



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY  
PROGRAMME

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EFL LEAGUE TWO  
21ST OCTOBER 2023 | 3



ECHO · LASER

sky bet LEAGUE TWO EFL



The Children's Trust  
For children with brain injury

**B:M2023**

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

HERE'S  
A STATEMENT  
I BET  
YOU  
DIDN'T  
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# welcome to SUTTON UNITED

## MAIN CLUB SPONSOR: ECHO LASER

Chairman: Bruce Elliott  
Chief Operating Officer and Club Secretary: Tim Allison  
Head of Finance: Rob Oakes

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Directors: Tim Allison, Adrian Barry (Club Vice Chair), Patricia Carr, Martin Copus, Bruce Elliott, Dominic Feltham, Micky Joyce, Phil Letts, Gary Otto.

## FOOTBALL STAFF:

Manager: Matt Gray  
Assistant managers: Jason Goodliffe, Micky Stephens  
Coaching staff: Craig Dundas, Andy Little, Sean Miles, Junior Lewis  
Physio and sports therapy: Aly Vogelzang (Head physio), Catherine Chambers, Bobby Childs, Ben Ghinn  
Kit manager: Clive Baxter  
Analyst: John Davies  
Director of Football: Terry Bullivant  
Club doctor: Dr Fuds Uddin

Academy Director: Jimmy Dack  
Academy secretary: Anna Allen  
Main academy partner: Sports Group International

Head of Women's Football: William Letts  
Women's secretary: Dave Farebrother  
Women's team sponsors: Norden

## CLUB STAFF:

Press and Media Secretary: Tony Dolbear  
Sutton United Fctv: James King and James Board  
Supporter Liaison Officer: Claire Loughlin  
EDI champion and Her Game Too Ambassador: Sarah Aitchison  
Club shop and Merchandising: Gareth Miller  
Ground Safety Officer: Mike Chenery  
Senior Steward: Dave Rayner  
Commercial: Graham Baker and Phil Tattersall  
Club photographer: Paul Loughlin  
Match secretary: Graham Starns  
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Football Development Plan Officer: Tony Henderson-Smith  
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Supporters' Club Travel Secretary: John Parsons  
Head of Community and Foundation: Bobby Childs  
Giraffe wrangler: Ian Barr  
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Events Team and Facility Hire: Ryan Cheeseman and Sam Earle

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# TODAY'S MASCOTS

Matthew, who is seven-years-old, and supports Arsenal and Sutton United. His favourite players are Bakayo Saka and Ben Goodliffe. He loves football. James is six. He supports

Manchester City and his favourite players are Kevin De Bruyne and Omari Patrick. He loves football and basketball.



## BOOK YOUR MASCOT & FLAG BEARER PACKAGES



FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT: [MASCOTS@SUTTONUNITED.NET](mailto:MASCOTS@SUTTONUNITED.NET) | 07476 210269

# HONOURS

EFL Trophy finalists: 2021/22  
EFL highest finish: 8th in League Two in 2021/22  
FA Cup, best performance: Fifth Round in 2016/17  
National League winners: 2020/21  
National League Cup (Bob Lord Trophy) winners: 1990/91  
National League South winners: 2015/16  
Isthmian League winners: 1966/67, 1984/85, 1985/86, 1998/99, 2010/11  
Isthmian League Cup winners: 1982/83, 1983/84, 1985/86, 1997/98  
Athenian League winners: 1927/28, 1945/46, 1957/58  
FA Trophy finalists: 1980/81  
FA Amateur Cup finalists: 1962/63, 1968/69  
Anglo-Italian Cup winners: 1978/79  
London Senior Cup winners: 1957/58, 1982/83  
Surrey Senior Cup winners: 1945/46, 1964/65, 1967/68, 1969/70, 1979/80, 1982/83, 1983/84, 1984/85, 1985/86, 1986/87, 1987/88, 1992/93, 1994/95, 1998/99, 2002/03

## GET IN TOUCH

VBS Community Stadium  
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Supporters' Liaison:

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Supporters' Club travel:

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Matchday programme (editorial):

[lyall.reynolds@suttonunited.net](mailto:lyall.reynolds@suttonunited.net)

# FROM THE *Editor*

**Hello everyone and welcome to Gander Green Lane for today's game. The decision to switch to a digital only copy was made on Tuesday evening as the club evaluated the costs and the board decided we could not continue to run the programme at a financial loss.**

This afternoon we welcome Morecambe who picked up good 3-1 wins last week - in the EFL Trophy over Barrow and in the league against Colchester.

They sit mid-table, but they're sixth in the form table and likely to be a stern test to the inconsistent results seen by

Matt's side.

But last time we were here, U's won 4-0 and everyone we are harder to beat at home... Come on the U's. Enjoy!

*Lyall*

Programme team: Editor in chief and design: Lyall Reynolds. Contributors: Tony Dolbear, Mark Frake, Andrew Church, Graham Baker, John Parsons, Anthony Scott, Louis Massingham Rowell, Claire Loughlin, Ryan Cheeseman, Photography: Paul Loughlin.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH BIM2023

### DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

October is Black History Month and we have decided to mark this by featuring some of the most prominent players of black history to have represented this club over the last fifty years, since Gavin Fraser blazed the trail back in 1973.

Between now and the end of the month, on our website we will be looking back at some of those players and their contributions to our history and success.

We also hope that the Sutton Podcast will be broadcasting a few interviews.

We like to think of ourselves as an inclusive club, whether that be around

religion, race, colour or any of the other arbitrary factors that some people want to use to create division.

Our playing squad has long been home to players from a vast range of backgrounds but we would also like to see that reflected in the stands and on the terraces.

We would be delighted to hear from supporters, or maybe from those who attend as often as they might like, with ideas of what we might do differently or better. Please email [info@suttonunited.net](mailto:info@suttonunited.net)

## A WARM WELCOME

We offer a **warm welcome** to the fans, players and officials of Morecambe who are visiting us today. We hope everyone enjoys their trip and has a safe journey home. Enjoy the fan panel



## MATT GRAY

# MANAGER NOTES

Today we welcome Derek Adams and his Morecambe team to the VBS Community Stadium. Derek is an experienced manager who has won promotion from this division with Morecambe before, although unfortunately they came back down last season.

Their record this season has been very steady, and they've freshened their squad over the summer and have got threats in several areas, so it's another tough game for us but at the moment we are focussing on ourselves, focussing on improving as a team and making sure we get ourselves right, and if we manage that then we can be a match for anyone.

After the positives of Walsall and following that up with another clean sheet against Crawley the game at Doncaster was of course disappointing. When you watch the game back we made a really good start with sustained pressure and a couple of chances, and it looked as though we would carry on from the Walsall game.

However we found ourselves 1-0 down, and the first goal is always crucial, but we worked our way back in to the game, Harry Smith had a chance, and I felt it was a very even first half. We were on the front foot again at the start of the second half, so for Doncaster to go down the other end and score again was very frustrating and from our point of view all the second half goals were extremely disappointing. There were glimpses of Walsall and what we wanted to see, but unfortunately not for the whole game and we ended up on the end of a poor result.

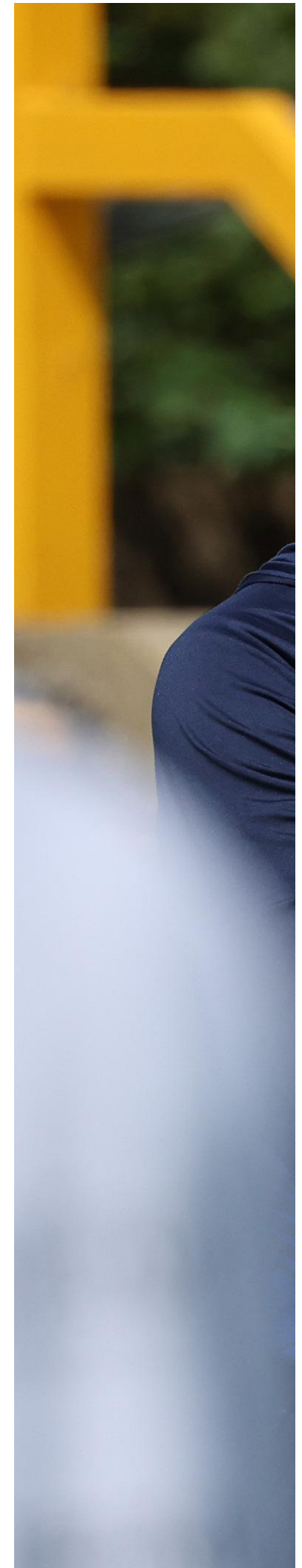
After a relentless start to the season which has seen us playing most midweeks, it's

been good to have a full week's training this week. That's where you get your work done, and it's what I feel we need time and sessions to do, so it's been really good to have that this week and with the fixtures now we should have some more full weeks' training to carry that on. The lads have worked really hard this week, concentrating on building on the positives of the season so far and eradicating the negatives, and hopefully we will see the rewards for that this afternoon and in the coming weeks.

It's important that we can get the atmosphere in the ground similar to what we had against Walsall. The supporters were clapping the lads off during the warm-up and were behind us from the first whistle, and we need that again today and hopefully we will start on the front foot and get that early goal.

I've said before we've had lots of good times recently and everyone's been upbeat and not able to wait for the next game, but at this club when we have bad runs everyone throughout the club still sticks together, and that attitude, with everyone behind us, gives us a great chance to go on and get a result.

Although we are outside the transfer window clubs can sign players who were free agents when the window closed in August, so we were delighted to add Dominic Gape to the squad this week. He's good friends with Scott Kashket from his time at Wycombe, and lives in the local area, and at 29 is a great age with lots of experience having won promotion with Wycombe and played for them in the Championship. To add someone with that experience and quality to an area where we've become a bit light with Craig





**“It’s been good to have a full week’s training; that’s where you get your work done, and it’s what we need time to do.”**

Eastmond’s injury is a boost. He hasn’t trained since the window shut so while he’s physically fit he’ll need a few training sessions before we see him out there but then he’ll play a big part for us.

