

RED DEVILS'

DIARY

SEASON
2026-27
ISSUE 02
£2.00



CREWE ALEXANDRA
SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2026, 3PM
SKY BET LEAGUE TWO





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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

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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

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NEWS BITES

FROM THE DEVIL

COMPILED BY STEVE HEDGES

WELCOME BACK TO LEAGUE TWO

After the excitement of the League Cup, we hit the League two trail today, with our opening Home fixture against Crewe. Thanks for your support and for purchasing our matchday souvenir magazine. Such has been our success with this project that another supporters group have been in touch, as they are interested in doing a similar concept. We wish them luck in their endeavours.



TV GAMES MOVE THE GOALPOSTS (OR THE KICK OFF TIME)

You may wish to note that our Home game V Cheltenham on Sat Sept 12th and our Home game V Barnet on Sat Sept 26th have been allocated 12.30 Kick Offs to accommodate Live Sky Sports TV Coverage. (The Barnet game will be a main match and the Cheltenham game will be on Sky Sports+)



MANAGERS GO ROUND (AGAIN)

Since Edition One was printed we have found yet more movement in the managerial marketplace. Alex Bruce has moved in at Rotherham to replace Lee Clark, who had a rather short stint there. Former defender Alex has a famous father in Steve Bruce and also has Steve McLaren as his Director of Football. Meanwhile Newport County have appointed Hayden Mullins, who joins them from leading the Fulham U21's. The former defensive midfielder had a long and successful League career and was even a caretaker manager of recent opponents Watford. The last change we need to report is that of York City abandoning one successful manager for another. It probably hasn't escaped your notice that Scott (Wembley) Lindsey has been given a new desk at the York Community Stadium. (Least said soonest mended as my old mum used to say.)

CAN I HAVE A LOAN?

A lot of fans have been surprised by our two outgoing loanees. Danny Cashman has gone on a season long loan to National League high flyers Boreham Wood. Meanwhile defender Ben Radcliffe has gone West to link up with Yeovil Town also National Leaguers. Interestingly/ thankfully Ben is only going until January.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME... GAMES

We are delighted to share these pictures of us donating surplus funds from our "not-for-profit" proceeds. We are keen

to keep it local and help our community, so we are very pleased to have been able to support both St Catherine's Hospice and the Community Foundation Charities with donations of £250 each. Not bad for only half a season of sales.



GOALKEEPERS - IS IT A TACTICAL INJURY/ HYDRATION BREAK?

A goalkeeper injury trial will be implemented during the 2026/27 season. This is designed to address occasions where non contact goalkeeper injuries can disrupt momentum, slow the game down or create opportunities for tactical instruction. As part of the trial, if the game is stopped or re-start delayed for a goalkeeper injury, the manager / head coach will be required to nominate an outfield player to leave the pitch immediately. The nominated player is required to remain off the field for a

minimum of one minute after the restart of play. The trial will operate with a number of exceptions, including where a free kick is awarded for a foul on the goalkeeper and they immediately require treatment, the goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need attention, or the goalkeeper is bleeding. The aim is to ensure genuine injuries continue to receive appropriate medical attention while removing any potential unfair sporting advantage.

THREE BRIDGES COMPLETE A TREBLE TOP

After taking the League title and then winning the Sussex Senior Cup, Bridges have now added the Sussex Community Shield to their silverware collection, after beating Steyning Town 3-2 at Sussex FA HQ in Lancing on the 29th July. Congratulations on a great year for our neighbours.



LESS TINPOT MORE PROUD

Great work by the club to get the Ticket sales and collection facility modernised and integrated into the Shop over the close season. It really looks the business. Now the team need to do the business on the pitch!



THOUGHTS OF A LIFELONG FAN

Community
Foundation



BY STEVE LEAKE

Who was it who said, “Nothing ever happens in the close season”? Not me, that’s for sure. I started my close season under the knife of Mr. Patnaik at East Surrey hospital having a reverse shoulder replacement, at the third time of asking.

The first two being postponed because of staff illness in March and the first operation of the day in April took too long, which meant I had a day in gown and surgical tights for nothing. On May 7th the operation finally took place and now, just fourteen weeks later, I am pain free and almost have my arm back to what it was like in my youth. As well as Dr Patnaik and his wonderful team of Doctors & Nurses, I also must thank my Welsh partner, Anne, and my family and friends for their help and support in my recovery, even when at least one of them needed it so much more than I did...

Firstly, as far as football is concerned, if you bought a copy of the RDD last season, whether as a DEVIL or an away fan, please read the NEWSBITES section of this programme to see what your terrific support enabled us to do with the “profits” from RED DEVILS’ DIARY. Last season we only produced twelve programmes, from December 17th V Oldham, through to the clash with Salford City on May 2nd, (when we managed to extend our time in the EFL through to our sixteenth year).

This next season, we will be trying to produce individual programmes for all 23 league home fixtures and any additional home cup ties, the charities that we support should see

the amount given to them rise significantly. Depending on sales maintaining current levels, or increasing on last year.

Away from Crawley Town, that other team that most of us follow through the good and bad times, (who wear three lions on their chests), came so very close to bringing it home and healing the 60 years of hurt since England won the World Cup in 1966. Of course, not all of us have been around for the whole 60 years, and I really don’t know which is worse, having lived through the 60 years having seen the triumph the first time, or not having seen us have any significant triumphs at all.

Being an optimistic sort of person means you can get hurt when things don’t come together like you wanted them to, but someone last season said that “sometimes you have to lose before you win”. I believe that means when you are finally victorious, all the years of hurt and anguish will be forgotten and the final victory will mean so much more to everyone.

Something that brings most football fans together is the honouring of people in or around the game who have come to the end of their time on this earth. Before the France game against Norway, in the World Cup, the honouring of the life of Didier Deschamps’ mother, (who passed away prior to the game), was marked by a minute’s silence before the kick-off, immaculately observed by all, showing the united face of football. Almost at the same time, away from the international scene, I learnt, from Alain Harper, of the sad passing of another Crawley stalwart, Barry Munn, and I am absolutely sure that his family and friends would have been thinking of him during the silence.

As far as England were concerned, having qualified for the round of 32 we beat DR

Congo 2-1, coming from behind thanks to two goals from Harry Kane, assisted in both cases by Gordon - after having gone behind early in the game. It was a hard-fought victory but if it had not have been for Mpasí in the DRC’s goal, it would have been more convincing. We then went on to beat Mexico by three goals to two in Mexico City, (their own back yard), and then faced Norway in Miami, beating them by 2-1 which put the Three Lions up against Messi and the Argentinians. The game against Norway was a hard-fought contest, which saw England fall behind early on, before Jude Bellingham equalised in first half stoppage time and moments later Kane had the ball in the Norway net but was rightly adjudged to have been offside.

VAR came to play a big part in the game as it denied England what to me looked a penalty and also ruled out a second goal for Norway, as Haaland blatantly pushed Anderson to the ground just before a corner was taken, from which the Norwegian side seemingly scored. England hung on after Jude Bellingham put England ahead in extra time, latching on to a shot which rebounded off the keeper and smashing it home to the delight of David and Victoria Beckham and Mick Jagger, all of whom were at the game and of course the hundred Red Devils in the Redz bar and all Three Lions fans wherever they were watching the game.

As Mark Wright, (he of the bloodied headband in Italia 90), might have said, “Bring on the Argies”. Where do I begin to talk about England’s last attempt to make a World Cup Final appearance? Let’s get the game out of the way first, shall we? The first half saw neither side take control of the game and I, for one, was quite happy with the way England were playing and when, early in the second half, Anthony Gordon put England ahead, pouncing on a Morgan Rogers pass in the 56th minute, a packed Redz bar went wild with hope and excitement, probably in the hope we would add another quickly to put the game out of the Argentinians reach. Now, I’m not sure who first coined the phrase “the best form of defence is attack” but it is something that I firmly believe in as far as sporting contests are concerned.

Unfortunately, the man who replaced Crawley boy, Gareth Southgate on the premise that Gareth was too cautious, appeared to be even more cautious than his predecessor. After our opening goal we were on top for a further five minutes before Argentina responded and started to gain control which obviously we had to counter if we were to stand a chance of keeping or extending our lead. Did Tuchel put on attacking substitutes to regain control? No, as we all sadly know, if you are English that is, he brought on Dan Burn and Ezri Konsa, and took off the two players who between them, had created and scored the goal that had put us in front, on 72 minutes and from then on, it was “backs against the wall” as we attempted to keep, perhaps, one of the most talented teams in the world from scoring.

Before I go on, I have to say that I like Burn and Konsa and the defensive qualities they both have, but I know I would have preferred us to have lost whilst trying to attack and grab a second goal. I don’t know if it would have made any difference but sitting back certainly didn’t work and without Jordan Pickford the final score could have been three or four worse than it was. The substitutions made in the 96th minute, when we were losing and there were only five more minutes left, should, in my opinion, have been the ones made, and not at the expense of Gordon certainly and perhaps Rogers, earlier in the game when we were winning.

In the end, we lost a game we could have won against one of the most skillful, but truly unlikeable sides ever to play football. With players of the quality that they possess why do they have to resort to the terror tactics they frequently use? Four yellow cards were given throughout the game, and one of them was to Englishman Anderson. Unbelievably, Someone did not receive a caution, although I lost count of the times he was spoken to by the American referee.

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Anyway, as my mum used to say, "It's only a game", and before I write any more, I have to say, my tongue is firmly in my cheek at this point and anything written from here on is in jest.....or is it?

