Jackson Centre at Mount Vernon. They are pictured here with the players before the game.

There is also a new designated website, just for Centenary News at www.northwoodfc100.co.uk so make sure you check this out.

LEAGUE NEWS

Sadly, our narrow defeat against Milton Keynes Irish, having led 2-0 with fifteen minutes to go, was a real blow in our quest to avoid relegation this season. It was followed last week by a 4-0 defeat at Ware and we have now lost all five matches played in 2026 to date and can only hope that we can make a return to form back here at the Skyline for these two matches in four days. Let's have plenty of positive support at these games as you can be sure that the players will be giving their all to try to pick up much-needed points.

With the Beaconsfield Town game being played this Tuesday night, we have also rearranged the two other recently postponed fixtures and that sees Flackwell Heath visit us here at the Skyline next Tuesday, 10th March while we now travel to the current league leaders Leighton Town on Tuesday 24th March.

CUP NEWS

With Uxbridge beating North Greenford United 5-0 in the only quarter-final played in the Middlesex Charity Cup, the County then made the draw for the semi-finals with the following result:

Uxbridge v. Hanwell Town Northwood v. Broadfields United

So, the Woods will play Broadfields United, who have won the competition in each of the last two seasons (beating Northwood in the first of those) to reach the final of competition for the sixth time! We are still yet to win the Charity Cup so let's hope we can put up a good show in the semi-final which has been scheduled to be played here on Tuesday 17th March; two weeks' time. Broadfields United have excelled in County Cup competition again this season as they also play in the Final of the Middlesex Senior Cup next week against Southall. The match takes place next Wednesday, 11th March at Uxbridge FC with Broadfields looking for their first-ever win while Southall's last success was 70 years ago; back in 1956. It's also forty years since they were last in the final.

MATCH & MATCH BALL SPONSORS - SEASON 2025/26

Opponents	Date	Match Sponsor	Match Ball Sponsor
Egham Town	Saturday 2nd August	Shamira Hamirani	Gerry Pimm
Hadley	Tuesday 12th August	-	Dennis Goulding
Hanworth Villa	Saturday 23rd August	Shamira Hamirani	Peter Reynolds
Rayners Lane	Monday 25th August	Colin Seal	Alan Evans
Beckenham Town	Saturday 6th September	Shamira Hamirani	Graham Mann
Biggleswade Town	Saturday 27th September	-	Ian Barry
Marlow	Tuesday 30th September	-	Dennis Goulding
Enfield	Saturday 4th October	-	Gerry Pimm
Leighton Town	Saturday 11th October	Sean Moore	Peter Reynolds
Leverstock Green	Saturday 18th October	Gerry Pimm	Michael & Peter Gant
Ware	Saturday 1st November	-	Michael & Peter Gant
Southall	Tuesday 4th November	-	Alan Evans
London Lions	Tuesday 11th November	-	Ken Green & Sandy Young
AFC Dunstable	Saturday 15th November	-	Gerry Pimm
Aylesbury United	Saturday 29th November	Shamira/Byrne Family	Sean Moore
Stotfold	Saturday 13th December	Graham Mann	Alan Evans
Hertford Town	Saturday 20th December	-	Dennis Goulding
Milton Keynes Irish	Saturday 14th February	Peter Reynolds	Dennis Goulding
Welwyn Garden City	Saturday 28th February	Gerry Pimm	Gerry Pimm
Beaconsfield Town	Tuesday 3rd March	Shamira Hamirani	John Bridges
Flackwell Heath	Tuesday 10th March	The Byrne Family	Jim Taylor
Barton Rovers	Saturday 21st March		Peter & Michael Gant
Thame United	Friday 3rd April		
Biggleswade	Saturday 11th April	Dennis Goulding	
Hitchin Town	Saturday 18th April		

WOODS OUTLOOK

PLAYER UPDATES

There has been a series of player arrivals over the last couple of weeks. **Ethan Cann** is a young defender who has joined from Enfield Town having previously captained the Charlton Athletic Under-18s side.

Ezra Ndokuba joined on dual-registration from Egham Town and the former Uxbridge striker scored in an impressive debut against MK Irish but was then recalled by the Sarnies last Saturday. With **Hafed Al-Droubi** unavailable – he has since left the club – young goalkeeper **Kai Mussilhy** made his debut against the Irish and played well but then the more experienced **Alfie Bonfield** came in from Hitchin Town to play at Ware last Saturday. It's his second spell at the club having played a couple of times back in 2019. Also, last Saturday saw a debut for experienced midfielder **Lewis Croucher** who joins us from Enfield and also had recent experience for Leverstock Green and today's visitors Welwyn Garden City.

Congratulations to Carl Stewart who made his 150th appearance for the Woods at Ware, always a key number here at Northwood as it qualifies the player for "legends" status. It is much rarer nowadays to have a player that sticks around at one club for that long with the last to reach this milestone being Andy Lomas (in 2022/23) and Joakim Ehui (in 2016/17).

Manny Folarin returned from his weather-extended two-match ban last Saturday but young defender

Gabe Cuthbert still needs to serve one more match to complete his suspension this weekend. On a positive note, it was good to see Harry McCorkell back from his long injury lay-off which means he has made his first appearances of the season in the last couple of weeks.

UNDER-18S

The Under-18s had their home game against Aldershot Town postponed last week when the heavens opened once again not long before kick-off. They were scheduled to play away at Ascot United on Wednesday night but these notes were prepared before the result of that was known. This coming week sees them travel to Fleet Town tomorrow night, Wednesday 4th March while their next home game is against Badshot Lee the following Wednesday, 11th March. Any support would be very welcome here at the Skyline.

RISING BALLERS NEWS

It's not going well for our tenants Rising Ballers as they crashed 1-6 at home to Berks County in their last fixture (before Tuesday night's game at Deportivo Galicia) and dropped to the bottom of the table without a win in nine matches. They are away at Wembley today but are scheduled for a home this Monday, 2nd March against play-off seeking PFC Victoria and also this coming Saturday (Sport London e Benfica) and the following Monday (Holmer Green). They certainly need to pick up some points in those games to have a chance of survival.

6

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MERCHANDISE

In partnership with one of our new sponsors, Flame, we have been delighted to be able to offer lots of new items in our range of merchandise which have been on sale at all of our home games this season. The range includes caps, hoodies, replica shirts (restocked but a limited number available), bobble hats, mugs, scarves and pens. Bucket hats were added along with dog bowls also making an appearance! Scarves also available of course - Wear your colours!

VOLUNTEERING

We have a great working group of volunteers here at the club who all work very hard to keep the club functioning and the ground spick and span throughout the season. But we could always do with a bit of extra help, both on matchdays or during the week around the stadium or the clubhouse. If you have a few hours to spare and would like to get involved, then please let us know. We were delighted to welcome Ross Jones to the club as a volunteer videographer in recent times and he has already greatly improved our socials with regular updates on YouTube, Instagram and Tik-Tok during that time. The aim is to build the number of followers and subscribers on those accounts and channels so please ensure you take a look, like and subscribe where you can. If interested in helping us

out in any way – someone to do X Updates on home matchdays would be good, please speak to either Chairman Ian Barry or Commercial Manager John Joyce and get onboard if you can.

NEXT UP AT THE SKYLINE

The Woods are away at London Lions next Saturday, one of the more local fixtures, so any support there would be very much appreciated. We then return here for the visit of Flackwell Heath in midweek.

Monday 2nd March 2026

Rising Ballers v. PFC Victoria
CCL Division One – 7.45pm

Saturday 7th March 2026

Rising Ballers v. Sport Benfica
CCL Division One – 7.45pm

Monday 9th March 2026

Rising Ballers v. Holmer Green
CCL Division One – 7.45pm

Tuesday 10th March 2026

Woods v Flackwell Heath
Southern League Division One Central – 3pm

Thank you for your support once again this afternoon and evening and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Alan

PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL



PARTNERS WITH
SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Leighton Town	30	12	2	0	41	11	9	5	2	35	21	44	70
2	Hitchin Town	30	10	3	3	35	15	9	4	1	36	13	43	64
3	Biggleswade Town	31	6	6	4	33	25	11	2	2	42	16	34	59
4	Biggleswade	31	6	6	4	28	25	11	2	2	33	16	20	59
5	Hertford Town	29	11	0	5	45	25	6	3	4	27	18	29	54
6	Thame United	29	8	2	5	32	27	9	1	4	38	20	23	54
7	Ware	31	7	4	5	32	19	8	1	6	27	28	12	50
8	Barton Rovers	30	9	2	4	29	21	5	6	4	27	29	6	50
9	Hadley	29	7	2	5	30	27	7	5	3	28	20	11	49
10	Milton Keynes Irish	31	7	2	7	35	40	7	2	6	24	25	-6	46
11	Beaconsfield Town	30	6	5	5	33	26	6	4	4	26	23	10	45
12	Welwyn Garden City	29	4	5	4	16	16	7	5	4	29	20	9	43
12	Flackwell Heath	30	6	4	6	33	22	5	3	6	25	21	15	40
14	London Lions	30	7	2	6	31	38	5	1	9	22	26	-11	39
15	Stotfold	31	8	1	7	28	21	4	1	10	27	39	-5	38
16	Marlow	31	7	1	8	30	34	4	1	10	17	35	-22	35
17	Leverstock Green	29	4	5	4	22	24	2	7	7	22	34	-14	30
18	Aylesbury United	31	4	4	6	22	22	4	1	12	21	38	-17	29
19	Enfield	31	2	2	11	17	39	5	1	10	21	42	-43	24
20	Northwood	29	2	3	9	17	34	2	7	6	19	31	-29	22
21	Rayners Lane	31	1	2	13	11	36	2	3	10	17	47	-55	14
22	AFC Dunstable	27	1	3	9	10	30	1	1	13	12	47	-55	10

Up to & including Tuesday 25th February 2026





Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Southern League football clubs need your help with them.

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

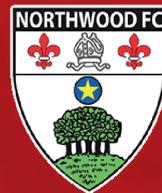
Please visit
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to find out more



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STOP PRESS NEW MANAGER ANNOUNCED



On Wednesday morning, the Club announced the appointment of Tommy Cooney as the Woods new Manager with immediate effect.

Chairman Ian Barry stated "we place in record our sincere thanks to both Dennis Quigley and Mark Chandler for the loyalty, leadership and extremely hard work during a difficult period."

Tommy joins us from a good spell managing Spartan South Midlands League side Arlesley Town, finishing just outside the play-offs in 2024-25 and leaves them three points off the play-off places this season following some changes at the Bedfordshire club.

TOMMY COONEY

A Potted History

The 30-year-old was in his first management role at Arlesley Town, while he also has a role in the Stevenage FC Academy.

As a player he is a left-back who was born in Galway, Ireland and started his career in his native country with Athlone Town, Longford and Sligo Rovers before being spotted by Brentford where he played for their Elite Development B-squad. He represented Ireland up to U19 level.