The other injury news is that Jack Rose’s groin has settled down so he’s back in light training as is Louis John. Easty’s had a successful operation so he now starts his road to recovery, and similarly with Scott who has had his cruciate operation and is back home.

We had the disappointing news of Hisham Kasimu, who broke a weight-bearing bone in his leg and while it could have been a lot worse it will still require a few weeks on crutches before he can get himself back in training, which is a real frustration as he’d just started to really get going for us.

On the positive side we welcome Dion Pereira back from international duty where he made his debut for Antigua & Barbuda.

Enjoy the game

*Matt*

Matt Gray



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TOGETHER FOR EQUALITY  
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**EFL  GETHER  
FOR THE GAME WE LOVE.**



**#EFLTTOGETHER**



# TOGETHER AGAINST RACISM



## a message to supporters

A message from Sutton United about racism and discrimination ahead of today's fixture against Morecambe.

At Sutton United we believe that football is a game for everyone and we are proud of the welcoming atmosphere that you create at the VBS Community Stadium

However, every season, there are hundreds of reports of discrimination across the game, and likely more that go unrecorded.

As part of the EFL's Together Against Racism campaign

we are calling on you, our supporters, to make a difference and report any incidents of racism or discrimination you see or hear in the ground today and at all matches in the future.

Reporting discrimination helps remove unwanted behaviour from football stadiums, allows us to identify abusers and ensure victims get the support they need, creating a safer environment for everyone to attend football matches.

Sutton United and all of football stands Together against Racism and all forms of discrimination.

We want GGL to remain a place where everyone feels comfortable and safe to support our teams. There is no space in our home for any form of discriminatory or antisocial behaviour, and if you witness this, please do report this to a steward. We appreciate that it's not always easy to flag these things to stewards, as you may not feel comfortable to do so, so in order to let you do this discreetly we've launched a discreet text line, which will be picked up directly by our Ground Safety Team.

TEXT YOUR CONCERN TO:

07513 834378

You can report any incidents anonymously - detailing the incident and flagging the area of the ground you are in, and this can then be responded to.

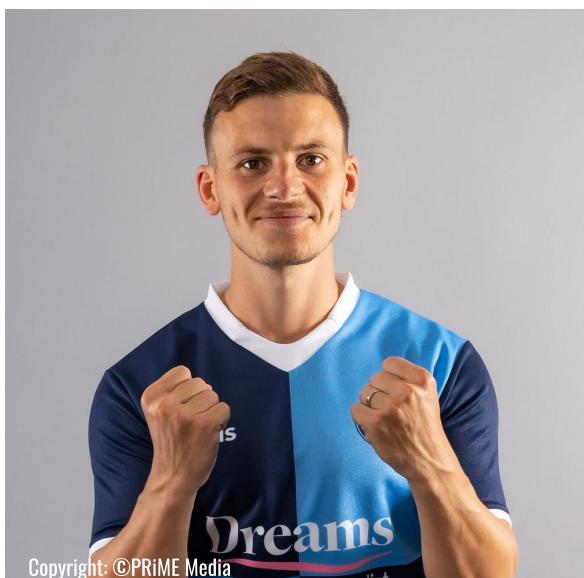


## WELCOME DOMINIC

Matt Gray has bolstered his midfield with the signing of Dominic Gape, who was a free agent after leaving Wycombe at the end of last season.

Dominic, who was 29 last month, was a member of the Southampton Academy from the age of eight and captained their U18 side. He made one Premier League appearance before joining Wycombe, first on loan and then on a permanent basis at the start of 2017. During the next six and a half seasons he made over 150 appearances, featuring in the squad that went from League Two to the Championship.

Dominic will have the squad number 26. We welcome Dominic to the club



# THE BIG INTERVIEW

Ben Goodliffe talks exclusively to the Matchday Programme and believes Sutton United can turn the corner after a frustrating start to the new season.

Sutton United's journey in recent years has been that of success, and Ben Goodliffe has been a virtual ever-present during that period.

But now times are challenging as Sutton look to move off the foot of the League Two table.

However, Goodliffe is adamant that this group of players have the ability to turn U's fortunes around.

The central defender has played over 150 games for the Gander Green Lane outfit since joining in 2019, and has made some life-long memories with the club as it rose from non-league football to even make an appearance at Wembley.

Now the 24-year old knows the U's must dust themselves down at go again - starting with today's game with Morecambe.

"It's been disappointing so far," he said when reflecting on the season to date.

"We haven't had the results that obviously we would have all liked, it's been very frustrating as players, but we need to stick together, turn it around and make it right."

Matt Gray's side will be looking to make home advantage count after back-to-back successes at home - the win on penalties against Crawley Town in the EFL Trophy following the 4-0 rout of

loss away at Doncaster last weekend leaves Sutton three points away from safety with over a quarter of the campaign gone.

There were plenty of personnel changes on the pitch over the summer, with no fewer than twelve new faces. And whilst it was always going to take time for a new group to gel, the central defender knows that the squad has what it takes to turn the season around.

"We're a new group who had to get to grips with each other, and understand each other very quickly," he explained.

"I think both defensively and in attacking areas we haven't been great collectively. But I know we have the quality of players in the dressing room to find that consistency and get those wins we all are fighting for and turn this around."

He joined Sutton in the summer of 2019 after being released by Wolverhampton Wanderers, having spent a season on loan at Dagenham & Redbridge.

Goodliffe graduated through the academy at Boreham Wood where his performances earned him a move to Molineux in 2017, and he has captained the English Colleges team.

Finished his first season at Sutton being voted Young Player of the Season and again received that award two seasons ago, as well as winning the Club Player of the Season and Supporters' Club Player of the Season. He was included in

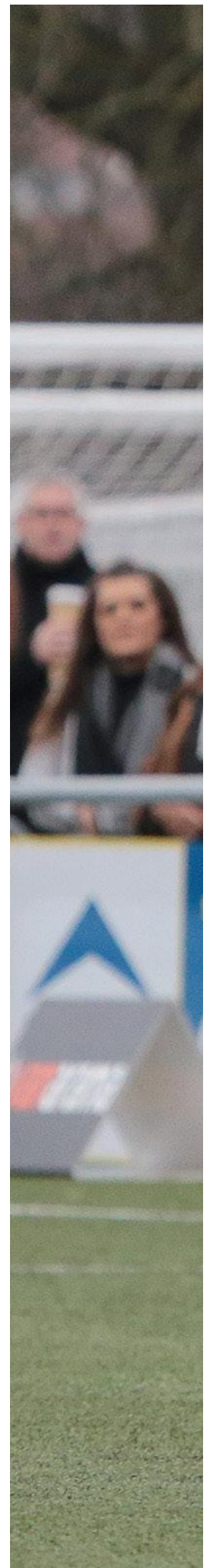


Photo: Paul Loughlin (celebrating his first Sutton goal in the 3-2 win against Yeovil on 28th December 2019).