To a certain extent, it is, of course, true. It is only a game, however, football is more than a game to lots of people all over the world and sometimes, when things appear to go against your side, your team, your club, your country you may be left wondering things like: Why do some Scots support other teams when they play against England? Why do we sing God Save the King when it is the United Kingdom's anthem and not strictly ours?

Personally, I would rather have Jerusalem or the Last Night of the Proms version of Edward Elgar's Land of Hope and Glory. The introduction alone lasts 110 seconds, followed by about the same length of our lads or ladies singing along at the tops of their voices. Now, that would really wind people up! Why do the Argentines say that the Falkland's should belong to them when Argentina wasn't an independent country when first the French colonised the islands and then abandoned it and the British took them over? Why does the President of FIFA let the President of one of the host countries make him rescind a red card, and how come no other countries were offered that option? What a ridiculous course of events! Why are people like that

in charge of anything? Why did one of the Argentine substitutes think it appropriate not to celebrate with his compatriots but instead commiserated with every one of our gallant lads? (At least I think that's what he was doing.)

Please don't take my comments to show that I think we were cheated out of a final place, because we weren't. We were beaten by a team that grabbed the opportunity to take advantage of mistakes that I believe were made by our National Coach and as a result have finished in third place, our best performance in the World Cup since 1966, having played and beaten France by SIX (6) SIX goals to FOUR (4) Quatre in what was, I believe, another example of bad management.

Let me explain: our coach put out a side which included the substitutes he didn't use until the 96th minute or didn't use at all against Argentina and by half time England were four goals to the good against a side with Mbappe and Olise in it. Deschamps responded by putting Digne, Barcola, Dembele and Upemecano on in the 46th minute, but it wasn't until the 72nd minute when our coach finally responded to that and by that time the score was four three.

On came Bellingham and Anderson, Saka put us further ahead with a penalty, thus completing his hat trick and when France

pulled it back to five four in added on time, possibly the best player in the world took on the French defense and scored to make the final score Six Four in our favour.

Most of the people, but not all, that I watched the World Cup with this year won't have gone through sixty years of hurt like me and I hope they don't have to. Football may not have come home but remember this. This is the home of Football, where it was born and nurtured before we let it out to the rest of the world. I would like to say that a Chilean lady has moved into my old flat where I lived before I literally moved up in the world.

We have talked about football, and she owned up to wanting Argentina to win, because her ex-brother-in-law used to play for them. His name? Osvaldo Ardiles. Never heard of him! Now if it had been Sergio Torres that would have impressed me.

To end my article for this, the first but not the last, programme of our EFL matches for 2026/2027 I would just like to share with you a few things that have happened over the last couple of weeks, all connected with CTFC, albeit some more closely than others.

On August 1st I celebrated, along with over 100 others, my 75th birthday in Redz. I enjoyed the evening immensely and even ended up on the floor, intentionally I might add, doing the rowing dance to "I Don't

Believe You Want to Get Up and Dance (Oops)" better known as "Oooops upside your head" with my daughter, Vicky and niece, Sarah. As with football, I found it easier to go down than to get back up again, but I'm sure that won't be the case with the Red Devils this coming season.

Another of my nieces, Lauren, made the cake (pictured below), and it tasted as good as it looked, whilst programme contributor Ivan Noel provided the shirt and photograph, which made me laugh a lot. The team in the photo is Crawley FC and the rather tall chap is Mr Banks. The Tardis and I were not present.

More important than my 75th birthday, it also marks me watching the Red Devils for all bar five of those years, and thanks to the tremendous amount of building work that has occurred at the stadium to install ticket windows adjacent to the club shop, we have now been allocated the old ticket office porta cabin to be used as the home of the Crawley Town FC Museum.

We, Mick Fox and I, are extremely grateful for this, and not just because it will clear our living spaces of the vast amount of Crawley Town memorabilia we have in storage. At last, we will now be able to show people the historical context of our club at its current home. For me, Football has come home!



And I thought Ivan was my friend



Tasted as good as it looks!



MEET THE NEWBIES

NEW BOYS ON THE BROADFIELD BLOCK



BY STEVE LEAKE

We currently have 15 new players at the club; 10 of them being on contract with Crawley Town, whilst the other 5 are on season-long loans from their parent clubs. This matches, in quantity, the number of players who have left the club, albeit two of the departures are just out on loan.

Of the 15 coming in, 5 are classed as forwards with 2 as Centre forwards, 2 wingers and 1 wing back, 3 centre backs and 1 right back, the rest being 2 midfielders and 3 goalkeepers, which when balanced against those who have left the club appears to give us more options going forward, the same amount in defence but seemingly fewer in midfield. Having seen most of them play in the Reading and York games I, for one, think we have signed some decent players, but only time will tell if they can mould together as a successful unit. Here's hoping.

PELE ARGANESE-MCDERMOTT

Centre Back

The 20-year-old joins the club on a two-year deal, with the option of a third. He was born in Marbella, Spain, and moved to England with his family at the age of four. A product of Luton Town's Academy system, Pele developed through the club's youth ranks before moving to Spurs, in July 2022, signing his first professional contract just two months later in September 2022. After several years at Tottenham, Pele now joins the Red Devils to embark on his first chapter of senior men's football.

GIANMARCO DI BIASE

Forward

The 20-year-old has joined the Red Devils on a two-year contract with an option for a

third from the Italian giants Juventus. Born in Empoli, Di Biase began his career with local side Empoli, before joining Pistoiese's academy in 2019. Promoted to the first team in 2022, he made his senior debut aged 16 and scored his first goal later that year, becoming Pistoiese's youngest goalscorer since 1937. He finished his time at the club with 36 appearances, 12 goals. In January 2023, Di Biase signed for Juventus, with the deal worth a reported €350,000, before returning to Pistoiese on loan for the remainder of the season. He joined Juventus on a permanent basis ahead of the 2023-24 campaign and was initially part of the club's Under-19 side. He joined Pergolettese on loan in February 2025 before moving to Bra on loan in August 2025.

JUDE ARTHURS

Midfield

Jude's signature is hailed as a major coup for the Club. Having made over 250 appearances for Bromley, he had established himself as one of the club's most influential midfielders, after progressing through the Ravens' Academy. He was instrumental in Bromley's promotion to the Football League and in their first season in the EFL he made 41 league appearances, scoring 4 goals. Last season, Jude captained the Ravens in Byron Webster's absence and produced a series of impressive performances which helped Bromley secure the Sky Bet League Two title.

STEPHEN DUKE-MCKENNA

Forward

Stephen has joined on a two-year deal, with the option of a third, following the expiration of his contract with Harrogate Town. He is no stranger to League Two, having played in the Leyton Orient side that secured the League Two title during the 2022/23 campaign. He has since impressed with Harrogate Town, making over 50 appearances for the Yorkshire outfit. Stephen has also earned 18 caps for Guyana. He started as a Youth at Everton, Bolton & QPR before moving into the

QPR squad. They loaned him out to Hemel Hempstead, Torquay, Orient & Sutton during his time there. He signed for Harrogate in June 24 and in 2025 gained further experience on loan at St Johnstone.

PRIESTLEY FARQUHARSON

Centre Back

Priestley joins the club on a two year contract, following two previous spells in the EFL with Newport County and Walsall, amassing over 100 League Two appearances. He began his senior career in English non-league football, playing for Hitchin Town, Billericay Town, Hayes & Yeading United, and Bishop's Cleeve, before joining Welsh side Connah's Quay Nomads in January 2019. During the 2019/20 season, he helped the club win both the Cymru Premier title and the Welsh League Cup and was named the league's Young Player of the Season. In January 2021, Farquharson made the switch to the EFL with Newport County and following a productive spell at Rodney Parade made the switch to join Walsall. During the 2025/26 season he made 32 appearances and scored five goals from centre-half.

VITO MANNONE

Goalkeeper

Vito joins the club in a dual player-coach role. He will head up the goalkeeping department, taking control of all sessions and player development, but will also be available for selection as a registered member of the playing squad. Vito, now 38, began his career in the Atalanta youth set-up before moving to Arsenal in 2005 where he made 23 appearances for the Gunners before a loan spell at Hull for the 2010/11 season and returned there the following season for a second loan in January of 2012 - STOP PRESS HULL CITY 0 CRAWLEY TOWN 1 - (Sorry VITO) before making a permanent move to Sunderland in 2013. The 6ft 2" keeper would go on to make 80 appearances for Sunderland, before moving to Reading in the summer of 2017. Following a 2 year stint with the Royals, and a period on loan with Major League Soccer side Minnesota United, (where he was named MLS Goalkeeper of the Year), the shot-stopper returned to Europe and enjoyed spells at Esbjerg FB, AS Monaco, FC Lorient and Lille before departing at the end of the 2025/26 season. He has most recently been working at Brighton & Hove Albion as

an Academy Goalkeeper Coach and is a UEFA A GK Candidate.

MALCOLM EBIOWE

Forward

Malcolm has joined Crawley Town on a two-year contract and has already opened his goal scoring account for us with a delightful free kick from the edge of the penalty area against Oxford United. He began his football journey in the youth academies of Chelsea, Arsenal and Rangers, before making his senior breakthrough at Derby County, where, under the guidance of Wayne Rooney, the talented winger established himself in the Rams' first team during the 2021/22 campaign. He made 18 appearances and scored his first senior goal against Blackpool at Bloomfield Road. His impressive performances quickly attracted attention from the Premier League, with Crystal Palace securing his signature on a five-year contract. Whilst at Selhurst Park, Malcolm continued his development through a series of loan spells, gaining valuable first-team experience with Hull City, Oxford United, and Belgian outfit RWD Molenbeek.

