

Saturday, 10th January 2026 | 3pm KO



SUTTON UNITED VS YORK CITY



The Official Sutton United FC Matchday Programme | #22

THE U'S REPORT



MATCHDAY ITINERARY

Saturday 10th January



12:30pm	MBA Lounge Opens for Hospitality
1pm	Turnstiles, Fanzone, Club Shop, Bars and Food Kiosks Open
1:15pm	Football Activities* in Fanzone
1:30pm	Supporters' Club Hub Opens
2pm	Starting Team Announced
2:15pm	First Team Warm-Ups Begin
2:30pm	Kids' Pitchside Experience
3pm	Kick-Off
3:45pm	Half Time - Bars and Food Kiosks Remain Open
5pm	Full Time - Bars Remain Open

***Table Football and
Football Dartboard**



WELCOME

TO GANDER GREEN LANE

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Gander Green Lane
Sutton
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Club Officials

President/Chairman: Bruce Elliott
Directors: T Allison, M N Copus, B G Elliott, B Hautt, M Joyce, G Otto.
Chief Executive Officer: Phil Tattersall
Company Secretary: Rob Oakes
Chief Operating Officer and Club Secretary: Tim Allison

Members Of

The Football Association
The National League
The EFL Youth Alliance
The London & South East Regional Women's League
The Greater London Women's League

Other Club Officers

Chief Revenue Officer: Jack Daly
Head of Finance: Rob Oakes
Head of Safeguarding: Harry Dunne
Head of Media: Aaron Bennis
Hon Press Officer: Tony Dolbear
Hon Match Secretary: Graham Starns
Supporters' Liaison Officer: Claire Loughlin
Retail & Events Manager: Vicky Garner
Bar Manager: Louise Pressley
Club EDI Board Champion: Tim Allison
Club EDI Lead/HerGameToo representative: Sarah Aitchison
Club Doctor: Sagar Patel
Medical Officer: Dr. Mostafa Mohamed
Stadium Manager: Christian Cure
Ground Safety Officer: Mike Chenery
Deputy Safety Officer: Andre Golding
Senior Volunteer Officer: Dave Rayner
Disability Liaison Officer: Dave Farebrother
Community Liaison Officer: Steve King
Club Photographer: Paul Loughlin
Head of Player Care/Academy Secretary: Beverly Little
Women's Team Secretary: Dave Farebrother

Football Staff

Head Coach: Chris Agutter
Assistant Manager: Dean Hammond
First Team Coach/Analyst: Ben Cornelius
Strength & Conditioning Coach: Frankie Deegan
Head of Medical: Luke Silavwe
Sports Therapist: Catherine Chambers
Kit Manager: Graham Cowell
Director of Football: Terry Bullivant
Scout: Micky Stephens

Academy Director: Jimmy Dack
Main Academy Partner: Sports Group International

Women's First Team Manager: Lucy Clark
Women's Secretary: Dave Farebrother
Women's Team Sponsor: PJ Foley Ltd

HEAD COACH, CHRIS AGUTTER



CHRIS'S COLUMN

Here we go.....2026 football at Gander Green Lane is here and what a first game it is-we welcome York City's Players, Staff, Directors and Supporters.

On a personal note, amongst the opposition staff will be close friend Gary Elphick - the best signing I've ever made as a Manager back when he was playing and without doubt one of the best people you could ever wish to share a changing room with - what a man! We hope every member of today's opposition both on and off the pitch have a safe trip to and from Gander Green Lane for this afternoon's National League contest.

We come into today's game still unbeaten in 90 minutes at home which is a record we're proud of - we continue to build real momentum on our home patch and we will 100% be looking to continue to build that momentum today against title challengers York City. We will need to be at our front foot, attacking best if we're to take all three points from today's battle....but with players returning from injury and suspension coupled with a number of additions we're in bullish mood-we back ourselves to really get after York City - and we will.

York City are superbly coached by the excellent Stuart Maynard, supported by his very good back room team, they play an excellent brand of football which up against ours will I'm sure lead to a cracking game for the neutral-goals, goals, goals pending!

Finally, a belated Happy New Year to the legends that are the Amber Army - 2026 is going to be a great year for us-I promise!

Exciting times are ahead....successful times are ahead!