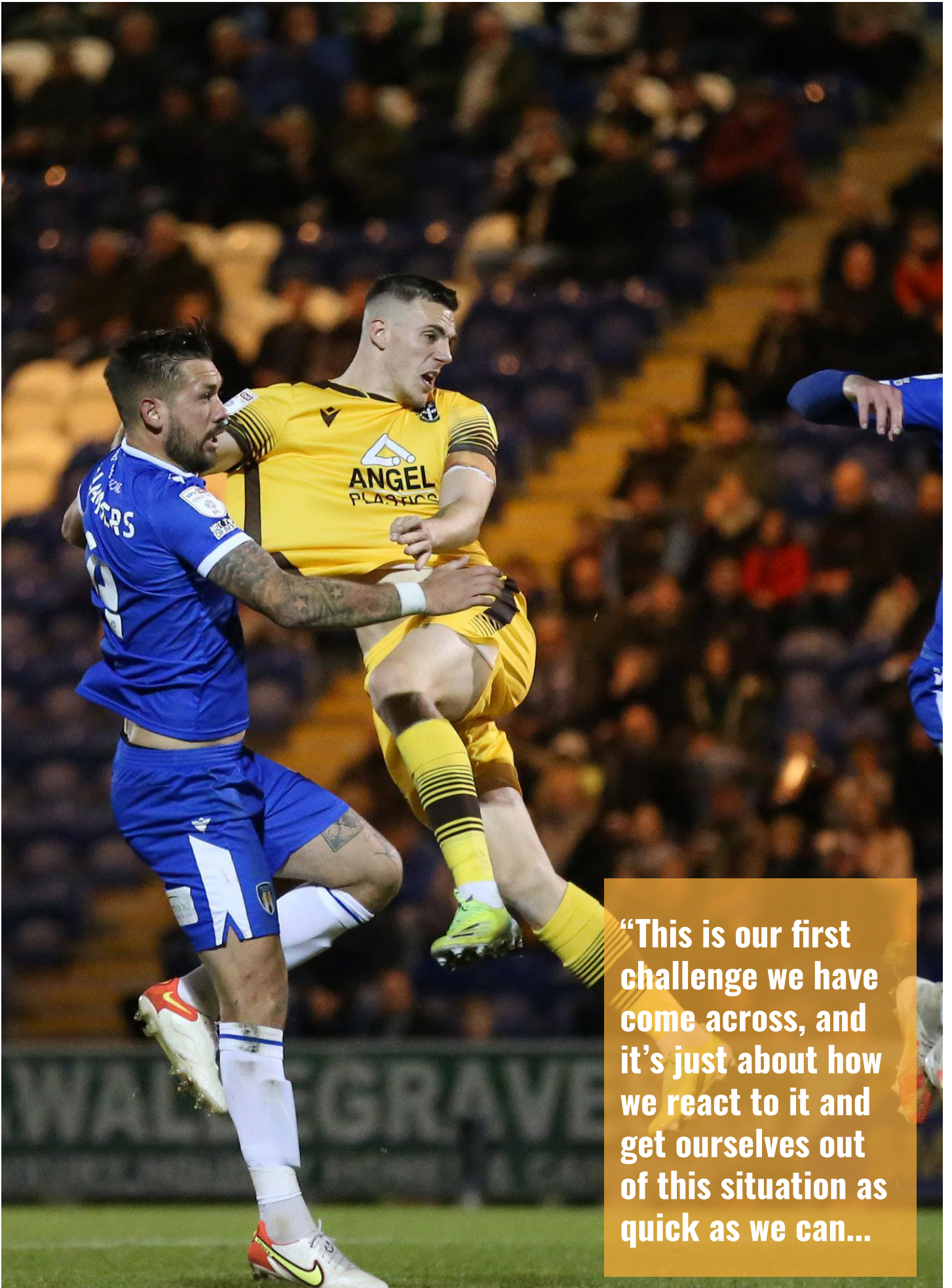






IT'S BEEN VERY  
FRUSTRATING AS PLAYERS,  
BUT WE NEED TO STICK  
TOGETHER, TURN IT AROUND  
AND MAKE IT RIGHT





**“This is our first challenge we have come across, and it’s just about how we react to it and get ourselves out of this situation as quick as we can...”**

seasons ago, and has now made over 150 appearances.

He's been part of the upward curve that Sutton have enjoyed in the last few years, but now they are presented with their first real challenge under Matt Gray.

Goodliffe added: "We've had some great success, which is great to be a part of.

"The squads over the years have been very enjoyable to be part of. I've loved coming into training and being around the group and the players.

"Obviously this is our first challenge we have come across, and it's just about how we react to it and get ourselves out of this situation as quick as we can."

During Goodliffe's time in south London, the club won the National League before going on to make the final of the EFL Trophy, played at Wembley, in 2021/22.

And the defender has fond memories of his time here, and hopes there will still be some more glory in the future.

"The club has had some great times over the last few years and I've had some great memories in the time I've been here," he said.

"Wembley is my favourite highlight, because all my family and friends were there to watch me on such a big occasion for me personally.

"We got to the final and beat some big teams on the way which was great. It was a fantastic feeling, but it's a big shame that we lost in the circumstances we did when we were so close to winning."

Ben, son of assistant manager Jason Goodliffe, has made over 150 appearances since joining in 2019, and also spoke about how this group of players can turn the club's fortune around.

"There's lots of different characters who come and go, and we've had to replace some big characters in the changing room," he said.

We've obviously got a new group now, and the boys are fantastic. We have a great group who can get the results, but we haven't got them recently.

"But I believe with this squad we can bounce back and get ourselves going, but we first need to find that win, then we

back that up with another win and find that consistency that hasn't fallen for us so far."

After a spell on loan at Boreham Wood during his time at Wolves, he joined Sutton when the club were in the National League, and is one of a few in the current squad who have made the transition from non-league to the Football League.

"Obviously the difference is very big," he said talking about the difference between Step Four and Five of the football pyramid.

"Our first season or two, we could compete with the teams and the budgets. Now, we have come up against teams with former Premier League or Championship players who have dropped down.

"It's a very tougher League Two this season. You have better known players, better quality players.

"Not to say there isn't good teams or players in the National League because there is, but I think the standard of League Two has certainly gone up this time around."

Sutton face Colchester, Tranmere and Grimsby Town between now and the end of November - all teams around the bottom two heading into the weekend.

The U's will face some tough tests in the battle to improve their current position - starting today against a Morecambe side looking to return to League One after suffering relegation last term.

But Goodliffe knows that this squad has the ability to move the club back up the League Two table.

"The main thing is retaining our football league status," he said when talking about his hopes for the rest of the season.

"Nobody wants to be fearing the worst, but it's about how we regroup now to get ourselves out of this situation.

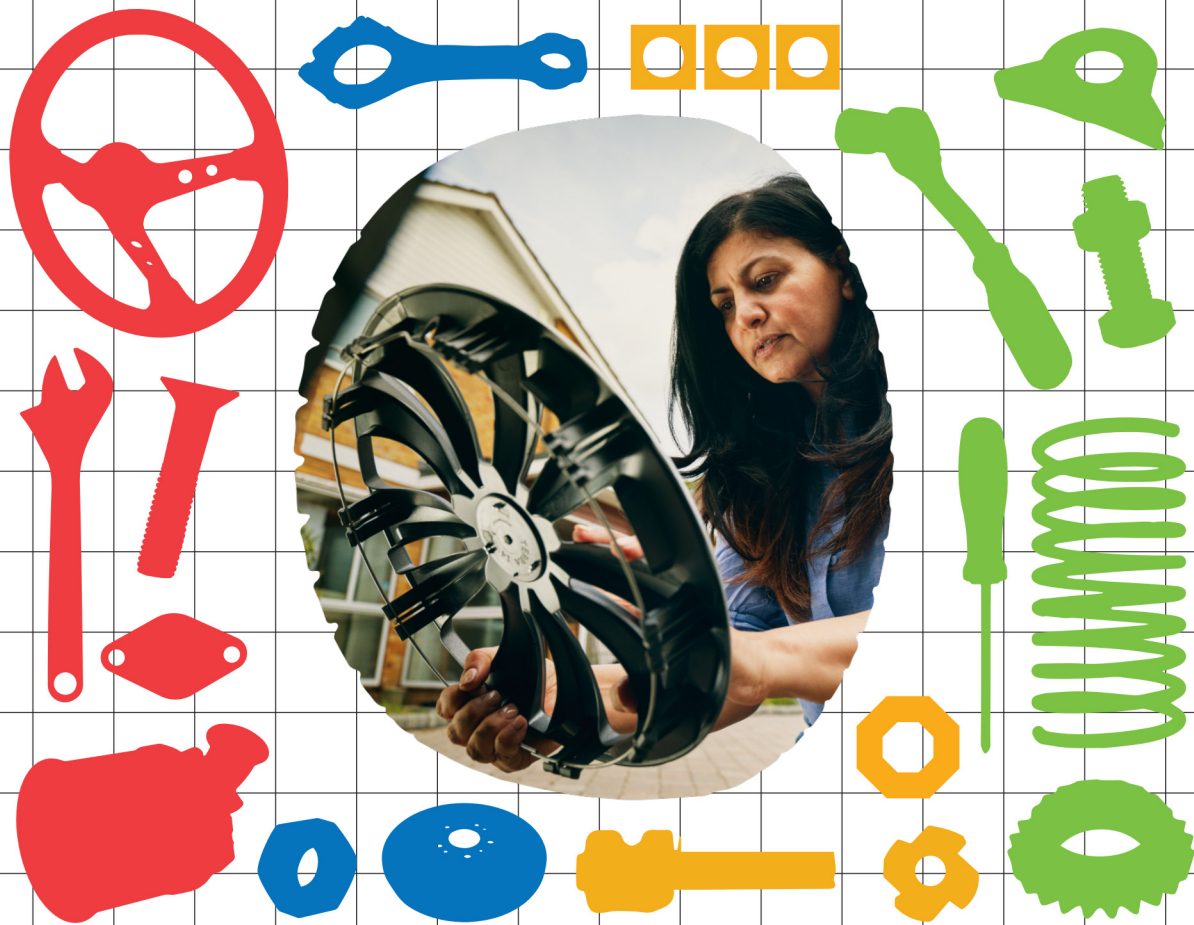
"Staying up is the first target, and then we'll see where results can take us, but we need to get wins sooner rather than later as the longer we suffer defeats, the harder the situation will become."

In a congested League Two table where it's been proven that anyone can beat anyone, there's nothing stopping Sutton putting a string of wins together, starting today.

Words: Ant Scott



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For further information, including prices, and to book a match day or corporate ball sponsorship, please contact our

[graham.baker@suttonunited.net](mailto:graham.baker@suttonunited.net).

### Individual match day ball

**donors.** Being an individual match day ball donor is a cost-effective way to support your local football club. For £75 it can be a great way to celebrate an anniversary, birthday or mark a date that means something special to you, or just to show your support of Sutton United.

You will receive a write-up in the match day programme and mentions on the PA system before the game and at half-time.

For individual ball sponsorship please contact Mark Kidd at [mark.kidd@suttonunited.net](mailto:mark.kidd@suttonunited.net)





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[benpeyton.co.uk](http://benpeyton.co.uk)

# MATCHDAY BALL DONORS

**This afternoon we thank and welcome our ball donors Phil Tattersall and Strikers Are Key syndicate Last Of The Summer Whine.**

Phil Tattersall or "Tatts" as we all know him, made his first visit to Sutton United way back in the early 80s when playing for Wilsons School Vs Glyn in a Surrey Schools Cup Final.

Having lost to a disastrous last-minute winner (well offside but the linesman was a Glyn Physics teacher) he became disillusioned with the game and vowed never to return to the scene of the heist of the decade.

He nervously ventured back for the FA Cup replay against Merthyr Tydfil a few years later (a match that Chairman Bruce refuses ever took place) and has been coming ever since.

Firstly when Chelsea weren't playing but in latter years only being dragged along to Stamford Bridge when the Us weren't playing.

Nowadays Tatts is part of our commercial team and he'd welcome to hear from anyone interested in matchday sponsorships, women/men player sponsorships, joining the business club plus many more opportunities to be involved. Contact him by email at [phil.tattersall@suttonunited.net](mailto:phil.tattersall@suttonunited.net) or call 07970 430 289.

