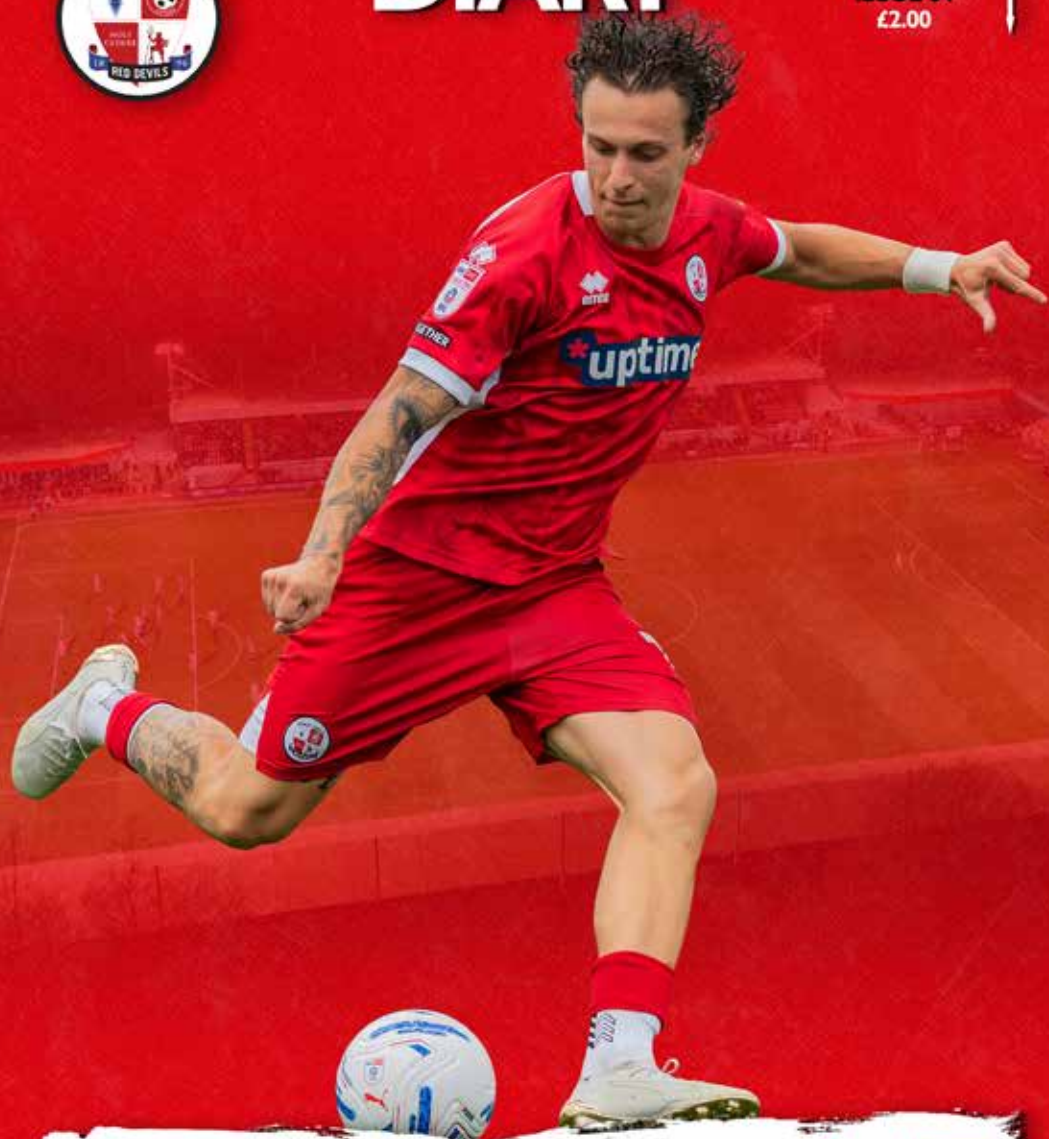


RED DEVILS'

DIARY

SEASON
2026-27
ISSUE 04
£2.00



CHELTENHAM TOWN FC
SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2026, 12.30PM
SKY BET LEAGUE TWO





IF YOU SEE IT OR HEAR IT, REPORT IT

'It' is discrimination, in all its forms.
Racism. Homophobia. Misogyny. Disablism.
If you have seen it or heard it, follow
the QR code to report it to Kick It Out.
Together, we can put an end to it.



Take action today at kickitout.org

RED DEVILS CLUB INFORMATION



This publication does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Football Club or its owners.

Head Coach Colin Kazim-Richards
Assistant Manager Julian Gray
Goalkeeping Coach Vito Mannone
Director Of Football Erdem Konyar

Head of Analysis Conor McGaharan
First Team Analyst Jake Fearnley
First Team Physio Tom Dudeney
Head of Performance Ricky McFarlane
Kit & Equipment Manager Alan Denman

CLUB OPENING HOURS

Monday 10am - 4:30pm
Tuesday 9am - 4:30pm
Wednesday **CLOSED**
Thursday 9am - 4:30pm
Friday 9am - 4:30pm
Saturday Matchday 10am - 4:30pm
Sunday **CLOSED**

GET INTOUCH

By Post Broadfield Stadium, Winfield Way,
Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 9RX
General Enquiries
noreply@crawleytownfc.com
Ticket Enquiries
tickets@crawleytownfc.com
or call 01293 410 000
Main Switchboard 01293 410 000

ONLINE & SOCIALS

www.crawleytownfc.com
 [@crawleytown](https://www.facebook.com/crawleytown)
 [@Crawleytown](https://twitter.com/Crawleytown)
 [@1896CrawleyTownFC](https://www.youtube.com/CrawleyTownFC)
 [@officialcrawleytownfc](https://www.instagram.com/officialcrawleytownfc)
 [@officialcrawleytownfc](https://www.soundcloud.com/officialcrawleytownfc)



CONTACT/USEFUL LINKS

Thanks to everyone involved in making this programme a success, and our thanks also go to you the fans for buying it.

Contact the Editors at
red4ever40@hotmail.com
You can see the previous editions here:
www.ctfcsa.co.uk/category/news/red-devils-diary
The Crawley Town FC Supporters Association website
They are also available to view on: www.ctfchistory.co.uk
The Crawley Town Football Club history website

THE RED DEVILS' DIARY MATCH PROGRAMME

Design & Print
FootiePrint.co.uk
Editors/Contributors
Steve Hedges, Steve Leake
Contributors **Mick Fox, Alain Harper, Steve Herbert, Grant Mansfield, Ian Mulcahy, Kevin Neylon, Kyle Hemsley & The Crawley Town Supporters Alliance**



NEWS BITES

FROM THE DEVIL

COMPILED BY STEVE HEDGES

COLCHESTER COME CALLING

As the transfer window slammed shut we saw that former captain Jay Williams has been sold to another League Two rival - Danny Cowley's Colchester Utd. Jay racked up 95 appearances and 7 goals in two stints for the Red Devils.



Jay was known for his no nonsense, win at all costs combative style, which often left us with a large pile of Red & Yellow cards to mop up. Let's hope he is unavailable for the two games V Utd in 2027!

COME IN NO. 17, YOUR TIME IS NOW

Our final act of the summer signing season brings us up to a total of 17 new players in the building. Dylan Morgan has been acquired on a 2 year deal from Torquay and takes the no. 27 shirt.



From what we have seen so far he certainly knows how to get the ball in the box. We wish him a successful stint with the Reds. (See *Thoughts of a Lifelong Fan* for a more detailed look at Dylan's career so far.)

INJURY NEWS, WHAT INJURY NEWS?

In a recent interview our manager – CKR – said that they were very reluctant to discuss player injuries and recovery times with the Media/Press/Fans as it gave too much away to the opposition. That said we can probably pass on the info' that our No. 10 has a hamstring problem but should be due back soon.

ANOTHER FINE MESS

We have it on good authority that our reluctance to field a team in the Sussex Senior Cup for 26/27 has cost us a fine of £750 from the Sussex FA. This only equates to about 7 match balls, so isn't a King's ransom. This is one of those areas that divides many supporters. We all understand the worry of picking up injuries to important senior players, but maybe a hybrid approach next season could work, whereby we use the CTFC Academy Foundation team and supplement it with the younger development players or others who desperately need game time. If you play a few extra games away at fellow Sussex Clubs, against men's teams, it can only help the younger ones. Certainly food for thought.



CLOCK WATCHING – FOR THE EFL OFFICIALS

The 2026/27 season refereeing directive on accurate calculation of additional time states that Match officials will continue to apply a more accurate approach to additional time, ensuring that major stoppages are reflected appropriately. This includes:

Goal Added time clock starts after 30 seconds

Substitution Exact time from play stopped to restart

Injury Exact time from play stopped to restart

Penalty kick Exact time from award to restart

Delaying restart/time-wasting Referee allowance based on match events

Red card Exact time from card shown to restart

It will be interesting to see if this applies to our games, as the theory is all well and good, but sometimes we wonder if it becomes reality. No doubt we have fans who will now monitor this with stopwatches!

WHERE'S HARRY?

Not all our released players have found a new footballing home, but here are some we have come across: - Harry Forster now plies his silky wing skills at Dorking Wanderers of National League South. Dion Conroy is at National League Wealdstone. Antony Papadopoulos is at National League South Dagenham & Redbridge, who are flying high in that division.

Jacob Chapman, who did such a great job for us between the sticks at the tail end of last season, is now at Scottish Premiership club St Mirren, who are currently challenging the likes of Celtic, Rangers & Hearts at the top of the table. Klaidi Lolos, who was on loan to us from League One Peterborough, has been loaned again – this time to our League



Two rivals Rotherham, who we next meet in November.

Probably the most surprising move is that of Scott Malone to local club Three Bridges. Following their treble winning season they are now up in the Isthmian Premier and still finding their feet at that level. They are mixing it with clubs that, not so very long ago, were our regular opponents: Lewes, St Albans City, Dartford, & Eastbourne Borough. Scott made 22 appearances and scored 1 goal for the Reds.



TRIVIA CORNER

Whilst doing research in the CTFC archives, Ian Mulcahy (prompted by an enquiry from Ivan Noel) discovered the fascinating fact that we have only been given two own goals in a game by the opposition twice in our long history. The bizarre fact is that both times we were playing Hillingdon Borough in the Southern League Southern Division! Once in 1964/65 and then lightning struck twice in 1979/80.

Whilst in Non-League mode, it is another - unrelated - fascinating fact that 3 players have played in Non-League football and then gone on to appear in European Finals. David Raya, the Arsenal custodian, played for Southport 16 times whilst on loan from Blackburn in his early career; eventually ending up in the Champions League final in 2025/26. Steve Finnan who was at Welling from 1993 to 95 played in a European Final whilst at Liverpool. Completing this unlikely trilogy we have Chris Smalling who started his senior career at Maidstone Utd. He made European finals with both Manchester Utd & Roma.



THOUGHTS OF A LIFELONG FAN

Community
Foundation



BY STEVE LEAKE

There is only one thing for me to write about for this programme, as I'm sure Kevin will have covered the away games at Northampton and Accrington with his usual accuracy and flair and isn't it amazing what affect two good results and performances can have on the mood of all involved with our club.

When I said there was one thing for me to write about, what I really meant was two; the RED DEVILS' DIARY and the - soon to become a reality - Crawley Town FC Museum. Firstly, the RDD goes from strength to strength, and for the second League game out of two we managed to sell more than 240 programmes. We do have some left, which will have been available at the programme kiosk today for just £1.00.

Keep on supporting this venture as all our profits will go to local charities such as St Catherine's Hospice and our Community Foundation. We may use some, in the near future, to help equip our Crawley Town Museum; although the majority of the fitting out will be financed by the CTSA's Reds Rollover lottery. If you don't already belong to the Rollover, check out the CTSA's advertisement in this programme.