He was released by the Bees in summer 2015 and, after moving north, played for Scarborough Athletic, Brighouse Town, Boston United and Corby Town. He also played for Margate before a spell in Australia with Preston Lions.

Back in England he then joined Bognor Regis Town before stints at Hayes & Yeading, Ashford United, Hungerford Town and Leatherhead.

He moved abroad again to play for Skelleftea in Sweden and Finnish club VPS, before returning to join Braintree Town, then Sevenoaks Town, Hornchurch and Leatherhead again. In January 2022, he signed for Hastings United but Faversham Town was his next club at the start of 2022-23. He then became a coach at Dulwich Hamlet. Tommy signed for Isthmian Premier side Potters Bar ahead of 2023-24 but in December 2023, he became manager of Arlesley Town.



At the time of writing, Tommy is yet to announce his management team but it is expected that they will be in place in time for today's match against Welwyn Garden City.

We welcome Tommy to the Club and wish him a long and successful spell here at the Woods!



VX3

VENI VIDI VICI

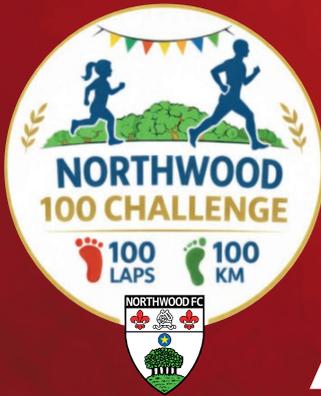
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NORTHWOOD 100 FITNESS CHALLENGE

A CLUB UNITED

As part of our Centenary celebrations, we are proud to launch the Northwood 100 Fitness Challenge, a club-wide and community focused initiative designed to bring together players, families, supporters and the wider community in our 100th year.

To mark 100 years of Northwood Football Club, we are setting a symbolic goal: 100.

For adults, the challenge is to complete 100km between April and June. That distance can be walked, run or swum or a combination of all three, it's about commitment, not speed. Participants can take part individually or enter as a team of four.

Those taking on the individual challenge will complete their final 5km at WoodsFest100 on Sunday 5th July at Northwood Recreation Ground. Teams of four will finish with a 4 x 5km relay on the same day, a fantastic way to end the challenge together in front of the Northwood community.

For our Youth section, the challenge is 100 laps over the same three-month period. Broken down, that's just 8 or 9 laps per week. Laps can be walked or run around a football pitch, playground, park or garden. or even swum, with 25 metres in the pool counting as one lap. The aim is participation, healthy habits and building confidence, not competition.

We are delighted that our Challenge Ambassador is Richard Whitehead MBE, double Paralympic gold medalist and world record holder. Richard represents resilience, determination and the belief that barriers can be overcome, exactly the values we want to inspire across our club and community.

Importantly, this is not just about fitness. Throughout our Centenary year, Northwood FC is raising funds for Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Charity, with a particular

focus on the Lynda Jackson Centre. Many in our local area have experienced the incredible support they provide, and this challenge gives us a collective way to give something meaningful back.

Supporters can donate or set up their fundraising page via our JustGiving campaign:
www.justgiving.com/campaign/northwoodfc100year or scan the QR code to go to the page.



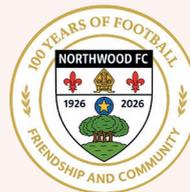
Full details, registration information and updates can also be found at:
www.northwoodfc100.co.uk

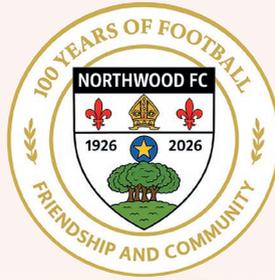
The challenge will culminate at WoodsFest100 — a full community celebration with live music, food vendors, local businesses and family activities. Our Youth players will complete their final two laps together on a pitch, finishing with a celebratory goal. a fitting moment in a landmark year.

One hundred years ago, this club was built on community spirit. The Northwood 100 Fitness Challenge is a modern reflection of that same spirit, inclusive, ambitious and rooted firmly in bringing people together.

We hope you'll be part of it.

Up The Woods.





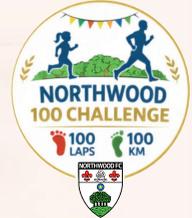
CENTENARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

April – June 2026

Northwood 100 Fitness Challenge

A community-wide fitness challenge for adults and children across three months.

- **Children:** 100 laps over three months to mark 100 years of the club
- **Adults:** 100km over three months, with the final distance completed at Northwood100 Fest



Sunday 3 May 2026 | 2:00pm

Northwood FC Legends Match

A celebratory match featuring former players and club legends.

Monday 4 May 2026 | From 12.00 p.m.

Celebrity Football Match – 3.00pm kick-off

90-minute celebrity match at 3.00pm. Short exhibition matches and youth displays on the pitch before the main game.

Sunday 17 May 2026 | From 12.00 p.m.

Managers & Coaches v Northwood U18s – Youth Section

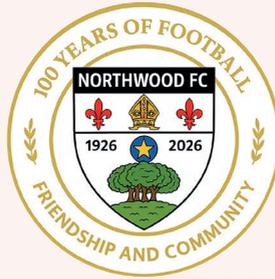
Managers & Coaches v Northwood U18s club team.

Wednesday 20 May 2026 | From 6 p.m.

U18s Mixed Match

An inclusive mixed U18s fixture highlighting youth participation and development.

For more details, please visit www.northwoodfc100.co.uk



CENTENARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026



Sunday 5 July 2026 | 10:00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Northwood100 Fest – Family Fun Run & Community Day

A flagship centenary community event featuring the final stage of the Northwood 100 Challenge, live music, family activities, community stalls, food village, and club/youth displays.



Thursday 30 July 2026: 12.30p.m. Tee Off, 7 p.m. Dinner

Centenary Golf Day & Dinner

Northwood Golf Club

Sunday 2 August 2026

Best of the Legends v England Veterans Non League Side

2.p.m. Kick-off.

Friday 25 September 2026 | 7.00 p.m.

Comedy Night

An evening of live comedy in support of the centenary charity partner.

Saturday 24 October 2026 | 7.30 p.m.

Race Night

A fun club race night with recorded races and friendly betting.



For more details, please visit www.northwoodfc100.co.uk

3 OF A KIND

MEMORABLE PAST MEETINGS WITH TODAY'S OPPONENTS
WELWYN GARDEN CITY

MONDAY 26TH AUGUST 2024 PITCHING-IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION 1 CENTRAL

WELWYN GARDEN CITY 3 NORTHWOOD 1

The sun was shining for Northwood's first-ever visit to Hens Way and there was a slow start to the game with a run and cross from David Agyemang that clipped the crossbar the only action early on. But after eight minutes, the in-form Bailey Stevenson claimed the first shot on goal as his effort from wide on the right was comfortably saved by Dan Hosier at the near post.

A well-delivered free-kick from Layne Eadie was met by a good header down Bradley Wadkins but the ball bounced up, onto the crossbar and the danger was cleared. But the Woods were not really threatening up front, rarely able to get the ball into the danger-area and they were behind after 37 minutes. From a free-kick, the ball was only half-cleared by James Taylor and when Eadie knocked it wide to Zurriel Otseh-Taiwo, his cross was put away by an unmarked Stevenson from a few yards.

Despite being reduced to ten by the dismissal of Jordan Brown, the Woods did improve and after 63 minutes, Gabriel Ipanga-Mbambo swung a ball in and Brad Clayton volleyed into the empty net as goalkeeper Harold Adu-Poku and Otseh-Taiwo both failed to get a block in.

It had given the Northwood fans something to cheer but Welwyn picked up the pace and started

to threaten before getting back in front after 76 minutes as Stevenson got free down the right inside the box and he scored his second with a fierce shot that crashed in off the bar.

And it was game over on 87 minutes as substitute Lucas Jordan broke free and although Hosier made an excellent save to deny him, Stevenson picked out Jordan with the loose ball, who shot home.

Northwood: Dan Hosier, Sam Odusoga (Jack Empson), David Agyemang (Jemale McKenzie), Gabriel Ipanga-Mbambo, James Taylor, Harry Gallagher, Harry McKenna, Archie James, Jordan Brown, Bradley Clayton, Ibrahim Lukuluy

TUESDAY 4TH MARCH 2025 PITCHING-IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION 1 CENTRAL

NORTHWOOD 1 WELWYN GARDEN CITY 2

Woods got off to a bad start when the visitors took an eighth minute lead, a high press leading to a mistake and a ball was slipped through for Carlos Velasco to give goalkeeper Aymen Azaze no chance.

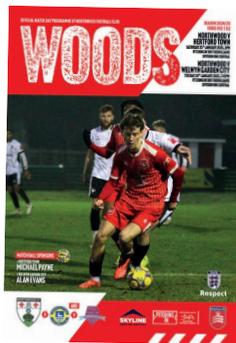
The Citizens continued to make that quick start and went close to a second when Lewis

Jones shot just wide but then the Woods hit back as a good ball from Harry McKenna caught out the Welwyn defence and Josh Williams raced through to slot past the oncoming keeper to level the scores.

Suddenly, Williams was causing plenty of problems for the visitors down the left flank and three minutes later he went close to his second, cutting in and hitting a dipping shot from 20 yards which was only just over.

On 29 minutes, the Woods should have been ahead as Williams again got down the left and squared the ball where Samuel Folarin was in front of goal. He stabbed the ball forwards but Green made an excellent block and point-blank range.

But Northwood were to find themselves behind again a few minutes later as a cross came in from the left, Wadkins chested the ball down into the



2024 - Archie James challenges Welwyn's pair



MARCH 2025 - Sam Folarin battling with Welwyn defender



November 2025 - Reece Price-Placid fires in a cross

path of Jones and he swung a shot into the bottom corner to put the visitors back in front. It stayed that way through to half-time so there was still much to play for after the break, though there was a slow start with neither side creating much in the final third as the pitch began to cut up a little. The first effort on goal came after 61 minutes as Sam Folarin did well to battle into the box and then cut the ball back where McKenna ran onto it to shoot but it was a fairly easy catch above his head for Green.

Northwood: Aymen Azaze, Harry McKenna (Nnaemeka Anyanwu), Junior Paiva, Manny Folarin, Alpha Keita-Turay, Stefan Powell (Alex Cathline), Bradley Clayton (Jack Empson), Troy Perez-Duah, Samuel Folarin, Hassan Jalloh (Jon-Jo Bates), Josh Williams (84m).

**SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2025
PITCHING-IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION 1 CENTRAL
WELWYN GARDEN CITY 2 NORTHWOOD 2**

The home side were gifted a goal inside two minutes when Adam Pollock delivered an innocuous cross from the right which Hafeed Al-Droubi looked to collect low down on the edge of the six-yard box at the same time as Manny Folarin looked to clear. The lack of communication saw the ball run loose and Bailey Stevenson swept it into the empty net.

A dreadful start for the Woods yet two minutes later they forced a corner on the right and when Carl Stewart knocked in the perfect cross, youngster Gabe Cuthbert outjumped Charlie McDonald to thump a header past goalkeeper Donnie Green for his first senior goal.