At a recent Strikers Are Key draw the syndicate Last Of The Summer Whine were unable to open the safe and picked up the £50 consolation prize which they have kindly decided to use towards today's ball donation.

The syndicate comprises stalwart supporters Bob Budd, Mark Frake, Mark Kidd and Chris Vagg who between them have well over 200 years of supporting the Us and have fulfilled many roles including Grumpy old man, Ground Safety Officer, Committee members, car park attendant and player.

We are most grateful to Phil and The Last Of The Summer Whine syndicate for their support this afternoon.



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# PAUL'S PHOTO FROM THE A



# ARCHIVES

Club photographer Paul Loughlin delves through his archives to pick a photo from yesteryear from his decades of snapping the U's - here, Alan Pouton makes it 3-1 to Sutton from the penalty spot in the FA Cup win against Hampton and Richmond on 24th October 2009





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# ON THIS DAY

Mark Frake takes a look back at matches played on this day throughout the club's history.

Sutton's first match as a senior club on this day was in the Amateur Cup second qualifying round in 1911. The opponent was East Grinstead and the venue, London Road. Sutton won by 3-0 (P Harding 2, S Jackson).

Eleven years later, U's defeated Redhill away from home in the Surrey Charity Shield by 2-1.

More Amateur Cup football in 1933 in the second qualifying round as Sutton hosted West Norwood. Richard Tarrant scored twice; his second giving United a last minute victory.

Two matches during WWII. A friendly at Redhill in 1939 saw Sutton win by 3-1 and at home in 1944, Tipper Pratt scored twice but U's still went down 4-2 to Bromley in the SE Combination.

The first Athenian League match on this day was in 1950 against Wealdstone at GGL and it finished 0-0.

Nine years later it was the FA Cup and a midweek replay at Woking in the third qualifying round. U's defeated their Isthmian League hosts by 3-1 to set up a fourth qualifying round home tie with Southern League, Hastings United.

U's second and final Athenian League match on this day was in 1961 at Church Road, Hayes, the home side recording a 4-2 victory.

In 1964, U's and Kingstonian battled out a 2-2 draw at Richmond Road. The two sides would draw the return a fortnight later thus, the first four Isthmian League matches between the two Surrey sided all ended in stalemates.

A year later and a Thursday night Isthmian visit to Woking also ended 2-2. Bob Taylor (penalty) and Roy Osborne scored for Sutton.

A famous afternoon in 1972 as Robin Gonzales scored his only two senior goals for United in a shock FA Cup third qualifying defeat of Southern League Wimbledon by 3-1 at GGL.

Two years later and back to the Isthmian League with Woking the visitors. Graham Dennis scored in a 1-1 draw.

Three years later and more FA Cup football again in the third qualifying round. Sutton travelled to Athenian League, Windsor & Eton and a Terry Harris goal was enough to ensure progress.

Onto the 1980s and in 1985, U's travelled to the south coast for an AC Delco (Isthmian League) Cup first round replay at Bognor Regis Town. This Monday night fixture was the third between the two clubs inside a week.

The first had ended 3-3 at GGL, setting up the replay while Rocks had defeated U's at Nyewood Lane in the Isthmian league two days earlier.

U's took swift revenge with Paul McKinnon netting twice (he scored all three in the initial tie) and Lenny Dennis scoring his first Sutton goal having made his debut in the league match.

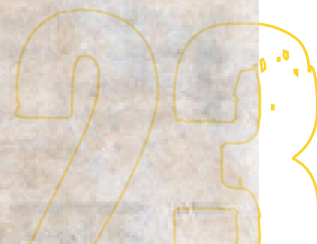
Incidentally, that league defeat would be U's last until they lost at Yeovil a few days shy of six months later.

Ten years later and U's defeated Crawley Town in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round by 4-1 (Mark Hynes and Dominic Feltham both scoring twice).

In 2000, a solid if unspectacular start to life back in the Isthmian League sparked off as U's hammered Billericay Town by 5-0 at New Lodge. Richard Thompson (2), Chris Boothe, Danny Bolt and a superb strike from distance by skipper Dave Harlow were the marksmen.

Two years later, same comp, same venue but only a Matt Fowler goal separated the two sides this time.

In 2006, United lost at Newport County in the Conference South by 3-1 and finally the long trip to Hartlepool United in 2017 saw the team glean a point after a 1-1 draw, Tommy Wright's late, late equaliser causing much anguish in the Sky Soccer Saturday studio.





# THE OPPOSITION

## Morecambe

### CLUB FACTS

**Formed:** 1920

**Stadium:** Mazuma Mobile Stadium

**Nickname:** The Shrimps

**Owner:** Bond Group Investments Ltd

**Finish last season:** 22nd of 24 in League One

### HONOURS

League Two play-off winners: 2021

Conference National play-off winners: 2007

Northern Premier League runners-up: 1994/95

FA Trophy winners: 1973/74

Conference League Cup winners: 1997/98

Northern Premier League President's Cup winners: 1991/92

Lancashire Senior Cup winners: 1967/68

**Founded in 1920, Morecambe FC have represented the seaside town on the football map for over 100 years.**

In their early years they played in the Lancashire Combination, winning five titles in a 48-year stay.

In 1968, they joined the newly formed Northern Premier League and had relative success at that level: winning the FA Trophy in 1974 before clinching the Northern Premier League President's Cup in 1992.

The early years saw Morecambe FC build a club from the bottom up, originally sharing facilities with Morecambe Cricket Club.

As the club continued to progress, the post-war era saw further development of the football club. The 50s, 60s and 70s all featured big cup success.

In 1961/62, they made it to the FA Cup 3rd Round where we were narrowly beaten 1-0 by Weymouth before winning the Lancashire Senior Cup in 1968. The Shrimps would go on to win the 1974 FA Trophy at Wembley after beating Dartford 2-1.

During the 80s and early 90s the club found itself in a state of flux with attendances falling to around 200 and struggling to maintain the success of earlier decades.

With Jim Harvey installed as the manager, they won promotion to the National League, enjoyed FA Cup runs, and won promotion to the EFL in 2007 (under Sammy McIlroy, who had stepped in when Harvey suffered a heart-attack).

The experienced Derek Adams led them to promotion into League Two via the play-offs in 2021. Sadly they were relegated two years later.



# THE BOSS

*Derek Adams*

**Age:** 48

**Appointed:** February 2022



Morecambe resigned Adams in 2022 having previously led the Shrimps to promotion to Sky Bet League One in the 2020/21 play-off final. He started managing as player-coach at Ross County before heading south.

During his time in England, the Scotsman led Plymouth to promotion into League One in 2016/17, after losing the play-off final the year before to AFC Wimbledon.

He left them to join Morecambe and guided a struggling team to safety. He then had a short spell at Bradford, before returning to Morecambe.

# STADIUM

Capacity: 6,476



The Mazuma Mobile Stadium opened in 2010, replacing the old Morecambe ground at Christie Park as home of the Shrimps.

# LAST STARTING XI

## MORECAMBE 3-1 BARROW

EFL LEAGUE TROPHY, TUESDAY, 10TH OCTOBER 2023

A Smith, Rawson, Songo'o (Love, 70'), Stokes, Davenport, C Smith, Walker (Bloxham, 79'), Brown (Mayor, 79'), Connolly (Senior, 70'), Melbourne, Rooney (Slew, 79'). Subs not used: Moore, Tutonda.

# THREE TO WATCH

**Yann Songo'o** returned to Morecambe where he had previously won the League Two play-off final, as Derek Adams signed the defensive midfielder for the fifth time in his career.



Yann, who boasts over 300 career appearances, turned out 45 times for The Shrimps in his first spell.

The 31-year-old Frenchman spent the second half of last season on loan at Walsall before the expiry of his contract with Bradford this summer.

Highly rated Northern Ireland Youth International **JJ McKiernan** joined in the summer following his departure from Watford.



He came through the youth ranks at the Hornets, spending time on loan at Bohemians in 2022 before joining Eastleigh last season as the Spitfires narrowly missed out on the play-offs.

**Donald Love** signed in June 2022 from Salford having originally progressed through the Manchester United Academy - going on to play for the first team.



He had spells at Wigan, Sunderland, Shrewsbury and then the Ammies. Derek Adams named Love as his match captain for the 2022/23 season.

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# U'S VS. OPPO

Mark Frake looks at past encounters against today's opponents

The two clubs have met just twice, during the 1999/2000 GMV Conference.

The return in April 2000 was the complete opposite of the pre-Christmas goal fest. It ended 1-0 t Morecambe.

At Christie Park in early December, Eastwood scored twice for the hosts before the break and it really should have been more but U's came out after the break and levelled through Mark Watson and Andy Riley. That, however, re-awoke the home side and they scored four more without reply to win 6-2.

Players to have played for both include Kiwi international Steven Old and Jonah Ayunga - who joined Havant from the U's before heading to Morecambe via Bristol Rovers. He's currently at St Mirren in Scotland.



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# PAUL'S PHOTO OF THE WEEK



K

Club photographer Paul Loughlin picks his photo of the week - in this instance - Josh Coley slots home the decisive penalty to claim a bonus point in the EFL Trophy against Crawley last week.





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detailing the incident and flagging the area of the ground you are in, and this can then be responded to by the ground safety team.

And as ever, if you have anything you want to chat about, or feedback on, do drop me a line or grab me on matchdays.

I really do want to hear what you have to say and work together to make our club the best it can be.

And last Saturday's home game was brilliant. The result was great, the support was great, and we were all able to go home smiling. Here's to more joy for supporters.

Claire  
#ForeverAmber



# the SUPPORTERS' CLUB

On behalf of the Sutton United Supporters' Club, I'd like to offer a warm welcome to our visitors today.

## THE CLUB HUB

The Supporters' Club hub can be found at the GGL entrance and will be open at all home matches before the match and at half-time.