The Museum, pictured in this



Above: The CTFC Museum, prior to being fitted out and named



programme from the outside, sits between the Home turnstiles and REDZ and will be open on match days, hopefully in the not-too-distant future. The first exhibition, we think, will be based on grounds we have played at, both home and away. I know there are some supporters who have only supported us here at the Broadfield, whereas I have known two home grounds, but in the previous sixty years (before I became a fan) that the

club has existed, there have been at least another eleven sites in our town where we have played.

They are, or should that be were?

- Crawley Recreation Ground (now the Memorial Gardens)
- Jordan's farm (now the site of Toby Carvery on London Road and housing in Langley Green, used as APV's sports and social club just after World War 2 until they moved away from Crawley)
- George Meadow (behind the George Hotel, roughly where Orchard Street is now)
- Mr. Stone's field, Malthouse Farm (near where Stone Field Close is now)

And these were just the places where we played prior to our first official game in 1896. The first game recorded in the Surrey Mirror on November 29th 1890 ended in a 4-2 win, and if anyone knows where it took place, please get in touch. It was a home victory for Crawley.

Prior to 1896, Crawley actually played in Navy blue shirts but according to the minutes of a Crawley FC meeting, which read "A discussion arose as to the club colours, the Secretary pointing out that in league contests the club must play in distinctive colours and (because there were a lot of teams in the league playing in navy blue) ultimately the old navy blue shirts were thrown over in favour of scarlet". This decision was backed by the Sussex FA, granting us permissions to change our colours. Thank you, Bill Denman, if you were the Secretary in 1896, (you were in 1902), and also thank you to the Sussex FA. I mean, "Come on you blues!!" doesn't bear

thinking about, does it?

Since our first competitive season in 1896 we have also played at

- Goffs Hill, roughly on the park side of the Goffs Manor Public House.
- Town Meadow, which was what it sounded like, a farmer's field, now the Leisure Park car park.
- Malthouse Farm until 1920, on whichever field wasn't being used by the farmer.
- Victoria Hall Field, roughly where the Alms Houses are now on Northgate Road.
- Rectory Field, situated where the Platform apartment block is off the Boulevard, which in those days was Rectory Lane which led from the High Street to, yes, you've guessed it, the Rectory.

• Back to Victoria Hall

• Then to Malthouse farm, again, but which field?

• Then war broke out for a second time in the club's history, which put off the move to Yetman's Field until 1945 when we played there for four years until 1949. Mr. Yetman was a pig farmer and butcher, and you could still buy Yetman sausages from his shop in Hazelwick Road up till just recently. His field, though, was situated behind the Embassy Cinema, if you're old like me or Bar Med if you're my children's age or Turtle Bay now. Sunnymead flats occupy that position now.

>>>>>



• Town Mead from 1949, although we did play on Ifield Green for a season while the home of football in Crawley was having its stand built.

That's just a flavour of what the exhibition will show and tell you about and we also plan to at least list the grounds of all the teams we have played at in our 130 years - from the start in the Brighton and District League 2 right through to our current position in EFL Two.

Before I close my article, I have been asked to give this RDD shout out to wish a Happy 80th birthday to Dennis Hills, **right**, & his twin brother David - from the family: - Barbara, Shaun, Joyce, Sharon, Matthias and extended family.



STOP PRESS: NEWBY ALERT

As of the closing of the summer window, there have been no more Newbys since the signing of Kai Jennings on loan from AFC Wombles. What? That's not true I hear you say. Didn't we sign a winger who played against Bristol Rovers? Yes, we did ... and here is a summary of his career up till now:

Crawley have signed Torquay United winger, Dylan Morgan, on a two-year contract for an undisclosed fee. He joins us having spent time at Plainmoor, following his move there from Yeovil Town. The midfielder began his career



in the youth setups at Southampton and Forest Green Rovers before joining Swansea City, where he featured regularly at Under-23 level, before moving into senior football with Taunton Town ahead of the 2022/23 season.

He then joined Yeovil midway through the following campaign and was part of the Yeovil side that won the National League South title in 2023/24, helping the club secure promotion back to the National League. He remained with them the following season and also spent time on loan at Weston-super-Mare, scoring three goals in four appearances, before completing a permanent move to Torquay United.

He had an impressive 2025/26 campaign, netting 13 times in 42 appearances playing on the wing. This form saw Dylan catch the eye of many league clubs, but it was the Red Devils who won the race for his signature, just a day before making his debut for us against Bristol Rovers. Dylan - age 23 - will be wearing the number 27 shirt for the Reds.

A LEGO BROADFIELD! OUR STADIUM IN BRICK-BUILT FORM!



Whilst delivering programmes to the club we came across this magnificent Lego model of our stadium, made by Joe Bryant. Really makes you want to get your bricks out and design a new stand!



IN OPPOSITION CHELTENHAM TOWN

BY STEVE HEDGES

MEET THE MANAGER

STEVE COTTERILL

Steve, age 62, was born in Cheltenham and played for his hometown club in 1986/87. The striker also played for Burton, Wimbledon, Brighton & Hove Albion and Bournemouth, before a knee injury put paid to his career after only 10 years in the pro game. During that time he made 164 senior appearances and scored 73 goals overall.

Steve is one of the most experienced managers around – having amassed well over 1000 games in charge. He is now manager of his 12th club (having also been an assistant manager at Sunderland and a coach

at both Leicester & QPR). He started out in Ireland at Sligo Rovers in 1996, finishing third in the League, reaching the Cup final and getting into the UEFA InterToto Cup.

He returned to his home town club in 1997 and led them from the Southern League Premier to the Conference and subsequently into the EFL in 1998/99. He stayed with them until Stoke City came calling in 2002. He then moved on to Burnley from 2004 to 2007. In 2010 he joined Notts County; subsequently moving on to Portsmouth, Nottingham Forest, Bristol City, Birmingham City, & Shrewsbury Town before ending up at Forest Green Rovers in 2024/25. On 30 Sept 2025 he re-joined Cheltenham on a 3 year contract.



HE PLAYED FOR BOTH ANDREAS WEIMANN

35 year old Andreas was born in Vienna and plays as a forward or attacking midfielder. He is still considered for selection by the Austrian National Team. He has amassed 573 appearances and 106 goals to date.

Having spent 16 years in the Premier League and Championship and a season in the Austrian Bundesliga he left Derby in the summer and joined Cheltenham to prolong his career. Weimann started out at Aston Villa in 2010 and stayed there for 5 years (although he spent some time at Watford on loan in 2011). In 2015 Derby signed him in a 2 million pound deal and he stayed with them until 2018 (he was on loan to Wolves for 19 games in 2017).

In 2018 he moved to Bristol City where he had a successful 6 years – scoring 50 goals for them and racking up 205 senior appearances. All this despite being out for 9 months with an ACL injury picked up in Oct 2020. In 2024 he was loaned to West Bromwich Albion for 12 games before moving on to Blackburn Rovers for the 2024/25 season. He then returned to Derby once more but spent the tail end of the season on loan at Rapid Wien. Upon his release by Derby he signed for Cheltenham in August 2026. He has appeared for Austria from the U17's right through all levels to the full national team. His last international goal was in 2024 in a friendly against Slovakia.

CHELTENHAM TOWN KITS

HOME
AWAY
THIRD



PAST RESULTS CRAWLEY VS CHELTENHAM TOWN

Non-League Record P 14 W 5 D 4 L 5 Win Ratio 36%

1963/64

Sat 28 Sept 1963

Cheltenham Town V Crawley Town

L 2-1

Southern League One

Sat 8 Feb 1964

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

L 2-3

Southern League One

1984/85

Sat 10 Nov 1984

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

W 1-2

Southern League Premier

Sat 16 Mar 1985

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

L 1-5

Southern League Premier

1992-93

Sat 28 Nov 1985

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

D 0-0

Southern League Premier

Sat 23 Mar 1993

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 3-2

Southern League Premier

1993-94

Sat 11 Sep 1993

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

W 1-3

Southern League Premier

Tue 1 Feb 1994

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

L 0-1

Southern League Premier

1994-95

Sat 24 Sep 1994

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

W 1-2

Southern League Premier

Tue 29 Apr 1995

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

D 1-1

Southern League Premier

1995-96

Sat 19 Aug 1995

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 4-1

Southern League Premier

Sat 25 Nov 1995

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

D 1-1

Southern League Premier I

1996-97

Sat 5 Oct 1996

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

W 1-2

Southern League Premier

Sat 14 Dec 1996

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

D 3-3

Southern League Premier

EFL Record P 13 W 6 D 1 L 6 Win Ratio 46%

2011-12

Sat 27 Aug 2011

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 3-1

EFL TWO

Sat 7 Feb 2012

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 4-2

EFL TWO

2013-14

Sat 6 Aug 2013

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 4-3

League Cup Rnd 1

2016-17

Sat 15 Oct 2016

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 2-1

EFL TWO

Sat 14 Apr 2017

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

D 0-0

EFL TWO

2017-18

Sat 12 Aug 2017

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 2-1

EFL TWO

Sat 24 Mar 2018

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

L 3-5

EFL TWO

2018-19

Sat 4 Aug 2018

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

W 0-1

EFL TWO

Sat 5 Jan 2019

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 1-0

EFL TWO

2019-20

Sat 31 Aug 2019

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 2-0

EFL TWO

No Match away, season curtailed, COVID

2020-21

Sat 10 Oct 2020

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 2-0

EFL TWO

Sat 16 Apr 2021

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 1-0

EFL TWO

2025-26

Sat 13 Sep 2025

Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town

W 2-0

EFL TWO

Sat 4 Jan 2026

Cheltenham Town v Crawley Town

L 3-0

EFL TWO

OVERALL LEAGUE RECORD P 27 W 11 D 5 L 11 Win ratio 40.7%

OVERALL LEAGUE AND CUP RECORD P 28 W 11 D 5 L 12 Win ratio 39.3%

Goals For 44 Against 48

One all or two all draw anyone?



IN OPPOSITION CHELTENAMTOWN



BY STEVE LEAKE

DID YOU KNOW

- Until very recently it was thought that Cheltenham Town Football Club was founded in 1892. Actually it was five years earlier, when Mr Albert Close- White returned to his native Cheltenham from college in London to take up a teaching post, that he introduced Association Football to the town of Cheltenham, having himself discovered it whilst on his studies. (1892 or 1887 for the Gloucestershire CTFC, 1896 or 1890 for the Sussex CTFC.)
- In the 1996/97 season Cheltenham Town were promoted to the Conference, despite finishing as runners up to Derbyshire side, Gresley Rovers, because of the champion's ground failing Conference requirements. I remember Gresley, the only pitch that sloped towards the centre spot from every direction.
- Within two years of that piece of good fortune they proved they were worth it by winning the FA Trophy at Wembley: beating Southport by one goal to nil and then by becoming Conference champions a year later and being promoted to the Football League for the first time in their history. Their manager at the time? A certain Steve Cotterill I believe.
- Steve stayed with Cheltenham until the end of the 2001/2002 season when they were promoted from Division 3 (EFL 2, as it is now known) to Division 2 (EFL 1) via the playoffs, when he left to join Stoke City.
- A year later Cheltenham were relegated back to Division 3, which in another 12 months became EFL 2. Confused? Please read on. The time is now 2003/2004 and whilst CTFC (Gloucestershire) finished just below halfway in League 2, CTFC (West Sussex) clinched the Southern League Title and were promoted to the Conference for the first time in history.
- Since then, Cheltenham have been promoted, relegated, appeared, (unsuccessfully) in the playoffs twice and been relegated to the Conference, promoted straight back to EFL 2 and then to EFL 1, albeit after a few years of steady League 2 football before falling back to EFL 2 in 2023/24. Their highest ever finish was 17th in League 1 in 2006/07.
- In the year of their first League 2 Play off final disappointment, 2011-2012, Crawley Town clinched promotion from the same division on the last day of the season at Accrington Stanley. Crewe beat the Robins two nil at Wembley, after having finished 7th behind Cheltenham in 6th place in the league.
- In another quirk of coincidence, the year of their final relegation, 2023/2024, saw Crawley Town swap places with them by beating Crewe Alexandra under the Wembley Arch by two goals to nil. There's that score again.
- Steve Cotterill is back in charge in Gloucestershire, having taken over from Michael Flynn and Aaron Downes last season.
- Lastly, here is a list of a manager and some players who have been at both clubs:- Mark Yates, Jonte Smith, Wes Thomas, Tyrone Barnett, Tom Nichols, Isaac Hutchinson and Liam McAlinden.