Both sides struggled with a sticky pitch surface as the half progressed, struggling to clear their lines but neither threatened up front either until Welwyn went close on 18 minutes as Al-Droubi punched a header from Steve Cawley wide. From the resulting corner, it was half-cleared to Lewis Taaffe but he fired wide of the near-post.

Northwood were beginning to get on top and they took the lead on 26 minutes when Stewart, Ford were involved before the ball fell to Price-Placid who set up Williams to shoot home.

The Citizens could have been level on 35 minutes when Read got a good head on a well-flighted corner but the ball crashed back off the crossbar. There was perhaps less action after the break aside from a red card apiece, however, on 84 minutes that Welwyn brought the scores level when Gabe Cuthbert half-cleared a cross and the ball fell to Taaffe who gave Al-Droubi no chance.

Welwyn: Donnie Green, Adam Pollock (Ethan Rookard), Tommy Boxer, Aiden Read, Layne Eadie, Nick Raife, Eddie Corbit, Charlie McDonald (Carlos Velasco), Lewis Taaffe, Steve Cawley (Evaristo Mendes), Bailey Stevenson.

Northwood: Hafeed Al-Droubi, Ademide Baruwa (Nasir Sharifi), Bryan Mankumbani, Manny Folarin, Gabe Cuthbert, Omar Rowe, Reece Price-Placid (Henry Atkinson), Carl Stewart, Dan Williams (Devonte Totesaut), Freddie Ford (Harry McKenna), Osa Otote (Hicham Bouchareb)



November 2025 - Carl Stewart



YESTERDAY TODAY 28.02

THROUGHOUT NORTHWOOD'S HISTORY – WHICH GOES BACK 99 YEARS TO 1926 – THE CLUB HAVE PLAYED 15 FIXTURES ON 28TH FEBRUARY; ALL PREVIOUS GAMES ARE LISTED BELOW, AND I REVIEW THREE OF THEM HERE. BY KEN GREEN



1976

NORTH GREENFORD 1 WOODS 4

Northwood won a place in the semi-final of the Middlesex League Challenge Cup with an overpowering first-half display at North Greenford. The Woods were in front within a minute: a neat build-up caught the slow home defence on the hop, and Alec McGowan was on hand to steer the ball home.

Greenford were level after three minutes, when their left-back advanced on the Woods' goal, and he floated in a shot from fully 30 yards, and keeper Dave Russell, unsuspected, could only watch as the ball sailed into the net. Play quickly switched back to the other end, and when Cooper crossed the ball in, McGowan scored his second with a neat header past the keeper. Woods continued to force the play, and they were benefitting from the speed of Coburn and Jones.

It was Coburn who sent Tidd away on the right which led to Northwood's third goal. Tidd, playing against his old club, crossed the ball into the path of Cooper, who easily beat the keeper from close range.

Tidd on the right wing continued to cause problems for North Greenford, and he again set up Cooper, who rounded the keeper to score number four.

The second half saw the visitors take their foot off the gas, and although Tidd worked tirelessly in midfield, and Franklin showed tremendous determination until he tired, North Greenford had



1976 - Gary Cooper, leading Middx scorer on 21 goals.

the lion's share of the play. But one felt that should they have scored Northwood would have raised their game again.

Northwood:

Dave Russell, Stuart Hammond, John Harman, Barry Gould, Tony Saunders, Robin Tidd, Nigel Franklin, Paddy Coburn, Gary Cooper, Alec McGowan, Glen Jones, sub. Steve Pearce.

2004

WOODS 3 ST ALBANS CITY 4

Despite a hat-trick from young striker Alistair Heselton, the Woods threw away a 3-2 lead to lose this crucial clash against St Albans City. The visitors took a 24th minute lead when player-manager Steve Castle hit a deep cross which was retrieved by Jake Attwood, and when he shot, keeper Lee Carroll only stepped at the ball and Steve Watts fired home from six yards.

St Albans went further ahead a few minutes later when Gary Wraight slipped through the defence with a suspicion of offside and ran through to score with a clinical finish, but the Woods grabbed a lifeline just before half-time. Brian Fitzgerald threaded a ball into the box for Danny Yeoman who chipped to the far post and Alistair Heselton climbed high to head home.

After 53 minutes, Heselton scored direct from a free-kick, curling the ball around the wall; it beat goalkeeper George Clark, struck a post before spinning into the goal. Three minutes later the comeback was complete. Heselton caused the damage once again with a good run and cross which was met by a handball in the box. The striker kept his cool and slotted home from the spot to round off a 15 minute hat-trick.

Within three minutes, St Albans were back in front, Wraight finding space on the right and fired in a cross which Luke Evans knocked into his own net while trying to clear. Soon after, Chris Zoricich





2004 - Hat-trick man Alistair Heselton on a break



2004 - Hat-trick man Alistair Heselton on a break

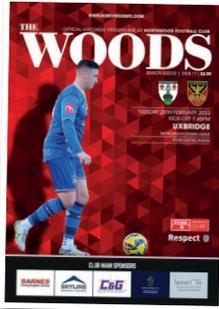
pumped a free-kick into the box and Castle latched onto a header which saw Carroll and Watkins leave it for each other. Castle failed to beat Carroll but there was still time for Lee Clarke to react quickest and knock in the loose ball.

Northwood: Lee Carroll, Gary Meakin (Dave Nolan), Chris Elsegood, Paul Watkins, Luke Evans, Danny Yeoman (Danny Julienne), Christian Metcalfe, Chris Cell, Kieran Knight, Brian Fitzgerald, Alistair Heselton (Ben Yiadom).

2023

WOODS 1 UXBRIDGE 0

Northwood made a great start to this game, when Micah Jackson sent the ball into the box after a corner, but it was only cleared as far as Harry Gallagher, who struck a sublime half-volley from fully 25-yards which arrowed into the top corner of the net with seven minutes played.



Confident Woods were immediately back on the attack as Chendlik beat the offside trap before cutting in on the angle, but his shot was comfortably gathered by Grad. And Chendlik then set up Dan Williams, who fired narrowly over.

But Uxbridge reminded Woods of the threat they offered as a couple of swift counterattacks presented Mendy with opportunities to equalise – lifting the ball over McCorkell but onto the roof of the net before firing wide after breaking down Northwood's left flank.

There was nice ebb and flow to the contest as the half progressed – Shane Cojocarel latching onto Sam Jenkins' ball over the top but Grad was quickly out to smother the danger while at the other end, McCorkell safely dealt with a dangerous cross into Northwood's six-yard box.

Uxbridge dominated possession after the break, but they were betrayed by a lack of quality in the final third with Woods threatening further goals on the break – Williams sending a half-volley over the bar from a Chendlik flick-on before the former ran onto Luke Tingey's pass and lifted his shot over Grad but saw it drop the wrong side of the upright.

Northwood: Andrew McCorkell, Sam Jenkins, James Curteen, Carl Stewart, Luke Tingey, Harry Gallagher (Brandon Kalu), Shane Cojocarel (Junior Paiva), Teddy Stacey, Gareth Chendlik (Josh Helmore), Dan Williams, Micah Jackson

THE WOODS HAVE PLAYED ON 28 FEBRUARY

Date	Competition	Opponents	F-A	Scorers	Att
Sat 28 Feb 1931	N Harrow & District League Cup SF	Wealdstone Old Boys	7-1	Brown 3, Gutteridge, King, Gill 2	
Sat 28 Feb 1948	H Northwood Hospital Cup SF	Eastcote	2-0	Bell, Welch	
Sat 28 Feb 1953	A Harrow & Wembley League Premier Division	Chelsea Youth	2-1	?	
Sat 28 Feb 1959	H Harrow Wembley League Memorial Shield Round 1	Ivanhoe	3-4	H Carter, Stanley 2	
Sat 28 Feb 1970	H Harrow & Wembley League Premier Division	Crest	8-1	Horsford 3, Byrne 2, Gould 2, Sanders	
Sat 28 Feb 1976	A Middlesex League Cup round 2	North Greenford United	4-1	McGowan 2, Cooper 2	
Sat 28 Feb 1981	A Cold Shield Hellenic League Premier Division	Newbury Town	0-4		
Sat 28 Feb 1987	A Spartan League Premier Division	Waltham Abbey	0-3		
Sat 28 Feb 1998	A Ryman League Division 2	Bedford Town	0-4		328
Mon 28 Feb 2000	A Middlesex Senior Cup SF	Hendon	1-0	Sargent	
Sat 28 Feb 2004	H Ryman League Premier Division	St Albans City	3-4	Heselton 3	305
Sat 28 Feb 2009	A Ryman League Division 1N	East Thurrock United	0-1		189
Sat 28 Feb 2015	A Evo Stik Southern League Division 1C	Royston Town	0-1		146
Tue 28 Feb 2017	A Evo Stik Southern League Division 1C	Royston Town	1-2	Stephenson	116
Tue 28 Feb 2023	H Pitching-In Isthmian League Division 1SC	Uxbridge	1-0	Gallagher	157



MATCH ACTION

WOODS FALL TO FIFTH SUCCESSIVE DEFEAT

WARE VS NORTHWOOD
SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2026
PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL - ATT: 194



Beckles-Richards 44, Grosvenor 58,
Allotey 75, Esprit 82

Northwood fell to their fifth successive loss since the turn of the year with their heaviest away defeat of the season as their hopes of avoiding relegation took a further blow in the second-half of this contest at Wodson Park.

Skipper Manny Folarin made his return to the defence following a two-match ban that was extended by the bad weather and there was another change in goal with Alfie Bonfield returning for a second spell with the Woods, having previously made a couple of appearances back in 2019.

There was also a first start of the season for Harry McCorkell, following his recent return from injury and also for former U18s striker Frankie Pass as Ezra Ndukuba was recalled by Egham. There was a place on the bench for new recruit Lewis Croucher, a midfielder whose most recent club was Enfield.

Ware had suffered a similar run of form since starting 2026 with just one point from their five matches so it was a matter of which side could put an end to their recent woes on the day and Northwood started brightly enough when Carl Stewart, making his 150th appearance for the club, found Dan Williams in space but he hit his shot straight at goalkeeper Fred Burbidge who gathered comfortably.

The home side then had a chance themselves though as Samuel Mayuma barged his way past Folarin into the box and rolled the ball to Reece Beckles-Richards but the Ware top scorer fired over the bar.

Back came the Woods with Osa Otote trying his luck from distance and although his strike beat the keeper's dive and dipped it was still just too high. On 15 minutes, there was some good inter-play involving a combination of Northwood players which saw McCorkell played into the area. A half-chance for sure but his shot was well blocked for a corner. Folarin won the header from that but any danger was cleared away.

As the half progressed, there was little flow to the game, interrupted by a series of free-kicks and after Stewart picked up the first yellow of the game, two Ware players followed – Sami Moutawafiq and Mayuma; all seemed a little harsh.



Carl Stewart - 150th Appearance

44 MINUTES 1-0 REECE BECKLES-RICHARDS

It had been pretty even with neither goalkeeper particularly busy before the whole game turned on a 44th minute decision.