## MEMBERSHIP

All members being entered into the our monthly draw. See Iris Mackley, our membership secretary for information. Fees are: Adult £10, Juniors (U16) £5, Seniors (60+) £5.

## FIFTY-FIFTY

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<b>TATTS</b>	<b>THE iT</b>		<b>CLAIRE</b>	<b>MONKEY PUZZLE DAY</b>

# Classic Campaigns

Club historian MARK FRAKE selects his Sutton United classic campaigns - looking back on league football and describing the highs (and lows) of our seasons as a senior club.



*After covering some epic and indeed, not so epic cup runs last season, this term I will concentrate on league football (with a nod to cup progress within them). My selection won't be entirely based on success, rough with the smooth.*

The disappointing 1952/53 season when U's finished second from bottom of the Athenian League, did spark some league improvement the following season but from their Sutton yo-yoed up and down the table arriving to the 1957/58 season having finished 11th the previous term.

The club had appointed George Smith as manager for that season and they stuck with him. He had been Joe Mercer's assistant at Sheffield United. During the 1956/57 term, skipper Don Stoker had been missing for a number of matches. However, it was for the best of reasons though and that was to represent Great Britain & Northern Ireland at the Melbourne Olympics.

## 1957/1958

Smith's major summer signing was right winger, Alan Sunnucks from Redhill while Chris Kelleher rejoined the club. The centre-forward position didn't resolve itself until the signing of Brian Jenkins from Epsom in November while even later another Epsom player, Roy Colfar proved a fine addition. Off the pitch, a new physio was appointed, namely Bob Reynolds. He would become a stalwart of the club as well as serving the FA.

The season started with a 3-1 loss at Hayes but U's responded to that reverse with three straight home league wins and progress in the FA Cup. Their home victories were against Southall (3-1) and Walton &

followed and a 4-0 home replay exit to W&H in the FA Cup.

Sutton then won 2-0 at Enfield with new c-f, Ken Fitch on target along with future manager and chairman, Peter Molloy. The next Saturday, Sutton hosted Cambridge City and a weakened team secured a 2-0 victory. Stoker was nursing a back injury plus threatening his rep honour with Middlesex Wanderers (Sunnucks and Bill Robinson also selected). U's came through by 2-0. Stoker was back the following week for a goal less draw at Hitchin Town. (Sunnucks injured during that and thus missing out on a rep honour). Before U's went down 3-0 at home to Wealdstone.

The next four matches brought just three draws and another home defeat (to Hendon by 3-2). Even so, this left Sutton holding a top five Athenian League position although they had played more matches than the likes of Wealdstone, Maidstone United, Hounslow and Barnet, all of whom, would have harboured title hopes.

Jenkins made his debut the following week, scoring in a 2-1 London Senior success at Tufnell Park. The next Saturday, Jenkins' potential shone through in a 7-3 thrashing of Redhill at GGL. He scored four of the goals but it was back down with a bang as he returned to Epsom for a Surrey Senior first round tie. United lost 2-0; a cup shock.

Four days before Christmas, U's hosted Barnet in the Athenian League. Jenkins wasn't available and Fitch returned to net twice as U's won 4-3, Robinson also scoring a brace. On Boxing Day, United received borough neighbours, Carshalton Athletic. A rather tenid local

days later, Robinson scored both goals in a fine 2-0 win at Wealdstone. This was the third match in a run of nine consecutive matches that Bill would score in.

The opening fixture of 1957 was a London Senior Cup tie at Hendon, U's winning by 2-0 but a week later, Sutton was stunned by Corinthian League Yiewsley, the team going down by 3-1 in the Amateur Cup first round.

The next Athenian match was at home to Hitchin. Recently returned Reg Walker netted twice from his half back position in a 5-1 success.

Another home game followed, the first league match between Sutton and Maidstone. This was second versus third with Stones two points adrift but with two matches in hand. Sutton was by far the better side but two lapses cost them an important victory, the match ending 2-2. Indecisive officiating caused the U's defence to stop and allow Maidstone a second goal on the hour.

United's good form continued with a 4-2 London Senior Cup victory at Dulwich, taking the club to their first semi-final in a competition, that over the years, had seen plenty of poor exits as well as difficult draws. But a week later, inconsistency was shown again as an own goal

helped Sutton to a 2-2 draw at lowly Redhill.

But from there though, Sutton never looked back. They won their next eight league matches including a huge 2-1 victory at Barnet. Robinson and Jenkins continued to be the main source of goals with the newly signed Colfar chipping in too.

During the run, Sutton scored 22 goals and conceded 9. During this period, they also thrashed Wimbledon 5-0 in the London Senior Cup semi-final and defeated Molesey in the Surrey Shield 6-2 (Robinson 3).

Thus, they went into their penultimate Athenian League match at Maidstone two points above their second placed hosts having played one match less. There is nothing like keeping the nerves of your fans jangling and Sutton did just that by losing the match 1-0. They needed a point at Finchley to secure a third title.

This match was played on a Thursday night and U's were down early on. Molloy and Jenkins put Sutton on course but an 82nd minute equaliser gave for a tense end to the Athenian League season before Sutton could celebrate the winning of the 1957/58 title.

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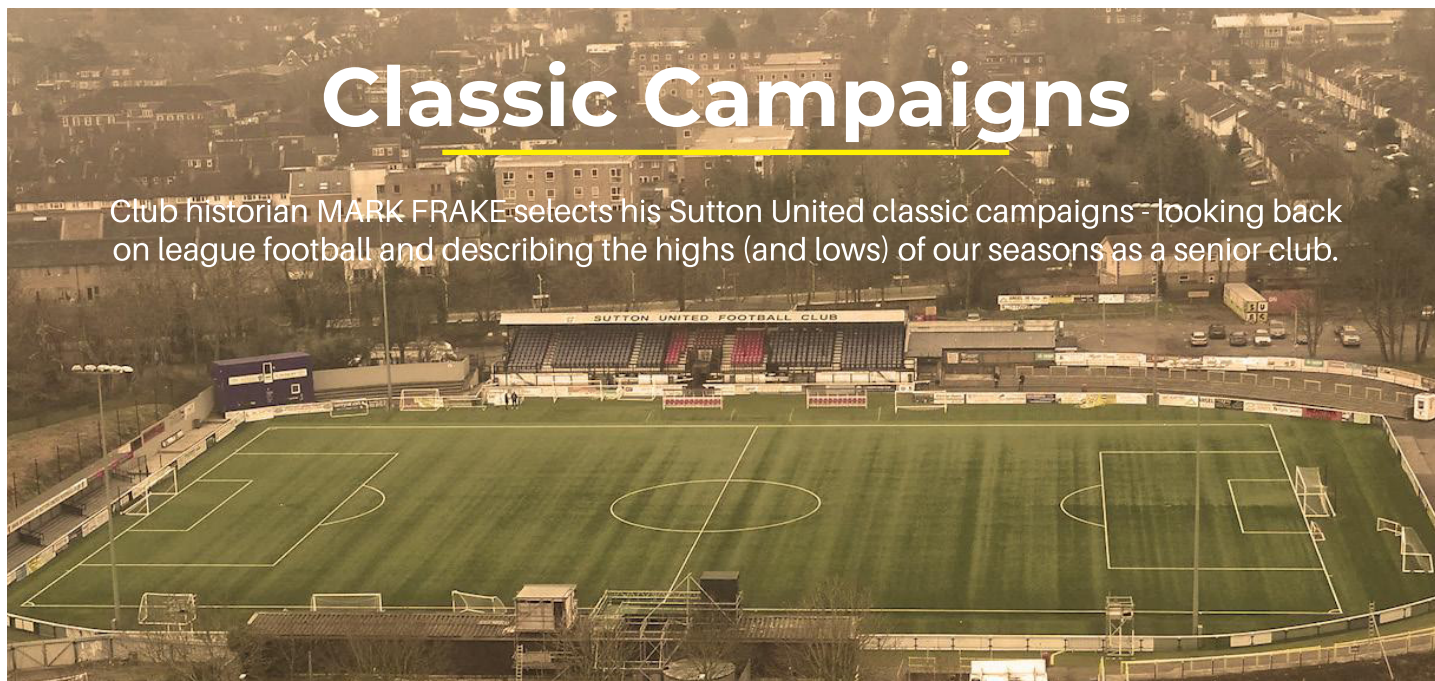
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# Classic Campaigns

Club historian MARK FRAKE selects his Sutton United classic campaigns - looking back on league football and describing the highs (and lows) of our seasons as a senior club.



	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sutton United	30	18	7	5	64	37	43
Maidstone Utd	30	19	4	7	63	45	42
Hendon	30	15	7	8	73	40	37
Barnet	30	16	5	9	78	52	37
Hounslow Town	30	16	4	10	60	55	36
Finchley	30	13	9	8	64	46	35
Hayes	30	14	3	13	76	70	31
Wealdstone	30	11	8	11	64	65	30
Hitchin Town	30	12	6	12	52	65	30
Southall	30	13	3	14	66	55	29
Enfield	30	10	8	12	47	49	28
Carshalton Ath	30	9	6	15	48	67	24
Leyton	30	9	6	15	59	80	24
Redhill	30	6	7	17	53	71	19
Cambridge C	30	7	5	18	47	82	19
Walton & H	30	5	6	19	45	80	16

The Surrey Shield run ended in a replay at Kingstonian while Dulwich gained some revenge for their London Senior Cup exit by defeating U's in the South of the Thames Cup.

The 1957/58 season vying for U's best ever (to that point) with the 1945/46 campaign. Pearson topped the appearance charts missing just that London Senior Cup final while Robinson netted 26 times (14 in the Athenian League) Jenkins 18 (13 in just 14 league matches) and Molloy 13.