KLAUDIO KRASNIQI

Defensive midfielder

Klaudio has signed on a one-year deal, with an option for another year, from the Gibraltar side, Glacis United. The 25-year-old was originally part of Bromley's academy. He has also played in the UEFA Conference League qualifying rounds with Bruno Magpies of Gibraltar and went on to represent Glacis United, (Gibraltar) before impressing the Crawley Town coaching staff in a trial period with the Red Devils. Krasniqi can play both as a defensive and central midfielder.

OMARI MRISHO

Defender

Omari has signed a two-year contract with the option of a third after a successful trial period with the club. Mrisho, now aged 20, started his career at Brighton & Hove Albion before a spell at Huddersfield Town from where he went on loan to Sutton United.

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JACKSON IZQUIERDO

Goalkeeper

Jackson joins Crawley Town on a one-year deal with an option for an extra year. He joined Crystal Palace on scholarship terms in January 2021 after impressing during a trial period, before quickly establishing himself at Under-16 and Under-18 level. During the 2022/23 campaign, he became the first-choice goalkeeper for the Under-18s, recording four clean sheets in 19 appearances across all competitions. His performances also earned him a place on the Under-21s bench for the club's EFL Trophy fixtures. Izquierdo continued his development with the Under-21s while regularly training with Palace's first team. He was a member of the side that lifted the Premier League International Cup after defeating PSV at Selhurst Park and made further appearances in Premier League 2 and European competition during the 2024/25 and 2025/26 seasons.

TY EWENS-FINDLAY

Centre Back

Charlton Athletic defender Ty Ewens-Findlay has joined Crawley Town on loan until the end of the season. He signed for Charlton from Cambridge United in 2025 and featured regularly for Charlton's youth setup. Before heading out for his first loan with the Red Devils, Ty signed a new contract with the Addicks.

OSMAN KAMARA

Forward

Crawley Town Football Club have signed 19-year-old winger Osman on a year-long loan from Blackburn Rovers. He had previously spent more than a decade in Arsenal's Academy, having joined the Gunners ahead of the 2014/15 campaign. Osman became a regular for Arsenal's Under-21s. He was born in London and has represented Sierra Leone at international level, featuring at the 2025 Under-20 Africa Cup of Nations. Having signed for Blackburn in February 2026 he is now making the loan move to Crawley Town bringing a wealth of experience from one of the country's leading academies.

NICK MICHALSKI

Goalkeeper

Another player joining us on a season long loan from Blackburn is Nick Michalski. He progressed through their Academy after joining

the club at Under-12 level from Stoke City. He has established himself as one of Rovers' brightest young goalkeeping prospects and is eligible to represent both England and Poland. Nick has represented England at Under-15, Under-16 and Under-18 level making his England Under-18 debut in October 2024. 2024 saw the goalkeeper step up from Blackburn's Under-18s to the Under-21s squad, while also earning places in the first-team match day squad for Championship fixtures. He has also gained valuable senior experience during loan spells with Bamber Bridge and City of Liverpool FC before making his Blackburn Rovers first-team debut at the start of the 2025-26 season, starting their Carabao Cup tie against Bradford City at Ewood Park.

NATHAN TINSDALE

Midfield

The versatile midfielder arrives on a season long loan from Hull City, where he began his professional career after signing his first professional contract with the Tigers in 2023. Before joining Hull City, Tinsdale spent a decade in Bradford City's Academy, earning a move to the Championship club following a successful trial. He made his senior debut on the first day of the 2025/26 league season, coming off the bench away at Coventry City. Tinsdale remained with the first team and was recently away in Turkey with the Tigers' first team.

PEMI ADEROJU

Forward

Pemi has joined the Red Devils on a season-long loan from Peterborough United. He began his football career in the non-League game, representing Kempston Rovers and Biggleswade before earning a trial with the Posh. His performances impressed the club, and he signed an 18-month contract in January 2024. He made his EFL League One debut the following month and to gain further first-team experience, joined National League South side Farnborough on loan for the remainder of the 2024-25 season, following a spell with Boston United. Ahead of the 2025-26 campaign, he secured another season-long loan move to National League South club Eastbourne Borough in July 2025, where he enjoyed a prolific first half of the season, scoring 20 goals in 28 appearances, earning a recall by the Posh midway through the campaign and marked his return by scoring his first League One goal for Peterborough United in a 6-1 victory over Wigan Athletic on 7 February 2026. His impressive progress was rewarded the following month when he signed a new long-term contract with the club.

KEVIN NEYLON'S

CREWE CARDS



FEATURING SUN SOCCERCARDS FROM THE 1978/79 SEASON



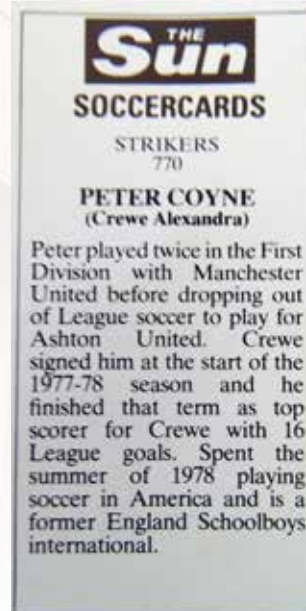
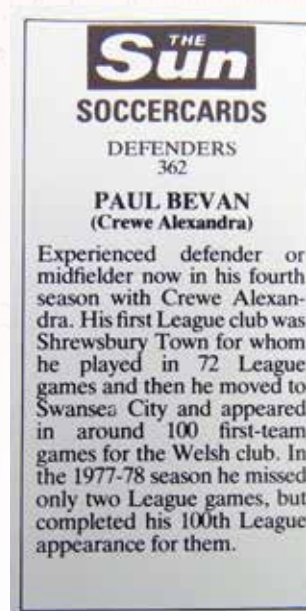
K. TULLY (Crewe Alexandra)



P. BEVAN (Crewe Alexandra)



P. COYNE (Crewe Alexandra)



IN OPPOSITION CREWE ALEXANDRA FC



BY STEVE HEDGES

MEET THE MANAGER

LEE BELL

Bell, aged 43, is a former Crewe midfielder who came up through their youth ranks. He began his senior career at Crewe in 2002, before moving on to play for Burton Albion, Mansfield Town and Macclesfield Town. He returned to Crewe in 2010, subsequently playing for Burton Albion and latterly Macclesfield Town, (on loan from Burton.) Bell retired from playing in the summer of 2015, aged 32. During his ten year playing career he played in 400 matches and scored 19 goals in all competitions. He was player of the season at Macclesfield and Burton. Following his retirement from playing he re-joined Crewe as under-18s coach, later becoming under-18s manager (January 2017), under-23s manager (March 2022), assistant First Team manager (April 2022), and then First Team



manager (4th November 2022). The long serving manager won't want to be reminded that he was in charge when we beat Crewe at Wembley, in the 23/24 League Two Play Off Final.

CREWE ALEXANDRA KITS

HOME AWAY THIRD



HOME STADIUM MORNFLAKE STADIUM

Opened: 1906

Capacity:
10,153



PAST RESULTS CRAWLEY VS CREWE

P 23 W 4 D 5 L 14 Won Ratio 17%

2011/12	Sat 17 Dec 2011 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	D 1-1	League Two
	Fri 06 Apr 2012 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	D 1-1	League Two
2012/13	Sat 24 Nov 2012 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 2-0	League One
	Tue 26 Mar 2013 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	W 2-0	League One
2013/14	Sat 30 Nov 2013 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 1-0	League One
	Sat 05 Apr 2014 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 1-2	League One
2014/15	Sat 01 Nov 2014 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	D 1-1	League One
	Fri 03 Apr 2015 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	D 0-0	League One
2016/17	Sat 10 Dec 2016 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	W 0-2	League Two
	Tue 14 Mar 2017 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 0-3	League Two
2017/18	Sat 16 Dec 2017 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 3-0	League Two
	Sat 28 Apr 2018 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 1-2	League Two
2018/19	Sat 24 Nov 2018 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	W 3-0	League Two
	Sat 16 Mar 2019 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 6-1	League Two
2019/20	Tue 20 Aug 2019 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 1-2	League Two
	Tue 11 Feb 2020 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 2-1	League Two
2022/23	Sat 17 Sep 2022 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 1-0	League Two
	Sat 11 Feb 2023 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	D 2-2	League Two
2023/24	Sat 21 Oct 2023 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 2-4	League Two
	Sat 10 Feb 2024 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 1-0	League Two
	Sun 19 May 2024 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	W 2-0	League Two
			Play Off Final
2025/26	Sat 16 Aug 2025 Crewe Alexandra v Crawley Town	L 1-0	League Two
	Sat 07 Feb 2026 Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra	L 0-1	League Two

DID YOU KNOW

- Crewe finished in their highest ever position of 11th in the Football League First Division (Now the Championship) in 1997/98. That same season saw Man City drop into the 3rd Tier (League One).
- Lee Bell is currently the 3rd longest serving manager in Lge 2, after Dean Brennan of Barnet and Paul Cook at Chesterfield.
- Crewe have had success at Wembley – winning the Football League Trophy in 2013. They beat Southend Utd 2-0, in front of 43,842 fans.



