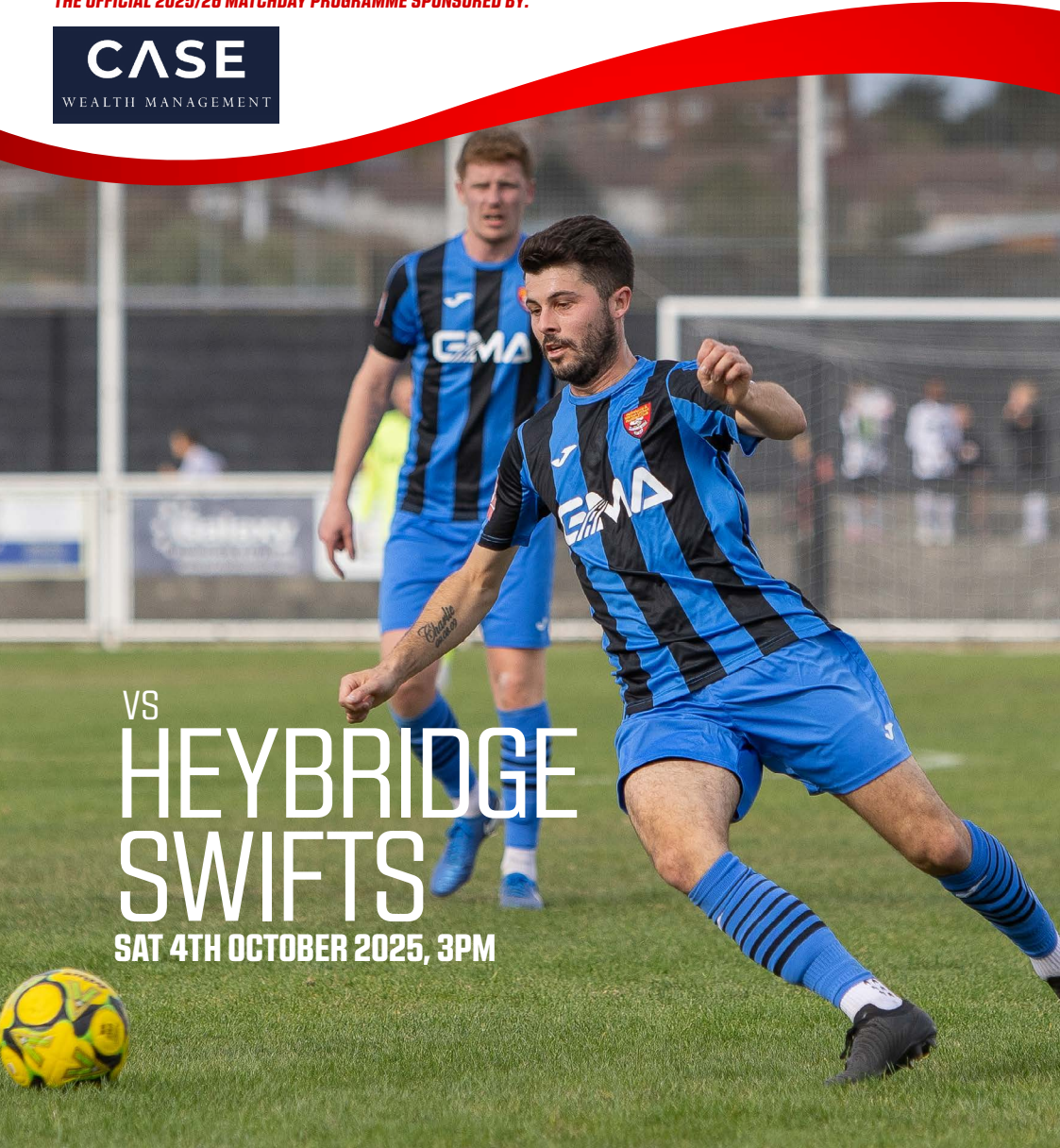


SEASIDERS



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SAT 4TH OCTOBER 2025, 3PM





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PARTNERS WITH
ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

CHAIRMAN: **TONY BARNES**



Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to The Martello Ground for today's Isthmian North league fixture against Heybridge Swifts.

I hope the players, officials and supporters of Heybridge enjoy the afternoon and our hospitality and have a safe journey home this evening, albeit hopefully it will be an empty handed one! Welcome also to today's match officials and I hope both teams help them to have and enjoyable and uneventful afternoon.

It is great to be back home again after three away games on the bounce, I only managed to witness one of them, needless to say that was the only defeat when we went out of the FA Trophy against a determined Grays Athletic who out fought us on the day.

One the plus side, the other two games resulted in a further six league points keeping us at the top of the league, a position we'll hopefully remain in after today's matches.

I'm away again next weekend so hopefully the lads will be returning from Cambridge City victorious once again, the new ground at Cambridge was one that I was really looking forward to visiting, it is always good to see other non-league clubs investing in facilities and aspiring to step up the football pyramid.

That being said, it does seem very unjust that some clubs seem to get away with spending nothing on facilities, more or less nothing on hospitality and all their income on inflated players wages.

I would like to think that we have got things just about right in supporting the management whenever possible but never taking our eyes off the welfare of our supporters and the community at large.

I was saddened to hear of a couple of unsavoury incidents occurring at other grounds recently, and I sincerely hope no Seasiders supporters have come to any harm or been involved in any other way. The family friendly, community first aspect of this club is one that I truly cherish, and we take great pride in how we treat people - with dignity and respect, this includes opponents and especially match officials.

I sincerely hope all our supporters agree with my sentiments, no one should ever leave The Martello ground having been abused in any way shape or form, anyone who thinks otherwise simply isn't welcome here and should maybe find somewhere else to go on a Saturday afternoon.

Enjoy the game and let's cheer the boys on to another valuable three points.

Tony

PUBLICATION OF OWNERSHIP:

Felixstowe & Walton United Football Club is owned and managed by Felixstowe & Walton United Football Club Ltd (by guarantee) registration number 10076800. The Chairman of the Company is Andrew Clarke The Directors of the Company are Christopher Daynes and Andrew Clarke.