KEV'S CARDS CHELTENAMTOWN



Above: Steve Cotterill from his time at Nottingham Forest (Topps Match Attax Set from 2011/12)

Left: Some of the Cheltenham Town cards from last season

HOME STADIUM EV CHARGER POINTS STADIUM

Opened: 1927
Capacity: 7,066



MANAGING TO SUCCEED CHELTENHAM TOWN FC



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILE TEN LEADING CHELTENHAM TOWN MANAGERS

GEORGE BLACKBURN

Ex-England international left-half George Blackburn managed Cheltenham Town to the FA Cup third round in 1933-34. Signing professional for Aston Villa in January 1921, he featured in the 1924 FA Cup final and was capped by England against France a month later. He joined Cardiff City in June 1926 and was unlucky not to feature in their 1927 FA Cup final triumph but twice helped the Bluebirds win the Welsh Cup. After a season with Mansfield Town, he was Cheltenham's player-manager from July 1932 until August 1934, then trainer-coach at Moor Green and Birmingham City. He died in July 1957.

ARCH ANDERSON

Scottish manager Arch Anderson plotted Cheltenham Town's 1958 Southern League Cup final triumph. Previously in charge of Arbroath and Ayr United, he became Cheltenham's boss in July 1953 and recruited several Scottish players. He guided them to the top six in the Southern League in five successive seasons before leaving in July 1958. Returning for a second spell as manager in place of Tommy Cavanagh in November 1961, he steered Cheltenham back to the Southern League Premier Division in 1963-64 and remained in charge of the Robins until June 1965 when trainer Harold Fletcher stepped up to manager.

BOB ETHERIDGE

Player-manager Bob Etheridge guided Cheltenham Town to the 1969 Southern League Cup final. The footballing-cricketer helped Gloucester City win the Southern

League Cup shortly before joining Bristol City in September 1956. Ever-present in 1961-62, he became Cheltenham's player-boss in July 1965 and plotted consecutive promotion near-misses. He netted three goals in 125 Southern League games for the Robins, rejoining Gloucester as boss in November 1973. Also wicket-keeper for Gloucestershire CCC, he died locally in April 1988. His brother Dick gave Gloucester City lengthy service in various capacities.

DENIS ALLEN

Denis Allen managed Cheltenham Town back to the Southern League Premier Division in 1976-77. From a notable football family, he turned professional with Charlton Athletic in August 1956 and moved to Reading in June 1961. He was top scorer four times and joined Bournemouth in August 1970, featuring in their 1970-71 promotion campaign. After a spell with Ostend, he managed Cheltenham from July 1974 until April 1979, then scouted for several clubs from his Reading base and was an England scout until his death in July 1995. His son Martin managed Cheltenham from September 2008 until December 2009.

JOHN MURPHY

Player-manager John Murphy guided Cheltenham Town to the Southern League Premier Division title and Cup final in 1984-85. The central defender had spells with Bishops Cleeve, Forest Green and Cinderford, moving to Cheltenham in August 1974. He helped win promotion in 1976-77, then played for Scarborough and Harrogate, rejoining Cheltenham in May 1982. Ever-present captain in their 1982-83 Southern League Midland Division title triumph, he managed the Robins from December 1983 until October 1988, then was manager of Trowbridge, Gloucester, Witney and Cinderford. He is now back at Cheltenham as a director.

STEVE COTTERILL

Steve Cotterill plotted Cheltenham Town's 1998-99 Conference title triumph. A former striker, he helped hometown Cheltenham win the Southern League title in 1984-85, then played for Alvechurch, Burton Albion, Wimbledon and AFC Bournemouth. He managed Sligo Rovers, then Cheltenham from February 1997 until May 2002. Plotting the Robins' 1998 FA Trophy success, also their 2001-02 promotion and FA Cup run, he then managed Stoke City, Burnley, Notts County, Portsmouth, Nottingham Forest, Bristol City, Birmingham City, Shrewsbury Town and Forest Green before rejoining Cheltenham in September 2025.

JOHN WARD

John Ward plotted Cheltenham Town's 2006 League Two play-off final success. Initially with Lincoln City, he was top scorer in their 1975-76 Fourth Division title triumph and reunited with Graham Taylor at Watford in July 1979. He had spells with Grimsby and Lincoln again prior to joining Watford's coaching staff, then assisted Taylor again at Aston Villa. Appointed York City's manager in November 1991, he also achieved managerial success at Bristol Rovers and Bristol City. He managed Cheltenham from November 2003 until October 2007, then Carlisle and Colchester, returning to Bristol Rovers as director of football.

MARK YATES

Former England Semi-Pro midfielder Mark Yates managed Cheltenham Town to the 2012 League Two play-off final. He played for Birmingham, Burnley and Doncaster, then Kidderminster in the 1995 FA Trophy final. Joining Cheltenham in January 1999, he helped to win the Conference title in 1998-99, then promotion in 2001-02, netting 19 goals in 194 League games before rejoining Kidderminster in February 2004. He managed them to 2008 FA Trophy final, then Cheltenham from December 2009 until November 2014, Crawley, Solihull Moors, Macclesfield, Kidderminster again, Stourbridge and Solihull Moors again.

GARY JOHNSON

Gary Johnson managed Cheltenham Town to the Conference title in 2015-16. A former



MICHAEL DUFF

Ex-Northern Ireland international defender Michael Duff managed Cheltenham Town to the League Two title in 2020-21. Signing professional at Whaddon Road in August 1996, he helped Cheltenham win the FA Trophy in 1998 and Conference title in 1998-99. He was the Robins' first full international, starring as they won promotion and reached the FA Cup fifth round in 2001-02. Scoring 12 goals in 201 League games, he joined Burnley in July 2004 and helped reach the top-flight in 2008-09, 2013-14 and 2015-16. He managed Cheltenham from September 2018 until June 2022, Barnsley, Swansea, Huddersfield and Wycombe.

Watford player, he managed Newmarket, then was coach/manager at Cambridge United. He was Watford's Academy director, then coached Latvia, becoming Yeovil's boss in June 2001. Plotting their 2002 FA Trophy, 2002-03 Conference and 2004-05 League Two title triumphs, he managed Bristol City to promotion in 2006-07 and Championship play-off final in 2008. He has since managed Peterborough United, Northampton, Yeovil's 2012-13 promotion success, Cheltenham from March 2015 until August 2018, Torquay and Taunton.

TOP OF THE CLASS CHELTENHAM TOWN FC



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES TEN WINNERS OF CHELTENHAM TOWN 'PLAYER OF THE YEAR' AWARD.

DAVE LEWIS

Long-serving striker Dave Lewis holds Cheltenham Town's all-time goalscoring record. Born locally, he impressed with Cheltenham YMCA and St Marks before joining the Robins in August 1970. Top scorer nine times, he was 'Player of the Year' in 1974-75 and helped to win promotion in 1976-77, moving to Gloucester City in July 1980. He was a Southern League Cup finalist in 1982 and rejoined Cheltenham in July 1982, featuring in their 1982-83 promotion success. Scoring a club record 205 goals in 391 Southern League games, he had a spell as manager and was later heavily involved at Bishops Cleeve for 26 years.

PAUL TESTER

Skilful winger Paul Tester was 'Player of the Year' in Cheltenham Town's 1982-83 promotion triumph. Initially with Chalford and Shortwood United, he moved to Whaddon Road in January 1980 and was ever-present in 1981-82. He was twice leading marksman for the Robins and netted 33 times in 107 Southern League games prior to joining Shrewsbury Town in May 1983. An influential figure as they twice won the Welsh Cup, he moved to Hereford United in August 1988 and was a Welsh Cup winner again in 1990. He later played for Worcester City and Bridgnorth Town and became a warehouse manager for Frans Maar.

BRIAN HUGHES

Influential midfielder Brian Hughes was ever-present 'Player of the Year' as Cheltenham won promotion to the Conference for the first time in 1984-85. A former Swindon Town apprentice, he turned professional in July 1980 and moved to Torquay United in August 1983. Joining Cheltenham in July 1984, he starred as they twice reached the FA Trophy quarter-finals and scored 34 goals in 162 Southern League/Conference games for the Robins before joining Gloucester City in June 1988. He skippered their 1988-89 promotion success and the glazing company boss then managed Gloucester, Witney Town and Cirencester Town.

KEVIN WILLETTS

Versatile left-back Kevin Willetts was 'Player of the Year' a record three times while at Cheltenham Town. He impressed in the Hellenic League with Sharpness before moving to Whaddon Road in August 1985 and was an influential figure as the Robins were FA Trophy quarter-finalists in 1985-86 and 1987-88, then ever-present in 1990-91. Representing both the FA XI and Middlesex Wanderers, he netted 28 goals in 281 Conference/Southern League games for Cheltenham prior to joining Gloucester City in February 1994. He later appeared for Weston-Super-Mare, Kidderminster Harriers, Worcester City and Witney Town.

RAY BAVERSTOCK

Versatile defender Ray Baverstock was Cheltenham's 'Player of the Year' in 1987-88. Signing professional for Swindon Town in December 1981, he featured in their 1982-83 FA Cup run and moved to Whaddon Road in July 1983. He was a key figure as the Robins won the Southern League title in 1984-85, then were FA Trophy quarter-finalists in 1985-86 and 1987-88. Netting 22 goals in 238 Conference/Southern League games before joining Gloucester City in July 1990, he later

played for Worcester City, Bath City, Moreton, Trowbridge Town, Forest Green Rovers and Cirencester Town. He runs B&H Property with Neil Hards.

MARK BUCKLAND

Utility player Mark Buckland was Cheltenham Town's 'Player of the Year' in two consecutive seasons. Born locally, he progressed through the ranks at Cheltenham, following Graham Allner to AP Leamington in July 1982. He helped them win the Southern League title in 1982-83 and joined Wolves in February 1984. Gaining top-flight experience, he reunited with Allner at Kidderminster Harriers in July 1985 and rejoined Cheltenham in April 1987. He scored 44 goals in 233 Southern League/Conference games before joining Gloucester in June 1992, then Moreton, Cirencester and Endsleigh, working for GB Scaffolding.

JASON EATON

Striker Jason Eaton was Cheltenham Town's 'Player of the Year' in 1995-96. Initially with Bristol Rovers, he moved via Clevedon to Bristol City in March 1989 and helped win promotion in 1989-90. He joined Gloucester City in November 1990 and moved to Cheltenham in October 1992. Leading scorer in 1993-94, he helped regain Conference status in 1996-97, then starred as they won the FA Trophy final in 1998 and Conference title in 1998-99. He netted 86 goals in 227 Southern League/Conference games before joining Yeovil Town in May 1999, then Newport County, Forest Green Rovers, Basingstoke Town and Bath City.

NEIL GRAYSON

England Semi-Pro international striker Neil Grayson was 'Player of the Year' as Cheltenham Town won the Conference title in 1998-99. He impressed with Rowntree Mackintosh before joining Doncaster Rovers in March 1990, then had spells with York City, Chesterfield and Boston United. He moved to Northampton Town in June 1994 and scored their fastest-ever hat-trick, featuring in their 1996-97 Third Division play-off final triumph. Moving via Hereford United to Cheltenham in March 1998, he netted 24 goals in 108 League games before joining Forest Green Rovers in June 2002, then Stafford Rangers and Glapwell.