MANAGING TO SUCCEED CREWE ALEXANDRA FC



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILE TEN LEADING CREWE ALEXANDRA MANAGERS

ARTHUR TURNER

Arthur Turner guided Crewe Alexandra to their highest League position for 14 years in 1949-50. Initially with Stoke City, he featured in their 1932-33 Second Division title triumph and had spells at Birmingham and Southport before becoming Crewe's manager in October 1948. He rejoined Stoke as assistant-boss in December 1951, then Birmingham as manager in November 1954. Guiding them to the Second Division title in 1954-55 and FA Cup final in 1956, he was appointed Oxford United's boss in January 1959 and plotted their meteoric rise, becoming general manager in February 1969. He died in January 1994.

HARRY CATTERICK

Centre-forward Harry Catterick had a spell as Crewe Alexandra's player-manager. He played for Cheadle Heath Nomads prior to joining Everton in March 1937 as Tommy Lawton's understudy. Appointed Crewe's player-boss in December 1951, he netted 11 goals in 25 League games before taking charge of Rochdale in June 1953. He became Sheffield Wednesday's boss in August 1958 and led them to back to the top-flight in 1958-59, returning to Everton as manager in April 1961. Plotting two League Championship successes and their 1966 FA Cup final triumph, he went on to manage Preston and died at Goodison Park in March 1985.

HARRY WARE

Harry Ware was manager when Crewe Alexandra took Spurs to an FA Cup fourth round replay in 1959-60. Signing professional

for Stoke City in December 1929, the inside-right played alongside Stanley Matthews as the Potters won the Second Division title in 1932-33 and moved to Newcastle United in September 1935. He played for Sheffield Wednesday and Norwich City, then was Northwich Victoria's player-boss. After coaching Dutch side Haarlem, he coached Northwich again and Port Vale, then managed Crewe from July 1958 until May 1960. He then assisted Tony Waddington at Stoke until his death in October 1970.

JIMMY MCGUIGAN

Scottish outside-right Jimmy McGuigan was both a player and manager at Crewe Alexandra. Starting with Hamilton Academical, he moved via Sunderland to Stockport in June 1949. He starred as they reached the FA Cup fifth round in 1949-50 and joined Crewe in August 1950. Scoring 32 goals in 209 League games, he joined Rochdale in August 1956 and returned to Crewe as trainer, becoming manager in June 1960. He took them to promotion in 1962-63, moving to Grimsby in November 1964. Later plotting promotion at Chesterfield in 1969-70 and Rotherham in 1974-75, he also managed Stockport. He died in March 1988.

ERNIE TAGG

One of Crewe Alexandra's finest servants, Ernie Tagg plotted their 1967-68 promotion success. Signing professional at Gresty Road in October 1937, the right-half moved to Wolves in May 1938. He joined Bournemouth in May 1939, starring as they won the Third Division (South) Cup in 1946 and narrowly missed promotion in 1947-48. After a spell at Carlisle United, he rejoined Crewe as part-time trainer, then was assistant-boss before becoming manager from November 1964 until June 1971. He also served the club as secretary, then was a Crewe director until May 1983 and life member until his death in November 2006.

HARRY GREGG

Ex-Northern Ireland international goalkeeper Harry Gregg plotted Crewe Alexandra's 1975-76 League Cup second round win over Chelsea. Initially with Coleraine, he moved via Doncaster Rovers to Manchester United in December 1957 and survived the Munich Air disaster to feature in the 1958 FA Cup final. He also helped win the League Championship in 1964-65, then was Stoke City's player-coach. Appointed Shrewsbury's boss in July 1968, he managed Swansea before managing Crewe from January 1975 until June 1978. He later managed Carlisle United, then was a hotelier in Portstewart and died in February 2020.

TONY WADDINGTON

Tony Waddington was both a player and manager at Crewe Alexandra. A former Manchester United amateur, the right-half moved to Gresty Road in January 1946 and helped Crewe beat top-flight Sheffield United in the 1947-48 FA Cup third round. He scored eight goals in 178 League games before a knee injury ended his career, joining Stoke as a coach in July 1952. Later assistant-boss, he became their manager in June 1960 and led them to the Second Division title in 1962-63 and League Cup final glory in 1972. He left in March 1977, then managed Crewe from June 1979 until July 1981 and died in Crewe in January 1994.

DARIO GRADI

Long-serving manager Dario Gradi guided Crewe Alexandra to promotion on four occasions. An England Amateur international, he helped Sutton United win the Isthmian League title in 1966-67, then reach the 1969 Amateur Cup final and FA Cup fourth round in 1969-70. He coached at Chelsea and Derby County before joining Wimbledon as assistant-boss in August 1977, becoming manager in January 1978. Plotting their 1978-79 promotion success, he followed chairman Ron Noades to Crystal Palace in February 1981. He was Crewe's boss from June 1983 until October 2011 apart from a spell as technical director.



DAVID ARTELL

Central defender David Artell won promotion as both a player and manager at Crewe Alexandra. Initially with hometown Rotherham, he helped win promotion in 2000-01 and was loaned to Shrewsbury before spells at Mansfield and Chester. He moved via Morecambe to Crewe in July 2010 and captained their 2012 League Two play-off final success, netting six goals in 72 League games prior to joining Northampton in August 2012. Later at Wrexham, capped by Gibraltar, he coached at Crewe's Academy, then was manager from January 2017 until April 2022, plotting promotion in 2019-20. He has since managed Grimsby Town.

STEVE DAVIS

Ex-England Youth defender Steve Davis managed Crewe's 2012 League Two play-off final triumph. A former Stoke apprentice, he joined Crewe in August 1983 and scored once in 145 League games, moving to Burnley in October 1987. He joined Barnsley in July 1991, then Oxford United. Later player-manager of Northwich and Nantwich, he led the latter to two promotions and FA Vase glory in 2006. He then assisted Gudjon Thordarson and Dario Gradi, becoming Crewe's manager from November 2011 until January 2017, also plotting their 2013 Football League Trophy success. He has since managed Leyton Orient and Wolves.

TOP OF THE CLASS CREWE ALEXANDRA FC



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES TEN WINNERS OF CREWE ALEXANDRA'S 'PLAYER OF THE YEAR' AWARD.

DAVID PLATT

Attacking midfielder David Platt was capped 62 times by England after leaving Crewe Alexandra. Starting with Chadderton, he had a spell with Manchester United before moving to Gresty Road in January 1985 and was Crewe's leading marksman in 1986-87. He netted 55 goals in 134 League games prior to joining Aston Villa for £200,000 in February 1988 and starred for England in the 1990 World Cup. Later with Bari, Juventus and Sampdoria, he joined Arsenal for £4,750,000 in July 1995 and featured in their 1997-98 'double' success. He managed Nottingham Forest and England U-21s, then coached at Manchester City.

CRAIG HIGNETT

Winger Craig Hignett starred as Crewe Alexandra qualified for the Fourth Division play-offs in 1991-92. A former Liverpool apprentice, he moved to Crewe in May 1988 and netted 42 goals in 121 League games before sold to Middlesbrough for £500,000 in November 1992. He featured in two promotion campaigns and had spells with Aberdeen and Barnsley prior to joining Blackburn Rovers for £2,250,000 in July 2000. Helping win promotion in 2000-01 and the League Cup in 2002, he joined Leicester City in July 2003 and returned to Crewe on loan. He was later at Darlington, then Hartlepool's manager and director of football.

NEIL LENNON

Northern Ireland international midfielder Neil Lennon was capped five times while at Crewe Alexandra. Initially at Manchester City, he moved to Crewe in August 1990 and starred as they were Third Division play-off finalists in 1992-93, then won promotion in 1993-94. He netted 15 goals in 147 League games prior to joining Leicester in February 1996. Featuring in their 1997 and 2000 League Cup final triumphs, he followed Martin O'Neill to Celtic, helping win the Scottish 'treble' and reach the 2003 UEFA Cup final. He then played for Nottingham Forest and Wycombe, since managing Celtic twice and several other clubs.

ROBBIE SAVAGE

Welsh international midfielder Robbie Savage was capped five times while at Crewe Alexandra. A former Manchester United trainee, he helped them win the FA Youth cup in 1992 and moved to Gresty Road in July 1994. He featured prominently as Crewe reached the Second Division play-offs in 1995-96 and won promotion the following season, netting ten goals in 77 League games prior to joining Leicester City in July 1997. Starring as they were League Cup winners in 2000, he moved to Birmingham City in May 2002 and later played for Blackburn and Derby County. He has managed Macclesfield and Forest Green Rovers.

ASHLEY WARD

Striker Ashley Ward featured prominently as Crewe Alexandra won promotion in 1993-94. Signing professional for Manchester City in August 1989, he joined Leicester City for £80,000 in July 1991 and moved to Gresty Road for a similar fee in December 1992. He appeared for Crewe in the 1992-93 Third Division play-off final, netting 25 goals in 61 League outings before sold to Norwich City for £500,000 in December 1994. Leading marksman in two consecutive seasons, he

moved to Derby County for £1,000,000 in March 1996 and later appeared for Barnsley, Blackburn Rovers, Bradford City and Sheffield United.

STEVE MACAULEY

Commanding central defender Steve Macauley was captain and 'Player of the Year' as Crewe Alexandra qualified for the Second Division play-offs in 1994-95. Initially with Manchester City, he failed to secure a first-team slot and moved via Fleetwood Town to Gresty Road for £25,000 in March 1992. He helped Crewe win promotion in 1993-94 and qualify for the play-offs five times overall, netting 26 goals in 261 League games prior to joining Rochdale in July 2002. Later with Macclesfield Town and Bamber Bridge, he was coach and physio at Fleetwood and now has his own physiotherapy clinic in Poulton-le-Fylde.