Moutawafiq played a ball towards Josh Hutchinson on the edge of the box and he managed to hold off the challenge of both Dan Vincent and Folarin in letting it run through to Beckles-Richards. He took it on past Bonfield and stumbled in the act of shooting after the slightest of touches on the back of his ankle with the Referee pointing to the spot. The striker got up to fire the penalty into the roof of the net to put Ware in front.

Northwood responded in stoppage-time when Williams set up Vincent for a strike from outside the box but it drifted wide of the post and the home side had the lead at the break.

HT: WARE 1-0 NORTHWOOD

That was as good as it got though for Northwood as their second-half performance fell apart.

58 MINUTES 2-0 JACK GROSVENOR

Hutchinson was first to go close on 53 minutes with a shot on the turn which flashed over the top but five minutes later they doubled their lead when a corner picked out skipper Jack Grosvenor who rose highest to glance a header into the far corner.

Substitutions followed with Stephane Bombelenga introduced for McCorkell who limped off on 65 minutes; Ware made two changes soon after and one of those, Gucci Soulya was perhaps lucky to get away with just a yellow card for an almost immediate high challenge on Pass on the centre circle.



Manny Folarin up for a header

75 MINUTES 3-0 JOHNNY ALLOTEY

It was from a Northwood attack on the 75 minutes that that Ware bagged a third goal on the counter-attack as they broke quickly through Beckles-Richards down the right flank and he unselfishly squared for substitute Johnny Allotey to apply a simple finish.

82 MINUTES 4-0 RECHAN ESPRIT

Both Henry Atkinson and Jordan Ellis were introduced after this; Pass and Otote replaced but there was no sign of any stirring comeback and also no surprise when the home side notched a fourth goal on 82 minutes, as another substitute, Rechan Esprit collected a ball from the right, swivelled to find space and then hit a bobbling left-foot shot which crept inside the post.

With Leverstock Green beating title-contenders Hitchin Town in an exciting game to complete six points in five days, the Woods cannot leave it much longer to start picking up points. Next up is a home game against Welwyn Garden City at the Skyline Roofing Stadium on Saturday.

FT: WARE 4-0 NORTHWOOD

NORTHWOOD LINE-UP

Bonfield, Baruwa, Miskin, Vincent, Folarin, Cann, Pass (Atkinson 78), Stewart (Croucher 83), Williams, McCorkell (Bombelelenga 65), Otote (Ellis 78). **Unused Sub:** Mankumbani

Words: Alan Evans **Images:** James Brown



Frankie Pass



Harry McCorkell



Ademide Baruwa



WOODS MATCH BY MATCH

AUGUST			F-A	Att	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Sat 2	EGHAM TOWN	H	FACEPR	0-1	204	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sat 9	AFC DUNSTABLE	A	LGE	2-2	108	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Tue 12	HADLEY	H	LGE	0-2	147	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sat 23	HANWORTH VILLA	H	FATPR	3-1	110	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	McGovern	M. Folarin	Empson	Baruwa
Mon 25	RAYNERS LANE	H	LGE	2-4	173	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Sharifi	Miskin	Empson	Stewart
SEPTEMBER											
Sat 6	BECKENHAM TOWN	H	1QR	0-1	138	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sun 14	AYLESBURY UNITED	A	LGE	2-2	203	Morris	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sat 20	HERTFORD TOWN	A	LGE	2-1	218	Morris	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Torsiello	Baruwa
Tue 23	EDGWARE & KINGSBURY	A	MSCI	2-1	43	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	McKenna	Torsiello	Empson	Smith
Sat 27	BIGGLESWADE TOWN	H	LGE	1-4	122	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	Torsiello	Mankumbani	Baruwa
Tue 30	MARLOW	H	LGE	1-2	102	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Smith
OCTOBER											
Sat 4	ENFIELD FC	H	LGE	0-2	109	Al Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Smith
Sat 11	LEIGHTON TOWN	H	LGE	0-5	184	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Bates
Sat 18	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	H	LGE	1-1	115	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Stewart
Sat 25	HITCHIN TOWN	A	LGE	1-1	632	Al Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Stewart
Tue 28	MILTON KEYNES IRISH	A	LGE	1-1	205	Al Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Stewart
NOVEMBER											
Sat 1	WARE	H	LGE	1-1	133	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Rowe
Tue 4	SOUTHALL	H	MSCQF	0-0*	77	Al Droubi	Atkinson	McKenna	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Stewart
Sat 8	WELWYN GARDEN CITY	A	LGE	2-2	122	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Rowe
Tue 11	LONDON LIONS	H	LGE	2-5	121	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Rowe
Sat 15	AFC DUNSTABLE	H	LGE	3-1	185	McCorkell	Baruwa	McKenna	Cuthbert	Mankumbani	Vincent
Tue 18	FLACKWELL HEATH	A	LGE	2-2	105	Al Droubi	Baruwa	McKenna	Cuthbert	Mankumbani	Vincent
Sat 22	BARTON ROVERS	A	LGE	1-3	201	Burrows	Baruwa	McKenna	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Vincent
Tue 25	HADLEY	A	LGE	1-1	101	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Vincent
Sat 29	AYLESBURY UNITED	H	LGE	0-2	161	Al Droubi	Baruwa	McKenna	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Vincent
DECEMBER											
Sat 6	THAME UNITED	A	LGE	3-6	98	McCorkell	Baruwa	McKenna	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Vincent
Sat 13	STOTFOLD	H	LGE	2-0	130	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Vincent
Sat 20	HERTFORD TOWN	H	LGE	2-2	156	Al Droubi	McKenna	Mankumbani	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Ford
Sat 27	RAYNERS LANE	A	LGE	1-0	101	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Miskin	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Ford
JANUARY											
Sat 10	BIGGLESWADE	A	LGE	1-3	132	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Miskin	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Ford
Sat 17	ENFIELD FC	A	LGE	0-1	85	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Miskin	M. Folarin	Cuthbert	Vincent
Sat 24	MARLOW	A	LGE	0-2	174	Al Droubi	Baruwa	Mankumbani	Cuthbert	Udeh	Vincent
FEBRUARY											
Sat 14	MILTON KEYNES IRISH	H	LGE	2-3	137	Mussilhy	Baruwa	Miskin	Vincent	Cann	Mankumbani
Sat 21	WARE	A	LGE	0-4	194	Bonfield	Baruwa	Miskin	Vincent	Folarin	Cann
Sat 28	WELWYN GARDEN CITY	H	LGE								
MARCH											
Tue 3	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	H	LGE								
Sat 7	LONDON LIONS	A	LGE								
Tue 10	FLACKWELL HEATH	H	LGE								
Sat 14	BIGGLESWADE TOWN	A	LGE								
Tue 17	BROADFIELDS UNITED	H	MSCSF								
Sat 21	BARTON ROVERS	H	LGE								
Tue 24	LEIGHTON TOWN	A	LGE								
Sat 28	STOTFOLD	A	LGE								
APRIL											
Fri 3	THAME UNITED	H	LGE								
Mon 6	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	A	LGE								
Sat 11	BIGGLESWADE	H	LGE								
Sat 18	HITCHIN TOWN	H	LGE								
Sat 25	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	A	LGE								



WOODS SCORE SHOWN FIRST; **GOAL SCORER (1)**;
FIRST SUB; **SECOND SUB**; **THIRD SUB**; **FOURTH SUB**; **FIFTH SUB**; **YELLOW CARD**; **RED CARD**

* Northwood lost 3-4 on penalties.



7	8	9	10	11	Used Substitutes	OG
Price-Placid	Baruwa	Kearney	Totesaut	Lewis-Thomas	Clarke-Rowe, Bates, Ford, Kennedy, Otote	
Price-Placid	Baruwa	Kearney	Totesaut 1	Otote	Ellis (67), Kennedy (67), Torsiello (71), Bates (62)	
Price-Placid	Baruwa 1	Kearney	Totesaut	Otote 1	Ellis (61), Ford (61), Bates (72), Torsiello (72)	
Price-Placid	Bates	Kearney 1	Kennedy 1	Bouchareb 1	Otote (74), Torsiello (75), Ellis (81), Totesaut (72) 1, Smith (90)	
Otote	Clarke-Rowe	Totesaut 1	Kennedy	Bouchareb	Torsiello (30), Baruwa (46), Price-Placid (46), McKenna (66), Smith (90)	
Price-Placid	Baruwa	Totesaut	Bates 1	Williams	Ford (66), Otote (67), Kearney(71), Kennedy (84), Torsiello (87)	
McKenna	Baruwa	Totesaut	Otote	Williams 1	Price-Placid (46), Bouchareb (79), Kennedy (89)	
Ellis 1	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates 1	Bouchareb 1	Price-Placid (55), Otote 1 (60), Ford (64), Empson (84),	
Price-Placid	Ford 1	Kearney 1	Totesaut 1 1	Kennedy	Bouchareb (33), Mankumbani (67), Baruwa (84)	
Ellis	Stewart	Williams	Totesaut	McKenna	Price-Placid 1 (14), Smith (46), Atkinson (62), Kearney (73), Ford (73)	
Price-Placid	Stewart 1	Kearney	Baruwa	Williams 1	Ford (67), Totesaut (68), Ellis (83)	
Price-Placid	Stewart	Kearney 1	Baruwa	Williams	Atkinson (56), Bouchareb (71), Totesaut (77), Ford (90)	
McKenna	Stewart	Williams	Ford	Bouchareb	Smith (64), Kearney (64), Kennedy (67), Talla (89)	
Price-Placid 1	Rowe	Totesaut 1	Bates 1	Williams	Sharifi (79), Kennedy (79), Bouchareb (80)	
Price-Placid	Baruwa	Totesaut	Ford 1	Smith-Jones	Williams (54), Bates (80), McKenna (88), Otote (90)	
Rowe 1	Baruwa	Totesaut	Ford	Williams 1	Otote (61), Smith-Jones (61), Bates (81)	
McKenna	Stewart	Williams	Bates	Otote 1	Ford (68), Price-Placid (79), Totesaut (81)	
Price-Placid	Rowe	Totesaut	Ford	Otote	Baruwa (52), Bouchareb (64), Bates (67), Daly (79)	
Price-Placid	Stewart	Williams 1	Ford	Otote	McKenna (54), Bouchareb (67), Totesaut (89), Atkinson (89), Sharifi (73)	
McKenna	Stewart 1	Williams 2	Ford	Otote	Totesaut (46), Bates (58), Bouchareb (70), Sharifi (70), Atkinson (85)	
Atkinson	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates 1	Otote	Daly (68), Ford (68), Sharifi (87) 1	
Price-Placid	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates	Otote	Totesaut (71), Ford (84), Bouchareb (84)	
Williams 1	Stewart	Totesaut	Ford	Otote 1	Bouchareb (73), Atkinson (77)	
Price-Placid	Stewart	Williams	Ford 1	McKenna	Atkinson (59), Totesaut (72), Bates (74)	
Price-Placid	Stewart	Williams	Rowe	Otote	Ford (70), Bates (70), Mankumbani (82), Daly (84)	
Ford	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates 1	Otote	Bouchareb (58), Bombelenga (58), Tarrant (71), Daly (71)	
Bombelenga 1	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates	Ford	Otote (78), Kennedy (86)	
Bombelenga	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates 1	Bouchareb 1	Otote (65), Mfinda (82) 1, Kennedy (71),	
Bombelenga	Stewart	Williams	Bates 1	Bouchareb	Otote (62), Mfinda (68), Kennedy (73), Torsiello (90)	
Atkinson	Stewart	Williams 1	Bates 1	Otote 1	Vincent (46), Udeh (71), Mfinda (71)	
Atkinson	Stewart 1	Williams 1	Ford	Otote	Bates (68), Mfinda (79), Mankumbani (82), Udeh (90)	
Ford	Stewart	Williams	Bates 1	Miskin 1	Otote (46), Atkinson (71), Mfinda (71), McKenna (85), Kennedy (85)	
Ndukuba 1	Stewart 1	Williams 1	Ford	Otote	Bombelenga (64), McCorkell (67), Pass (84)	
Pass	Stewart 1	Williams	McCorkell	Otote	Bombelenga (65), Atkinson (78), Ellis (78), Croucher (83)	