BEN TOZER

Central defender Ben Tozer was ever-present 'Player of the Year' in Cheltenham Town's 2020-21 League Two title triumph. Following spells at Plymouth, Swindon and Newcastle, he joined Northampton initially on loan in September 2010. He starred as they were League Two play-off finalists in 2012-13 and joined Yeovil in June 2015. Moving via Newport County to Cheltenham in May 2018, he was also 'Player of the Year' as they reached the League Two play-offs in 2019-20 and netted six goals in 119 League games. He joined Wrexham in August 2021, helping twice win promotion, then played for Forest Green Rovers.

JULIAN ALSOP

Striker Julian Alsop was leading marksman and 'Player of the Year' as Cheltenham Town won promotion and reached the FA Cup fifth round in 2001-02. He played for Halesowen before joining Bristol Rovers in February 1997 and moved to Swansea City initially on loan in January 1998. Helping them win the Third Division title in 1999-2000, he joined Cheltenham in July 2000 and netted 35 goals in 117 League games before moving to Oxford United in July 2003. He has since played for Northampton Town, Forest Green Rovers, Tamworth, Newport County, Cirencester, Cheltenham again, Bishop's Cleeve and Carmarthen.

PLAYERS GALLERY

RED DEVILS VS BRISTOL ROVERS

Left page: Pre Match Huddle; Louie Watson stretches to get the ball; Right page: Vito at full stretch before his injury, and below, how to play two balls at once whilst being fouled!



SEASON RECORD

CRAWLEY TOWN FC 2026/27

HOME Away Red = Evening KO ■ Cautioned ■ Sent Off Scorers in **BOLD**
 L2 = SkyBet EFL League Two FAC = FA Cup EFL = EFL Trophy CC = Carabao Cup



Date & Opp															Red = Evening KO	Comp	Res	Att	Team Line-Up First XI										Subs Used (Unused in Italics)	
AUGUST																														
3	York City				CC P	2-0	4788	Mannone	Gordon	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Kraniqi	Ebiowei	Watson	Duke-McKenna	DI BIASE	Russell, Arganese-McDermott, Williams, Kamara, ORSI						(Aderoju, Odimayo, Tinsdale, Izquiero)					
8	Watford				CC I	0-1	6907	Mannone	Gordon	Odimayo	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Kraniqi	Ebiowei	Watson	Duke-McKenna	Di Biase	Aderoju, Mrisho, Arganese-McDermott, Russell, Kamara						(Orsi, Tinsdale, Michalski, Robertson)					
15	CREWE ALEXANDRA				L2	0-1	3565	Mannone	Gordon	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Kraniqi	Ebiowei	Watson	Duke-McKenna	Di Biase	Aderoju, Russell, Odimayo, Kamara, Michalski						(Orsi, Tinsdale)					
22	Rochdale				L2	2-1	3895	Michalski	Odimayo	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Jennings	Russell	WATSON	Kamara	ADEROJU	Krasniqi, Orsi, Richards						(Izquierdo, Arganese-McDermott, Di Biase, Tinsdale)					
29	BRISTOL ROVERS				L2	0-2	4120	Michalski	Odimayo	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Krasniqi	Russell	Watson	Kamara	Aderoju	Morgan, Orsi, Ewens-Findley, Richards						Di Biase (Izquierdo, Tinsdale)					
SEPTEMBER																														
1	Northampton Town				L2	1-1	4890	Izquierdo	Odimayo	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Krasniqi	Morgan	Watson	Kamara	Aderoju	Orsi, Russell, Tinsdale, PEREIRA						Di Biase (Ewens-Findley, Michalski)					
5	Accrington Stanley				L2	2-3	1493	Izquierdo	Odimayo	Farquharson	Barker	Adeyemo	Arthurs	Krasniqi	Ebiowei	Watson	Kamara	ORSI	ADEROJU						Di Biase, Gordon, Pereira, Morgan (Russell, Michalski)					
12	CHELTENHAM TOWN				L2																									
19	Grimsby Town				L2																									
22	Milton Keynes Dons				EFLT																									
26	BARNET				L2																									
OCTOBER																														
3	Walsall				L2																									
6	BROMLEY				EFLT																									
10	CHESTERFIELD				L2																									
17	Salford City				L2																									
20	SHREWSBURY TOWN				L2																									
24	TRANMERE ROVERS				L2																									
31	Oldham Athletic				L2																									
NOVEMBER																														
10	BRENTFORD U21				EFLT																									
14	Rotherham United				L2																									
21	FLEETWOOD TOWN				L2																									
28	Exeter City				L2																									
DECEMBER																														
1	PORT VALE				L2																									
12	NEWPORT COUNTY				L2																									
19	York City				L2																									
26	GILLINGHAM				L2																									
29	Colchester United				L2																									
JANUARY 2027																														
1	Swindon Town				L2																									
9	YORK CITY				L2																									
16	SALFORD CITY				L2																									
19	Shrewsbury Town				L2																									
23	Tranmere Rovers				L2																									
30	OLDHAM ATHLETIC				L2																									
FEBRUARY																														
6	Bristol Rovers				L2																									
9	NORTHAMPTON TOWN				L2																									
13	ACCRINGTON STANLEY				L2																									
20	Cheltenham Town				L2																									
27	ROTHERHAM UNITED				L2																									
MARCH																														
6	Crewe Alexandra				L2																									
13	ROCHDALE				L2																									
20	Fleetwood Town				L2																									
26	SWINDON TOWN				L2																									
29	Gillingham				L2																									
APRIL																														
3	COLCHESTER UNITED				L2																									
10	Newport County				L2																									
13	Chesterfield				L2																									
17	GRIMSBY TOWN				L2																									
24	Barnet				L2																									
27	WALSALL				L2																									
MAY																														
1	EXETER CITY				L2																									
8	Port Vale				L2																									

CRAWLEY TOWN'S TOP 20 ALL-TIME COMPETITIVE GOALSCORERS

Fascinating fact - No 5 in the list was the son of No 10 in the list!

Right - Matt Tubbs

Player	Total Goals	League Goals	Cup Goals	Total Penalties	League Penalties	Cup Penalties
Opposition Own Goals	143	101	42	0	0	0
1 Phil Basey	108	76	32	5	4	0
2 Ernie Randell	99	64	35	0	0	0
3 Terry Robbins	89	60	29	1	1	0
4 Dave Haining	83	59	24	0	0	0
5 Craig Whittington	82	42	40	3	2	0
6 Brian Gregory	76	52	24	6	4	0
7 Tony Mulhern	70	40	30	0	0	0
8 Cliff Cant	69	49	20	15	14	0
9 Don Horn	68	62	6	0	0	0
10 Eric Whittington	67	45	22	0	0	0
11 Matt Tubbs	66	57	9	18	16	0
12 Brian Kirsop	64	53	11	0	0	0
13 Jeff Wood	64	44	20	0	0	0
14 Brian Roberts	64	41	23	1	1	0
15 Paul Fishenden	63	43	20	9	5	0
16 Les Tingley	62	46	16	2	1	0
17 Wayne Peacock	62	39	23	4	4	0
18 Ray Carter	60	48	12	0	0	0
19 Cyril Baker	59	37	22	2	1	0
20 Joff Vansittart	58	30	28	0	0	0

CRAWLEY TOWN'S TOP 20 ALL-TIME COMPETITIVE GOALSCORERS

Fascinating fact - No 5 in the list was the son of No 10 in the list!

Right - Matt Tubbs



Player	Total Goals	League Goals	Cup Goals	Total Penalties	League Penalties	Cup Penalties
Opposition Own Goals	143	101	42	0	0	0
1 Phil Basey	108	76	32	5	4	0
2 Ernie Randell	99	64	35	0	0	0
3 Terry Robbins	89	60	29	1	1	0
4 Dave Haining	83	59	24	0	0	0
5 Craig Whittington	82	42	40	3	2	0
6 Brian Gregory	76	52	24	6	4	0
7 Tony Mulhern	70	40	30	0	0	0
8 Cliff Cant	69	49	20	15	14	0
9 Don Horn	68	62	6	0	0	0
10 Eric Whittington	67	45	22	0	0	0
11 Matt Tubbs	66	57	9	18	16	0
12 Brian Kirsop	64	53	11	0	0	0
13 Jeff Wood	64	44	20	0	0	0
14 Brian Roberts	64	41	23	1	1	0
15 Paul Fishenden	63	43	20	9	5	0
16 Les Tingley	62	46	16	2	1	0
17 Wayne Peacock	62	39	23	4	4	0
18 Ray Carter	60	48	12	0	0	0
19 Cyril Baker	59	37	22	2	1	0
20 Joff Vansittart	58	30	28	0	0	0

RED DEVILS ON REPORT

SAT 29TH AUGUST REDS 0-2 BRISTOL ROVERS



BY KEVIN NEYLON



I hadn't made it all the way around to my seat from hindering programme sales before kick-off happened. We are in our all-red kit with white trim; whilst from the back it looks as if Bristol Rovers are in all blue, but the front of their shirts have the classic traditional blue and white quarters.

Rovers get on the front foot more quickly than we do and get a couple of early corners before I've had time to get my glasses on. We work the ball forward, and it goes across the box to the left where Osman Kamara's shot is blocked. Jonny Russell's follow up hits the ref. Rovers break quickly and find a player in the box, who looked miles offside, we get a couple of blocks in. Rovers have a player down in our box, and the ref is thinking about stopping the game for a potential head injury, but he lets play go on as Rovers are attacking, the shot in is low and hard and hits the prone player. Well done ref! They're keeping the pressure on, which ends with Nick Michalski making a couple of decent saves low down at close range.

Much of the decent play and attacking threat is coming from Rovers but we put together a patient attack and win a corner, Rovers break from that and after being fouled himself, at the second attempt Ade Adeyemo brings his man down and Rovers get a free kick near the corner of the penalty area. Their right back steps up and puts the ball over the wall and off the underside of the bar and into the net and we trail 1-0. The ref must have been a defender in a former life, as he obviously doesn't like attacking play. Pemi Aderoju

is suplexed over at one end with nothing given, and twenty seconds later Charlie Barker does a similar move on a Rovers player with no action being taken. At least there is some consistency there. We do get a free kick after the second part of the WWE action, and a Rovers' player gets a booking for dissent. The players are sensing anything goes and some tasty tackles are going in from both sides, before the ref blows his whistle for one he deems a bit too much and books Louie Watson.

There is a sign of life from us and a ball finds Aderoju on the edge of the box, he turns his man well and is then rugby tackled to the ground as he is about to shoot. (Which is apparently legal!) We keep the ball and it lands at the feet of Kamara, but he makes a hash of the shot, and it limps wide. The ref gives Rovers a corner when it was obviously a goal kick as three separate Crawley players let it run and the Rovers players were desperately trying to keep it in. The corner goes straight out for the goal kick it should have been in the first place. A long ball out from the back by Rovers is taken down well by their dangerous number ten, going towards the right of the box, he then shoots back across the goal and nestles the ball in the left-hand corner and we trail 0-2.

We boot the ball long and Aderoju is chasing it with little hope of getting there but the central defender, making no attempt to get near the ball, just puts a leg out and brings him down. There is a yellow card, and if the long ball hadn't been such a lost cause, then surely that'd have been a red card. Plus if the penalty had been given, there would have been a yellow for that, and that would be a red. There are two added minutes. Russell is hacked down on the left touchline, nothing given, then Klaudio Krasniqi gets fouled in the centre of midfield and the ref gives a free kick.

We do nothing with it and the half time whistle goes with us trailing 0-2. On the whole Rovers are good for their lead, both their goals were well taken, but that non award of a penalty was a joke, and it could have been so different.

We make a substitution at half time with Akin Odimayo making way, and new signing Dylan Morgan comes on to make his debut down the left. He's into the action straight away and a run ends with Krasniqi having a blocked shot. He then gets a yellow card after a challenge where there was no attempt to win the ball. Michalski comes out of the box attempting to do a bit of sweeper keeping, misses the first tackle, slides in again and misses again, but there's enough cover to prevent a quick effort and we clear it. Aderoju is dragged down again and nothing is given. More substitutions and Ty Ewens-Findlay comes on to replace Adeyemo at right back, and Danilo Orsi is on for Krasniqi as we go with two up front.