A portrait of Stuart Ainsley, a man with short dark hair and a friendly smile, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a dark blue or black zip-up jacket with a white zipper pull and a white geometric pattern. On the left chest, there is a white logo consisting of a stylized 'V' shape above the letters 'SA'. On the right chest, there is a red shield-shaped crest with white text and a central emblem. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

**STUART
AINSLEY**



SA

Good afternoon and welcome to the Martello Ground for today's league fixture against Heybridge Swifts. I would like to extend my welcome to Julian and his Heybridge team who will no doubt be another tough test for us today.

I'm writing these notes after what seems an age since we last had a home fixture, three weeks ago we managed to overcome a very tough Newmarket side in front of over 500 people which was a brilliant turn out.

Since then we've been to Brantham and picked up three points with a commanding performance, and had a couple of trips to Chadfields Tilbury. The first of those a disappointing exit from the FA Trophy where it just wasn't our day with the pitch and conditions not in our favour. The second attempt the following Saturday wasn't much of a spectacle against Tilbury in the league, but I have to praise our lads for really grinding out a 1-0 win, again in difficult circumstances. I would also like to thank the supporters who have followed us in the last few weeks, the away following is increasing with the guys going on the train together as well as our usual following on the team coach, makes the tough away games a little easier when we see and hear you guys there cheering us on.

We find ourselves top of the league at the moment so have to enjoy the moments when they come however we can't let complacency creep in as its been a lot of hard work to get there, we must carry that on as a minimum.

One final message for Paul Secker who has been unwell this week, we all wish you a very speedy recovery and hope to see you back at the club very soon.

Enjoy the game,
Stu





SEASIDER: **PHIL GRIFFITHS**



Not many people know this...

I remember the day that now seems an age ago, when we as a club said “we’ve done it” as we confirmed our promotion to Step 4 for the first time in the club’s history, and it was with both trepidation and excitement we looked forward to a whole new football landscape for the club.

Sitting here now (you’re reading this a few days later), looking out of my window, 13 games into our 8th season at Step 4 I feel we have made our mark and that the Seasideers are an established Step 4 club who perhaps should be playing Step 3 football this season, but that’s for another day, this week I thought I would check up on how many players we had used on our journey to get this far.

Our first season 2018/19 we finished a very

respectable 11 th and used just 17 players. We then had two interrupted seasons thanks to Covid and three seasons where we have finished in the top six, two of which were in the play-off spots and one (last season) we finished runners-up.

Some may think it’s a lot, personally I was surprised at how few players we have used over the past 8 years.

The first season was tough as we learnt how to deal with the extra travelling and for various reasons we lost several players at the end of that season, but over 8 seasons all the managers, in my opinion, have recruited well and strengthened the side season on season.

Oh yes a total of 87 players have been used spread over those 8 years.



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BY NEIL EDWARDS

PLANES, TRAINS & AWAY DAYS



LEFT TO RIGHT: Isaac, Lorro, Shaun, Mistley John, Big Pete, Big Neil, me and Little Pete (I think I was admiring his porn star moustache at the time)

Hi everyone, and welcome to the latest instalment of our away day reviews, bringing you the highs and lows of the "Away Day" experience following our club Felixstowe & Walton Utd around the country.

Our shortest journey of the season was, perhaps surprisingly, on a Tuesday night in September, as the Seaside faithful descended en masse to The Brantham Leisure Centre, home of The Blue Imps. Our hosts were promoted from The Thurlow Nunn Eastern Counties League last season, and are finding it tough at Step 4, with only a single point from an opening day draw gained at fellow newcomers Stanway Rovers collected so far.

Lorro was on driving duties for this one and he duly picked Isaac up before getting me and heading out in the rush hour traffic. We detoured through Brantham to pick up Mistley John and parked up on Factory Lane, as Stuart had circulated

the news that there was no public car park available.

Our first point of contact with Brantham Athletic was the turnstile operator, and due to the loudness of his tutting when the answer to cash or card was card by those ahead of me in the queue, I rummaged in my wallet and pockets in an urgent need to find £10 of printed and minted money to hand over!!!



Docker Paul



The clubhouse at Brantham is well appointed, and most of the pitch can be seen from the doors and windows. As we headed to the bar for urgent refreshments we were greeted by regular away-dayers Shaun, Big Neil, Big Pete and Little Pete. It's a bit confusing at times as Big Pete is about a foot shorter than Little Pete, but as they are Father and Son, it seems the best way to describe them. Old Pete and Young Pete does not sit right, although factually correct.

A couple of pints of Poretti later (Peroni meets Moretti?) and it was time to enter the white hot cauldron of the Brantham arena, although the march to our vantage point was delayed somewhat waiting for the arrival of the 2 teams and the officials as the gate was closed and, somewhat annoyingly, the ground is only open on 3 sides.

After a brief delay, the boys entered the playing surface and the gate opened, so we found ourselves happily taking up first half residence behind the goal at the clubhouse end, next to the quirky grandstand that is situated in that corner of the ground. This stand is home to the Brantham Ultras, a highly organised and military-style-trained gang of 30 or more of the craziest dudes

you'll find in this league, and we loved every minute of it. I was pleased they had made it, as it was a school night.....

The lads did not stop singing for the entire first 45 minutes, despite being a clear second best and with the result never in doubt from the moment Josh Hitter opened the scoring just before the half hour mark. Big Neil appeared at this point and was most surprised to learn it was 0-1 as he and (so he says) several other fans on the far touchline thought it was now 0-2. I am not sure what game they were watching or if the Poretti was stronger than it's near-namesakes, but he genuinely looked befuddled when told it was very much only 0-1. There had been an early disallowed effort, but the referees whistle had sounded before the ball nestled in the net and the free kick was taken from the 6 yard line..... surely that wasn't the cause for the confusion?



The second half was spent in the company of the lovely Cheryl (minus her clipboard) and several other regular travellers at the far end. Before an hour had been played it was 0-3 and we were forced to make our own entertainment for large swathes of the final third of the game as Brantham tried in vain to knock on Harry Wrights door, but in truth they never really got past the garden gate, let alone up the path towards the door.

Thankfully for us, the loanee Brantham keeper was providing us with plenty of entertainment,

as we had discovered earlier that his nickname was Poppadom Hands, because the ball went through his hands far too easily.

“Don’t worry keeper, your Naan is proud of you” was amongst a long list of curry-inspired shout-outs to the young man, and he did take it all in his stride, although you could see his confidence start to saag towards the end.