DANNY MURPHY

Attacking midfielder Danny Murphy won nine England caps after leaving Gresty Road. A notable graduate from Crewe's youth policy, he turned professional in March 1994 and helped clinch promotion that season. He starred as the Alex reached the Second Division play-offs, including their 1996-97 Wembley triumph, netting 27 goals in 134 League games before moving to Liverpool in July 1997. Loaned back to Crewe in September 1999, he featured in Liverpool's 2000-01 Cup 'treble' success and 2003 League Cup final triumph, then appeared for Charlton, Tottenham Hotspur, Fulham and Blackburn. Now a football pundit.

KENNY LUNT

Ex-England Youth midfielder Kenny Lunt was ever-present as Crewe Alexandra regained First Division status at the first attempt in 2002-03. A former trainee at Gresty Road, he turned professional in June 1997 and made his League debut in Crewe's 2-0 defeat at Swindon two months later. He was ever-present three times overall and starred as they took Everton to an FA Cup fifth round replay in 2001-02. Moving to Sheffield Wednesday in July 2006, he had two loan spells back at Crewe, netting 35 goals in 390 League games overall. He joined Hereford in July 2009 and has since been coach/assistant-boss back at Crewe.



DEAN ASHTON

England U-21 striker Dean Ashton was Crewe Alexandra's leading marksman in two consecutive seasons. Graduating from Crewe's Academy, he made his League debut in their 1-0 victory at Gillingham four months before turning professional in February 2001. He formed an exciting partnership with Rob Hulse as Crewe regained First Division status at the first attempt in 2002-03 and netted 60 goals in 158 League outings prior to joining Norwich City for £3,000,000 in January 2005. Sold to West Ham for £7,000,000 in January 2006, the England international played in that season's FA Cup final but injury curtailed his career.

ROB HULSE

Striker Rob Hulse was top scorer in Crewe Alexandra's 2002-03 promotion success. Signing professional at Gresty Road in June 1998, he made his League debut in Crewe's 1-0 win over Norwich nine months later. He helped take Everton to an FA Cup fifth round replay in 2001-02 and played alongside Dean Ashton, netting 46 goals in 116 League games before sold to West Brom for £750,000 in August 2002. Featuring in their 2003-04 promotion campaign, he joined Leeds United in February 2005 and appeared in the 2005-06 Championship play-off final. He then played for Sheffield United, Derby, QPR, Charlton and Millwall.

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

[illegible]

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match analysis, club
news and talking points,
with special guests
offering unrivalled
insight and anecdotes

LEAGUE TWO TABLE

FINAL 2025/26 TABLE



Position & Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
C Bromley	46	24	15	7	71	46	+25	87
P Milton Keynes Dons	46	24	14	8	86	45	+41	86
P Cambridge United	46	22	16	8	66	33	+33	82
4 Salford City	46	25	6	15	61	51	+10	81
5 Notts County	46	24	8	14	74	52	+22	80
6 Chesterfield	46	21	16	9	71	56	+15	79
7 Grimsby Town	46	22	12	12	74	50	+24	78
8 Barnet	46	21	13	12	70	53	+17	76
9 Swindon Town	46	22	9	15	70	59	+11	75
10 Oldham Athletic	46	18	14	14	60	44	+16	68
11 CREWE ALEXANDRA	46	19	10	17	64	58	+6	67
12 Colchester United	46	18	12	16	62	49	+13	66
13 Walsall	46	18	11	17	56	56	0	65
14 Bristol Rovers	46	19	5	22	56	65	-9	62
15 Fleetwood Town	46	15	16	15	57	58	-1	61
16 Accrington Stanley	46	14	11	21	47	58	-11	53
17 Gillingham	46	13	14	19	53	72	-19	53
18 Cheltenham Town	46	14	10	22	53	79	-26	52
19 Shrewsbury Town	46	13	10	23	42	69	-27	49
20 Newport County	46	12	7	27	48	77	-29	43
21 Tranmere Rovers	46	10	11	25	54	79	-25	41
22 CRAWLEY TOWN	46	8	16	22	44	68	-24	40
R Harrogate Town	46	10	9	27	39	68	-29	39
R Barrow	46	9	9	28	45	78	-33	36

UPCOMING LEAGUE TWO FIXTURES

SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2026
 Accrington Stanley v Colchester United
 Barnet v Salford City
 Cheltenham Town v Rotherham United
 Chesterfield v Fleetwood Town
Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra
 Gillingham v Walsall
 Grimsby Town v Exeter City
 Newport County v Rochdale
 Northampton Town v Swindon Town
 Oldham Athletic v Port Vale
 Tranmere Rovers v Shrewsbury Town
 York City v Bristol Rovers

SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST 2026
 Bristol Rovers v Newport County
 Colchester United v Oldham Athletic
 Crewe Alexandra v Northampton Town
 Exeter City v Accrington Stanley
 Fleetwood Town v Gillingham
 Port Vale v Tranmere Rovers
Rochdale v Crawley Town
 Rotherham United v York City
 Salford City v Chesterfield
 Shrewsbury Town v Barnet
 Swindon Town v Cheltenham Town
 Walsall v Grimsby Town

PLAYERS IN SHOT

A MODERN ART GALLERY

Left: The new run out tops
Below: Nathan Tinsdale in the training top



RED DEVILS ON REPORT

SAT 2ND MAY REDS 0-0 SALFORD CITY



BY KEVIN NEYLON



There are lineup changes. Jonny Russell and Louie Copley return to the starting lineup, Max Anderson and Lewis Richards drop to the bench, and Justin Ferizaj drops out of the squad. We are in all red and Salford are in all white.

The stadium is absolutely rocking; by far and away the best atmosphere of the season. There's a lot of head tennis in midfield early on. Salford get down the right and a deep ball in is met by a first-time volley which goes back the way it came and out for a throw. We play it down the left to Louie Watson, and he switches it to the right to Dion Pereira, and he puts it into the box to Louie Copley, and his shot is saved. Jonny Russell launches it into the box, and it's headed around and Charlie Barker's final effort is saved. Elsewhere it is good news as Barnet lead at Harrogate.

Salford are getting forward and have a couple of crosses blocked, a throw is taken long, a shot comes in and goes wide. A ball hits the ref, and he gives the drop ball to Salford and shoos Crawley players back and there's lots of time to put a ball in and a volley is put wide. (Not a popular decision). Barrow are leading against Newport. Another Salford ball into the box, and a shot goes wide, but the offside flag is up. A free kick to Salford on the corner of the box after a Russell foul. It hits the wall. The ref orders a retake, and books one of the Crawley players for encroachment. The retake hits the wall as well and goes for a corner but a Salford handball relieves the pressure. A Salford corner is punched clear, and Copley is down with a head injury, and the ref blows the whistle so he

can get treatment. And then restarts with another ridiculously far away uncontested drop ball. A cross into the box is headed off the line by Scott Malone, and the follow up shot is saved by Jacob Chapman, and then the offside flag goes up so we can clear.

We attempt a break and Pereira tries to tiptoe his way through the middle of the park only to lose it and Salford break and have a shot saved. The follow up goes for a goal kick, and Copley is back down injured on the left, and is replaced by Taylor Richards. He's in action straight away and a cross into Forster whose shot is saved. Salford gets a free kick and Pereira is down after making the block.

Tobi Adeyemo gets words from the ref for throwing a defender to the ground after a tussle, and seconds later a Salford player throws Forster to the ground and the ref waves play on. We get a free kick on the left; it's cleared, put back into Richards and his shot goes inches wide. Harrogate have equalised.

A long ball from Jay Williams finds Richards and he drives into the box and his attempt flies across the box for a goal kick. There are six added minutes at the end of the half. Persistence from T Adeyemo sees him win the ball and lay it back to Watson, he's fouled. The free kick is taken deep and Williams wins the header, but it goes straight to the keeper. It is booted long and we bring it back, and Pereira has a shot blocked for a corner; it's taken deep and put out for a throw which Russell launches in, but it's cleared. Williams plays it to Watson who is absolutely flattened by a body check, it runs to Richards on the advantage and is played on to Pereira and his shot flies inches over the bar and the half time whistle goes with it scoreless 0-0. And just before the break, Grimsby take the lead at Tranmere.

Into the second half and a Pereira cross is just about flapped away by the goalkeeper. Salford come up the other end, and a deep cross is headed back and Barker clears. They come down the right and Chapman clears and Richards finds Forster who cuts into the box, but his shot is wide. Salford come forward again and get a corner, which comes to nothing. Something goes on off the ball, and the Crawley players are furiously having a go at both the lino and ref and pointing out one of the Salford players, but no one has seen anything and all the ref does is tell everyone to calm down.

Ade Adeyemo rampages down the right and feeds Pereira, he plays it on to Richards, and it comes to Williams and his shot is charged down. Pereira wins a corner. It's taken deep and cleared. A Salford cross comes in and there's a player down appealing for a penalty which the ref isn't interested in. A Adeyemo gets it to Richards, onto Watson, and onto Forster and he wins a corner. It's taken deep and T Adeyemo retrieves but loses it and Salford break but Chapman collects. We make a substitution with T Adeyemo replaced by Ryan Loft. Salford win a corner and take it deep, but it swung out of play first. Watson plays the ball through midfield and is then absolutely flattened, again the ref plays advantage, and Loft plays it on to Williams and his shot is wide. And still no yellow for these assaults on Watson. Loft wins it back in midfield and gets into the box and has a shot which is saved.