**COYU's
Agi**



CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, TIM ALLISON



TIM TALKS

We welcome this afternoon's visitors to the VBS Community Stadium, York City, for their third visit to play Sutton United away.

visitors to the VBS Community Stadium, York City, for their third visit to play Sutton United away. Somewhat oddly, with the clubs having met five times previously, four of those matches have ended 2-2. Indeed the only match not to end with that score was the 2-1 away win for the Ambers last season which triggered a humorous reaction from the club ownership enjoyed by most clubs across the National League it seemed. Will Davies bought his (fake) Gucci handbag on the back of that criticism, which featured in his goal celebrations for the remainder of the season. A lot has happened since of course, with Will in particular having moved on to be playing regularly in the Football League, something that our guests failed to do themselves at the end of last season.

With the 2025-26 season now past its halfway point it will be our guests that are happier with progress this time around though, and whilst the points were shared on the opening

day of the season, the clubs are placed at opposing ends of the table currently. The top of the table is particularly strong this year, and York's journey to promotion will prove difficult. The Ambers will be hoping the bottom end is an easier task to navigate however. It's not easy though and recent results have faltered a little from the strong pattern under the new manager and Chris will be looking to set that straight obviously. With so many absentees through injury and suspension it's not an easy task, especially with the run of strong clubs to be faced in this stretch of matches (Southend, Scunthorpe, York, FGR all being in the play-off places).

With the transfer window open in the leagues above us, and much movement triggered ahead of and during that in the National League, we will be seeing a number of new (and returning old) faces to represent the club. Chris has had enough time to judge the squad he inherited and has been making changes to personnel. There are still mentions of play-offs around that recruitment, but a return to climbing the table would be a welcome start on that journey if it is to come true.

Our Christmas hosting of Aldershot was a game to forget in many ways, although with the injured squad – including some on the pitch – that day, and with Aldershot now showing a form line of three wins and a draw in their last four league matches, that "bore draw" might not feel as bad as it did on the day. The only other Christmas fixture – with Scunthorpe having been a victim of the weather – was a narrow loss away at Southend. So narrow in fact that many thought their penalty should not have been awarded, that the resulting follow up goal should have been disallowed with the scorer within ten yards of the taker as he hit it before Jack Sims saved it. With two good penalty shouts of our own not given, plus hitting the woodwork twice, it would seem the Shrimpers' supporters' belief that we were in a false position in the table carried plenty of evidence to suggest it were true. Goals, results and the table are what they are though, and can't be overturned, so today's fixture remains one at kick-off with teams fourth from top against fourth from bottom. But with the league as tight as it is either club could be two or three places different come five o'clock.

Whilst the football calendar is traditionally measured in seasons, not years, I would like to welcome you all back to the VBS Community Stadium as we enter the New Year, and I am sure you will all be joining me in wanting 2026 to deliver somewhat better results, and league positions, for our first team than 2024 and 2025 did. There is a lot of, perhaps unseen, work going on behind the scenes to try and ensure that is the case.

Up the U's!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Allison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Tim" on the left and "Allison" on the right, connected by a single line.



SUTTON UNITED WELCOME YOU TO OUR 46TH ANNUAL SPORTING DINNER

Friday, 20th February | 6pm-12am



An evening with Guest Speaker, **Barry Fry**,
and Entertainer, **Wayne Woodward**



Barry Fry

Featuring



Wayne Woodward

Tables of 10: £850

Individual seats: £90

Contact: **vicky.garner@suttonunited.net**



Mitre
DIFFERENT LEAGUE

TAKE A GANDER

The latest from around Gander Green Lane



Official: Jennings Extends Loan Deal

Sutton United Football Club is delighted to confirm that Kai Jennings has extended his loan deal from AFC Wimbledon until the end of the season.

Glad to have you on board, Kai!

Official: Bes Is Back

Sutton United Football Club is delighted to confirm the permanent signing of Besart Topallaj, who returns to the U's after spending the bulk of last season on loan at Gander Green Lane.

Welcome back, Bes!



Official: Haigh Signs From Chelmsford

Sutton United Football Club is delighted to confirm the signing of Chris Haigh on a permanent deal from Chelmsford City.

Welcome to Sutton, Chris!



Official: Eze Joins From Bolton

Sutton United Football Club is delighted to confirm the signing of Dubem Eze on a permanent deal from League One side Bolton Wanderers, for an undisclosed fee.

Welcome to Sutton, Dubem!