Dan Gilchrist added a fourth near the end, and the faithful returned to the clubhouse for a nightcap whilst I hung back to take a couple of photographs of the ground from areas I had not frequented during the evening. At least, that was the plan. Within 4-5 minutes of the final whistle sounding, whilst some players were on

the pitch warming down and spectators slowly dispersing, and with media reports being penned, for some inexplicable reason the floodlights were switched off, bringing the entire venue into near total darkness. This was particularly frustrating for club photographer Stefan Peck OBE(*) Stef had not even begun to put away his many and varied array of equipment. Cameras, gimbals, tripods, go-pros, lens, totem poles. You name it, it was still dotted around various parts of the pitch and perimeters.

Thankfully we live in an age where everyone carries a phone, and phones have torches, so Mrs Peck joined me in shining some light for Stef to pack away a lot of equipment. I would like to know if BAFC always switch their lights off so early (every penny counts, I get that) or was there a deeper issue here?

I re-joined the boys back in the bar for a drink before we headed home and upon checking other results and fixtures, we noticed that Brantham host Tilbury in 7 days time, this being 4 days before we head to Tilbury ourselves. We agreed on a scouting mission, some more Poretti, a sing-song with the Brantham Ultras, and to ask about the floodlights going off so early.

Before that, FA Trophy action at Chadfields. Bring it on.....

Thanks for reading
Up the Seasideers

(*) Not yet awarded, but only a matter of time



Two photos of the ground 5 minutes after full time taken 34 seconds apart.

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



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BY JON COUCH

STEP 3 clubs enter the Isuzu FA Trophy at this third qualifying round stage this weekend – and already the Road to Wembley is shaping up into another thrilling adventure.

They join the 40 clubs from Step 4 to progress from the previous round to make up 64 intriguing ties, starting with Bradford Park Avenue versus Heaton Stannington and Worcester City against Rugby Town on Friday night.

As compiled by our friends at Non-League Factfile, two-time winners Grays Athletic are the last ones standing of the 32 clubs that started this season's campaign in the preliminary round.

The 2004-05 and 2005-06 winners visit Hanwell Town and are one of four former winners competing in this round alongside Canvey Island (2000-01), Bishop's Stortford (1980-81) and Hednesford Town (2003-04).

Indeed, Hednesford, flying high in Northern Premier League Premier division under manager Gavin Hurren, are involved in one of the ties of the round when they go to Southern League Premier Central leaders Harborough Town.

At the other end of the FA Trophy experience spectrum are seven debut clubs still involved, namely Lower Breck, Silsden, Shifnal Town, Sporting Club Inkberrow, Stanway Rovers, Hartpury and AFC Portchester – all bar one of which take on Step 3 opposition.

Hartpury have been handed a dream tie against high-flying Southern Premier South neighbours Gloucester City, similarly AFC Portchester, who can expect a big crowd at the Wicor Recreation Ground when Taunton Town visit.

Silsden and Sporting Club Inkberrow are at home, to Stocksbridge Park Steels and Stratford Town respectively, while Lower Breck and Shifnal Town face tough trips to Stockton Town and Gainsborough Trinity.

Stanway Rovers are the only debut club to face Step 4 opposition when Uxbridge make the trip to Hawthorns.

Derby days are also aplenty this weekend with Suffolk pair AFC Sudbury and Bury Town locking horns, while Bracknell Town and Hungerford Town will be vying for Berkshire honours. Local bragging rights are at stake also for Waltham Abbey v Walthamstow.

Elsewhere, there are 25 other clubs for whom victory would either equal or set a best FA Trophy run. However, only AFC Rushden and Diamonds versus Malvern Town and Ashford United v Biggleswade FC will guarantee that outcome. Those two ties are two of five that guarantee a Step 4 club will be in the first round.

St Ives Town versus Kettering Town is the most common tie of the round with St Ives ahead by two wins to one in past Trophy games. Meanwhile, Ashton United knocked out

Clitheroe in both their previous Trophy matches separated by exactly 50 years in 1970 and 2020.

St Albans City and Bideford FC have had to wait 43 and 47 years respectively for the chance to avenge past Trophy defeats by Aveley and Dorchester Town, whilst the 7-2 win for Barwell over Bromsgrove Sporting the last time they met in the Trophy is the two clubs' respective biggest win and heaviest defeat in the competition.

A Step 3 side has won the FA Trophy as recently as Hornchurch in the Covid year of 2020-21 – and that will give lower league clubs hope that the Road to Wembley is very much open to all.

Step 2 Spennymoor Town made it all the way to Non-League Finals Day just five months ago, giving their fans a day out they will never forget. Dreams do come true.

ISUZU FA TROPHY Third Round Qualifying: Hyde United v Warrington Town, Ashton United v Clitheroe, Dunston v Warrington Rylands, Workington v FC United of Manchester, Stockton Town v Lower Breck, Silsden v Stocksbridge Park Steels, Runcorn Linnetts or Bury v Morpeth Town, Widnes v Bamber Bridge (walkover – Widnes withdrawn), Bridlington Town v Guiseley, Bradford (Park Avenue) v Heaton Stannington (Fri), Whitby Town v Hebburn Town, Prescott Cables v Lancaster City, Evesham United v Ilkeston Town, Gainsborough Trinity v Shifnal Town, Barwell v Bromsgrove Sporting, Sporting Club Inkberrow v Stratford Town, Rushall Olympic v Spalding United, Anstey Nomads v Stourbridge, Quorn v Corby Town, Real Bedford v Stamford, AFC Rushden & Diamonds v Malvern Town, Halesowen Town v Leek Town, St Ives Town v Kettering Town, Worcester City v Rugby Town (Fri), Basford United v Alvechurch, Harborough Town v Hednesford Town, Cleethorpes Town v Redditch United, Stanway Rovers v Uxbridge, Royston Town v Welling United, Hanwell Town v Grays Athletic, Westfield v Brentwood Town, Leatherhead v Ramsgate, Aveley v St Albans City, Carshalton Athletic v Cheshunt, Broadbridge Heath v Billerica Town, Hadley v Dartford, Harrow Borough v Witham Town, Lewes v Leiston, Cray Valley (PM) v Berkhamsted, AFC Sudbury v Bury Town, Chertsey Town v Tilbury, Burgess Hill Town v Potters Bar Town, Bishop's Stortford v Cray Wanderers, Wingate & Finchley v VCD Athletic, Chatham Town v Needham Market, Ashford United v Biggleswade, Hayes & Yeading United v Walton & Hersham, Sittingbourne v Hashtag United, Waltham Abbey v Walthamstow, Whitehawk v Canvey Island, Dulwich Hamlet v Hendon, AFC Dunstable v Folkestone Invicta, Bracknell Town v Hungerford Town, Basingstoke Town v Shaftesbury, Hartpury v Gloucester City, Plymouth Parkway v Gosport Borough, Dorchester Town v Bideford, Thame United v Banbury United, Bishop's Cleeve v Sholing, Yate Town v Poole Town, AFC Portchester v Taunton Town, Chichester City v Farnham Town, Havant & Waterlooville v Tiverton Town, Wimborne Town v Weymouth