At the other end Salford win a corner and make subs for it. It's taken deep and headed and Chapman gets fingertips to it to nudge it onto the bar and out for a corner, from which we counterattack but Pereira's cross is cleared. Russell launches a throw, it bounces in the box and Salford clear and counter attack, a cross in finds a Salford player on the end of it and they put it wide when it looked easier to score and we breathe a massive sigh of relief at that. As we attack Pereira is hacked down in the Salford half and we make some subs before the free kick is taken with Pereira and A Adeyemo replaced by Max Anderson and Akin Odimayo. Russell takes the kick and nearly catches the keeper out by going for goal, but they just get back to stop it. A Salford throw bounces all over the shop and a shot goes wide. A long ball into the

box sees a coming together and the Salford player throws himself to the ground and claims a penalty. Salford get a corner; it's cleared, put back in and Chapman punches clear and then Russell blasts the ball off the head of a Salford player and we get a throw. There are seven added minutes, Salford put a cross in, the header is saved and bundled out for a corner. That comes in, but the ref blows for an infringement. Its backs against the wall stuff now and Salford have another corner which Chapman catches. They get a free kick thirty-five yards out which they put straight out for a goal kick after miscommunication. There are lots of long balls pumped forward by Salford and lots of hoofed aimless clearances booted back up the field by us under the category of anywhere away from goal will do. And then the final whistle goes, it finishes

0-0, and it is pandemonium, with the players sinking to the pitch and the fans are out there joining them. Meanwhile it hasn't finished at Harrogate, and after the lunacy of the Newport game the previous week I can't join in the celebrations until those two letters FT come up on that game. And they do, and it is confirmed, we are safe. The crowd was announced as being 5,199 with 610 Salford fans having made the trip, a lot of them in fancy dress. And about half of ours are now on the pitch. For us it is a good opportunity to take a short cut directly across to the exit in the north terrace corner instead of waiting for the long slow queue out of the east marquee.

What an absolute wringer of a day. Survival. Just. But it will be League Two action again next season.

Kev Neylon
kev@onetruekev.co.uk



RED DEVILS ON REPORT

SAT 8TH AUGUST **WATFORD 1-0 REDS**



BY KEVIN NEYLON



A trip to Watford with the masses, on another lovely sunny August day, as most sides start their competitive seasons in the Carabao Cup first round.

There's one change in the starting lineup from Monday night's win at York, with Akin Odumayo coming in to replace Priestley Farquharson, so it looks like he was injured when he went off on Monday night. Jude Arthurs is captain. We are in our all black with amber trim away kit, and Watford are in yellow shirts and socks, and black shorts with red trim. They come out to the Z-Cars music and then play Elton John's "Your Song" before kick-off.

Ade Adeyemo loses the ball in midfield early on and Watford attack, forcing two corners, a couple of saves from Vito Mannone. There was a claim for handball in there as well. Looking at the Watford lineup, they are taking this very seriously and judging by the squad numbers of the players on the pitch are playing pretty much their first team.

More Watford corners, they are taking them short and playing into the box, and we are blocking a lot of shots, and there are a couple more saves from Mannone. It takes about quarter of an hour before we have any sustained possession, working it forward and into the box, a couple of crosses, but no one on the end of them. There's a yellow card for a Watford player as they bring down Malcolm Ebiowei about thirty yards out. He shapes as if he's going to take it, but Stephen Duke-McKenna plays a nice quick little dink into the box, Charlie Barker

gets on the end of it and it is saved, it comes back across and Kellan Gordon puts his half volley over the bar.

There's a drinks break, which isn't a popular decision with the fans. And Watford have the ball in the net after we lose it in the Watford final third and they break quickly. Their number nine hits the target for the first time, only the flag has gone up for offside, and it doesn't count. Adeyemo is playing a lot better after the early mistake, and is using his pace to make up for some positioning issues and is making tackles and getting blocks in. But Watford are doing a lot of attacking and Mannone is forced into another save down low as the ball goes up for three added minutes. We work it forward and into a good position, but Ebiowei seems reluctant to take a shot with plenty of space in front of him and instead plays it to the side of the box and Gordon, whose shot/cross goes straight to the keeper. Watford break and when the cross comes in their players get in each other's way. SDM is pushed in the face as we try to break but nothing is given and Watford play on and it is half time and we are all level 0-0.

Into the second half and we start on the attack with a couple of long throws from the left, but it is easy for Watford to clear and break at pace and win a corner. Thankfully for us there is a level of profligacy from the Watford players, which is good for us, but it is worrying how easily they are creating the chances in the first place. Gianmarco Di Biase almost goes down coming back to defend a corner, and then after it he goes down wanting treatment, gets up, goes back down, gets back up, and then goes down again and gets treatment, as both sets of players head to the sidelines. He goes off and is replaced by Pemi Aderoju. Klaudio Krasniqi is felled in midfield, but the ref only gives a free kick for a second foul, this one on SDM. We win a corner from the free kick, only for SDM to be offside taking the return from a short one.

At the other end we struggle to clear, and a shot hits the post, and the rebound is put wide. Barker gets a yellow card for a pull back in the attacking third, and a Watford player picks one up as well, for moaning at the ref.

We make another substitution with Osman Kamara coming on for Ebiowei. Mannone makes a stunning save, and Watford put the follow up effort wide. Suddenly some chances for us. Louie Watson has the ball whipped off his toes as he's about to shoot, it comes to SDM who has a shot blocked, then it comes to Aderoju and his effort is blocked, it goes back to Adeyemo and his effort from distance goes over the bar. That's better.

Gordon picks up a yellow card, making no attempt to play the ball, just tripping the Watford player as they get away from him. Watford make subs themselves and there's another drinks break. And as if on cue, all the digital ad boards start displaying Jameson's ads. Watford win another corner and have another shot, only this one hits the corner flag, and there's a Watford player down getting treatment. We make our final three substitutions with Akin Odumayo, Gordon, and Adeyemo leaving the pitch to be replaced by Pele Arganese-McDermott, Omari Mrisho, and Jonny Russell. When play restarts there is more wasteful finishing from Watford.

We have another wonderful opportunity a ball finds Jude Arthurs about twenty-five yards out fairly central, a shot looks on, but he tries to lay it through to Watson but puts too much on it. And there is yet more Watford profligacy and there's another shot blocked and claims of handball again. There are nine minutes of added time. We break away from a corner and Watson plays it SDM and his shot is well saved, but it wouldn't have counted as the flag was up. Aderoju has a shot blocked and there are claims for handball, and it did hit a hand, but it was from a yard away and the arm was in a natural position, so never going to get that. At the other end there is another blinding save from Mannone when left one-on-one, we break



but once again choose poorly with the final ball. Aderoju gets a yellow card for the most blatant shirt pull back going. Watford keep going forward and get a disputed long throw in the corner. There's about twenty seconds left when it's taken, it's headed out but a wonder shot from twenty-five yards swerves and dips (and may have taken a deflection) but it finally beats Mannone and with only seconds left we trail 0-1.

There is quite the discussion going on involving the fourth official and the referee and lots of finger pointing from benches and players and the lino our side joins in. No idea what that was all about but we kick off, launch it long only for Watford to clear and the final whistle goes and we lose at the death 0-1. (Turns out it was the fourth official pointing out it should have been our throw, a bit late for us though.)

To lose so late without taking it to penalties is gutting, but we had been riding our luck for a long-time, last-ditch blocks and great saves (and poor finishing) keeping us in it to the end. We did create a few chances of our own, but it's a worry that we didn't really look like finishing any of them off, and there being a reluctance to shoot. The crowd was announced as being 6,907, but they are too lazy to bother to say how many away fans there are. A lot by the looks and sounds of things. (815 was the official figure later released.)

Kev Neylon
kev@onetruekev.co.uk



RETRO RED DEVILS

COME ON, REF! (& EARLY SEASON CUP TIES)

BY MICK FOX

Having just watched our fine win away at York City, hope springs eternal for the new season, which can surely only be an improvement on the last!

I must admit, after that dreadful season, the World Cup didn't offer me personally much excitement. England did OK, but did we really ever look like winners? Odd little spells in games, maybe, but without ever really dominating.

After watching yet another raft of soft yellow cards in the York game, though, one thing the World Cup did offer (in most games) was more flow, as referees were apparently told to keep games moving more and allow some physical contact. Admittedly, some teams took this to excess (mentioning no names, Argentina) and other teams used presidential intervention, but in the main, much of the diving and feigning injury was ignored by referees.

It seems this was on the orders of the referees' chief, Pier Luigi Collina, an excellent ref in his day. Maybe the EFL could offer him a contract to enlighten the many young referees we now see, who seemingly have an aversion to physical contact from the players, to the detriment of the game for us fans. Only my opinion, of course, but I want to see eleven v eleven and not feel the need to shut my eyes every time one of our players puts a tackle in away from home, in front of a vocal home crowd and a referee who is looking to impress an assessor.

Anyway, back to pre-history, when it was almost unheard of for us to progress in cup competitions in August and September. In the 1960s/70s that

would usually be the Southern League Cup (SLC) or maybe, from 1969, the FA Trophy. It was always fairly irrelevant which competition, though, as we never seemed to get past the first or occasionally second round.

I must admit, the SLC was never something to set the pulse racing, maybe partly because we never won a tie. In our first eight years in the SLC, from entering the league in season 1963/64, we only once got past the first round. That was our second season, 1964/65, when we reached the giddy heights of the third round, after beating Ashford 5-1 on aggregate over the two legs and then received a bye in the second round. Normal service was then resumed, though, as we were hammered 6-0 at Folkestone in the third round.