Only for Rovers to come down the left, and crossing it into the box, there's a couple of blocked shots, a corner, another blocked shot. Trying to come out and a Rovers defender is on the ground with both arms wrapped around Morgan's legs, there's a free kick, but surely there should be a yellow for a blatant hold like that. Barker comes out with the ball from the back, beats a couple of men in midfield and puts it down the wing for Russell to get on the end of, he puts in a low cross, and the keeper just beats Orsi to it. Morgan is now horse collar tackled which brings a yellow card for a Rovers player. A long ball gets to Orsi in the box and his cross can't quite find Kamara in the middle, it comes out to Jude Arthurs on the left and his cross back in is caught by the keeper.

Rovers are ping long diagonal balls down their right to their number seven who's got the

beating of Russell every time. There are a couple of occasions where he cuts back in and gets a shot off from the edge of the area, but fortunately neither of them ever looked in any danger of being on target. We play a ball deep and it is put out for a corner. It's also taken deep and a close-range header is cleared off the line.

More subs with Kamara and Russell making way, to be replaced by Gianmarco Di Biase and Lewis Richards. The latter is involved straight away as he gives away a corner and is lucky not to have given away a penalty as his attempts to foul the attacker. A long ball over the top sees Di Biase get onto it, and he is hauled down on the edge of the area. There is a yellow, but that was the last man so how wasn't that red? There was no cover at all. The free kick in was headed clear. Arthurs is brought down on the right side (couldn't see if it were in or outside of the side of the box — but it doesn't matter) nothing is given.

On the other side Morgan is given a yellow card for a pull back. There are three added minutes, which include a shot well saved by Michalski, and two Rovers substitutions, neither of which add any time to added time played. And the ref blows the final whistle so he can escape the abuse and head into the dry. And we lose 0-2. It wasn't the best Crawley performance, but a lot of that is due to the way Rovers set up and played, as they looked dangerous every time they got the ball. Not sure what the ref was doing most of the time. It does look like Aderoju is in for a long frustrating season of getting nothing given to him, in the same way Showumni and Tshimanga had in the two previous seasons.

Kev Neylon
kev@onetruekev.co.uk



RED DEVILS ON REPORT

TUES 1ST SEPTEMBER NORTHAMPTON 1-1 REDS



BY KEVIN NEYLON



I do like the view as you walk to the ground and look down the bank and over the stadium.

There are a couple of changes in the starting eleven from the loss on Saturday, with Jackson Izquierdo coming in to replace Nick Michalski, and Dylan Morgan starts, with Jonny Russell dropping to the bench. Today multi role Ade Adeyemo moves to left back. Dion Pereira returns to the bench with Lewis Richards dropping out of the squad. We are in our very nice third kit aping Fiorentina in purple and white, whilst Northampton are in their traditional all maroon kit.

Priestley Farquharson isn't off to the best of starts, giving the ball away on the edge of the area twice in quick succession, and Northampton have a couple of early chances. It's a fairly even opening. We get a free kick in a promising position and waste it, Northampton get a corner, play it on the ground into the box and we are asleep but do manage to block the shot. Another free kick and Jude Arthurs tries to fake the Northampton defence out, with a ball down the side of the wall, but Pemi Aderoju can't get on the end of it, and it rolls through to the keeper. Possession in the Northampton half ends again as we let the ball roll out for a throw. We win it back and Osman Kamara flashes a shot in and it's just shepherded out for a throw. We have a shot blocked, a cross from the left finds a Northampton head, and one from the right goes out for a goal kick. We win a corner, take it short, it's blocked for another corner, taken deep, and headed clear. Dylan Morgan gets a shot blocked, and the ref blows for an infringement in the box.

Jackson Izquierdo is spending a lot of time outside

his area, and it was only a matter of time before Northampton attempted the cheeky shot from their own half; the surprise being... it's a curling one along the ground and Jackson just gets down to it in the box. Up the other end Kamara is causing Northampton all kinds of problems. He's brought down for a free kick near the edge of the box. Louis Watson tries a short ball to Klaudio Krasniqi, his shot is blocked and an Arthurs shot flies over the bar. Kamara again, beats a man in midfield and plays it out to Morgan and his cross goes for a corner. Taken short and Morgan's shot is blocked, as is Akin Odimayo's, a fumble by the keeper and Morgan's follow up shot is wide. Ade Adeyemo contrives to take a foul throw in our half, and Northampton are quick in taking their own throw. They win a free kick for a dubious handball, and get another throw; it's taken long, and we fail to deal with it and a Northampton player is in behind defender and goalkeeper and pokes it in and we trail 0-1. This perks Northampton up and they're at us again and win a corner. There's an unchallenged header in the middle of the box, it's saved and the offside flag goes up. Krasniqi picks up a yellow card for a pullback in midfield. We get forward and pass the ball across the box with three players seemingly unwilling to shoot, it gets to Kamara, who does shoot but it is blocked. There's one added minute at the end of the half and we go into the break trailing 0-1.

Northampton start the second half quickly, winning a corner. We scramble it away and the Northampton fans behind that goal are claiming a penalty. The players not so much, and the ref doesn't give anything. At our end Morgan puts a ball across the six-yard box and Aderoju is inches away from sliding onto the end of it, and it goes out for a throw. Arthurs is taken out in midfield from behind and stays down injured, and we get a free kick. From my angle it just looked a foul,



but the ref obviously thinks it was more serious because it's a straight red for the Northampton player and they are down to ten men. Arthurs then picks up his now customary yellow card, for a pullback in midfield. Then he has a shot from the edge of the area, which is blocked, it comes out to Adeyemo who cuts inside into the box and fires a shot just wide. On sixty-four minutes we make our first substitutions with Aderoju and Morgan making way for Danilo Orsi and Dion Pereira. But it is Northampton who have a break away. Only a heavy first touch, when well clear, by Sam Hoskins sees Jackson get down to it. Down the left Adeyemo and Kamara combine well and get a ball into the box, it comes to Pereira and his shot is saved, but he gets to the rebound himself and fires it in and we are level 1-1.

From here on we gain good momentum and are playing most of the game in the Northampton half. A ball into the box sees Orsi have a couple of flicks at it and Krasniqi sees his shot come back off the inside of the left-hand post and it gets cleared. A Farquharson cross nearly becomes a shot and just misses the top corner. A Kamara cross from the other side lands on the roof of the net. Another well worked attack sees a Pereira shot well saved. And it's time for another sub with Odimayo going off to be replaced by Jonny Russell. And Russell's first action is to launch a scud into the box, it goes out to the right and we put a deep cross in, the keeper jumps superman style and punches clear and lands on Charlie Barker. Which apparently is a foul by Barker? Not sure where the ref was expecting him to teleport to there!

Still we are on the front foot. A Pereira cross sees an Orsi shot saved and Watson's follow up is somehow brilliantly saved for a corner. That

comes in and a header is saved and Orsi puts the rebound in, only for the lino to belatedly put his flag up for offside, so it won't count. There are lots of crosses, and lots of headers clear. A free kick is worked well and the cross sees a Farquharson header just over. Final subs are made with Krasniqi and Watson making way for Nathan Tinsdale and Gianmarco Di Biase for the final four minutes plus injury time. More balls into the box, and there are shots from a whole host of players, it's messy in there, but I think it was Adeyemo, Di Biase, and Orsi all getting shots blocked. The ball is booted clear and Farquharson wins the header just in our half and we are on the attack again, only for the ref to blow his whistle for a potential head injury, but the player was already getting back up. There are four added minutes at the end of the half, which does seem a bit light. And the best chance in that time goes to Northampton who punt a long ball forward only for us to give away an unnecessary corner, and the header from it isn't that far wide. There is a lot of huff and puff from us, but there is no telling final ball and a lack of shots in the five minutes of added time played, before the ref blows the final whistle on a 1-1 draw.

It definitely feels like it is two points dropped. There were times when there was a reluctance to shoot when the opportunity was there, and far too many rushed attempts a yard from a defender, which will be blocked all day. The final quality ball is missing too many times. The crowd was announced as being 4,890 with 270 Crawley fans having made the journey up for the game. The Cobblers Goalkeeper got man of the match.

Kev Neylon
kev@onetruekev.co.uk



RED DEVILS ON REPORT

SAT 5TH SEPT ACCRINGTON STANLEY 3-2 REDS



BY KEVIN NEYLON



It was an early start for a journey there and back on the same day, but for once (given previous form with anything involving Avanti West Coast) it was a better than smooth trip each way. I was able to take it easy, and all the staff were nice and friendly there, so it was a good day out... Apart from those ninety minutes in the middle.

On the pitch Malcolm Ebiowei returned to the starting XI after his suspension and Danilo Orsi also made the cut. Pemi Aderoju and Dylan Morgan were dropped to the bench. As happens all too frequently, it isn't the best of starts; a poor pass back from Charlie Barker sees Jackson Izquierdo fluff a clearance straight to an Accrington player, two passes later they are in the box, a missed tackle and the striker pokes it in and we trail. Already 0-1. There are lots of misplaced passes early on. An Accrington player is in acres of unmarked space, but fortunately their control is poor. It's a very nervy performance so far. Accrington get another shot off, this one from thirty yards which goes over the bar.

Winger Osman Kamara is a bright spot again. He steams down the left, after turning his man in midfield, and forces a corner. We play it short and pump it in but there's a foul by Barker at the back post. At the other end he loses the ball and Accrington cross it and a strike forces a good save from Jackson. Malcolm Ebiowei wins a free kick about thirty yards out on the right. It's taken deep and Kamara lays it back to Jude Arthurs and his cross is blocked for a corner, it's taken and easily

cleared. Barker, atoning for his errors earlier, plays a magnificent through ball out of defence and finds Kamara in the penalty area, his attempt at a shot is sliced sideways and Danilo Orsi retrieves, spins in the six-yard-box and fires it in and we are level at 1-1.

Accrington put a cross in from the right and a player meets it with a header on the edge of the area and it goes just wide, and then goes off to have his eyes checked / cleaned. We are growing into the game now, with the confidence a goal gives you, and Louis Watson plays a ball into the box, but no one is following up and it just rolls out for a goal kick. An Ebiowei curling cross becomes a shot which the keeper claims in the top corner, after tenacious work from Akin Odumayo had won the ball high up the pitch. Watson is brought down on the edge of the area and there's a booking for the Accrington player. Ebiowei's shot hits the last head in the wall and goes out for a corner. We waste it.

There are a couple of Accrington crosses, one from the left is caught by Jackson, and the other from the left goes straight out of play. Ade Adeyemo beats a couple of men and gets into the box and goes down, the ref waves play on. Another sweeping move forward is started by another decent through ball from Barker to Arthurs, onto Kamara, but his final ball to Orsi in the box is just too strong and is cleared. Accrington break and a cross is dropped by Jackson, but the ref blows for a foul on him. We have a decent spell of possession, and Adeyemo cuts in again and has a shot from thirty yards, but it goes straight to the keeper. A ball in from Ebiowei sees an Accrington defender go through the back of Arthurs with a

leading arm and there's a booking for that. Arthurs tries to slide it into Orsi down the side of the wall and Accrington clear for a throw. There are three added minutes at the end of the half. Jackson flaps at yet another cross and gets a free kick after a collision with the Accrington striker. We pump a free kick into the box and Priestley Farquharson goes through the back of the defender and as for the Accrington player minutes earlier, there's a yellow card for that, and the half time whistle goes with it all square. 1-1.

Into the second half, an early shot from Ebiowei is straight at the keeper. A cross from Accrington, on the left, creeps through the box, without a touch on it from either side. Arthurs wins a free kick; he exchanges passes with Ebiowei and the cross in is deflected and cleared. Watson is scythed down in midfield and it's another booking. It's taken deep and Farquharson heads it back across, Barker nods it down, but Orsi's effort is high, wide, and not in the slightest bit handsome. Accrington attack through the middle and are allowed to run unchallenged, it is played out to the left, a cross in sees an attempted clearance skied like a Rugby up-and-under and Jackson gets nowhere near the ball when he jumps to claim/punch/catch/flap, and there is a simple nod in for the Accrington striker. 1-2.