Tribute to three stalwarts of Felixstowe & Walton United FC



From left, Gary Standbridge, Dave Ashford, Leighton Smart, Kate Churchyard, Margaret Stanbridge, Jan Churchyard, Jan Smart and daughter Jo. (Leighton Smart came over from Sydney, where he lives). IMAGE BY STEFAN PECK

Last Saturday, prior to Felixstowe & Walton United's home league game against Newmarket Town, a Memorial Bench was unveiled, honouring the dedication of three men who each gave over 50 years' service to the Felixstowe Club.

Ray Stanbridge, Ron Churchyard and Graham Smart were respectively remembered in a short ceremony, attended by their families and close friends.

After a warm welcome to those present, from Chairman Tony Barnes, it was President Dave Ashford, who served alongside these three legends, who was invited to say a few words about their contribution to the Club's progress over the years.

They passed away within 10 months of each other, between November 2022 and October

2023, all attending home games until their passing. All were in their late 70's.

Ashford explained that Ray Stanbridge, a Felixstowe man, had first played for Felixstowe Town first XI in the Ipswich & District League when he was just 14 years old. He also played for ITFC Youths in the Mercia League.

He represented Suffolk on many occasions and assisted the Felixstowe Club during their progress through the ESBL and to their current level, at Step 4 in the Isthmian League North.

He also managed Walton United for a few seasons, and served on the Committee on occasions for FTFC.

Ron Churchyard, meanwhile, was a Stowmarket man who moved to Felixstowe due to the expansion of Felixstowe Port. Ron was a self-employed haulier, but preferred to be known as a Lorry Driver.

Tribute to three stalwarts of Felixstowe & Walton United FC

Last Saturday, Felixstowe and Walton United's Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Ron and Graham Smart, were joined by their families and other club members to unveil a new Memorial Bench in the Club's grounds. The bench is dedicated to the three families who have supported the Club for so long.



From left: Ron and Graham Smart, their families, and other club members standing behind the new Memorial Bench in the Club's grounds. The bench is dedicated to the three families who have supported the Club for so long.

This affable, warmly polite man was also involved in local "shoots" and enjoyed fishing trips.

The wording on the Memorial Bench was compiled by Ron's daughter, Kate, and reads: "Please be seated, you are in the Company of Legends."

The children of the three families all grew up in and around the Club and all helped at some stage in keeping the Club going through various difficult times.

Ray, Ron and Graham assisted in the rise of the Club from the local Ipswich league to the level enjoyed today.

They should never be forgotten for their contribution to the Club's progress, and it is fitting that they have been suitably honoured.

Article featured in the East Anglian Daily Times

Ron was "The Quiet Man", in Ashford's opinion, and assisted FTFC in numerous ways. He helped in repairs required in the Old Pavilion and around the ground. He also put in his own cash into the Club from time to time, to keep the Club afloat.

Ron also took on the job as Manager of FTFC's 3rd team, who played on Sundays on the current first team pitch. He also played a few games for Felixstowe Town Reserves.

Ron was a loyal and honest, trustworthy Club Member.

Graham Smart was a Trimley man through-and-through. 'Smarty' – as he was known everywhere locally – played for both FTFC and Walton United.

His family's links with Walton United go back to the 1930's, when his father, Jimmy Smart, played for them.

Graham eventually became manager of FTFC under-16 team when the Club joined The Ipswich & District Youth League in July 1986.

He obtained sponsorship, drove the bus to away games, and used his own money to support the lads. Furthermore, in February 1988, Smarty agreed to co-manage The League's Select XI.

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Ford, Garcia

NEWMARKET TOWN

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Saturday 13th September
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown, Warren, Aitkens (C), Stevenson, J Ainsley, Brown, Hitter, Mayhew, Gilchrist, Garcia

SUBS: Cullum, Lay, Ford, Longwe, Holland, Canfer, Tuvey











OUR SQUAD

Introducing the Felixstowe & Walton United playing squad and management team of 2025/2026



JACK AINSLEY
PLAYER/MANAGER
Travis Perkins



STUART AINSLEY
MANAGER
Pat Haseman, Chris & Jayne Ryan



LEON OTTLEY-GOOCH
COACH
AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR



STUART STEVENSON
FITNESS COACH
Shirley Ainsley



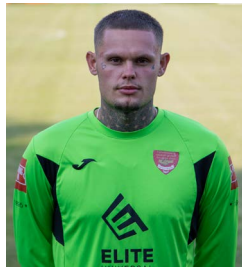
ALEX EGELTON
GOALKEEPER COACH/COACH
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JOE WHIGHT
DEFENDER
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SEASIDERS PEN PICS

MANAGEMENT

Jack Ainsley – Manager

Rejoined for a second spell at the club from Stowmarket in 2023. Jack played professionally for ITFC after coming through their academy and went on to make four appearances playing under Roy Keane. Jack went on to have spells at Step 2 with Lowestoft and Step 3 with Leiston but is back at the Seaside as player/joint manager with brother Stuart.

Stuart Ainsley – Manager

Stuart joined the club for his second spell in 2014 from Lowestoft Town. Previous clubs include Chelmsford City, Canvey Island and AFC Sudbury. Stuart spent ten years at Ipswich Town, winning the FA Youth Cup in 2005. Having spent the last 11 years playing for Felixstowe, began his management career alongside brother Jack in May 2025.

Stuart Stevensen – Fitness Coach

After hanging up his boots Stuart joined Felixstowe Utd as a fitness coach/physio, then on to Trimley to help coach his son's team from the U8s-U16s. Stuart rejoined the Seasiders to coach the U18s which lead him on to being part of the first team staff. Stuart is an FA level 2 coach and an FA level 1 mentor.