In those first eight seasons we would meet future fellow EFL teams on two occasions in the SLC. (The first being Barnet, in season 1967/8). Barnet had only joined the Southern League a couple of seasons previously, in 1965/66, after many years as an amateur club in the Athenian League. That 1965/66 season had proven a huge success, as they won the Southern League First Division title comfortably, scoring 114 goals in the process (we had finished mid-table, but did gain a 2-2 against them on 15th March 1966 at Town Meadow, before we were thrashed 6-1 at Underhill in the return match on 10th May 1966).

Barnet had been runners up in the SLC the previous season, having lost 2-1 at home to Guildford City in the final first leg and drawn the return 0-0 in front of 6,819 at Joseph's Road, Guildford. Moving on to

28th August 1967, and with Barnet in the SL Premier Division and having performed so well the previous season in the SLC, we were expecting a tough first match at Underhill. Expectations were fully met as we were again thrashed by Barnet, this time 5-0, leaving us an almost impossible task in the return leg at Town Meadow.

Looking at our team on paper, there was a lot of talent there, and for a team in Division One we were paying very good wages which was maybe reflected in the return leg on 5th September when we beat the strong Barnet side 3-0 at Town Meadow (scorers Bobby Roberts, Nobby Upton and an OG).

Sadly, that talent in our side didn't show up enough and we flirted with the re-election places all season and only saved ourselves on the final day (that sounds familiar!) with a 5-4 home win over Wisbech Town.

Our other SLC meeting with a future EFL team in those first eight seasons was in 1970/71, the season after our relegation from a single season playing in the Premier Division. Our opponents were Cheltenham Town, then, like us, in the SL First Division having themselves been relegated in 1969, the season we went up. Coincidentally, like Barnet they had also recently lost the SLC final over two legs to another future EFL team in Cambridge United.

We travelled to Cheltenham on 26th August 1970 with some optimism, sadly misplaced; it turned out, as we suffered a heavy 3-0 defeat, our first of the season so far. This again left us a big task in the

second leg at Town Meadow on 31st August, one which was beyond us as we could only manage a 1-1 draw (Colin Blaber) and yet another early exit from the SLC, which was also matched by a first qualifying round exit in the FA Trophy by a score of 2-0 away to Canterbury City (they finished bottom of our division that season, conceding 105 goals!).

Thankfully, though, that season was not defined by poor early cup results but, as the season unfolded, more by our exciting free-scoring forward line led by Phil Basey (22 league goals), Mickey Griffiths (21) and late-season signing Eric Whittington (12). Some of my all-time favourite Red Devils memories are of watching that side, with a run of eight wins in our last ten games clinching the SL Merit Cup as the leading scorers in the whole of the league. Our only defeat in that run was a narrow 2-1 loss (Barnes) at Burton Albion, although we did beat Stevenage, (both Burton & Stevenage being future EFL teams), 3-2 (Whittington 2, Haining) at their Broadhall Way ground. All achieved with pretty much a regular squad of around fifteen players, for the sixty or so league and various cup matches.

Also, I know I have mentioned it before but pitches were generally poor; especially our home turf (mud!) at Town Meadow.

On the subject of pitches, the one for the recent Reading friendly looked a picture, so much so that I will finish with a photo from the night courtesy of the Kennard family who were out in force for the game (Lou Kennard took the picture, great sunset as well!). June and Dave Kennard, who attend Broadfield regularly, have previous with Crawley as their dad, Fred Kennard, played for Crawley in the early 1950s, when he moved to the town with the Youngman's company!



Reading friendly - a pretty picture!

Oh, and we are playing Crewe today and I will miss it while attending a wedding in York. Grrrr! Come on you Red Devils!

Mick Fox
mjffo@yahoo.co.uk

Cheltenham 31st
August 1970 SLC
Drew 1-1 (lost 4-1 on
aggregate)



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SL Cup
Aug 1967

BARNET (Amber and Black Shirts, White Shorts)

1. J. Riet 5
2. R. Thompson
3. P. Jenkins
4. G. Ward
5. D. Rouch
6. R. King
7. W. Rant
8. L. Eason
9. R. Figg
10. R. Seale
11. A. Turley

Visitors
D. J. Herdon (Red Flag)
R. T. Green (Amber Flag)

Before:
G. Keeble
H. Easton
R. McCoshan
D. Lovelidge
J. Molls

Referee:
D. Haining
R. Jennings
N. Upton
G. Jones

CRAWLEY TOWN (Red shirts, Red shorts)

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BARNET FOOTBALL CLUB
SOUTHERN LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP (1st Round-1st Leg)
Monday, 28th August 1967

CRAWLEY TOWN
Monday, 28th August 1967

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Aug
28th
1967 -
Barnet
away
SLC
Lost 5-0

over 250,000 Sussex people read the Evening Argus every night

CRAWLEY TOWN v CHELTENHAM TOWN
SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP 1st. Round 31st. August 1970 2nd. Leg. 3pm

CRAWLEY TOWN (RED) (1) 1
1. J. Naggs
2. J. Standing
3. D. Thorne
4. D. Lock
5. J. Loddham (capt)
6. C. Blaber
7. H. Griffiths
8. D. Haining
9. P. Jones
10. P. Sney
11. A. Goodgame
12. P. Barnes

CHELTENHAM TOWN (1) 1
1. Hanks
2. Thornhill (capt)
3. Conboy
4. Anon
5. Jeffries
6. White
7. Cooper
8. Lewis
9. Hanger
10. Fraser
11. Wilkin

Referee: D. V. Hill
Linesman: A. H. Baker
H. D. John

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STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

2025/26 SEASONS REVIEW IN STATS



BY IAN MULCAHY

The 2025/26 season was one which most Crawley Town fans will wish to forget. Having started badly, picking up just two points from our opening six games and crashing out of the League Cup at Swansea City, we seemed to have turned a corner when we achieved back to back league wins at the beginning of September, but our form dipped again and we had a spell which saw us pick up just a single point from the next five matches.

We were then dumped out of the FA Cup at the first hurdle, being beaten 3-0 at non-league Boreham Wood. This set the pattern for the season, and we didn't confirm our continuing status as a member of the Football League until the final match, when a hard earned point at home to Salford City (who would have been promoted automatically had they won), combined with Harrogate Town failing to beat Barnet, meant that we finished one place above the dreaded line. Our survival can arguably be attributed to the 'new manager bounce' experienced when Colin Kazim-Richards replaced Scott Lindsey in March, when we gained six points from his first two games in charge at home to Gillingham and away to Newport.

Statistically speaking we recorded, as a Football League club, our; worst ever points total (40), highest number of draws (16), fewest number of wins (8) and fewest number of goals scored (44). Our biggest win was the 4-0 home victory against Bristol Rovers and our heaviest defeat was a 4-0 reverse at Notts County.

Harry McKirdy's eight league goals (including two penalties) made him our joint lowest seasons top scorer, not only in the Football League, but since the 1952/53 season (when we played just 26 league games, accruing four points

from our one win and two draws). Charlie Barker made the most appearances, playing a part in 43 league matches, two of which he didn't start. We used a total of 24 players in league matches and 19 of those players scored at least one goal.

Despite a turbulent season on the pitch, off pitch matters were more positive. The Stadium was treated to a pre-season makeover and looks smarter than it has done for years and, most importantly, the fans have continued to turn up.

Our average home league attendance of 3,497 was the 4th highest in our history, with 2024/25, 2013/14 (both seasons in which we were a third tier side) and 2023/24 (a promotion season) being the only seasons in which we have recorded higher. Even more encouraging for our future, 3,021 of these were Crawley Town fans which is the third highest in our history, only being beaten in the previous two seasons. These figures compare favourably to the 2022/23 season; a season in which we also finished in 22nd position in the fourth tier and recorded an average home attendance of 3,042, of which 2,597 were Crawley Town fans.

As well as keeping the faith on home turf, the Red Army continued to set their alarm clocks and travel in numbers, with an average of 267 Crawley Town fans witnessing our 23 league games away from home. This is the third highest average in our history, again only being beaten during the previous two seasons. If our followings to play off matches at the end of the 2023/24 season (when we were backed by 1,630 on that glorious Saturday evening in Milton Keynes and the 17,025 who made the trip to Wembley) are removed from the calculations, then last season saw our second highest away following to regular league matches ever, and our highest in the fourth tier.

The individual match attendance record tables saw little change this season, with our highest gate of 5,199 who cheered us on in our crucial

final match against Salford City being just our 14th highest ever home attendance and our 10th highest for a league match. The head count of Reds fans at that match (4,589) was the third highest ever at a home match, while the 5,118 who attended the Crystal Palace pre-season friendly constituted our second highest attendance ever for a friendly match, as well as being our 15th highest attendance of all time.

Away from home, the 588 who travelled to Bromley on a Tuesday night in December was our 15th highest away league match following ever, with the 523 Reds fans who witnessed our win at Newport in April slotting in at position 20. The 501 who made the frustrating journey to Boreham Wood in November, only to see us humbled in the rain, was our 10th highest away following for a cup match and the 244 at Swansea for our League Cup tie in August make position 19 in the same table.

Even our lowest crowds were, relatively speaking, good. Our smallest home crowd of the season in League Two was the 2,650 who attended the Barnet match in March and this is

our third highest seasons low, the higher two occurring during League One campaigns. To add a little context, the first time in our entire history that we had a HIGHER home league attendance than this season's low was on 6 March 2004 when Weymouth visited for THAT Southern League match.