We make a couple of substitutions with Ebiowei and Watson making way for Dion Pereira and Kellan Gordon. Arthurs picks up a booking for clipping a player going down the wing. He gives away a free kick in the middle, thirty-five yards out, seconds later. It's taken quickly and we're asleep; a ball is pinged across the six-yard box and turned in at the far post by an Accrington player and we now trail 1-3. Cue more subs. Orsi makes way for Pemi Aderoju, and Dylan Morgan replaces Odumayo. The ball breaks well for Kamara down the left and he gets a cross in, but it is too strong and goes out for a goal kick. Accrington get a corner and the defence is asleep as a player runs from deep, but we manage to clear. A free kick beats the wall but is headed clear, and an Adeyemo attempt from

thirty yards plus is close but very optimistic.

We make our final substitution with Klaudio Krasniqi making way for Gianmarco Di Biase. Arthurs is getting quite "animated" with his teammates. There's another booking for Accrington for pulling Morgan down as he broke away. A long ball is taken down by Aderoju and his shot thunders back out from the underside of the bar. And we go again, a ball finds Di Biase in the box and his shot is just over the bar. A Morgan shot is blocked, and it comes out to Kamara, and his cross in is met by Aderoju, but the header is straight at the keeper. A ball down the right sees Gordon shrug off a defender, and he gets a good cross in and Aderoju is on the end of it and fires it in to make it 2-3.

We get a ball into the box, and it's nodded down to Aderoju again, but this shot is just over the bar. Adeyemo is fouled but the ref plays advantage as the ball falls to Kamara, whose cross just eludes Aderoju and is cleared. Play is stopped as two Accrington players go down after crashing into each other and have potential head injuries. There are seven added minutes at the end of the game, which seems somewhat light with the stoppages, the goals, and all the substitutions which have gone on.

We get a free kick in midfield and put it into the box, and it's headed behind for a corner which is cleared. There's a lot of huffing and puffing but not much blowing down of any Accrington houses and the final whistle goes on a very disappointing 2-3 defeat. The crowd is announced as 1,493 with 50 away fans. Both figures look to be a bit light, ours sounds suspiciously like a rounded down guess of how many we had. I counted 63 away fans and may easily have missed a couple' But it is a low turnout for a Crawley away game by recent standards over the last couple of years.

Kev Neylon
kev@onetruekev.co.uk





CTSA Reds Rollover

For £5 a month, your chance to win...



1st prize
30% of total amount



2nd prize
15% of total amount



3rd prize
15% of total amount

SCAN ME!



Or sign up at
www.ctfcsa.co.uk

10% of total amount goes into the rollover annual prize draw
30% of the money goes to Crawley Town Football Club

SIMPLY REDZ PODCAST by the CTSA

SCAN ME!

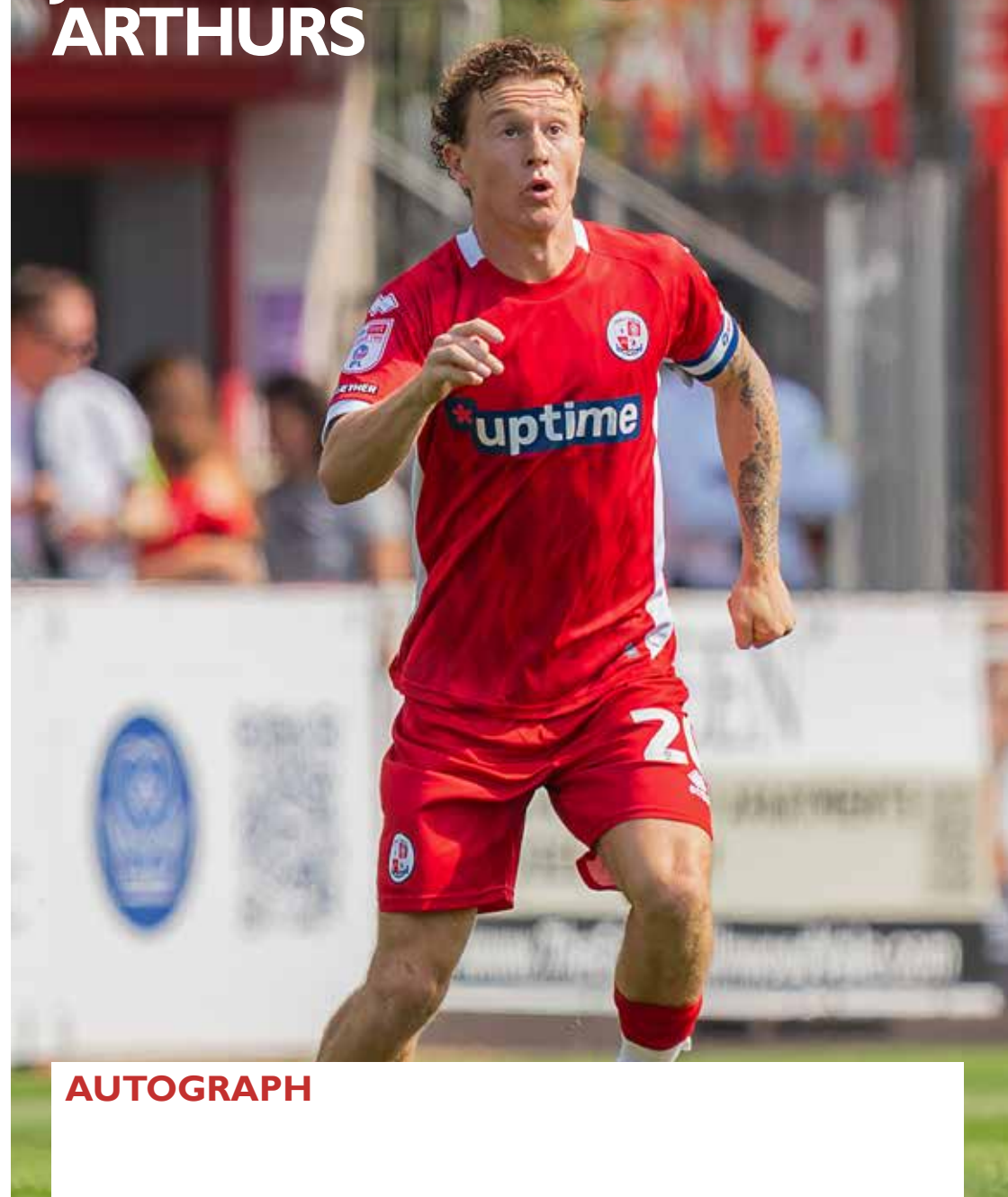


Or search for us on
Spotify, Apple Podcasts,
and Amazon Music



Join us every other week for a dive into everything Crawley Town, covering match analysis, club news and talking points, with special guests offering unrivalled insight and anecdotes

20 JUDE ARTHURS



AUTOGRAPH

RETRO RED DEVILS

THE GLAMOUR OF PORTSLADE GAS WORKS
& LOADS OF HOADS!

BY MICK FOX

I know I said in my last article that I would refrain from commenting on referees – although at the moment it is very difficult not to – so for a bit of fun, I thought I would look back 100 years and see what was going on with Crawley FC (pre the ‘Town’ suffix).

Lo and behold, in the West Sussex County Times of 18th September 1926, it seems both Horsham (Trinity) and Crawley were suffering from “referee troubles” – but in these instances, of the disappearing kind. Trinity suffered a no-show from their referee from Worthing for a match against Shoreham, with a Trinity official taking the whistle, whereas for our game against Portslade Gas Works in the Mid Sussex League, Mr Coates of Brighton had, it seems, decided to take the day off.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Sammy Hoad of Crawley would take charge (described in the press cutting as the “knight of the whistle”). Sadly, it didn’t help our cause as we “surprisingly” lost 3-2 to our visitors from the coast. Although the name of our visitors makes it sound a very small-time affair, we were attracting good crowds of several hundred for what was still a small market town with a population of around 5,000.



1925-6 Montgomery Cup winners Sammy Hoad back row 2nd from right

I noticed that Sammy featured in the photo of the winning Montgomery Cup team of the previous season, 1925-26 (he is on the back row, second from the right). The name Sammy or Sam Hoad crops up regularly in my trawls through the archives, and after a bit more research, as well as some help from club historian Tony Pope, I came up with a few more snippets about the Hoad family and Crawley. It would seem, as was fairly common in those days, that Samuel Edward Hoad of East Park, Southgate (the Sammy mentioned above), named his first son, born in 1911, Samuel Edward after himself, which caused me some confusion for a while. Sam/Sammy Sr and his wife also had two other sons, Horace and Ronald (more on the latter later).

I found mention in a Sussex Express of November 1908 of Sam Sr playing for East Grinstead reserves, and scoring a goal against East Grinstead Rovers. On the same page of that paper, I also noticed the league table of the Mid Sussex Senior League which shows a tussle at the top between Three Bridges and Crawley.

Table to date :—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	for	Ag.	Pts
Three Bridges	7	5	1	1	22	9	11
Crawley	6	5	1	0	11	8	10
Queen's Park	4	4	0	0	19	5	8
Lewes	5	4	1	0	9	6	8
Lindfield	7	3	3	1	26	10	7
East Grinstead	5	3	2	0	15	14	6
Uckfield	6	3	3	0	17	15	6
*Newhaven	5	3	2	0	19	8	4
Cuckfield	6	2	4	0	8	16	4
Brighton Amateurs	7	1	6	0	10	26	2
Burgess Hill	5	0	5	0	5	20	0
Ardingly	5	0	5	0	6	28	0

*Two points deducted for playing an ineligible man.

Mid Sussex Senior League Table November 1908

I am not certain when exactly it happened, but at some point Sam Sr shifted his allegiance to Crawley FC and, as confirmed by Tony Pope, played for the club after WWI, albeit mainly in the reserves or thirds (with the odd stint as a stand-in referee!).

When his playing days were over, Sam Sr continued to be involved with the club. According to a press report of August 1934 regarding a meeting at the club HQ, (The White Hart Hotel), he was vice-chairman at a time when the very future of the club was under discussion. It seemed from the report that it was proving difficult to attract enough players to fill the teams playing in the Mid Sussex (first XI) and Redhill Leagues (reserves), with only 13 players signed on.

Of the 30 who had signed up the previous season, some had subsequently left the district, leaving those remaining struggling to compete, particularly the reserves, who had won only two matches and conceded 123 goals in their Redhill League season. Revenues were also down to £64-3s-11d from the previous season's £102-1s-2d, and the club was left with a deficit of over £11. Despite all this, the committee, including Sam Sr, decided to try and continue with just the one team in the Mid Sussex League.

Reading these old reports, it always seems to me that there were plenty of older ex-players and local dignitaries (such as club president Sir Francis Montefiore, G F H Banks, Norman Longley and Sam Hoad) willing to work behind the scenes and keep the social side going, but that it was a different matter when it came to players, with just too much competition in one small town as Crawley Rangers and Crawley Athletic were also running sides.

We would limp into the 1934-35 season, but indicative of our struggles to field a side was the young team we were forced to put out in September 1934 against Portslade Gas Works (we did play other teams, honest!) after four late withdrawals, which resulted in a disastrous 16-goal defeat. With cricket still being played and attracting local sportsmen, Crawley Rangers and Crawley Athletic both also suffered heavy defeats on this same day.

What resulted from these struggles was a playing hiatus for Crawley FC until 1938, when an amalgam of the local teams would combine into one single team representing the town, thanks in part to the generosity of the Rangers and Athletic clubs.

That first momentous combined season under club president G F H Banks (who played for the club when it formed in the 1890s) and chairman Norman (later Sir Norman) Longley was played at Malthouse Meadow ground, where once again

President : G. F. H. Banks, Esq.
Chairman : Norman Longley, Esq.
Hon. Secretaries : G. D. Inglis, A. Lamsey.
Honorary Treasurer : S. R. Raworth.