Leon Ottley-Gooch – First Team Coach

Leon signed for the club in 2020 and is another vastly experienced player at step 3 and 4 level. Previous clubs include Leiston, Bury Town, Hadleigh Utd and Stowmarket Town. Leon is very versatile but is predominantly a dynamic midfielder. Was appointed first team coach in May 2025.

John Abbott – Physio

John is a vastly experienced physio, qualifying in 1992 and dedicating 37 years to the NHS. Previous football clubs include Enfield Town, Tottenham and Stevenage before taking early retirement to move to Felixstowe, where he joined the seasiders in October 2024.

Alex Egelton – Goalkeeper Coach/Coach

Alex returned to Felixstowe last season having spent many years coaching within the youth and reserve setups at the club. Alex heads up the Goalkeeping section of the club and works with





GOALKEEPER

Harry Wright

Harry started his career as a professional at Ipswich Town and left there in 2021 where he then went on to play for Fleetwood Town and Bury before joining the Seaside in the summer of 2024. He has quickly become a firm fans favourite and works within the clubs Academy system.

DEFENDERS

Joe Whight

Joe came through the ITC Youth system before playing for the likes of Needham, Bury and most recently AFC Sudbury where he captained their side. A left sided defender, Joe offers composure, a wonderful left foot and a toughness and desire to defend to the back line.

Ollie Caley-Brown

Ollie was signed in the summer of 2024 from neighbours AFC Sudbury and has played in recent years for Stowmarket and Leiston. An energetic and attacking full back who loves to get forward and create chances and with a wealth of higher level experience to boot.

Hugh Cullum

Hugh is a local lad who left Felixstowe's youth system and progressed through the Needham Market Academy. Hugh signed back with his local club in the summer of 2024 and has

the Youth section right through to the Seniors and is an important member of the First Team Management structure.

Doug French - Kit Man

Doug started his career in 1986 and played for East Anglian Customs, Walton United, Felixstowe United and Tattingstone, breaking his leg four times in the process. Whilst playing for Ipswich Wanderers vets, Doug finally hung up his boots. Having found his vocation in washing players dirty pants, Doug is excited for another season with the Seaside.



Callum Bennett

Callum returns to the club in 2025 after a brief spell away. Grew up at Ipswich Town Academy before spending a year at Notts County, returning back to local football with Bury Town in 2013, before signing for Felixstowe in 2014. Callum is in the top five for appearances made in the club's history.

Toby Stevenson

Ex-professional Toby scored a hat-trick on his debut for Charlton Athletic at 18 years old, the strong centre back or left back's previous clubs include Leyton Orient, Watford, Billericay and Braintree. An excellent defender at this level after joining the seaside in early 2025.

immediately impressed with his consistent and confident defending.

Hugo Akhuseyin

Hugo is an academy graduate that is now starting to flourish with his progression into the first team squad. A tough tackling and tenacious defender who likes to get forward.

Thomas Warren

Tom signed for the club in the summer of 2024 from Hadleigh United and played his first season for the Seaside alongside his brother Charlie. Tom is an Athletic, strong and pacy full back or winger with a fantastic left foot and keen eye for a goal, scoring an impressive 17 goals in his debut season.





MIDFIELDERS

Billy Holland

Billy started life at Ipswich Wanderers and has had spells at Needham, Leiston and AFC Sudbury. He's established himself as a mainstay in the centre of midfield. Players player and Supporters player of the year for the 22/23 season led to him being appointed captain the following year.

Josh Hitter

Josh signed for us in 2021 having played his football at Step 3 side Leiston for the previous three seasons and gained a vast amount of experience at that level. Josh is a dynamic attack minded player who likes to arrive in the box late and score goals.

Noel Aitkens

Noel's signing for the club in 2020 caused a stir amongst the non-league world, joining from step 3 Leiston and being described as "the best midfielder in this area". Noel is quick, strong, can tackle, is athletic and can really play football!

Ethan Garcia

Ethan signed for Felixstowe in the summer of 2025 after a two year spell with Walsham Le Willows where he impressed many at step 5. Only playing football for four years, a tricky winger with an eye for goal.

Olly Martin

Olly is a product of the clubs academy after more than ten years in the youth set up. An energetic and committed midfielder with an eye for a pass.

FORWARDS

Sam Ford

Having spent a successful period with Arbroath that saw them just miss out on promotion to the Scottish Premiership, Sam spent the Summer with Hume City FC in Australia before returning to Felixstowe in 2022. Coming through ITFC and later West Ham's academy, Sam is a local talent who will provide real firepower in front of goal.

Josh Mayhew

Josh joined us from promotion winners AFC Sudbury. An experienced front man who has



been prolific at Step 4 and 5 with an impressive spell at Stowmarket yielding 136 goals in 173 games. Josh's physical presence brings a focal point to our attack as well as a being natural finisher who is a proven goalscorer at this level.

Zak Brown

A sought after and highly rated young striker with blistering pace and a great goal scoring record. At just 17, Zak penned a two year pro contract with ITFC where he was a regular marksman in the U23's. Zak started life in the Seaside's Youth sections and has returned to lead the forward line as the clubs No. 9.

Dan Gilchrist

Dan's non league career started at Canvey Island before relocating to Suffolk where he went onto play for AFC Sudbury in the FA Cup 1st round, before moving onto Bury Town and Thetford where he had two impressive goalscoring seasons. A hard working attacking player with an eye for goal.

Jacob Lay

Jacob rejoins the club for his second spell, after leaving in 2020, Jacob has gained promotion from step 3 and played at step 2 last season for Needham Market. A tricky winger who has huge energy and workrate.





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**BRANTHAM
ATHLETIC**

**FELIXSTOWE &
WALTON UNITED**

Hitter, Z Brown, Holland, Gilchrist

**0
4**

Tuesday 16th September
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown, Warren,
Holland (C), Stevenson, Ainsley, Brown,
Aitkens, Ford, Hitter, Lay

SUBS: Garcia, Gilchrist, Mayhew,
Akhuseyin, Otley-Gooch











DAN
GILCHRIST

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Felixstowe & Walton United are delighted to welcome forward **Dan Gilchrist**, who joined the Seaside during the summer. As part of our new “**Getting to Know You**” series, we caught up with him to find out more about him, his first experiences at the club, and life away from the game. This is the first in a series of three interviews introducing our new summer signings to the Seaside faithful.

QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS

Name: Dan Gilchrist

Nickname(s): Gilly or moody Dan 😂

Position: Can play anywhere across the front four really - a forward

Height: 5ft 11”

Previous Clubs: Thetford Town, Bury Town, AFC Sudbury

Occupation: Electrician

Team you Support: Arsenal FC

Hobbies: Football and just spending time with my kids... and the odd days fishing

Favourite Food: I love a Chinese!

Favourite Musical Artist: I like a lot of different genres, Drakes go to for me

Favourite Film: Shrek!! I love watching it with my kids.

IN A BIT MORE DETAIL...

Dan, how have you found settling in at Felixstowe since joining in the summer?

It's been brilliant. From the first pre-season session the boys made me feel welcome which helped me massively! I've felt comfortable from the start.

Did the lads make you partake in any joining initiations?

I've still got to sing yet... can't wait 😂

What were your first impressions of the club and supporters?

I already knew Felixstowe was a massive club having played against them. There's just a really nice feeling around the place, so many good people behind the scenes too! We also have such an amazing bunch of supporters who really



make the difference for us home and away, us players really appreciate it!

You've already scored 3 goals – how pleased are you with your start?

I am pleased but I personally demand a lot from myself so I would like to have a few more and that helps the team in the process. Overall I'm happy as we are getting good results and that's the main aim!

How would you describe your playing style?

I'm a hard working forward with an eye for goal who also likes to create for my teammates. I like to be brave on the pitch and try to do my best whenever I step on the pitch.

Do you have any personal targets for the season ahead?

Collectively we know what we want to do as a club and I just want to do my bit to help reach our goals! If I can get 15+ goals along the way then that's a bonus.

FIXTURES 2025/26

AUGUST

SAT 9	WALTHAM ABBEY	A	3PM	LEAGUE	L 1-0	ATT 302
TUE 12	WITHAM TOWN <i>Garcia, Mayhew</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 2-0	ATT 388
SAT 16	NEWMARKET <i>Garcia</i>	A	3PM	EMIRATES FA CUP PR	D 1-1	
TUE 19	NEWMARKET	H	7.45PM	EMIRATES FA CUP RR REPLAY	L 2-0	ATT 384
SAT 23	BOWERS & PITSEA	H	3PM	LEAGUE	D 0-0	ATT 340
MON 25	GORLESTON <i>Holland, Hitter, Gilchrist</i>	A	1PM	LEAGUE	W 3-1	ATT 121
SAT 30	GRAYS ATHLETIC <i>Mayhew, Hitter, Gilchrist</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 189

SEPTEMBER

SAT 6	HERTFORD TOWN <i>Ford (3)</i>	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 1QR	W 3-1	ATT 377
SAT 13	NEWMARKET TOWN <i>Ford, Garcia</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-0	ATT 502
TUE 16	BRANTHAM ATHLETIC <i>Hitter, Brown, Holland, Gilchrist</i>	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 4-0	ATT 185
SAT 20	GRAYS ATHLETIC	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 2QR	L 2-0	ATT 194
SAT 27	TILBURY <i>Mayhew (P)</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 1-0	ATT 295

OCTOBER

SAT 4	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 11	CAMBRIDGE CITY	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
TUE 14	BRANTHAM ATHLETIC	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 18	MALDON & TIPTREE	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
FRI 24	STANWAY ROVERS	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE		

NOVEMBER

SAT 1	TAKELEY	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
TUE 4	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 8	WALTHAMSTOW	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
TUE 11	WITHAM TOWN	A	7.45PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 15	CONCORD RANGERS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 22	MILDENHALL TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 29	WALTHAM ABBEY	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

DECEMBER

SAT 6	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 13	WROXHAM	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 20	GRAYS ATHLETIC	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 27	LOWESTOFT TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE

JANUARY

SAT 3	GORLESTON	H	1PM	LEAGUE
SAT 10	DOWNHAM TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 17	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 24	CAMBRIDGE CITY	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 31	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	A	3PM	LEAGUE

FEBRUARY

SAT 7	TILBURY	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 14	MALDON & TIPTREE	A	3PM	LEAGUE
FRI 20	STANWAY ROVERS	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE
SAT 28	TAKELEY	A	3PM	LEAGUE

MARCH

SAT 7	WALTHAMSTOW	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 14	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 21	REDBRIDGE	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 21	DOWNHAM TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE

APRIL

SAT 4	BOWERS & PITSEA	A	3PM	LEAGUE
MON 6	LOWESTOFT TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 11	NEWMARKET TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 18	CONCORD RANGERS	A	3PM	LEAGUE
SAT 25	MILDENHALL TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE



A RIGHT WING RADICAL

BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME

Find more at TheUntoldGame.co.uk or on social media @TheUntoldGame



Football has been a reflection of the various prejudices in the country almost since its inception. Black footballers still frequently face racism from the stands, and for many decades faced it in the institutions of the game too. And women's football, similarly, has faced the institutional discrimination of the FA, being banned for half a century just as it started to compete in popularity with the men's game. It shouldn't be surprising, therefore, that the story of the first black woman to play the game has gone largely untold. But even before the death of Queen Victoria, there she was, pioneering a path in a world that, in many ways, simply didn't want her. Her name was Emma Clarke.

Clarke was born in 1876 on Merseyside, just a few streets from the suffragist Helen Graham Matthews, who would become a significant figure in her footballing career. She worked at a nearby sweetshop, and played football on the streets with her sister, developing quite an unladylike interest in the game. But with Matthews living nearby, there was no such thing as 'unladylike'. When the writer and feminist Lady Florence Dixie set up a football team, the British Ladies Football Club, Clarke was a prime candidate and signed up. There is a photograph of her lining up for their first ever exhibition match, playing for the 'South' team.

The 'fleet footed dark girl on the right wing', as the South Wales Daily News described her, was certainly noteworthy. Women's football was ridiculed at this time, a curiosity rather than a serious pursuit, but Clarke stood out for more than her skin colour. When she wasn't terrorising full backs, she occasionally played in goal as well. The British Ladies drew crowds of over 10,000, and Clarke would have been paid a shilling a week for turning out for them. Derided curiosity or not, women's football was already big business.