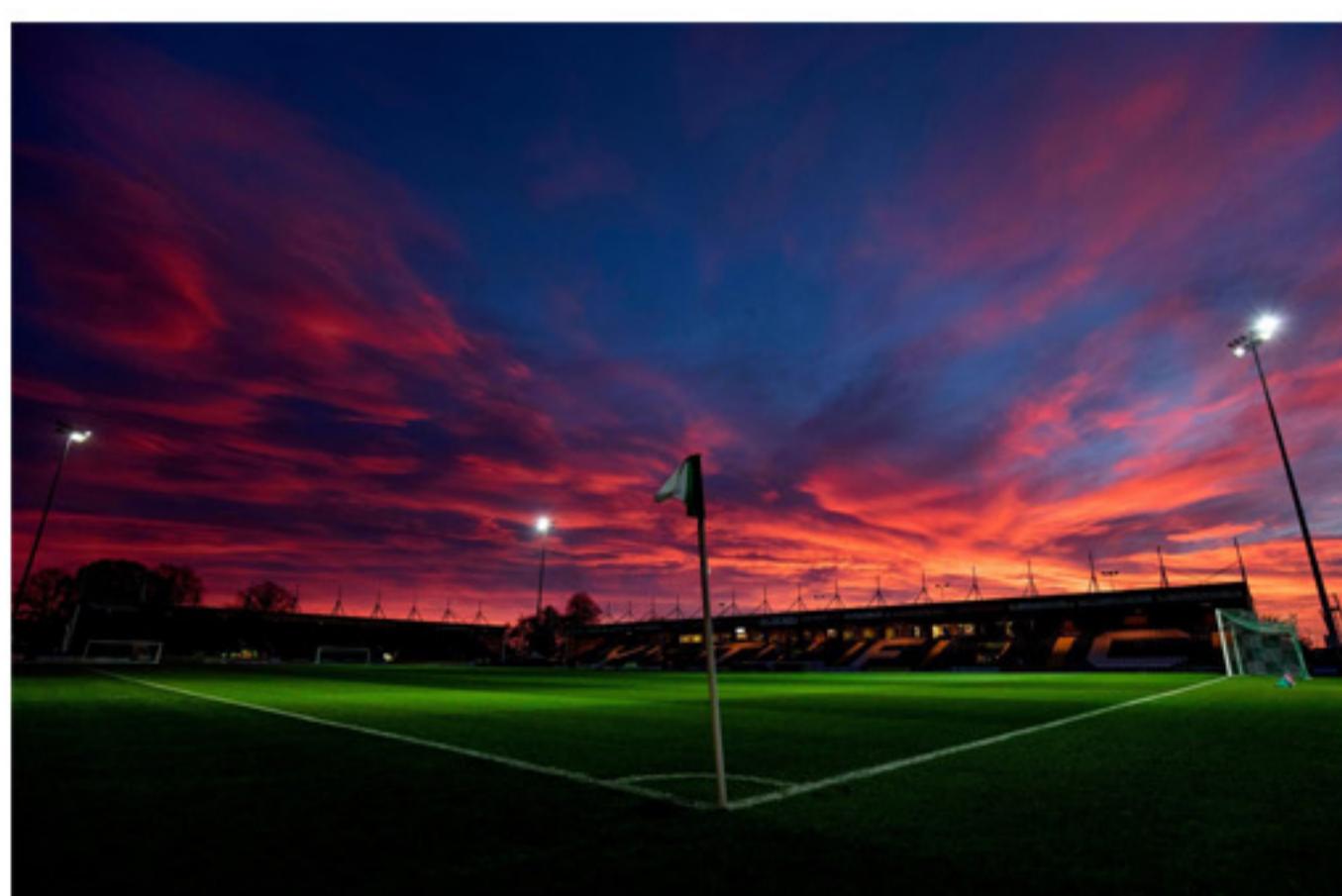


©PAULLOUGHIN

Official: Dabre Loan Extended

Sutton United Football Club can confirm that Mo Dabre's loan at Salisbury has been extended until the end of the season.

Good luck, Mo!



Official: Boutin Returns to Bournemouth

Sutton United Football Club can confirm that Noa Boutin has officially been recalled from his loan spell by parent club, AFC Bournemouth.

We would like to thank Noa for his efforts and wish him all the best for the future.