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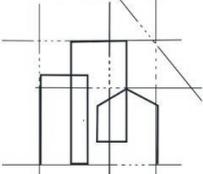


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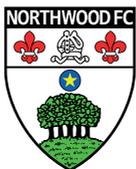


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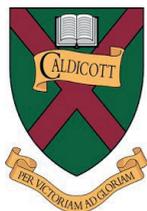


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COMMERCIAL CORNER

WITH JOHN JOYCE

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Welcome to another Commercial Corner!

It's full steam ahead after our Centenary Launch last Saturday and what a fantastic presentation it was with speeches from MP Gagan Mohindra and Joan Parsons from our Charity partners The Lynda Jackson Centre at Mount Vernon Cancer Care Centre.

Myself and Liz (who is heading up the Centenary project) are extremely proud we have the support of some celebrities who recorded videos for us and it's fantastic that Beth England and Richard Whitehead MBE are ambassadors for the "Into The Woods Together" and "Northwood 100 Fitness Challenge" initiatives respectively.

It was lovely to see so many attend including Vanessa McSween and her partner James from sponsors STEM Den and also Dan Campbell from C&G Scaffolding Ltd. Shame about the result against MK Irish after though!

This week we are featuring another of our Premium Tier Sponsors L&Y Dental Studios Ltd who came on board with the Woods before the end of last season.

L&Y are based in the centre of Northwood (they also have a location in Bank, EC3V) and are a fully private dental practice owned by Yasmin Anaboussi and Lakshmi Rao. L&Y want to make a difference and have a dream of developing a dental care centre where patients are number one priority.

They provide all kinds of dental services maintaining a community ethos. I've become good friends with Lavi Babbar who is Treatment Co-ordinator at the studio and you can be assured of a friendly and caring environment if going there for treatment.

L&Y Dental will also be our Instagram matchday sponsors for today's game against Welwyn Garden City FC and Screwfix Ltd for the game on Tuesday against Beaconsfield Town FC



We now have a new Centenary website www.northwoodfc100.co.uk

where you can find out all the latest news on the events, initiatives and fund-raising. The site also has a shop where I'm hoping we can sell our merchandise as we still haven't got that up and running yet. Our merchandise stand will be open at today's game.

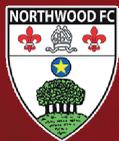
You'll also notice some changes on our C&G Scaffolding Clubhouse electronic display board over the next few weeks with Centenary pictures up there alongside updated sponsors logos and videos.

Tickets for our Celebrity football match on the 4th May are now on sale. You can check this out on the new website or go to www.eventbrite.co.uk

Until next time, Up The Woods

John





UNDER 18'S

ALDERSHOT POSTPONEMENT ADDS TO FIXTURE CONGESTION

The Under-18s home game against Aldershot Town the week before last fell victim to heavy rainfall from early evening and was postponed by the match referee just 45 minutes before kick-off. It's means that there are now three weeks over the final two months of the season where the squad could be stretched by having to play twice a week so a real test of stamina.

Previously, the Woods had made it into the final of the Middlesex Senior Youth Cup with a narrow 1-0 away win at Edgware & Kingsbury. In a tight game, a rare goal from Riley Loveday secured the victory and we will now play Hampton & Richmond Borough in that final which is being played at Bedfont Sports FC on Thursday, 26th March at 7.30pm. Ironically, we play away to Hampton just three days earlier (on the Monday night) in a league game; also at Bedfont Sports where they play their home games!

The side had then been denied a place in the Isthmian Youth League final when narrowly beaten 3-2 in an away semi-final at AFC Whyteleafe. Having previously defeated Bedfont Sports, Farnham Town, Walton & Hersham and Hampton & Richmond Borough in four previous rounds it was a real shame that the Woods couldn't overcome a team that had been reinstated into the competition despite losing their quarter-final match against Hanworth Villa after their opponents surprisingly withdrew from the competition with Whyteleafe being reinstated! Our opponents get to the final despite winning less games that Northwood did as they also had a "bye" in the first round. They play Burgess Hill Town in the final.

The Woods were due back in action on Wednesday night with an away game at Ascot United and will have needed to get back to winning ways to move back to the top of the West Division table with rivals Hampton & Richmond Borough on a great run at present, moving top on Monday night with a win. Camberley Town still lurk in the chasing pack, unbeaten, having also won on Monday night.

Top Appearances:

- 18 Daly, King.
- 17 L. Atkinson, Faleye, Havard, Pullem, Tarrant.
- 16 Burrows, Flemming, Ford, Loveday.
- 15 Gardner

Top Goalscorers:

- 12 Daly.
- 8 Ford.
- 6 H. Atkinson, Tarrant
- 5 Pullem, Swaby.

FIXTURES & RESULTS 2025/26

Date	Opposition	F-A
August		
Wed 20	Fleet Town	IVL 4-1 H Atkinson 2, Wright, Daly
September		
Wed 3	Tring Athletic	FAY 4-0 Pullem 2, Ford, H Atkinson
Mon 8	Bedfont Sports	IVC 5-0 Faleye, Kelly, Pullem, Wright, Daly
Wed 17	Hayes & Yeading United	FAY 2-0 Pullem, Daly
October		
Thu 2	Kings Langley	FAY 1-1 Ford (Woods won 3-2 on pens)
Fri 17	Eastbourne Borough	FAY 0-0 (Woods lost 5-6 on pens)
Tue 21	Broadfields United	MXV 4-1 Faleye, Tarrant, Daly, Ford
Wed 29	Maidenhead United	IVL 4-2 Swaby 3, Daly
November		
Wed 5	Farnham Town	IVC 3-0 Daly, Ford 2
Wed 12	Ascot United	IVL 3-1 Daly, 2 Ford
Wed 17	Bedfont Sports	MXV 4-2 Wright, Havard, Daly, Swaby
Thu 27	Aldershot Town	IVL 3-1 Pullem, H Atkinson 2
December		
Wed 3	Farnham Town	IVL 5-0 King, Tarrant 2, Havard, Swaby
Wed 10	Walton & Hersham	IVC 3-1 Ford, Daly, Havard
Mon 15	Badshot Lea	IVL 4-2 Tarrant 2, Daly 2
January		
Wed 7	Hampton & RB (QF)	IVC 4-2 Boardman, Tarrant, Faleye, King
Tue 20	Bracknell Town	IVL 0-1
Wed 28	Edgware & Kingsbury (SF)	MXV 1-0 Loveday
February		
Mon 9	AFC Whyteleafe (SF)	IVC 2-3 H. Atkinson, Ford
Tue 24	Ascot United	IVL
March		
Wed 4	Fleet Town	IVL
Wed 11	Badshot Lea	IVL
Mon 16	Aldershot Town	IVL
Wed 18	Maidenhead United	IVL
Mon 23	Hampton & RB	IVL (At Bedfont Sports FC)
Thu 26	Hampton & RB (Final)	MXV (Venue TBC)
April		
Wed 1	Bracknell Town	IVL
Wed 8	Camberley Town	IVL
Wed 15	Farnham Town	IVL
Mon 20	Camberley Town	IVL
Wed 22	Hampton & RB	IVL

ISTHMIAN YOUTH LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Hampton & RB	8	6	1	1	28	14	14	19
2 Northwood	7	6	0	1	23	8	15	18
3 Maidenhead United	11	5	2	4	24	25	-1	17
4 Camberley Town	6	4	2	0	16	6	10	14
5 Bracknell Town	10	4	1	5	18	18	0	13
6 Badshot Lea	8	2	2	4	19	19	0	8
7 Ascot United	8	2	2	4	13	22	-9	8
8 Aldershot Town	8	1	3	4	15	16	-1	6
9 Farnham Town	8	2	0	6	19	13	-14	6
10 Fleet Town	4	0	1	3	4	18	-14	1

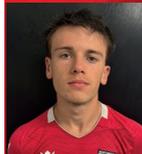
IVL = Isthmian Youth League; FAY = FA Youth Cup; IVC = Isthmian Youth League Cup
 MXV = Middlesex Youth Cup



UNDER 18'S SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship available for £30

Plenty of players still need a sponsor for the new season. It's only £30 so if you can help, please use the link from the club's website to make payment (or just pay cash).

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VISITING THE SKYLINE STADIUM

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



The first Welwyn Garden City football team was formed in 1921.

Matches were played on a local playing field. The team joined the Mid-Hertfordshire League in 1922 and established a permanent home at Parkway ground. The first competitive match was played at home to Markyate on 26th August 1922. For the 1926-27 season, they joined the Bedfordshire & District League and entered the FA Amateur Cup for the first time.

The following season, the first silverware was won when the club won the Herts Charity Cup by beating Hoddesdon Town 5-2 in the final. The Spartan League was joined, where the team would stay until the 1934-35 season. The FA Cup was also entered for the first time in that season.

Owing to money problems, in 1934, the club amalgamated with local club, Shredded Wheat FC, although both clubs maintained their separate identities.

Welwyn Garden City FC commenced playing at the Shredded Wheat ground, adjacent to the Shredded Wheat works in Broadwater Road, with the view to benefiting from the association with the company-run team. In 1935, the club was forced to resign from the Spartan League at the end of the season when the use of the facilities at Shredded Wheat was withdrawn as the company wanted to close down Shredded Wheat FC.

As no suitable alternative could be found, at the club AGM held on 24th July 1935, it was agreed to wind up the club. However, the Shredded Wheat company generously offered the facilities of Shredded Wheat FC to the club, so in 1937 a new Welwyn Garden City FC was set up and re-joined the Spartan League.

In 1938, the arrangement with Shredded Wheat ended after one season, so the club ground-shared with Murphy Radio FC for one season at Handside Playing Fields.