In 1896, Clarke joined the team named for her childhood neighbour, Mrs Graham's XI. She was selected as part of the team that went on a tour to Scotland, playing in matches that once again drew thousands of curious onlookers. The first international between England and Scotland's women had taken place in 1881, and any opportunity to watch the two go head to head was attractive. Players received expenses for their trip, while once again big money was made.

The unorganised nature of women's football at the turn of the century meant that, in 1897, Clarke was on the move once again, this time to a team described as 'The New Woman and Ten of her Lady Friends'. The 'new woman' was a reference to the feminist ideal of a radical, political woman, fighting for suffrage. Right from the start, women's

football was a political endeavour, because of those who backed it and because of those who opposed it. In many ways, simply by playing the men's game, Clarke was one of a progressive few pushing for the kind of change in society that would take decades to achieve.

While with The New Lady, she took part in a game against a men's team, with her sister. The game was described as grotesque, although the women were reported to have distinguished themselves in the second half. Despite the hostility to women playing the game, The New Lady won 3-1, proving that they could compete with men and striking another blow for their cause.

Clarke played for various teams in exhibitions until 1903, when record of her as a footballer seems to disappear. Her entire story was nearly washed from history, wrongly attributed to Carrie Bousted who was believed to be a non-white goalkeeper from the Netherlands, until investigations into the Mrs. Graham tour of Scotland dug up a photograph

that showed Bousted to be white, and also featured Clarke. Fortunately, that led to an investigation that uncovered her story.

Britain's first black female footballer now has a blue plaque commemorating her life, in Crouch End where she spent much of her playing career (if one would call it a career). It's rare for one life to advance so many causes, without seeming to have actively addressed any of them, but it's fair to say that Emma Clarke was involved in the struggle for women's representation in football, for non-white representation in football, and ultimately for the drive by suffragists and suffragettes for women to get the vote in this country. It is ironic, therefore, that the achievement of the last of those goals came hand-in-hand with the devastation of the first, as the FA banned the women's game a year after the vote was achieved.


But for Clarke, she just played football.

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ISTHMIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2024/25

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Felixstowe & Walton United	8	6	1	1	15	2	+13	19
2	Maldon & Tiptree	6	5	1	0	15	4	+11	16
3	Newmarket Town	8	5	1	2	17	11	+6	16
4	Redbridge	9	5	1	3	17	13	+4	16
5	Gorleston	8	5	1	2	17	15	+2	16
6	Wroxham	8	4	3	1	14	7	+7	15
7	Concord Rangers	8	4	1	3	12	9	+3	13
8	Bowers & Pitsea	7	3	3	1	14	6	+8	12
9	Waltham Abbey	6	3	3	0	7	3	+4	12
10	Lowestoft Town	8	3	3	2	15	15	0	12
11	Stanway Rovers	6	3	1	2	13	7	+6	10
12	Downham Town	9	3	1	5	10	17	-7	10
13	Walthamstow	8	2	3	3	12	11	+1	9
14	Mildenhall Town	7	3	0	4	9	15	-6	9
15	Heybridge Swifts	9	2	3	4	7	13	-6	9
16	Witham Town	6	2	1	3	5	9	-4	7
17	Cambridge City	8	2	1	5	9	14	-5	7
18	Grays Athletic	7	1	3	3	8	11	-3	6
19	Tilbury	6	1	2	3	3	5	-2	5
20	Takeley	8	1	2	5	6	14	-8	5
21	Brightlingsea Regent	6	1	0	5	8	11	-3	3
22	Brantham Athletic	8	0	1	7	6	27	-21	1

LAST UPDATED: SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 21:34:33

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**FELIXSTOWE &
WALTON UNITED**

Mayhew (P)

0

1

Saturday 27th September
Isthmian League North
Photos: Stefan Peck

LINE UP: Wright, Caley-Brown,
Stevenson, Holland, Ainsley (C), Cullum,
Gilchrist, Aitkens, Mayhew,
Hitter, Warren

SUBS: Bennett, Lay, Garcia, Brown,
Ottley-Gooch











THE OTHER SIDE HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS FC

HISTORY:

Founded as Heybridge FC in November 1880.
Played as Maldon & Heybridge FC from August 1935 until 1939.
Reformed as Heybridge Swifts FC since 1945.

GROUNDS:

1880	Land to east of the Plains near Heybridge Hall
c. 1890	Bentalls Ground, Colchester Road, Heybridge.
1962	Sadds FC, The Causeway, Maldon
1965	Scraley Road, Heybridge

LEAGUES:

Pre-War:

North Essex League, Essex & Suffolk Border League

Post War: North Essex League

1949/50: South Essex League

1951/52: Essex & Suffolk Border League

1971/72: Essex Senior League (Founder Members)

1984/85: Isthmian League Division Two North

1990/91: Isthmian League Division One

1996/97: Isthmian League Premier Division

2009/10: Isthmian League Division One North

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1893, the fans of the Heybridge FC were so unhappy with the performance of the referee that they threatened to throw him in the pond. Heybridge FC were fined £2 and banned for six weeks!



HONOURS - LEAGUES:

Isthmian League

Division Two North Champions 1989/90

Premier Division R/Up 2005/06

[Play Off Semi Finalists]

Division One North Play Off Finalists: 2022/23

Division One North Play Off Winners: 2018/19

Division One North Play Off Semi Finalists:

2013/14, 2017/18

Division One R/Up 1995/96 (Promoted)

League Cup Winners 2000/01 (beat Croydon 3-0)

Essex Senior League

Champions 1981/82, 1982/83, 1983/84

Runners Up 1980/81

Essex & Suffolk Border League:

Div. 2W Champions 1920/21

Div. 1 Champions 1930/31.