Tickets: Yeovil Town, Boston United and Tamworth (A)

Tickets for Sutton's trips to Yeovil Town, Boston United and Tamworth are now on sale.

Visit suttonunited.net for more information.

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IN FOCUS:





1922

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THE MINSTERMEN



RECENT FORM



2025/26 STATS

League Position:
4th

Top Scorer:
Ollie Pearce (21 goals)

Goals Scored:
63

Goals Conceded:
26

Goal Difference:
+37

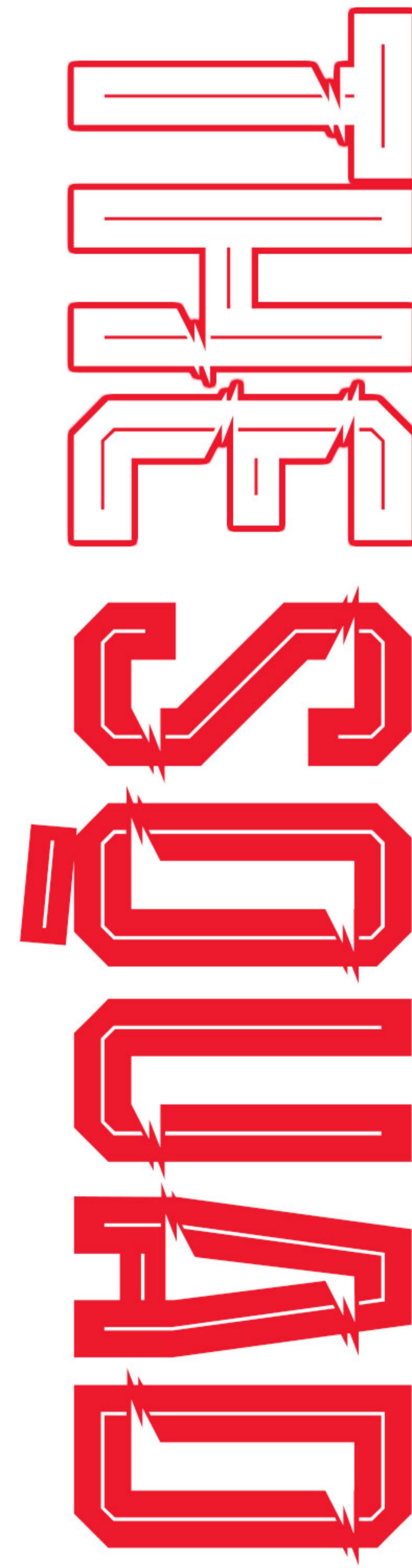
Points:
52



Stuart Maynard was appointed York City manager in late August 2025, bringing with him a strong track record of progression and success.

His coaching career began in 2012 as assistant manager at Hemel Hempstead under Dean Brennan. Maynard followed Brennan to Billericay Town and Kingstonian before joining Wealdstone in 2019. Their first season saw Wealdstone secure automatic promotion from National League South. Following Brennan's departure in 2021, Maynard stepped up from interim to permanent manager, guiding the club to National League survival and later achieving their highest league finish in over 30 years. An outstanding 2023/24 season earned Maynard a move to League Two side Notts County, where he led them to a sixth-place finish and a place in the play-offs.





***THE DESTROYER* MALACHI FAGAN-WALCOTT**

York City announced the signing of defender Malachi Fagan-Walcott on a season-long loan from Championship side Cardiff City in early September. A product of Norsemen FC, he joined Tottenham Hotspur aged 13 and signed his first professional contract in 2018. Fagan-Walcott gained senior experience with Spurs in the EFL Trophy, appeared on the bench in the Champions League, and had a brief loan spell at Dundee. He has also represented England at U16 and U17 levels. Cardiff City signed him in 2023, with loan spells at Dunfermline following, where he made 15 appearances and scored three goals.





LEADING THE LINE **JOSH** **STONES**

York City announced the permanent signing of forward Josh Stones from Wigan Athletic for an undisclosed fee. The 21-year-old arrived after a successful loan spell at Oldham Athletic, scoring four goals in six games. Stones began his career in Guiseley's youth system, progressing to National League North football and scoring his first senior goal against AFC Telford United. He joined Wigan in 2022, making his professional debut in the EFL Trophy, and later gained experience on loan at Ross County and Oldham. Despite injuries, Stones impressed during loan spells, producing goals and assists, and returned to Oldham last season, again finishing with an excellent scoring record.