Sat. Sept. 10th. 1938. Kick-off 3.30 p.m.

CRAWLEY.

C. Cook

R. Pringle E. Steer (Capt)

C. Baker F. Puckham F. Izard

J. MacDonell L. Tingley R. Hoad F. Hiney D. Burt

Referee : F. J. Leoney (Hassocks)

B. V. Farrell C. J. Farrell J. Shadbolt W. Hawkins G. Wash

J. Robinson K. Sprunt J. Ford

F. J. Hiney A. Smith

A. Parker

ALDRINGTON RAMBLERS.

1938 Aldrington Ramblers defeated 7-1

the name Hoad would feature.

This time it was Ronald, one of the sons of Sam Sr, who would play for the club in the first home game of season 1938/9 against Aldrington Ramblers, a game which resulted in a superb 7-1 victory. It was all the more commendable in light of the fact that Aldrington would pip us for runners-up spot in the Brighton League that season, although our third-place finish was more than satisfactory.

With most organised local football suspended for WW2 from 1939, the name Hoad would not appear again until the first post-war season, 1945-46, when we played a season in the Wartime Emergency County League. This time, the name on the team sheet was Sam Hoad Jr, now in his 30s, and appearing as our goalkeeper for a season.

I also found mention of Sam Jr in a match from November 1945, away against East Grinstead. Apparently in rushing from his goal to challenge the oncoming forward, Sam ran into the forward's boot and sustained a badly cut eye. He was carried from the field and Crawley lost the game 4-1.

>>>>>



YOUR CLUB.
YOUR MATCHDAY.
YOUR SAY.

WHAT WOULD MAKE YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A CRAWLEY FAN BETTER?

SHARE YOUR IDEAS ABOUT FAN ENGAGEMENT, MATCHDAY, FACILITIES,
COMMUNICATION OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU THINK COULD BE IMPROVED.



SCAN TO GIVE FEEDBACK

CRAWLEY TOWN FANS ADVISORY BOARD. REPRESENTING SUPPORTERS. LISTENING TO YOU.

#TOWNTEAMTOGETHER

www.crawleytownfc-fab.co.uk

Thankfully Sam recovered well and hadn't, as was first thought, fractured a cheekbone. In fact I found a cutting from January 1946 when Sam excelled in goal in a 5-1 victory for Crawley away to Brighton and Hove Albion Juniors (a bit of a forerunner for an EFL Trophy type match?).

In later life, Sam Jr, a resident of East Park,

Southgate, was keen on bowls and was instrumental in Crawley Town Bowls Club building their rink at Langley Green in 1964. A true Crawley sportsman.

Come on, you Red Devils!

Mick Fox
mjfo@yahoo.co.uk

1945-46
Yetmans Field
Crawley FC,
Sam Hoad
goalkeeper
back centre



CTFC HONOURS LIST

Lge 2 Wembley Play Off Winners 2023/24
Promoted to League 1 3rd Place 2011/12
FA Cup 5th Round 2010/11 & 2011/12
EFL League Cup 4th Round 2019/20
Conference Champions 2010/11
Southern League Champions 2003/04
Southern League Cup Winner 2003/04
Southern League Cup Winner 2002/03
Southern League Cup Runner-up 2000/01
Sussex Senior Cup Winner 1989/90, 1990/91, 2002/03, 2004/05
Roy Hayden Trophy Winner 1990/91, 1991/92, 2004/05
Sussex Floodlight Cup Winner 1990/91, 91/92, 92/93, 98/99
William Hill Senior Cup Winner 1992/93
Gilbert Rice Floodlight Cup Winner 1979/80, 1983/84
Sussex Intermediate Cup Winner 1927/28
Montgomery Cup Winner 1925/26
Mid Sussex Senior League Winner 1902/03

RED DEVILS' STATS

HISTORICAL STATS COMPILED BY IAN MULCAHY

CTFC TOP 15 HOME ATTENDANCES

Conference	Att	League Two	Att	League One	Att
18/03/2011 - AFC Wimbledon	4,054	07/10/2023 - Wrexham	5,572	03/05/2015 - Coventry	5,744
26/02/2011 - Barrow	3,941	07/05/2024 - MK Dons	5,564	18/03/2014 - Wolves	5,680
22/02/2011 - Southport	3,765	07/03/2017 - Portsmouth	5,350	23/12/2024 - Birmingham	5,530
02/04/2011 - Darlington	3,554	29/03/2024 - Doncaster	5,336	11/03/2025 - Charlton	5,489
12/02/2011 - Wrexham	3,331	13/04/2024 - Colchester	5,223	28/04/2025 - Northampton	5,105
12/04/2011 - Luton	3,326	02/05/2026 - Salford City	5,191	09/09/2012 - Portsmouth	5,058
29/03/2011 - Mansfield	3,162	02/04/2018 - Swindon	5,008	01/02/2025 - Wrexham	5,049
22/04/2011 - Rushden & Diamonds	3,083	27/04/2024 - Grimsby	4,885	01/03/2025 - Cambridge	4,955
05/03/2011 - Histon	3,031	22/12/2023 - AFC Wimbledon	4,792	12/04/2025 - Leyton Orient	4,793
30/04/2011 - York	2,945	06/04/2012 - Crewe	4,723	09/11/2024 - Huddersfield	4,752
07/12/2004 - Barnet	2,941	25/03/2023 - Rochdale	4,717	10/08/2024 - Blackpool	4,718
17/08/2004 - Hereford	2,570	28/04/2012 - Hereford	4,615	31/08/2024 - Barnsley	4,704
16/10/2010 - Newport	2,566	28/03/2026 - Gillingham	4,338	28/09/2024 - Bolton	4,696
21/02/2005 - Morecambe	2,516	19/08/2023 - Gillingham	4,310	22/12/2012 - Sheffield U	4,604
21/08/2004 - Aldershot	2,508	06/04/2026 - Grimsby	4,273	14/09/2024 - Stockport	4,538

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Most Lge Points	84	L2 2011/12
Least Lge points	42	L2 2025/26
Most Draws	16	L2 2025/26
Least Draws	7	L2 2023/24
Most wins	23	L2 2011/12
Least wins	11	L2 2019/20, L2 2022/23
Most defeats	25	L2 2015/16
Least defeats	8	L2 2011/12
Most goals scored	76	L2 2011/12
Least goals scored	44	L2 2025/26
Most goals conceded	83	L1 2024/25
Least goals conceded	47	L2 2019/20 (37 matches only due to COVID) 54 in full seasons L2 2011/12 and L1 2013/14
Best GD	22	L2 2011/12
Worst GD	-33	L2 2015/16
Best Home Att	5,744	3 May 2015 v Coventry City, League One
Best Away Att	27,325	18 Apr 2025 v Birmingham City, League One CTFCH stats show 33,341, 19 May 2024 v Crewe Alexandra at Wembley.
Lowest Home Att	1,455	26 Sep 2017 v Newport County, League Two 12 Dec 2020 v Barrow was 650, but was also a "sell out" due to COVID restrictions
Lowest Away Att	1,098	20 Oct 2015 v Morecambe, League Two
Top season scorer	23	Danilo Orsi (2023/24) League goals only
Top Season Apps	49	Klaudi Lolos League appearances only (inc. from the bench), including the 3 play off matches

2026/27 SEASON PLAYER STATS

AS AT 5/9/26

No / Pos / Player / Previous Club or Loan Status <i>These stats cover all competitions</i>	CRD	CTFC 26-27 Stats					CTFC Career	
		St	Su	Gls	Y	R	Apps	Gls
1 GK Vito Mannone (PLAYER-COACH) Lille	*	3					3	
2 DF Kellan Gordon Notts County	06/27	3	1		1	1	68	1
4 DF Pele Arganese-McDermott T'ham Hotspur	06/28		2				2	
5 DF Charlie Barker Wealdstone	06/27	7			3		99	3
6 DF Priestley Farquharson Walsall	06/28	6			2		6	
7 MF Malcolm Ebiowei Crystal Palace	06/28	4				1	4	
8 MF Louie Watson Luton Town	06/28	7		1	2		41	1
9 FW Danilo Orsi AFC Wimbledon	06/28	1	4	2			70	28
10 FW Stephen Duke-McKenna Harrogate	06/28	3					3	
11 FW Pemi Aderoju On loan from Peterborough	~	3	3	2	1		6	2
12 DF Lewis Richards Bradford City	06/27		2				16	
13 GK Nick Michalski On loan from Blackburn	~	2	1				3	
14 FW Gianmarco Di Biase Juventus	06/28	3	3	1			6	1
15 DF Ben Radcliffe On loan to Yeovil Town	06/27						23	2
16 DF Jonny Russell Glentoran	*	2	4		1		25	
17 MF Osman Kamara On loan from Blackburn	~	4	3				7	
18 FW Danny Cashman On loan to Boreham Wood	06/27						5	
19 MF Dion Pereira Luton Town	*		2	1			36	1
20 MF Jude Arthurs Bromley	06/28	7			4		7	
21 FW Justin Ferizaj Bray Wanderers	06/28						3	
22 FW Ade Adeyemo Cray Valley PM	06/28	7					103	9
23 MF Fate Kotey Fulham Academy	06/27						5	
24 DF Alkin Odimayo Newport County	06/27	5	1				17	
25 MF Klaudio Krasniqi Glacis Utd (Gib)	06/27	6	1		3		7	
27 MF Dylan Morgan Torquay United	08/28	1	2		1		3	
28 MF Nathan Tinsdale On loan from Hull City	~		1				1	
30 MF Kai Jennings On loan from AFC Wimbledon	~	1					1	
31 GK Jackson Izquierdo Crystal Palace	06/27	2					2	
32 DF Ty Ewens-Findlay On loan from Charlton	~		1				1	
33 MF Omari Mrisho Huddersfield Town	06/28		1				1	
56 MF Jude Robertson Ipswich Town	*						3	
PLAYERS WITH APPEARANCES THIS SEASON WHO HAVE LEFT THE CLUB								
Jay Williams Joined Colchester United 9/26			1				95	7

CRD = Contract Review Date
 * = Not Published
 ~ = On loan to CTFC

NB: The EFL only allow 5 loanees to be named in each matchday squad. (Max of 8 loanees per season).



RAIL TRAVEL

BY HERBERT'S TOURS



SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Grimsby Town (away), 3pm k/o

07.31 Three Bridges - St Pancras 08.20 (Walk next door to Kings Cross 4 min)

08.40 Kings Cross - Doncaster 10.17

10.41 Doncaster - Cleethorpes 11.53

(Cleethorpes is the nearest railway station to Grimsby Town FC, it's a scenic 20 minute walk along the promenade to the stadium) Return

18.26 Cleethorpes - Doncaster 19.39

19.55 Doncaster - Kings Cross 21.36 (4 min walk across the road to St Pancras)

21.50 St Pancras - Three Bridges 22.39

Currently £48 return with a railcard.

To obtain this price, purchase a £9 Thameslink return from Three Bridges to London St Pancras, and a £39 return from London Kings Cross to Cleethorpes.



TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2026

MK Dons EFL Trophy 7pm k/o

16.01 Three Bridges - St Pancras 16.50 (Walk 10 mins to Euston)

17.16 London Euston - Milton Keynes Central 17.51

(Then it's a bus or taxi to Stadium MK)

Return

21.58 Milton Keynes Central - London Euston 22.31 (Walk 10 mins to St Pancras)

22.50 St Pancras - Three Bridges 23.43

£26 (with a railcard) Purchase the Three Bridges to St Pancras £10 and the Euston to Milton Keynes £16 ticket separately to get this price.

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2026

Walsall 3pm k/o

10.01 Three Bridges - St Pancras 10.50 - (10 min walk to Euston)

11.16 London Euston - Birmingham New Street 12.48

13.00 Birmingham New Street - Bescot Stadium 13.22

Return

17.11 Bescot Stadium - Birmingham New Street 17.34

17.47 Birmingham New Street - London Euston 19.06 - (10 min walk to St Pancras)

19.20 St Pancras - Three Bridges 20.09

£34 (with a railcard) - (Purchase Three Bridges to St P @ £9.40 and the Euston to Bescot Stadium £24.60 ticket separately to get this price).