During the season a number of representative honours were bestowed on Sutton players. The highest accolade though, went to Billy Robinson, recipient of an England amateur cap against Scotland. Not a roaring success apparently. With the season over in England though, he toured Ghana with an FA squad.

Don Stoker made his 37th appearance for Surrey during the season. It was believed to be a county record at the time.

The summer of 1958 saw manager, George Smith, take the large leap to become manager of Crystal Palace.

Nine days later the two sides contested the London Senior Cup final played at Wimbledon. U's keeper Wally Pearson injured his fingers during the week thus dropping reserve, Jack O'Malley into the hugest of debuts. O'Malley played his part as Sutton took the London Senior Cup for the first time with a 2-1 extra-time victory.



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# WOMEN'S UPDATE



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**HOWDEN**



Our women's first team has had some mixed results in recent weeks. Last weekend was a chastening experience, a 7-1 defeat away to league leaders Dartford, who have 24 points from 8 games. That followed a 4-1 defeat the previous Sunday at second placed Fulham.

However, all those results do is show the gap between the top two and the rest of the league, as we are in fifth and our other recent results have been very good and, indeed, we played well at Fulham and in spells at Dartford, where the scoreline was slightly harsh on our efforts.

In between these two games we won 2-1 away to Dorking Wanderers in a rare midweek game, Laura Murtagh put us ahead and then Fern Colepio headed the winner in the closing minutes to seal a fine 2-1 win.

Before that we had recorded a really good 2-1 win away to Enfield Town and followed that up with a 4-2 win against Leatherhead at Fetcham Grove in the FA Cup.

The next round of the cup will be this Sunday when we entertain Sport London E Benfica, who are going well one division below us in the L&SERWL Division 1 North. Kick off will be here at the VBS at 2pm.



Our reserves lie 6th in the Surrey Premier Division of the South East Counties League and our Development Team is in 2nd place in the Surrey 1st Division, a point behind leaders Crawley AFC.

# ACADEMY UPDATE



Last weekend, Sutton's academy side moved level on points with league leaders Wimbledon after shrugging off the first half dismissal of Dan Urpens to beat Northampton by the only goal of the game and move above their opponents in to second place in the EFL Youth Alliance South East Division

Urpens was shown a red card for bringing down a Northampton player who was through on goal and denying him a goalscoring opportunity.

But Sutton were undeterred and in the second half James Fennelow, like Urpens eligible for the U16s team, scored for the fourth game in a row to secure a fourth consecutive league and cup win and move U's alongside Wimbledon, who were beaten at home by Luton, and behind them only on goal difference.

A week before that, Sutton's academy side held off a late comeback from Exeter City to reach the Southern semi finals of the EFL Youth Alliance League Cup with a 3-2 success at Aberdour.

At half time Sutton seemed set for a comfortable victory, James Fennelow scoring twice to make it four goals in three games for the U16 striker, and George Vorster, on target at Cambridge last week, again finding the net as U's took control. After the break Exeter came back strongly and pulled two goals back, but U's held on to take their place in the Southern section's last four.



Sutton are likely to field a youthful side when travelling to Cobham FC to take on Epsom & Ewell on Tuesday, 7th November (7.45pm)

# 07.10.2023



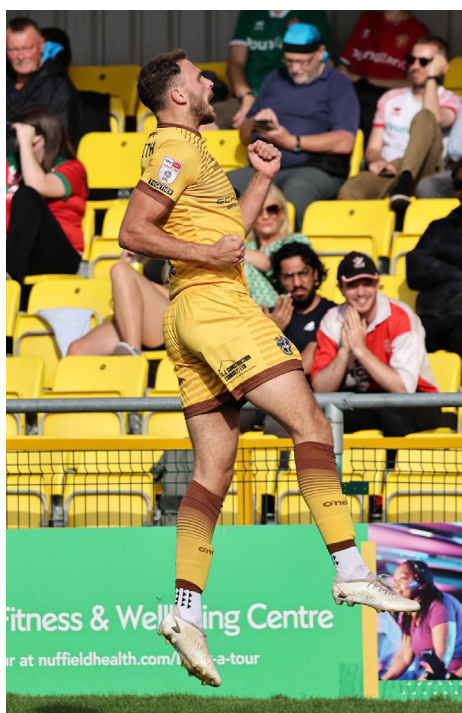
# 4



# 0

Sutton ended miserable run of ten league games without a win with a blistering first half performance that set up a first ever win over Walsall and moved U's off the bottom of the League Two table.

From the moment Omari Patrick found the bottom corner of the net with a well placed free kick Sutton were in control of the game, quickly added a second through Harry Smith and by half time had the game as good as sewn up.



## TEAMS

Sutton: D Bouzanis, J Kizzi, S Hart (R Jackson, 86), O Sowunmi, B Goodliffe, C Clay, J Coley (H Beautyman, 86), C N'Guessan, H Smith (H Kasimu, 88), A O'Brien (L Angol, 75), O Patrick (D Pereira, 88). Subs n/u: S Arnold

Walsall: O Evans, R Stirk, L Gordon, O McEntee, D Daniels (H Griffiths, 77), H Williams, J Riley, A Oteh, J Matt (I Hutchinson, HT), T Knowles (D James-Taylor, 63), D Johnson (R Tierney, 77). Subs n/u: J Foulkes, F Draper, J Smith.

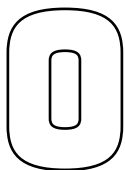
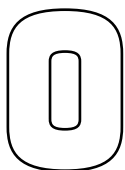
Referee: Ed Duckworth  
Attendance: 3,009 (275 away)







# 10.10.2023



Sutton followed up their emphatic display against Walsall at the weekend by beating Crawley on penalties in the EFL Trophy. It was a tight affair, and there was nothing to separate the two sides after ninety goalless minutes, but Josh Coley provided Sutton with the win from the spot and secured the extra point for the U's to keep alive hopes of qualifying for the knockout stages, with next month's visit to Charlton Athletic now effectively a knockout game following their 4-2 win over Aston Villa. Sutton's bench included Craig Dundas and academy striker Joden Trickett, separated in age by 26 years.



## TEAMS

Sutton: S Arnold, R Jackson, R Milsom (B Goodliffe, HT), O Sowunmi, J Kizzi, C Clay (C N'Guessan, 75), D Mellor (J Coley, 75), T Fadahunsi, L Angol, H Beautyman, H Kasimu (C Dundas, 78). Subs n/u: B House, J Trickett.

Crawley: L Ashby-Hammond, K Gordon, T Omole, T Johnson, H Ransom (W Wright, 90+3), J Mukena, R Khaleel (A Henry, 75), K Lolos (A Adeyemo, 61), K Simon-Swyer, H Forster, J Roles. Subs n/u: C Addai, J Brown, N Tsaroulla, F Kastrati.

Referee: Kirsty Dowle  
Attendance: 928 (126 away)





# 14.10.2023



# 4



# 1

Hopes that Sutton's convincing victory over Walsall last week might herald a change of fortune were dashed at the Eco Power Stadium as Doncaster recorded an ultimately comfortable win that put more distance between them and the League Two basement.

It was a similar game to the defeat at Crawley a fortnight ago as U's conceded inside the first twenty minutes but were still well in the game at half time, only for it to run away in the second half as Doncaster scored three times in fifteen minutes.

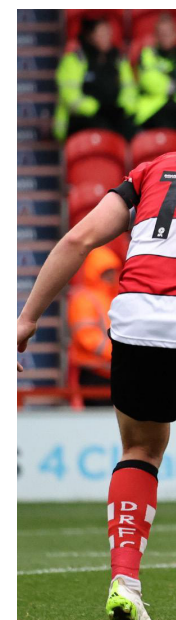


## TEAMS

**Sutton:** D Bouzanis, J Kizzi, S Hart, O Sowunmi, B Goodliffe, C Clay, J Coley, C N'Guessan (H Beautyman, 66), H Smith, A O'Brien, O Patrick (D Mellor, 78). Subs n/u: S Arnold, R Milsom, R Jackson, L Angol.

**Doncaster:** L Jones, O Bailey, T Nixon, T Anderson, J Olowu, Z Westbrooke (G Broadbent, 80), L Molyneux, B Close (T Kuleya, 85), J Ironside, T Rowe (H Biggins, 60), M Faal (J Goodman, 81). Subs n/u: I Lawlor, D Sotona, W Flint.

Referee: Declan Bourne  
Attendance: 6,473 (133 away)









GOALSCORERS INDICATED WITH GOAL SCORED eg DUNDAS 1 = 1 GOAL SCORED BY CRAIG DUNDAS. YELLOW CARD Y | RED CARD R | HOME GAMES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN TEAL. AWAY FAN ATTENDANCE SHOWN IN BRACKETS. 1ST SUB: GREEN | 2ND SUB: BLUE | 3RD SUB: RED | 4TH SUB: PURPLE | 5TH SUB: ORANGE | EXAMPLE: DUNDAS (65) - 65TH MINUTE SUB.