In 1939, a permanent home was found at Springfields, where the Citizens remained for 29 years. In the 1939-40 season, the Spartan League was suspended after one game owing to the war, and the Citizens then played in the local Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Combination league for a season, before all games stopped until the Spartan League resumed after the war.

During the 1950's and 1960's, the club had spells in three different leagues, the London, Spartan and Hertfordshire leagues, and moved into the club's present home, Herts Way, in 1968.

In 1973, the club merged with Welwyn Garden United to form Welwyn Garden FC and took United's place in the South Midlands League, securing senior status as a result. In 1974, Welwyn Garden FC won the South Midlands League Championship and Welwyn Garden United re-established as a separate club.





1976-77, saw the club lose top-flight status by being relegated out of the SML Premier League and there began a five-year battle to reclaim it. During these First Division years the club was to finish no lower than 5th.

In 1981-82, they won the First Division title and changed the club's name back to Welwyn Garden City FC prior to the 1982-83 season. In that league-topping year, the final of the South Midlands League Challenge Trophy was also reached but the team had to settle for runners-up, losing 3-0 on aggregate to Stotfold.

The season 1984-85 brought cup success for the first time since the club was reformed when, under the management of John Sneddon, Pirton were beaten 2-0 to lift the first ever Hertfordshire FA Senior Centenary Trophy. The Hertfordshire FA Charity Shield was won in the 1986-87 and 1987-88 seasons, making the Citizens only the sixth team to retain the Shield. The close of the 1986-87 season also

saw floodlights installed at the Hens Way ground, which was celebrated with a match versus Tottenham Hotspur.

1997-98 saw the merger of the Spartan League and the South Midlands League to form the Spartan South Midlands League, with the club joining the Premier North Division and finishing high enough (6th) to qualify for the Premier Division the following season.

The next two decades saw periods in both the Premier Division and Division One, but also saw some good cup runs. In 2005-06, the 5th round of the FA Vase was reached as well as the 3rd qualifying round of the FA Cup.

In 2015-16 the Citizens won the Spartan South Midlands League Challenge Trophy for the first time.

The 2017-18 season was one that supporters will remember for a long time. A club record of 25 consecutive games unbeaten in all competitions was set, as well as going 18

consecutive league games unbeaten, also a club record. On November 12th, 2017, Tottenham Hotspur Ambassador and World Cup winner, Osvaldo Artilles, unveiled stadium upgrades - which included two turnstiles from the old White Hart Lane ground donated by Tottenham Hotspur - after the club had received a Premier League grant. To cap the season off, the Premier League championship was won for the first time since the merger of the Spartan and South Midlands leagues, taking the club up to the Southern League Central Division 1.

The achievement of Level 4 football in the Southern League was the highest level achieved in the club's history.

The seasons since then have seen consolidation at the new Step 4 level and then, in the last four seasons, the Citizens have finished in the top half. The Citizens will be looking for more progress this season and finally making the jump to step 3.

MEET THE CITIZENS



GOALKEEPERS

LAMAR JOHNSON

Vastly experienced keeper who joined WGC a couple of months into the 2025-26 season from Essex Senior League Barking FC. He has two international caps for St Lucia and numbers Aveley, Grays Athletic, Hertford Town, Waltham Abbey, Canvey Island and Enfield FC among his former clubs, having begun as a junior with Charlton Athletic.

DONNY GREEN

22-year-old Donny began his career with National League side, Boreham Wood. Originally, he joined the Citizens three seasons ago, then left for a short spell with Edgware & Kingsbury, before returning.

DEFENDERS

AIDEN READ

Strong central defender signed from Cockfosters of the Spartan South Midlands League. He settled with

the Citizens well and played regularly throughout the 2024-25 season.

PANNY BOXER

Joined at the start of 2025 from fellow Division 1 Central club Hadley. Adaptable midfielder, who can also play in the back-line. Has previous experience with FC Romania, New Salamis and St Neots Town of the Eastern Counties League, as well as a previous spell at Hadley.

LAYNE EADIE

Appointed club captain late in the



2024-25 season, when predecessor Brad Wadkins opted to rejoin Berkhamsted, just prior to their promotion. Vastly experienced attacking full-back, who has seen service with St Albans, Hitchin and Potters Bar.

RYAN KIRWAN

Skilled full-back, who rejoined the club a month into the 2023-24 season, after a brief spell with Hanwell Town. Found opportunities hard to come by with the west Londoners, so returned to WGC for a second spell. Formerly played with Enfield Town and Brightlingsea Regent, having begun his career with North Greenford United.

JACK GREEN

Tough, tigerish defender who joined the Citizens after spending the 2023-24 campaign with promotion winning Bedford Town. Prior to that played at Hitchin Town, for whom he played 130 times, after starting his career with St Albans City. Missed most of the 2024-25 season with a serious injury, but fully fit for the new campaign.

MIDFIELDERS

LEWIS TAAFE

Re-joined the club at start of 2025, after a couple of months with Premier Central Bedford Town, where he found it difficult to gain regular football. Was originally on dual registration at WGC, while with National League South Enfield Town for whom he played for seven seasons, now starting his second full season with the Citizens.

EDDIE CORBIT

Returned to his home-town club, where he has family connections last season, having spent the previous two seasons with Real Bedford, helping them win the Spartan South Midlands title in 2023-24. Can play as an attacking wing back or in midfield. Spent a decade in Luton Town's Academy.

CARLOS VELASCO

Stylish Spanish defender or midfielder, who re-joined WGC at the start of 2025, having played on dual registration with them at the end of the 2023-24 season from National League South Enfield Town. Returned to the UK after a year back in his home country.

MANAGER MARC WEATHERSTONE

Took over the reins at Herts Way from Max Mitchell in December 2022, just two months after leaving Wingate & Finchley, whom he managed for 15 months.

A legend at the north London club, for whom he played a record-breaking 457 times, as well as spending two seasons each with Enfield Town and Dulwich Hamlet, whom he helped win promotion to the National League South.

Has taken WGC to top 10 finishes, in all of his three seasons as manager of the club.



TOM BRUNO

Hard tackling defensive midfielder who has made a comeback this season with the Citizens after a couple of seasons away from football. Previously seen service with Cheshunt and Ware and has become a regular in the line-up, after a series of strong performances.

ISAAC PEDRO

Recent signing on dual registration from Isthmian North division Waltham Abbey. Had extensive experience as a strong midfielder with Hertford Town, Kings Langley – where he was skipper – and Potters Bar, before joining Waltham Abbey.

ADAM POLLOCK

Australian midfielder, who first played for the club two seasons ago, after being recommended to manager Marc Weatherstone by a leading Aussie coach. Has had a season away from WGC, but has now re-joined for the 2025-26 campaign.

REMEL LARWOOD

Signed from Aylesbury United earlier this campaign, where he notched four goals in his first 14 appearances of the season for the Ducks. Started his senior non-league career ith North Greenford United of the Combined Counties League.

FORWARDS

LEWIS JONES

Vastly experienced performer, who is at home in either midfield or attack and is now on the club first team coach. A former teammate

of manager Marc Weatherstone at Wingate & Finchley for many seasons, who has weighed in with some vital goals for the club. Joined the Citizens from FC Baresi.

STEVE CRAWLEY

A landmark close season signing for the Citizens from step three neighbours Potters Bar, where he was top scorer last season with 18 goals. Previously played over 200 times for Concord Rangers in their rise up the non-league ladder and for Hitchin Town.

NICK RALFE

Recent capture from St Albans City, where he had played all his football, he joined the Citizens on loan last season, scoring five times in 10 games, before injury ended his loan spell. Now with WGC permanently to reinforce their forward options.

BAILY STEVENSON

Has returned to the club this summer after leaving Herts Way in November 2024 to join Potters Bar of the Isthmian Premier. He was the Citizens' top scorer with 15 goals at the time and still leading marksman at the club at the end of the campaign.

ETHAN ROOKARD

Another close season capture, who also top scored for his club. He was leading marksman at Cockfosters of the SSMU last season with 17 goals, the seventh best strike rate in that league. He was previously with Ware and Hoddesdon Town.

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WOODS LET TWO GOAL LEAD SLIP LATE ON

NORTHWOOD VS MILTON KEYNES IRISH
SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2026
PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL - ATT: 137

2



3

Williams 19, Ndukuba 52

Shrieves 76, 79, 81

A short gap in the incessant wet weather finally allowed the Woods to return to the Skyline Roofing Stadium for their first home game since before Christmas as the side looked to end a run of three successive league defeats.

Mid-table Milton Keynes Irish were making their first-ever visit to Northwood who were playing their first game under the current interim management of Dennis Quigley and Mark Chandler.

With both central defenders, Manny Folarin and Gabe Cuthbert, ruled out with suspension and another, Louis Udeh, missing with injury, former Charlton Athletic youngster Ethan Cann came in on dual-registration from Enfield Town to partner Bryan Mankumbani in an unfamiliar partnership.

With goalkeeper Hafed Al-Droubi having departed, in came another teenager, Kai Mussilhy for his debut between the sticks having played a few games for Chesham United this season.

That wasn't the end of the new faces either as former Uxbridge attacker Ezra Ndukuba made his Woods debut having joined on dual-registration from Egham Town.

On the bench for a first appearance of the season, after a long recuperation from a double-hernia operation, it was good to see Harry McCorkell as well as former Under-18s striker Frankie Pass who has been having a good season for North Greenford United at Step 5.

And the Woods made an excellent start to the game with Carl Stewart combining with Dan Williams to set up Osa Otote for a strike on five minutes that goalkeeper Tom Ladyman kept out at his near-post.

The visitors tried to hit back with Mussilhy getting some early action to scramble a long ball behind for a corner and then comfortable taking a deflected effort from George Shrieves but Williams also went close with a shot that was wide of the far post and then it was Northwood who grabbed the lead after 19 minutes.

19 MINUTES 1-0 DAN WILLIAMS

Otote was the instigator with a chip forward from just outside the box which took a slight deflection that helped it into the path of Dan Williams who did well to lift his shot



Ademide Baruwa

past Ladyman and into the roof of the net for his thirteenth of the season.

The Woods defence was holding together well while MK looked vulnerable. On twenty nine minutes, Williams turned provider with a good ball in from the right which was met by a left-foot volley from Ndukuba but his effort came back off the post and was cleared.

Six minutes later, the dangerous Otote did the hard work as he drifted past a couple of defensive efforts across the edge of the box and got a clear sight of goal but steered his shot wide of the far post.

HT: NORTHWOOD 1-0 MILTON KEYNES IRISH

It was only a narrow lead at the break and the Irish were quickly on the front-foot after the restart as Owen Brooks beat Mack Miskin on the right to knock in a good chip which Mussilhy could only just get two hands to. The ball spilled in the six-yard box but thankfully the Woods keeper was alert to then slap away Cann's attempt at a clearance before the ball was eventually cleared.

52 MINUTES 2-0 EZRA NDUKUBA

On 52 minutes, Northwood doubled the lead though and it was a solo effort from Ndukuba as he collected a ball just outside the box and jinked right to find enough space to arrow a perfect strike through the legs of a defender and inside the far post with Ladyman unable to get across to it.