***Tickets are 30% more without a railcard.
It always pays to purchase a 12 month railcard which costs around £30. Young Persons, Senior, Family or Two Together railcards are the best for the above discounts.*

Prices correct at time of going to press

***Always try and book at least*

*4 weeks in advance to get the best prices***



AWAY TRAVEL

PROVIDED BY GH COACHES



For more information and to book your seat, email ghcoachesat@gmail.com or visit www.ghcoaches.co.uk (scan the QR code)



Our next away match is the trip to Grimsby on Saturday 19th September. We are getting better numbers and we still have seats available on the supporters coach if you want to join us. Our thanks go to United who provided a larger vehicle for the trip to Northampton, thus giving supporters a more comfortable journey than was expected in the 19 seater minibus.

We travel to MK Dons for the EFL Trophy game on Tuesday 22nd September. Again we need supporters booking on these two coaches as soon as possible - low numbers could mean that we are unable to run them. Please book early if you intend travelling to either of these two matches.



GRIMSBY - SATURDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2026 - 3.00pm k/o

We depart the stadium at 7.00am for the trip to Grimsby which costs £50.00 – we will have a comfort/ coffee break at Peterborough Services before a buffet stop for about 11.30am. We are looking for a new venue as the Red Hart is closed at the moment with new owners in the process of a re-fit. Wherever we stop we will endeavour to arrive at Grimsby for 2.00pm. We will depart straight after the match and will have a break on the way home at some point. We hope we will get sufficient support to be able to run this coach after the disappointment of the Accrington game. We have to confirm this coach to Grimsby by Sunday 13th September.

MK DONS (EFL Trophy) – TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2026 - 7.00pm k/o

If we get sufficient numbers for this game we will endeavour to run a supporters coach, but we know many supporters boycott this competition due to the inclusion of Premier League Under 21 teams – the game will be shown live in Redz if we are unable to provide any transport. We may use one of United's smaller coaches but with no toilet facilities. We will depart at 3.30pm and the cost is £30.00. It will be non-stop on both trips. We need to confirm this coach by Thursday 17th September.

WALSALL - SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2026 - 3.00pm k/o

For a change we are playing Walsall on a Saturday afternoon, rather than the usual Tuesday evening. We depart the stadium at 9.15am for the trip to Walsall and the cost is £40.00 – we will have a buffet stop at the Butchers Arms at Bishops Itchington, where we have stopped previously – junction 11 on the M40. We will travel directly to the pub and have our only stop there. We will confirm our pub departure, keeping an eye on the traffic, aiming to arrive in Walsall for 2.00pm. We will depart straight after the match and will have a short break on the way home at some point – probably Oxford Services.



DEVILISH PUZZLES

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES



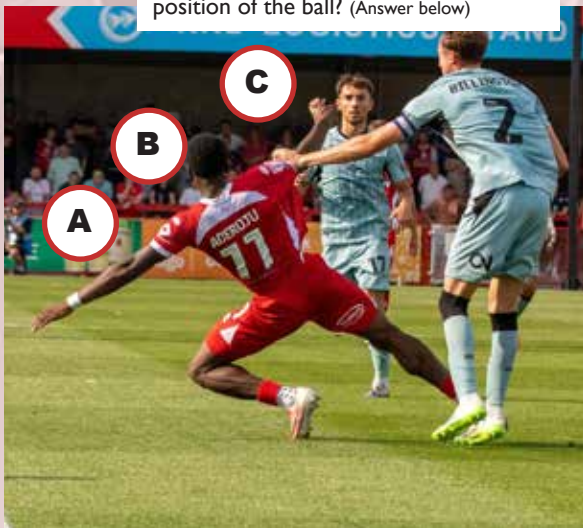
QUIZ WORD SEARCH

The answers to the questions provide the words that are hidden in the word search. Answer the questions correctly then find the answers in the word search for a chance to win £10. First correct entry, submitted by e mail to red4ever40@hotmail.com by the 19th September 2026 wins.

1. Who is/was Cheltenham's current manager? (as at 5 SEP 2026 RDD deadline day)
2. What road is Cheltenham's ground on?
3. What is Cheltenham's nickname?
4. What Bermudan international cricketer has played for both sides that have the initials CTFC?
5. What 5 letter word explains why there has been an odd number of league games between the two clubs?
6. The number of league games won by both sides against each other? Be Careful, there was a time before the EFL.
7. This former Cheltenham player scored an iconic FA Cup goal against Newcastle United?
8. What club was he playing for?
9. What sweet treat is the nickname of GCHQ in Cheltenham?
10. What does the C stand for in GCHQ
11. In March 1985, who scored Crawley Town's goal in a five-one defeat at Town Mead?
12. What was the name of the League that Cheltenham won promotion to that season?
13. What was it called when Crawley Town won promotion from it to the Football League, The Football ??????????

SPOT THE BALL!

Which letter do you think is the correct position of the ball? (Answer below)



A	A	B	C	D	E	J	C	F	G	H	I	J	K
L	M	D	N	O	P	O	Q	R	S	T	U	V	L
L	S	R	U	O	V	N	L	G	Z	Y	X	W	D
I	N	O	C	I	E	T	S	T	E	R	C	I	E
A	O	F	D	S	E	E	R	O	F	Y	E	T	T
N	I	D	T	G	R	S	E	E	N	R	C	O	I
C	T	A	H	T	A	M	B	S	R	E	N	V	N
E	A	R	C	I	T	I	Y	H	E	R	E	F	U
P	C	Y	N	U	T	T	D	R	O	N	R	O	D
R	I	N	I	T	E	H	D	A	O	F	E	C	R
E	N	N	E	V	E	L	E	D	M	O	F	W	O
M	U	O	B	L	E	S	D	R	S	U	N	T	F
I	M	R	E	T	I	A	N	U	O	N	O	T	E
E	M	T	U	N	H	G	U	O	D	B	C	C	R
R	O	D	T	W	H	R	E	E	B	R	I	D	E
F	C	M	A	H	S	R	O	H	S	E	G	N	H
L	L	I	R	E	T	T	O	C	E	V	E	T	S

SPOT THE BALL ANSWER Ball B

LEAGUE TWO TABLE

CURRENT 2026/27 STANDINGS ASAT 5/9/26



Position & Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1 Bristol Rovers	5	4	0	1	12	6	+6	12
2 Swindon Town	5	3	1	1	8	6	+2	10
3 Barnet	5	2	3	0	12	8	+4	9
4 Tranmere Rovers	5	2	3	0	9	5	+4	9
5 Walsall	5	2	3	0	8	4	+4	9
6 Fleetwood Town	5	2	3	0	6	3	+3	9
7 Crewe Alexandra	5	2	3	0	5	3	+2	9
8 CHELTENHAM TOWN	5	2	2	1	10	9	+1	8
9 York City	5	2	2	1	9	8	+1	8
10 Oldham Athletic	5	2	1	2	7	5	+2	7
11 Grimsby Town	5	1	4	0	7	6	+1	7
12 Colchester United	5	2	1	2	6	8	-2	7
13 Gillingham	5	1	3	1	6	6	0	6
14 Northampton Town	5	1	3	1	3	3	0	6
15 Salford City	5	2	0	3	4	6	-2	6
16 Exeter City	5	1	2	2	4	4	0	5
17 Rotherham United	5	1	2	2	6	7	-1	5
18 Chesterfield	5	1	2	2	6	7	-1	5
19 Accrington Stanley	5	1	2	2	9	11	-2	5
20 Newport County	5	1	1	3	9	10	-1	4
21 CRAWLEY TOWN	5	1	1	3	5	8	-3	4
22 Rochdale	5	1	0	4	5	10	-5	3
23 Shrewsbury Town	5	1	0	4	2	10	-8	3
24 Port Vale	5	0	2	3	2	7	-5	2

UPCOMING LEAGUE TWO FIXTURES

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Barnet v Accrington Stanley
 Colchester United v Crewe Alexandra
Crawley Town v Cheltenham Town
 Gillingham v Tranmere Rovers
 Grimsby Town v Bristol Rovers
 Newport County v Fleetwood Town
 Oldham Athletic v Chesterfield
 Port Vale v Exeter City
 Rotherham United v Salford City
 Shrewsbury Town v Northampton Town
 Walsall v Rochdale
 York City v Swindon Town

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Accrington Stanley v Newport County
 Barnet v Fleetwood Town
 Chesterfield v York City
 Colchester United v Cheltenham Town
 Crewe Alexandra v Shrewsbury Town
 Exeter City v Tranmere Rovers
 Gillingham v Bristol Rovers
Grimsby Town v Crawley Town
 Northampton Town v Rotherham United
 Rochdale v Oldham Athletic
 Salford City v Swindon Town
 Walsall v Port Vale



			Start	Sub
1	GK	Vito MANNONE	■	■
2	DF	Kellan GORDON	■	■
4	DF	Pele ARGANESE-MCDERMOTT	■	■
5	DF	Charlie BARKER	■	■
6	DF	Priestley FARQUHARSON	■	■
7	MF	Malcolm EBIOWEI	■	■
8	MF	Louie WATSON	■	■
9	FW	Danilo ORSI	■	■
10	FW	Stephen DUKE-MCKENNA	■	■
11	FW	Pemi ADEROJU	■	■
12	DF	Lewis RICHARDS	■	■
13	GK	Nick MICHALSKI	■	■
14	FW	Gianmarco DI BIASE	■	■
15	DF	Ben RADCLIFFE	■	■
16	DF	Jonny RUSSELL	■	■
17	MF	Osman KAMARA	■	■
18	FW	Danny CASHMAN	■	■
19	MF	Dion PEREIRA	■	■
20	MF	Jude ARTHURS	■	■
21	FW	Justin FERIZAJ	■	■
22	FW	Ade ADEYEMO	■	■
23	MF	Fate KOTEY	■	■
24	DF	Akin ODIMAYO	■	■
25	MF	Klaudio KRASNIQI	■	■
27	MF	Dylan MORGAN	■	■
28	MF	Nathan TINSDALE	■	■
30	MF	Kai JENNINGS	■	■
31	GK	Jackson IZQUIERDO	■	■
33	MF	Omari MRISHO	■	■
35	DF	Ty EWENS-FINDLAY	■	■
56	MF	Jude ROBERTSON	■	■



			Start	Sub
1	GK	Joe DAY	■	■
3	DF	Jonathan TOMKINSON	■	■
4	DF	Joe TOMLINSON	■	■
5	DF	Robbie CUNDY	■	■
6	DF	James WILSON	■	■
7	MF	Ben STEVENSON	■	■
8	MF	Charlie MCCANN	■	■
9	FW	Kirsten OTCHERE	■	■
10	FW	George MILLER	■	■
11	FW	Jake BICKERSTAFF	■	■
14	MF	Ryan BROOM	■	■
17	MF	Shaun MCWILLIAMS	■	■
18	FW	Andreas WEIMANN	■	■
19	FW	Jake EVANS	■	■
20	FW	Favour ONUKWULI	■	■
21	DF	George NURSE	■	■
23	GK	Wyll STANWAY	■	■
25	DF	Pierce SWEENEY	■	■
26	MF	Jordan SHIPLEY	■	■
33	MF	Freddy WILLCOX	■	■
35	DF	Mark BARBER	■	■

REFEREE
ASST
ASST
FOURTH

Ben Toner
Kevin Howick
Alex Bradley
James Durkin



**GET YOUR SEASON
TICKETS FOR THE
SEASON VIA THE
QR CODE!**

**THE RED DEVILS' DIARY
MATCH PROGRAMME
IS DESIGNED, PRODUCED &
PRINTED BY**

FOOTIEPRINT

Match Programme Specialists
info@footieprint.co.uk