	07	08	09	10	11	SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 4	SUB 5	UNUSED SUBS
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN 1	SMITH 1	KASHKET	PATRICK 2	CLAY (57)	O'BRIEN (57)	FADAHUNSI (68)	JOHN (81)	ANGOL (81)	ARNOLD, KASIMU
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN 1	SMITH 1	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	GOODLIFFE (HT)	ROSE (HT)	ANGOL (64)	EASTMOND (64)	KASHKET (83)	KHINDA, FADAHUNSI, TAYLOR
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN	SMITH	ANGOL 1	PATRICK	CLAY (70)	FADAHUNSI (70)	N'GUESSAN (83)	MELLOR (83)	JOHN (90)	HOUSE, DUNDAS
	CLAY	BEAUTYMAN	ANGOL	KASHKET	PATRICK	COLEY (65)	KASIMU (73)	JOHN (85)	N'GUESSAN (85)		HOUSE, FADAHUNSI, MELLOR
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN	ANGOL	KASHKET	PATRICK	JOHN (42)	KASIMU (72)	N'GUESSAN (84)	JACKSON (84)	MELLOR (84)	HOUSE, CLAY
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN	ANGOL	KASHKET	PATRICK 1	O'BRIEN (61)	HART (84)	N'GUESSAN (84)	JACKSON (85)	MELLOR (85)	HOUSE, JOHN
	COLEY	CLAY	SMITH	O'BRIEN 1	PATRICK	ANGOL (60)	KIZZI (60)	SOWUNMI (72)	BEAUTYMAN (82)	CASHKET (82)	HOUSE, KASIMU, FADAHUNSI, DUNDAS
	COLEY	BEAUTYMAN	SMITH	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	ANGOL (75)	N'GUESSAN (75)	KASHKET (75)	MELLOR (85)	SOWUNMI (92)	BOUZANIS, JACKSON
	COLEY	N'GUESSAN	SMITH 1	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	PEREIRA (62)	ANGOL (62)	JACKSON (77)	BEAUTYMAN (77)	KASHKET (88)	BOUZANIS, SOWUNMI
	COLEY	N'GUESSAN	SMITH	O'BRIEN	PATRICK 1	BEAUTYMAN (71)	PEREIRA (72)	KIZZI (81)	KASHKET (81)		ROSE, SOWUNMI, ANGOL
	PEREIRA	N'GUESSAN	ANGOL	KASHKET	MELLOR	MILSON (HT)	PATRICK (64)	O'BRIEN (64)	KASIMU 1 (64)	COLEY (77)	BOUZANIS, JOHN
	COLEY	N'GUESSAN	SMITH	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	EASTMOND (59)	BEAUTYMAN (79)	PEREIRA (79)	KASIMU (85)	JACKSON (85)	ROSE, GOODLIFEE
	PEREIRA	N'GUESSAN	ANGOL	BEAUTYMAN	PATRICK	KASIMU 1 (55)	O'BRIEN (55)	COLEY (69)	HART (88)		ROSE, DUNDAS, FADAHUNSI
	PEREIRA	N'GUESSAN	ANGOL	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	ROSE (52)	COLEY (52)	KASIMU (70)	BEAUTYMAN (70)	CLAY (79)	JACKSON
	BEAUTYMAN	N'GUESSAN	KASIMU	CLAY	PATRICK	SMITH (62)	O'BRIEN (71)	COLEY (79)			ROSE, JACKSON, ANGOL
	COLEY	N'GUESSAN	SMITH 2	O'BRIEN	PATRICK 1	ANGOL (75)	JACKSON (86)	BEAUTYMAN (86)	KASIMU (88)	PEREIRA (88)	ARNOLD
	FADAHUNSI	BEAUTYMAN	ANGOL	KASIMU	MELLOR	GOODLIFFE (HT)	N'GUESSAN (75)	COLEY (75)	DUNDAS (78)		HOUSE, TRICKETT
	COLEY	N'GUESSAN	SMITH	O'BRIEN	PATRICK	BEAUTYMAN (66)	MELLOR (78)				ARNOLD, MILSON, JACKSON, ANGOL







**SAM HART**

**42**



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# REVIEWING THE EFL

Louis Massingham Rowell looks back at the latest EFL action

With no fixtures in the Championship and only eight League One teams in action last weekend, League Two took centre stage and certainly shone in the spotlight. There were forty goals across the eleven games with seven of these games seeing at least three goals.

Forest Green recorded their first home points of the season in style against Colchester with a 5-0 win ending a run of eleven league games at The New Lawn without a win. FGR went into the break 1-0 up but a 47th minute red card for Colchester's Jay Mingi swung the game in the home side's favour with goals from Kyle McAllister, Matt Taylor and a brace from Matty Stevens ensuring a comprehensive victory for the Greens to take them off the bottom.

Sutton replaced FGR at the bottom of the division after our 4-1 defeat at Doncaster which made it twelve points from six games for Rovers.

Stockport now sit top of League Two after an eighth win on the bounce in all competitions at Harrogate. Goals from Antoni Sarcevic, Will Collar and an O.G from Warren Burrell gave the Hatters a 3-1 victory which made it back to back home defeat for Harrogate.

The Sulpharites are currently the joint lowest scorers in the league with 0.9 goals per game and face tough home games against Crewe and Mansfield after a crucial game away to Colchester. The team that Stockport replaced at the top, Notts County, suffered a thumping at home to Mansfield who extended their unbeaten run to seventeen matches.

Notts took the lead within the opening moments but were blown away by the Stags in the second half who, after equalising through Louis Reed in the twenty fourth minute, took the three points after goals from Baily Cargill, Aden Flint and Lucas Adkins. County boss Williams described Mansfield as the "best team since I've been at the club" and with Forest Green, Harrogate and Walsall coming up in their next three it wouldn't surprise many if they extended their unbeaten run through to November.

Slipping out of the automatic promotion places at Mansfield's expense was Gillingham who fell to a 4-1 defeat at Walsall. An Isaac Hutchinson hat-trick helped the Sadlers to three points and ended their run of one win in five games.

Walsall's opponents this weekend, Newport, fell to their fourth defeat in five games at Swindon. The Welsh side lost 2-0 after goals from Dan Kemp and Rushian Hepburn-Murphy added to Swindon's total of twenty-nine goals for the season and a league high of 2.4 goals per game for the Wiltshire side.

Newport's fellow Welsh side were once again involved in a dramatic comeback at home to Salford. Goals in the 88th and 89th minute from Steven Fletcher and Jordan Davies gave Wrexham a 3-2 win against Salford.

It is now five unbeaten for the North Wales side who are outside the automatic promotion places on goal difference. Wrexham's opponents today, Bradford, made it three wins from three in all competitions for caretaker manager Kevin McDonald.

The Yorkshire side took all three points in a 1-0 victory at AFC Wimbledon. The Bantams made their only shot on target count as Emmanuel Osadebe bagged his first goal for the club in the 62nd minute and continued Wimbledon's run of one home win all season.

Tranmere are currently outside of the drop zone on goal difference after they suffered their third defeat in six under Nigel Adkins last weekend, losing 2-0 at Crewe.

The Cheshire side took a 1-0 lead into half time before Tranmere's keeper Luke McGee was sent off for handling outside the area which led to Crewe doubling their lead and making it one league defeat in eight.

Accrington doubled their tally of away wins to two after taking all three points from their trip to Grimsby.





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# REVIEWING THE EFL

Louis Massingham Rowell looks back at the latest EFL action

The Lancashire side ran out 2-0 winners after two second half goals from Shaun Walley and Josh Andrews. It leaves Grimsby with one victory in nine in all competitions and sitting four points above the relegation zone ahead of today's game with league leaders Stockport.

The only draw in League Two came at MK Dons who thought they must have secured a first win since the 26th August when they were 2-0 up heading into injury time against Barrow. Injury time goals from Ben Whitfield and Emile Acquah secured a dramatic point for the Bluebirds and brought Graham Alexander's tenure at MK Dons to an end.

Having picked up the manager of the month award for August, Alexander now finds himself without a club after only sixteen games in charge of the Buckinghamshire side. MK Dons have since appointed former Gateshead manager Mike Williamson as manager.

Williamson took over Gateshead after demotion to the National League North but with an attractive brand of football took the Heed back to the fifth tier and the FA Trophy Final last season.

In League One, Blackpool are within a point of the playoffs after a convincing 3-0 win at home to Stevenage. Jordan Rhodes scored his seventh goal of the season before Owen Dale and CJ Hamilton took the game beyond Stevenage.

It has undoubtedly been a great start to life in League One for Steve Evans' Stevenage but a run of three defeats in four games will bring them back down to Earth. It is now three wins on the bounce for Burton and six unbeaten after a 1-0 win at Lincoln.

A second half own goal from Jack Burroughs was the difference after Lincoln had Daniel Mandrouiu sent off to condemn Lincoln to their first home defeat of the season. Leyton Orient made it seventeen points from nine games after a 1-0 win at Carlisle in a battle of two promoted sides from last season.

Ruel Sotiriou grabbed his fifth of the season to take them up to tenth and leave Carlisle three points ahead of the drop having played a couple of games more than the sides below them. Cambridge and Shrewsbury drew 1-1 with the

Shrews scoring a late goal to take what was a deserved point back to Shropshire.

Even without games being played, the Championship provided headlines with two managerial appointments over the international break. Sheffield Wednesday have replaced Xisco Munoz, who failed to win any of his ten league games in charge, with Danny Rohl.

Rohl becomes the youngest manager in the EFL at 34 years old and draws on his experience as assistant to Ralph Hasenhuttl at RB Leipzig & Southampton and Hansi Flick at Bayern Munich & Germany. Rohl will have to pick up some wins soon with his first three games in charge against Watford, Plymouth and Rotherham.

The other managerial appointment came as a shock and is definitely in the 'high risk' category. Birmingham currently sit in the play off places in the second tier but have parted company with John Eustice.

The club made the decision on the basis that Eustice did not share the ownership's ambitions for the club. Garry Cook, the club's chief executive, stated that they wanted a manager who will create an 'identity' and 'no-fear' playing style. This criteria led them to Wayne Rooney after his spells at Derby County and DC United in the US.

Both these clubs were in crisis when Rooney took over so the jury is still out on how successful a manager Rooney is and will be.

Birmingham fans will no doubt be casting their minds back to a similar decision made in December 2016 when Gary Rowett was dismissed on the brink of the play-offs for Gianfranco Zola who led them straight into a relegation battle after winning twice in twenty-four. Blues fans will hope that this appointment doesn't lead them down the same path again.