Our lowest home support of the season, the 2,427 (in a total crowd of 2,961) who turned out to see us lose to Cambridge on a Tuesday night in February, ranked even better, with a higher season's low only being recorded once previously, during the 2024/25 League One season. Back on the road, our lowest away following of 105 was, unsurprisingly, at Barrow in January. This was the first time that we went a whole season without taking less than 100 to an away match since the 2012/13 season, when our lowest was the 109 who travelled to the League One fixture at Yeovil.

For comprehensive CTFC statistics going all the way back to the 1938/39 season, please visit www.ctfchistory.co.uk

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

ATTENDANCES & EFL STATS

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	Klaidi Lolos League appearances only (inc. from the bench), including the 3 play off matches

2026/27 SEASON PLAYER STATS

AS AT 8/8/26

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	*	2					2	
2 DF Kellan Gordon Notts County	06/27	2			1		16	1
4 DF Pele Arganese-McDermott T'ham Hotspur	06/28		2				2	
5 DF Charlie Barker Wealdstone	06/27	2			2		93	3
6 DF Priestley Farquharson Walsall	06/28	1					1	
7 MF Malcolm Ebiowei Crystal Palace	06/28	2					2	
8 MF Louie Watson Luton Town	06/28	2					35	1
9 FW Danilo Orsi AFC Wimbledon	06/28		1	1			66	27
10 FW Stephen Duke-McKenna Harrogate	06/28	2					2	
11 FW Pemi Aderoju On loan from Peterborough	~		1		1		1	
12 DF Lewis Richards Bradford City	06/27						14	
13 GK Nick Michalski On loan from Blackburn	~							
14 FW Gianmarco Di Biase Juventus	06/28	2		1			2	1
15 DF Ben Radcliffe On loan to Yeovil Town	06/27						23	2
16 DF Jonny Russell Glentoran	*		2		1		19	
17 MF Osman Kamara On loan from Blackburn	~		2				2	
18 FW Danny Cashman On loan to Boreham Wood	06/27						5	
19 MF Dion Pereira Luton Town	*						32	
20 MF Jude Arthurs Bromley	06/28	2			1		2	
21 FW Justin Ferizaj Bray Wanderers	06/28						3	
22 FW Ade Adeyemo Cray Valley PM	06/28	2					97	9
23 MF Fate Kotey Fulham Academy	06/27						5	
24 DF Akin Odimayo Newport County	06/27	1					12	
25 MF Klaudio Krasniqi Glacis Uts (Gib)	06/27	2					2	
26 MF Jay Williams (Captain) MK Dons	*		1				94	7
28 MF Nathan Tinsdale On loan from Hull City	~							
31 GK Jackson Izquierdo Crystal Palace	06/27							
33 MF Omari Mrisho Huddersfield Town	06/28		1				1	
56 MF Jude Robertson Ipswich Town	*						3	
TBC DF Ty Ewens-Findlay On loan from Charlton	~							

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 22ND AUGUST 2026 - Rochdale (Away) 3pm k/o

08.01 Three Bridges - St Pancras 08.50 - (Walk 10 mins to Euston)
 09.33 London Euston - Manchester Piccadilly 11.44 - (walk or tram to Manchester Victoria 15 mins)
 Manchester Victoria 12.21 - Rochdale 12.33
 Return
 17.41 Rochdale - Manchester Victoria 17.56 - (walk or tram to Manchester Piccadilly)
 18.34 Manchester Piccadilly - London Euston 20.58 - (walk 10 mins to St Pancras)
 21.20 St Pancras - Three Bridges 22.09
 £67 (with a railcard) - (Purchase the Three Bridges to St P £10 and the Euston to Rochdale £57 ticket separately to get this price)

TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026 - Northampton Town (away) 7:45pm k/o

15.43 Three Bridges - St Pancras 16.45 - (walk 10 mins to Euston)
 17.19 London Euston - Northampton 18.14
 Return
 22.14 Northampton - London Euston 23.37 - (walk 10 mins to St Pancras)
 23.54 St Pancras - Three Bridges 00.53
 £33 (with a railcard)
 (Purchase the Three Bridges to St P £10 and the Euston to Northampton £23 ticket separately to get this price)

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2026 - Accrington Stanley (away) 3pm k/o

08.01 Three Bridges - St Pancras 08.50 - (walk 10 mins to Euston)
 09.30 London Euston - Preston 11.39
 12.24 Preston - Accrington 13.02
 Return
 18.12 Accrington - Preston 18.38
 19.07 Preston - London Euston 21.40 - (walk 10 mins to St Pancras)
 22.00 St Pancras - Three Bridges 22.49
 £60 (with a railcard) (Purchase the Three Bridges to St P £10 and the Euston to Accrington £50 ticket separately to get this price)

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.

****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****



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ROCHDALE

SATURDAY 22nd AUGUST 2026 - 3pm

Coach departs from the Broadfield Stadium at 7.00am – cost is £50 - We will have a comfort/ coffee break at the M6 Toll services at about 9.45am and then a buffet stop at the Fox & Hounds, Spronston Green at about 11.30am – We will depart there at 1.00pm to arrive at Rochdale at about 2.00pm. Coach will park up about a 5 minute walk from the stadium. We will depart straight after the game and will have a break at some point on the return journey, depending on traffic conditions – either the M6 Toll again or Warwick Services.



NORTHAMPTON TOWN

TUESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2026 - 7.45pm

Coach departs from the Broadfield Stadium at 4.00pm – cost is £40 We will travel non-stop to and from Northampton for this game. Hopefully the M25 & the M1 will not be too busy for this trip. We will leave straight after the game finishes.



ACCRINGTON STANLEY - SATURDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2026 - 3.00pm k/o

Coach departs from the Broadfield Stadium at 6.30am – cost is £50. We will have a comfort/ coffee break at the M6 Toll services at about 9.15am and then a buffet stop at the Foresters Arms, Standish at about 11.30am – We will depart there at 1.00pm to arrive at Accrington at about 2.00pm. Coach will park up by the stadium. We will depart straight after the game and will have a break at some point on the return journey, depending on traffic conditions – either the M6 Toll again or Warwick Services.



LITTLE DEVILS

KIDS' PAGE



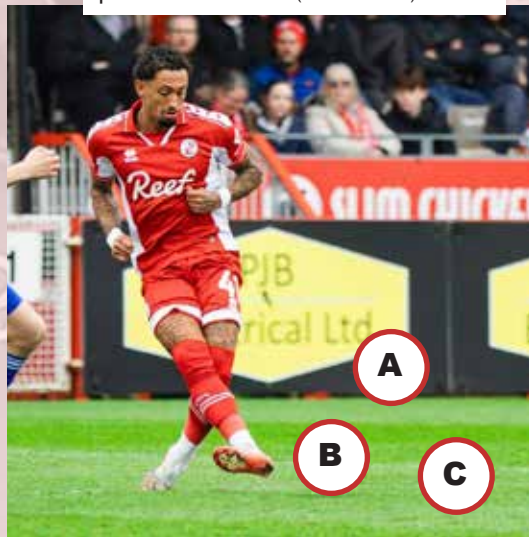
QUIZ WORD SEARCH

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 wins.

1. What is the name of the Princess that appears in the name of the away team today?
2. Crewe's former ground was named after her and had two words after her name, what were they? (WARNING 2 Words on the grid.)
3. What is the current name of Crewe's home ground?
4. What was its former name, before sponsorship?
5. What county is Crewe in?
6. What was the name of the railway company that moved its main works to Crewe from Edge Hill, Liverpool?
7. A former player famous for his over the shoulder goal against Belgium in Italia 90?
8. A former player, now a TV pundit, who has played for Liverpool and Fulham?
9. A current Crewe player who has also played in Wales but has connections with Sussex, having played for Worthing, Bognor and Eastbourne Borough in his early days?
10. A former manager, who was with Crewe for 24 years from 1983 and secured promotion to the First Division (now the Championship) in 1997?
11. Crewe's current manager?
12. A famous motor car company, now based in Goodwood, West Sussex, but used to have a plant at Pym's Lane, Crewe?
13. The make of another luxury car now built at Pym's Lane?

SPOT THE BALL!

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



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

05 CHARLIE BARKER



AUTOGRAPH



			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	■	■
26	MF	Jay WILLIAMS	■	■
28	MF	Nathan TINSDALE	■	■
31	GK	Jackson IZQUIERDO	■	■
33	MF	Omari MRISHO	■	■
56	MF	Jude ROBERTSON	■	■
	DF	Ty Ewens- FINDLAY	■	■



			Start	Sub
1	GK	Tom BOOTH	■	■
2	DF	Lewis BILLINGTON	■	■
3	DF	Reece HUTCHINSON	■	■
5	DF	Mickey DEMETRIOU	■	■
6	DF	Luke OFFORD	■	■
7	MF	Jack LANKESTER	■	■
8	MF	Conor THOMAS	■	■
9	FW	Josh MARCH	■	■
10	MF	Joe WHITE	■	■
11	MF	Joel TABINER	■	■
13	GK	Ian LAWLOR	■	■
14	FW	Jordan GIBSON	■	■
15	FW	Dion RANKINE	■	■
17	MF	Matúš HOLÍČEK	■	■
19	MF	Owen LUNT	■	■
20	MF	Calum AGIUS	■	■
21	FW	Fin ROBERTS	■	■
22	DF	Phil CROKER	■	■
27	FW	Patrick MLYNARSKI	■	■
29	FW	Adrien THIBAUT	■	■
30	DF	Stan DANCEY	■	■
32	MF	Luca MOORE	■	■
33	MF	Owen HAYDEN-TAYLOR	■	■

REFEREE	Andrew Humphries
ASST	Greg Read
ASST	Adrian Tranter
FOURTH	Joe Wright



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