The Woods were good value for their two-goal lead but the visitors were showing signs of recovery when Shrieves cut in from the left to test Mussilhy with a low strike that he saved comfortably but Williams then limped off to be replaced by Stephane Bombelenga, himself back from injury, on 64 minutes. Three minutes later, Dan Vincent



Dan Williams gives the Woods the lead

was replaced by McCorkell and these substitutions were just after MK had freshened up their own side with three replacements themselves.

The Woods were coping well enough though, even when Ryan Smith tried his luck with a powerful strike from distance after 75 minutes which needed Mussilhy to dive to his left and push it round the post.

76 MINUTES 2-1 GEORGE SHRIEVES

However, just a minute later, the Irish were back in the game as a cross from the right from Clinton Zawe saw Cann wrong-footed as he attempted to clear and Shrieves was able to neatly touch the ball past Mussilhy.

79 MINUTES 2-2 GEORGE SHRIEVES

Just three minutes later the Woods defence imploded as Cann played a ball back to Mussilhy and the keeper was unable to get any real distance on his clearance. Smith slipped the ball into an unmarked Shrieves inside the box and he showed great composure to move across Cann before firing home to level the scores.

81 MINUTES 2-3 GEORGE SHRIEVES

On 80 minutes, Mussilhy kept out a speculative effort from Mason Spence but just a minute later the visitors had turned the game on its head. Shrieves swapped passes with Spence to race to the edge of the box. He tried to pick out his fellow attacker at the far post but when Mankumbani managed to block, Shrieves was fastest off the mark to the loose ball and raced across Cann to slot in a remarkable hat-trick inside five minutes and nine seconds.

The shell-shocked Woods made two more changes in an attempt to recover something with Pass and Jamie Kennedy replacing Ndukuba and Otote. Both looked lively and knocked in some testing crosses but MK looked unlikely to let their lead slip.

The only real chance came on 93 minutes as Pass unveiled his long-throw into the box and both Ademide Baruwa and Bombelenga were close to getting a touch but in fact a defender's

outstretched leg knocked in goalwards and Ladyman was able to smother it just in time.

It was a hammer blow for the Woods who had looked well on top for more than an hour but the defeat leaves them still deep in relegation trouble.

HT: NORTHWOOD 2-3 MILTON KEYNES IRISH

NORTHWOOD LINE-UP

Bonfield, Baruwa, Miskin, Vincent, Folarin, Cann, Pass (Atkinson 78), Stewart (Croucher 83), Williams, McCorkell (Bombelenga 65), Otote (Ellis 78). **Unused Sub:** Mankumbani

Words: Alan Evans **Images:** James Brown



Ezra Ndukuba on debut



Osa Otote attacks



VISITING THE SKYLINE STADIUM

BEACONSFIELD TOWN



34

Though formed as recently as the summer of 2017 the roots of Beaconsfield Town FC stem from Beaconsfield SYCOB which was founded in 1994 following a merger between Beaconsfield United and Slough Youth Centre Old Boys (hence the “SYCOB” in the Clubs name).

United dated back to 1921 and were themselves a coming together of two local teams whilst Slough Youth

Centre formed their first football team in 1938. With Slough Youth Centre Old Boys unable to progress due to a lack of ground provisions and United themselves struggling on and off the field at the time the decision was taken to amalgamate the two clubs and so Beaconsfield SYCOB was born.

Initially playing in the London Spartan Premier Division, and with Fred Deanus as Chairman,

Beaconsfield SYCOB chalked up a series of Top Five finishes before finally winning the league in 2000 / 01 under the guidance of Simon Delahunty. However they were refused promotion to the Isthmian League due to some harsh technicalities over the terms of their lease. A further three seasons were spent in the Spartan South Midlands Premier Division before Beaconsfield SYCOB again won the league in 2003



/04 and this time gained promotion to the Southern Football League (Division One East).

The Rams made solid progress in their early years at Step 4 and over three seasons played in three different leagues – Division 1 East, Division 1 West and finally Division 1 South & West from where they were relegated in 2006 / 07. However the appointment of ex-player Jamie Jarvis, ably assisted by Peter Scott, saw The Rams not only win the Spartan South Midlands Premier Division at the first attempt but also win the Berks & Bucks FA Senior Trophy and the Premier Division League Cup, a fantastic treble of silverware.

Promoted to Division 1 South & West, the club finished a highly creditable fourth place and made the Play Offs before losing out to AFC Totton. Moving to the Southern League Midland Division for 2009 / 10, Beaconsfield SYCOB then went through a succession of managers, players, highs and lows until finishing in bottom place in 2010 / 11. Only a reprieve and a league restructure saved The Rams from the drop but since then they have gone on to over achieve for a club of its size. Under the guidance of Byron Walton they finished fifth in the 2011-12 season and lost out in the Play Off Final to Bedworth United. The following season and with James Pritchard at the helm they again finished fifth but lost out to Rugby Town in a Play Off Semi-Final though the season did end with some silverware following a fine win over Chesham United in the Berks & Bucks FA Senior Cup.

2013-14 saw Gary Meakin take over as manager just five days before the start of the season and with only five players on the clubs books – to finish 8th and reach the Quarter Finals of the League Cup was a fine achievement as was a runner up spot in the Berks & Bucks FA Senior Cup, Chesham United gaining revenge for defeat twelve months earlier.

The 2014-15 season saw a partnership with the FAB Academy who provided the bulk of the teams players under the stewardship of Andy Hurley and Nas Bashir. That partnership continued into 2015-16 season with Geoff Warner as

MANAGER SAM TOGWELL

A former Beaconsfield Town player who also played for several professional clubs including Scunthorpe United and Wycombe Wanderers.

Previously assistant manager at the club, Sam was given the role of interim manager earlier in the season before getting the job permanently last month after improving performances and results for the club.



manager as The Rams finished in a respectable ninth place whilst the 2016-17 season saw them under joint managers Andy Hurley and Leigh Wooldridge and ended with a 16th place league finish though a run to the Fourth Qualifying Round of the F.A. Cup was a "Best Ever" for SYCOB.

The 2017-18 season saw the return of Gary Meakin as the first manager of the newly named Beaconsfield Town, with Chris Coyle as Chairman. The Rams had virtually a whole new team and, helped by an amazing away record, they kept in touch with the League pacesetters to finally gain top spot on the last day of the season and claim the Evo-Stik League South, East title. Competing at Level 3 for the first time in their history in the newly formed Evo-Stik League South Premier South division, The Rams achieved a highly credible 12th place finish as well as reaching the First Round of

the F.A. Trophy for the first time in their history, losing out to eventual finalists Leyton Orient.

The truncated 2019/20 season saw the club expanding with the establishing of an Academy as well as an Under 18 team and plans in place to add further age group sides as The Rams look to build for the future both on and off the pitch.

In recent seasons, the senior squad has consolidated its position in the Southern League Premier Division South, competing strongly against well-established sides. The team has integrated several academy graduates, demonstrating the success of the club's player development pathway. With improved coaching, performance analysis tools, and a strong recruitment strategy, the Rams have consistently aimed for top-half finishes and remain ambitious about pushing for play-off positions.



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HAFED AL-DROUBI



Experienced goalkeeper who joined the Woods for a second spell in November 2024 on dual registration from Walthamstow. The 30-year-old Jordanian-born keeper played at Besiktas in Turkey and Luton Town as a youngster. He has played for Chesham United, Harrow Borough, Beaconsfield Town, Potters Bar Town and Hendon amongst others as well as for the England six-a-side international team. Left to help Berkhamsted to play-off promotion success but is now back for a third spell at the Woods.

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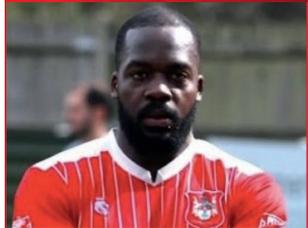
ANDREW MCCORKELL



Experienced goalkeeper who first had a spell with the Woods in 2017 after release from MK Dons where he picked up representative honours for Northern Ireland U19s. He had already made appearances for Hendon and Chesham United. In more recent years he has had spells with Beaconsfield, Hayes & Yeading, Chalfont St Peter and Bedfont Sports before joining the Woods in 2022. Ever-present and voted in the League's team of the season, he then returned to Northwood after a brief spell at Uxbridge before joining Harrow Borough in 2024.

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MANNY FOLARIN



Experienced, 33-year-old defender who switched from Rayners Lane to Northwood in November 2024. Previous clubs include Tilbury, Hemel Hempstead, Kings Langley, Hayes & Yeading, Berkhamsted, Braintree Town, Eastbourne Borough and Leighton Town. Had a great season with the Woods, winning the Managers' Player of the Year award and has been named Skipper for the new season.

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ROMARIO JONAS



27-year-old defender who joined 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 in May 2022. Injuries plagued his next couple of seasons with just a few appearances here and at Harefield but he's back to play a big part.

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CARL STEWART



Former Watford youth midfielder Carl Stewart signed on a dual-registration basis from Beaconsfield Town in November 2021. Carl is a 27-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, Bedfont Sports, Wingate & Finchley and Marlow. He won the coveted Players' Player of the Year award in 2022 and was virtually ever-present in the Woods midfield, with over 100 appearances before spending a season at Harrow Borough, returning in July 2025.

Sponsored by Robin Piper

HARRY MCCORKELL



Harry returns to the Woods for a second spell in the summer of 2025 having had a year with Harrow Borough where he was named as Players' and Managers' Player of the Year. Now 26, Harry had previously had six seasons at Harefield United and a great year with North Greenford. He will now look to take a big role in the centre of midfield to add to his 32 appearances in 2023/24.

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ADEMIDE BARUWA



A new arrival at the Woods in the summer of 2025, Adz joins the club from Leverstock Green where he has been a mainstay of their midfield over the past couple of seasons, clocking up over 70 appearances. Prior to this the 25-year-old has played for CB Hounslow, North Greenford United and Belstone.

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RICCARDO CLARKE-ROWE



Rico joins the Woods in the summer of 2025 having been out of the game for a while since spells with Broadfields United and Amersham Town. Now 23, he will be working hard to establish his place in the new squad.

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JORDAN ELLIS



30-year-old wide player, Jordan has been out of the game for around 18 months having been badly injured in a play-off fixture at the end of several seasons with Hanworth Villa. He will be looking to get back to both fitness and sharpness in pre-season.

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BRYAN MANKUMBARI



23-year-old defender who played at Welling United as a youth but arrived at the Woods in September 2025 having previously played in Jamaica for Montego Bay and Treasure Beach and in Croatia for NK Sokodjija.

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DYLAN KEARNEY



An experienced striker with an excellent goalscoring record, 27-year-old Dylan joined the Woods in summer 2025 having returned from serious injury with games at Flackwell Heath last season. He has had previous spells with the likes of Uxbridge, Wealdstone, Harrow Borough, Sutton United, Dulwich Hamlet, Hayes & Yeading, Hendon, Wingate & Finchley and Beaconsfield.