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# LEAGUE TABLE

## 2023/24



#	CLUB	P	HOME					AWAY					+/-	PTS	FORM
			W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
1	Stockport County	13	4	2	1	13	5	4	0	2	13	9	12	26	WWWWW
2	Notts County	13	5	0	1	16	12	2	3	2	12	13	3	24	WWLWDL
3	Mansfield Town	13	3	3	0	7	2	2	5	0	14	8	11	23	DWDDDW
4	Crewe Alexandra	13	5	2	0	17	8	1	3	2	13	13	9	23	DWDWLW
5	Wrexham	13	4	2	1	23	18	2	3	1	4	7	2	23	WLDDWW
6	Swindon Town	12	5	1	0	19	6	1	3	2	10	12	11	22	WDWLLW
7	Gillingham	13	4	1	1	7	6	3	0	4	5	10	-4	22	WLDLWL
8	AFC Wimbledon	13	1	3	2	9	8	4	3	0	11	3	9	21	DWWWDL
9	Accrington Stanley	13	4	1	2	13	10	2	1	3	6	8	1	20	WLLDWW
10	Crawley Town	12	5	0	2	13	6	1	2	2	7	14	0	20	WWWLW
11	Bradford City	13	3	2	1	7	6	2	2	3	7	8	0	19	DWLLWW
12	Morecambe	11	3	3	0	9	4	2	0	3	6	9	2	18	WLDWDW
13	Walsall	13	3	2	1	9	6	2	1	4	10	16	-3	18	LLWDLW
14	Barrow	12	2	2	0	7	5	2	3	3	8	9	1	17	DLWLDD
15	Salford City	13	2	1	3	9	10	3	0	4	12	12	-1	16	LLWWWL
16	MK Dons	13	2	2	2	7	7	2	2	3	12	13	-1	16	LDLDD
17	Harrogate Town	13	2	0	4	6	8	3	1	3	6	8	-4	16	DWWLWL
18	Grimsby Town	13	3	2	2	9	7	0	3	3	7	12	-3	14	LLLWDL
19	Doncaster Rovers	13	3	2	2	11	8	1	0	5	6	13	-4	14	WWLWLW
20	Newport County	13	3	2	2	14	11	1	0	5	7	15	-5	14	DLLWLL
21	Tranmere Rovers	13	3	1	3	13	10	0	0	6	4	14	-7	10	LWLWDL
22	Colchester United	12	2	1	3	11	13	1	0	5	6	12	-8	10	DLWLLL
23	Forest Green Rovers	13	1	0	6	9	15	2	1	3	7	9	-8	10	LLLLLW
24	Sutton United	13	2	1	4	10	9	0	0	6	7	21	-13	7	LDLLWL

## League Two Fixtures

SATURDAY, 21ST OCTOBER 2023  
3pm unless stated

Accrington v MK Dons, Barrow v Wimbledon, Bradford v Wrexham, Colchester v Harrogate, Crawley v Crewe, Gillingham v Notts County, Mansfield v Forest Green, Salford v Swindon, Stockport v Grimsby, Sutton v Morecambe.

TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2023  
7.45pm unless stated

Wimbledon v Accrington, Crewe v Stockport, Doncaster v Salford, Forest Green v Barrow, Grimsby v Colchester, Harrogate v Mansfield, MK Dons v Bradford, Morecambe v Tranmere, Notts County v Newport, Swindon v Gillingham, Walsall v Crawley, Wrexham v Sutton

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# MASTERMIND

Your specialist subject is **Sutton United**... Following on from our 125th Anniversary edition of the much-beloved BBC gameshow, Dave Farebrother played Magnus Magnussen/Clive Myrie and now provides you with club based questions to test your knowledge of our club. See how you get on (answers at the bottom of the page).

1. Sutton's return to Conference South in 2011 sent them crashing to earth with a bump. Which team enjoyed a 5-0 opening day win at Gander Green Lane?
2. A crowd of more than 3,000 was drawn to Sutton in December 2011 for a FA Cup tie at home to which Football league club?
3. In which year did Sutton win their first Isthmian League title?
4. In which stadium were the U's knocked of the FA Cup in the 1987/88 season?
5. Who was Sutton's manager for the 1999/2000 season?
6. Which team beat Sutton in the 1981 FA Trophy Final?



1) Woking

2) Notts County

3) 1967

4) Ayresome Park

5) John Rains

6) Bishop's Stortford

# A BRAVE NEW WORLD

In the summer, the club considered the financial viability of a printed programme. Several bigger clubs have stopped printing them because costs keep rising. Bradford City have an average attendance of 17,000 and only sell to around 10% of the crowd. We average just over 3,000.

For my day job, I teach business studies, and my students would tell me that Bradford would benefit from economies of scale, meaning that they can print more, and thus reduce the cost per programme.

That's purely on printing costs. Which is our only cost as all contributors give their articles, photos, stories and information for free. No one is paid to produce the programme.

Our thought in the summer was to go bigger and hope it increased sales with the perceivably improved quality and value for money. There's always 'fresh' content, and I played more with aesthetics and generally, the few people who have been in touch have been complementary towards this season's programmes.

Sadly, readership has not increased. And with general printing costs increasing, we now find that smaller print runs can cost anything from £3.50 to above £4 per copy to print. Immediately, you can see the business problem.

We would have to sell every single copy printed to cover our costs; but we aren't increasing sales. I appreciate that you can find information online, but people who say it's just repetition are speaking from ignorance as much of the content is uniquely created for the programme.

With the costs rising, and the breakeven point not being met, the club had to revisit - as it said it would - the decision on what to do with the printed programme. There are many, as a reader you're more likely to fall into this category, of wanting to keep the printed programme.

The cold facts meant that we are faced with the following scenarios. A) Keep going and make a loss. B) Reduce the size and content to see if that reduces the cost per unit and makes it more viable based on a stable (if unspectacular) expected sales. C) Offer both printed and digital (online). Or D) Switch to online only.

Option A is not viable. We cannot willingly continue to lose money. B is possible, but may be delaying the inevitable. C,

as some would switch to the digital copy, thus raising the cost per unit (anything under 300 copies starts to be financially pointless for us). And D means the fans of printed programmes are left dissatisfied.

I would like to see if it could be put behind a paywall, even if it was a notional charge. But others feel we may as well give it away for free if we go digital.

Personally, giving it away for free doesn't feel right with the amount of effort required to produce a programme. I know that's only a personal opinion as the person who makes it, rather than wearing a business-hat to think it through.

I've been the programme editor for twenty one years. It's been a labour of love, one which I currently spend around 10-15 hours per issue working on. I do that when I get home from my day job, and after I've spent time with my young family. Often I get to bed at 3am on Thursday morning having sent the copy off to the printers, with my alarm ringing loudly three and a half hours later.

To throw in a counter-balanced view, Harrogate suggest that all the effort is worth it for the increased reach of the world wide web. My wake-up alarm suggests otherwise!

But having set up for a big, printed programme for the season, we have a certain amount of compulsory pages now required, specifically league and paid for adverts. That means if we look to reduce the size of the programme in terms of content, then we are already starting from a minimum amount of pages.

People won't buy an advert-heavy programme. Another complaint I've heard about our programme is that there's too many adverts. Again, this is a dated opinion; the proportion of adverts to articles has drastically decreased over the years.

So now I'm currently trying to shrink content, ensure that we maintain the integrity of the programme, and can create a more bed-time friendly version that people want to download.

Thanks for reading over the years. Enjoy!  
Lyll Reynolds (lyll.reynolds@suttonunited.net)

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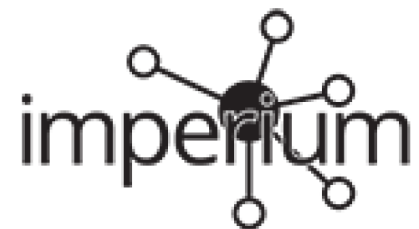
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# SUTTON UNITED

Manager: **Matt Gray**

Jack Rose	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jon Barden	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Omar Sowunmi	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ben Goodliffe	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Louis John	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josh Coley	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christian N'Guessan	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harry Smith	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harry Beautyman	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Omari Patrick	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tobi Ogundega	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brad House	13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craig Dundas	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craig Eastmond (C)	15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craig Clay	16	<input type="checkbox"/>
D'Mani Mellor	17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dion Pereira	18	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tope Fadahunsi	19	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Kashket	20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dean Bouzanis	21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joe Kizzi	22	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ryan Jackson	23	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rob Milsom	24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Arnold	25	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dominic Gape	26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hisham Kasimu	29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lee Angol	33	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aiden O'Brien	40	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sam Hart	42	<input type="checkbox"/>

# MORE-CAMBE



Manager: **Derek Adams**

<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Stuart Moore
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Donald Love
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	David Tutonda
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Jacob Bedeau
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Farrend Rawson
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Yann Songo'o
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Tom Bloxham
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Eli King
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Michael Mellon
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	JJ McKiernan
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Adam Mayor
<input type="checkbox"/>	12	Joel Senior
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Jordan Slew
<input type="checkbox"/>	15	Chris Stokes
<input type="checkbox"/>	16	Jacob Davenport
<input type="checkbox"/>	17	Cammy Smith
<input type="checkbox"/>	18	Jake Taylor
<input type="checkbox"/>	19	Ethan Walker
<input type="checkbox"/>	20	Charlie Brown
<input type="checkbox"/>	21	Adam Smith
<input type="checkbox"/>	23	Max Melbourne
<input type="checkbox"/>	24	Cameron Rooney
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Lennon Dobson



## MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee Neil Hair (pictured) is no stranger to the VBS having officiated several times across the National League and in the EFL. He is in his sixth season in the EFL and regularly takes charge in the Women's Premier League too. He last took charge here for the U's 1-0 defeat to Stockport on Good Friday, 7th April 2023.