North Essex League

Champions 1902/03 & 1924/25

HONOURS – CUPS:

Essex Senior Cup Runners Up 2015/16

Essex Senior Trophy Winners 1981/82 (beat Witham Town 2-1)

Essex Senior League Cup Winners 1982/83

Essex Junior Cup Winners 1930/31

Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Competition

1955/56, 1959/60, 1970/71, 1974/75,

2006/07, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2022/23

FA COMPETITIONS:

FA Cup

1994/95: 1st Round: Heybridge Swifts 0

Gillingham 2 (@Colchester United)

1997/98: 1st Round: AFC Bournemouth 3

Heybridge Swifts 0

2002/03: 1st Round: Heybridge Swifts 0

Bristol City 7

2017/18: 1st Round: Exeter City 3 Heybridge

Swifts 1

FA Trophy

1996/97: Quarter Final: Heybridge Swifts 0

Woking 1

FA Vase

1986/87: 5th Round (Last 16) Haverhill Rovers 2

Heybridge Swifts 0

TRANSFER FEES

RECEIVED

£35,000 Simon Royce (Southend United)

£10,000 James Pullen (Ipswich Town)

£10,000 Kris Lee (Chelmsford City)

£7,000 Richard Jolly (AFC Wimbledon)

£5,000 Ashley Vickers (Peterborough)

PAID:

£6,400 Richard Jolly (Wealdstone)

HIGHEST ATTENDANCES: (Post War)

2,477 v Woking (FA Trophy 1996/97)

2,046 v Bristol City (FA Cup 2002/03)

RECORD APPEARANCE MAKER:

543 – John Pollard

RECORD GOALSCORER:

193 – Arthur “Stumpy” Moss (1948-60)

RECORD WIN:

1 Nov 1924 17-0 Home v Springfield

(Essex Junior Cup)

WELL KNOWN FORMER SWIFTS

Peter Taylor (Tottenham/former England Manager), Dean Holdsworth (Bolton Wanderers), Paul Parker (Manchester United), Julian Dicks (West Ham United - previous Swifts Manager), Billy Jennings (West Ham United), Mark Wright (TOWIE), Olly Murs (X Factor), Luis Morrison/ Jack Fowler (Love Island).



THE OTHER SIDE PEN PICS

ALAN FLIESCHER

Ipswich Town.

ROHAN TAHENY-CLARKE

Heybridge Swifts Reserves.

MYLES ANDERSON

Rayners Lane, Aberdeen, AC Monza ,Pro Patria, Chievo Verona, L'Aquila, Exeter City, Barrow, Torquay, Hartlepool, Chester, Weymouth, Hampton and Richmond, Beaconsfield, Braintree Town.

DYLAN LOGAN

Stowmarket Town, Maldon and Tiptree, Coggeshall Town, Baldock Town.

MAX SHERLOCK

Brantham Athletic, Stanway Rovers, AFC Sudbury, Bury Town.

MILO GRIMES

Stanway Rovers, Felixstowe and Walton Utd

TOM RICHARDSON

Ipswich Wanderers, Romford, Brentwood town, Brightlingsea regent, East Thurrock, Braintree Town, Aveley, Bishops Stortford

ANDY FENNELL

Needham Market, Chelmsford City, Leiston, Coggeshall United, Felixstowe & Walton Utd, Ipswich Wanderers.

JACK ADLINGTON-PILE

Basildon United, Great Wakering Rovers, Brentwood Town, Southend Manor.

ROB HARVEY

Felixstowe and Walton Utd, Brentwood Town, Coggeshall town, Leiston, AFC Sudbury, Braintree Town, Millwall, Brightlingsea Regent.

CONNOR HOGAN

Brentwood Town, Romford, Cheshunt, Aveley, Hornchurch, Brightlingsea Regent.

RILEY PRENDERGAST

Heybridge Swifts Reserves.

CONNOR WITHERSPOON

East Thurrock Utd, Maldon and Tiptree, Aveley, Brentwood Town.

BEN SAMPAYO

Canvey Island, Bishops Stortford, East Thurrock Utd, Hemel Hempstead, Dover Athletic.

GEORGE CRADDOCK

Basildon Utd, Grays Athletic, Brentwood town, Potters bar, Bishops Stortford, Wingate and Finchley, Canvey island, Braintree Town, Redhill, East Thurrock, Tonbridge, Margate, Mersham, Northampton Town.

MAKAYA JAMES

Spelthorne Sports, Colchester Utd.

BEN MCCROW

Beacon Hill Rover.s

PHILIP BROWN-BAMPOE

AFC Sudbury, Canvey Island, Maldon and Tiptree, Bognor Regis town, East Thurrock Utd, Romford, Barking, Tilbury.

MASON GILLAM

Heybridge Swifts Reserves.

JAMES SASERE

Colchester Utd.

SAMUEL ADEYEYE

Barking, Maldon and Tiptree, Colchester Utd, West Bromwich.

JULIAN DICKS - MANAGER

Player: West Ham United, Liverpool, Birmingham City, Canvey Island.

Management: Wivenhoe Town, Grays Athletic, West Ham United, West Bromwich Albion, Watford.

ADRIAN WHITBREAD - ASST MANAGER

Player: West Ham United, Leyton Orient, Portsmouth, Swindon Town.

Management: Brentford, Leicester City, MK Dons, Barnet, Kings Lynn, Chesterfield, Bishops Stortford.

James GOOD - GK COACH

Bishops Stortford, Southend Manor, Laindon Orient.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities. The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities."



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

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

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

Please visit
Pitchinginvolunteers.co.uk
to find out more



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Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Managers: Jack Ainsley and Stuart Ainsley

Jack **Ainsley**
Stuart **Ainsley**
Noel **Aitkens**
Callum **Bennett**
Zak **Brown**
Ollie **Caley-Brown**
Hugh **Cullum**
Sam **Ford**
Ethan **Garcia**
Dan **Gilchrist**
Josh **Hitter**
Billy **Holland (C)**
Jacob **Lay**
Olly **Martin**
Josh **Mayhew**
Toby **Stevenson**
Thomas **Warren**
Joe **Whight**
Harry **Wright (GK)**

MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian League North
Saturday 4th October 2025
Kick-off 3pm



Newmarket Town FC

Manager: Julian Dicks
Assistant Manager: Adrian Whitbread

Samuel **Adeyeye**
Jack **Adlington-Pile**
Myles **Anderson**
Philip **Brown-Bampoe**
George **Craddock**
Andy **Fennell**
Alan **Fliescher (GK)**
Mason **Gillam**
Milo **Grimes**
Rob **Harvey**
Connor **Hogan**
Makaya **James**
Dylan **Logan**
Ben **McCrow**
Riley **Prendergast**
Tom **Richardson**
Ben **Sampayo**
James **Sasere**
Max **Sherlock**
Rohan **Taheny-Clarke (GK)**
Connor **Witherspoon**

MATCH SPONSOR:
RB TRADING

MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Mr Henry Harvey **Assistant Referees:** Mr Samuel Gasson-Cox and Mr Adrian Copsy