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KUSHON LEWIS-THOMAS



A new signing for the Woods in the summer of 2025, Kush is a 21-year-old attacker who can play up front or on the left. He enjoyed an excellent season with Langley FC back in 2022/23 with over 20 goals for the Step 6 side but hasn't been playing in recent years. With plenty of pace and creativity, Kush will be looking to get back to enjoying his football with the Woods this season.

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DEVONTE TOTESAUT



Striker who returned to the Woods in February 2025 having had a previous spell in the Covid-hit 2020-21 season where he made 11 appearances and scored three goals. After a few years out of the game he returned to play for Yaxley and AFC Peterborough earlier last season. Now 30, previous clubs include Chesham United and Brunos Magpies in Gibraltar, amongst others.

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BRIAN MCGOVERN



Brian joins the first-team squad after a superb season in the Woods Under-18s and having made an impressive first-team debut at the end of that season at Barton Rovers. The 18-year-old also gained experience playing for Oxhey Jets and has a bright future ahead of him.

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HARRY MCKENNA



Woods Young Player of the Year in 2024, having impressed throughout since joining from Aldershot Town's Development side in October 2023. He returned to the Woods for a second season and had clocked up over 60 appearances before a dislocated shoulder ruled him out for the rest of the season in early March. Back for a third season, Harry can play anywhere on the right.

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FREDDIE FORD



Promising young attacking midfielder player, only 17, who has been impressing for the Woods Under-18s side since March 2024. He's in double figures for the youth side and has already scored a couple of times for the first team.

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STEPHANE BOMBELENGA



An experienced attacker, Stephane joined the Woods in December 2025 on dual-registration from British Airways FC having finished last season at Harrow Borough. The 27-year-old started out as a youth at Ipswich Town and has also played for Eastbourne Borough at Step 3 and abroad in Poland with SportisLochowo and Ghana with Legon Cities.

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GABE CUTHBERT



Central defender Gabe, just 17, is currently on work experience at the Woods from Queens Park Rangers where he captains their Under-18s. He's been with the Rs since the age of eleven, having moved into their Academy from the Northwood Youth set-up

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HICHAM BOUCHAREB



Hicham is a 22-year-old tricky, wide player who started out with Hampton & Richmond Borough and then played in development sides at Basildon United, Beaconsfield Town and Rising Ballers. Joins the Woods after a couple of years out of the game.

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JAMIE KENNEDY



Young midfielder who arrived at the Woods in the summer of 2025 having played for Harrow Borough, both U23 and around a dozen first-team matches last season, winning the Young Player of the Year Award. Only 19, his previous youth experience was at Brentford.

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OSARETIN OTOTE



23-year-old pacy winger, Osa has returned for a second spell at the club having originally signed in February 2023. He hit the headlines with a hat-trick early the following season against Corinthian-Casuals but the former Huddersfield Town youth then left and has since travelled around with spells at Enfield Town, Sutton Common Rovers, Frenford, Met Police and Sevenoaks Town.

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DAN WILLIAMS



Dan has returned to Northwood for a third spell at the club in September 2025. He was the Woods Golden Boot winner in 2023-24 but left to join Harrow Borough and then moved on in January to help Bedfont Sports to promotion from the Combined Counties League. The 28-year-old striker has also played for Chalfont St Peter, Tooting & Mitcham United and Uxbridge.

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JON-JO BATES



Attacking midfielder who came out of retirement in January 2025 for a second spell at Northwood. After playing as teenager at Bedford Town, he joined Dagenham & Redbridge on pro terms, then Harrow Borough and Hampton & Richmond Borough before his first spell with Woods. Other clubs since include Maidenhead United, Chesham United, Uxbridge, Beaconsfield and Egham Town.

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TOMMY COONEY



Manager

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STEVE RINGROSE



Director of Football

Sponsored by Dennis Goulding

SAJ VICNESWARAN



Goalkeeping Coach

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GUS PAYNE



Physiotherapist

Sponsored by Robin Piper

WOODS ROLL CALL



Player	2025/26 SEASON								WOODS CAREER						Woods Debut		
	League				Cup				Total		League		Cups			Overall	
	XI	Sub	Total	Goals	XI	Sub	Total	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	
Ademide Baruwa	27	1	28	0	3	2	5	0	33	0	28	0	5	0	33	0	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
Carl Stewart	29	0	29	0	3	0	3	0	32	0	124	3	26	1	150	4	Chipstead (A) Nov '21
Freddie Ford	15	9	24	2	2	2	4	1	28	3	26	2	4	1	30	3	Kings Langley (H) April '25
Dan Williams	25	1	26	13	1	0	1	0	27	13	68	30	12	4	80	34	Merstham (A) Feb '23
Osaretin Ototo	16	7	23	4	1	3	4	0	27	4	33	7	13	1	46	8	Binfield (A) April '23
Manny Folarin	23	0	23	1	4	0	4	0	27	1	49	2	5	0	54	2	Thame United (A) Nov '24
Hafed Al-Droubi	22	0	22	0	5	0	5	0	27	0	41	0	11	1	52	1	Slimbridge (H) Sept '20
** Jon-Jo Bates	12	8	20	3	2	2	4	0	24	3	59	8	6	0	65	8	Leighton Town (A) Mar. '13
** Devonte Totesaut	9	7	16	2	4	1	5	1	21	3	35	6	8	2	43	8	Westfield (A) Sept. '20
Bryan Mankumbani	16	2	18	1	1	1	2	0	20	1	18	1	2	0	20	1	Edgeware & Kingsbury (A) Sept '25
Mack Miskin	18	0	18	1	2	0	2	0	20	1	29	1	5	0	34	1	Ware (A) Nov '19
* Reece Price-Placid	10	5	15	2	5	0	5	0	20	2	15	2	5	0	20	2	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
Harry McKenna	12	4	16	0	2	0	2	0	18	0	71	0	9	0	80	0	Thatcham Town (A) Oct '23
Henry Atkinson	5	8	13	0	4	0	4	0	17	0	13	0	4	0	17	0	Hanworth Villa (H) Aug '25
Gabe Cuthbert	16	0	16	1	0	0	0	0	16	1	16	1	0	0	16	1	Hitchin Town (A) Oct. '25
Hicham Bouchareb	5	8	13	1	1	2	3	1	16	2	13	1	3	1	16	2	Hanworth Villa (H) Aug '25
* Nasir Shariff	9	4	13	0	1	0	1	0	14	0	13	0	1	0	14	0	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
Jamie Kennedy	1	9	10	0	2	2	4	1	14	1	10	0	4	1	14	1	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
Daniel Vincent	11	1	12	2	0	0	0	0	12	2	14	2	1	1	15	3	Brentford B (H) Oct. '24
** Dylan Kearney	4	2	6	0	3	1	4	1	10	1	7	0	3	1	10	1	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
* Chama Torsiello	2	4	6	0	1	2	3	0	9	0	6	0	3	0	9	0	AFC Dunstable (A) Aug '25
** Jack Empson	4	1	5	1	4	0	4	0	9	1	38	1	7	0	45	1	Ashford Town (Middx) (H) Aug '24
Jordan Ellis	2	4	6	0	0	1	1	0	7	0	6	0	1	0	7	0	AFC Dunstable (A) Aug '25
** Omar Rowe	6	0	6	0	1	0	1	0	7	0	10	0	1	0	11	0	Ware (H) March '25
** Jack Smith	2	3	5	0	1	1	2	0	7	0	34	2	12	0	46	2	Burnham (A) Nov. '13
Stephane Bombelenga	3	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	6	1	0	0	6	1	Thame United (A) 'Dec. '25
Ronny Mfinda	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	12	0	1	0	13	0	Bracknell Town (A) Dec. '19
Rowan Daly	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	Southall (A) Nov. '25
Louis Udeh	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	Biggleswade (A) Jan '26
* Sam Morris	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	Aylesbury United (A) Sept. '25
Andrew McCorkell	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	66	0	18	0	84	0	Uxbridge (A) Sept '17
Ethan Cann	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	Milton Keynes Irish (H) Feb '26
Frankie Pass	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	Milton Keynes Irish (H) Feb '26
Harry McCorkell	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	27	2	6	0	33	2	Corinthian Casuals (H) Aug '23
Rahzir Smith-Jones	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	Hitchin Town (A) Oct. '25
** Brian McGovern	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	Barton Rovers (A) April '25
Rico Clarke-Rowe	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
** Ezra Ndukuba	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	Milton Keynes Irish (H) Feb '26
* Matt Burrows	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	Barton Rovers (A) Nov. '25
Aidan Tarrant	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	Kidlington (A) March '25
Alfie Bonfield	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	Enfield Town (A) October '19
** Brandon Talla	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	Leighton Town (H) Oct. '25
** Kai Mussilhy	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	Milton Keynes Irish (H) Feb '26
Kush Lewis-Thomas	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	Egham Town (H) Aug '25
Michael Kelly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	Beaconsfield Town (H) Aug '24

Up to & including 27th February 2026. * No longer at club; ** Dual Registered





NORTHWOOD



MANAGER
Tommy Cooney

Alfie Bonfield
Andrew McCorkell
Kai Mussilhy
Ademide Baruwa
Harry McKenna
Mack Miskin
Bryan Mankumbani
Manny Folarin
Ethan Cann
Gabe Cuthbert
Louis Udeh
Dan Vincent
Carl Stewart
Freddie Ford
Harry McCorkell
Lewis Croucher
Henry Atkinson
Jamie Kennedy
Jordan Ellis
Dan Williams
Ezra Ndukuba
Stephane Bombelenga
Osa Otote
Frankie Pass



WELWYN GARDEN CITY



MANAGER
Marc Weatherstone

Lamar Johnson
Donny Green
Carlos Velasco
Adam Pollock
Layne Eadie
Tom Bruno
Jack Green
Aiden Read
Ryan Kirwan
Evaristo Mendes
Panny Boxer
Remel Larwood
Ethan Rookard
Isaac Pedro
Steve Cawley
Eddie Corbit
Lewis Taafe
Bailey Stevenson
Nick Ralfe
Lewis Jones

MATCH OFFICIALS

v WELWYN GARDEN CITY

REFEREE
Jonny Lam
ASSISTANTS
Jack Young
Sam Waterhouse



BEACONSFIELD TOWN



MANAGER
Sam Togwell

Tommy Dymott
Josh Welland
Charlie Smith
Aaron White
James Dobson
George Brough
Mark Nisbet
Luke Neville
Zidan Akers
Alex Peapell
Matty Harriott
Zak Fraser-Grante
Samuel Wraith
Manu Oke-William
Oliver Turner
Joshua Marcon
Nnaemeka Anyanwu
Jamie Davies
Jack Warne
Joshua Stranks
Harrison Galloway

MATCH OFFICIALS

v BEACONSFIELD TOWN

REFEREE
Alfie Finch-Critchley
ASSISTANTS
Vas Constanti
Robbie Campbell

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