THE FINISHER OLLIE PEARCE

Ollie Pearce joined York City from Worthing in 2024 after a hugely successful six-year spell on England's south coast. After starting out at Bognor Regis Town, Pearce moved to Worthing in 2018 and quickly became a prolific goalscorer. He left the Rebels with 155 goals from 245 appearances. His achievements included a Golden Boot with 35 goals, a Premier Division Team of the Season place, and a title winner's medal in 2021/22. Pearce reached 100 goals in just 178 games in 2023 and enjoyed a remarkable 2023/24 season, scoring 46 goals in 51 appearances to win the National League South Golden Boot, before repeating that feat last term in the fifth tier.

1 | Harrison Male

Goalkeeper

York City signed goalkeeper Harrison Male after his contract ended in May 2024. The former Dorking Wanderers standout won multiple player awards, played almost every minute, and developed at Leeds United. An England youth and England C international, he previously made 105 appearances for Worthing between 2021 and 2023.

16 | Rory Watson

Goalkeeper

York City signed goalkeeper Rory Watson in August 2023 after leaving Doncaster Rovers. The 27-year-old, from York, joined until season's end. Watson played for Wrexham in 2022/23 and made 100+ appearances for Scunthorpe United, earning six club awards, including the 2021–22 Ernie Storey Memorial Player of the Season.

31 | George Sykes-Kenworthy

Goalkeeper

George Sykes-Kenworthy joined York in 2023 from Bradford (Park Avenue) and has since made over 25 appearances for City, before moving on loan to Alfreton Town for the final two months of last season. After coming through the ranks at Bradford City, he has also played for Stalybridge Celtic, Stafford Rangers, Guiseley, Derby County and Boston United.

2 | Ryan Fallowfield

Defender

Ryan Fallowfield joined York City in summer 2022 after the club's National League promotion. The energetic right back, previously with North Ferriby United and Harrogate Town - where he made 168 appearances over five seasons - captained York several times in 2023/24 and won the Clubman of the Year award.

3 | Mark Kitching

Defender

The defender joined York City permanently in summer 2025 after leaving Oldham Athletic. He began at Middlesbrough, had loan spells at Rochdale and York, then signed permanently with Rochdale before moving to Hartlepool (75+ appearances). Later, he played for Stockport County, winning National League promotion in 2022, and made 100+ appearances for Oldham, earning another promotion.

5 | Callum Howe

Defender

Howe joined York City in summer 2023 from Solihull Moors, where he was captain. Born in Doncaster, the central defender made 122 appearances for Solihull between 2019–23 and brings extensive National League experience from spells at Lincoln, Eastleigh, Southport, and Alfreton.

6 | Ashley Palmer

Defender

The defender joined York in the summer, marking his eleventh senior club. A Barnsley graduate, he debuted at Scunthorpe United and had loan spells at Southport and Harrogate. After successful stints in non-league with North Ferriby and Guiseley, he excelled at Stockport County, winning two promotions, before helping Chesterfield achieve automatic promotion in 2024.

14 | Ben Brookes

Defender

After a season with Maidstone, the left-back joined York City following his contract expiry. A former West Ham and Chelsea youth, Brookes played for Tower Hamlets, Basildon, Great Wakering Rovers, and Hashtag United before moving to Chelmsford City, helping them into consecutive play-offs. At Maidstone, he contributed goals and assists, reaching the National League South play-off final.

15 | Jeff King

Defender

Jeff King has returned to York following a loan spell at Boreham Wood. A Liverpool-born player, King began in non-league before stints at Bolton, St Mirren, FC Halifax, and Chesterfield, earning multiple National League Team of the Season honors. He briefly featured for Swindon Town in League Two, before joining York in 2023.

23 | Joe Felix

Defender

Joe Felix joined York City in summer 2024 after his Worthing contract expired, following a standout season. A former Fulham and QPR youth, he had loan spells at Burgess Hill, Woking, and Farnborough, plus stints at several National League sides. Versatile on the right flank and at full-back, Felix made 52 appearances, scored three goals, assisted 15, and earned Worthing's Player's Player of the Season award.

27 | Morgan Williams

Defender

Morgan Williams joined York only yesterday from Yeovil Town. His career began at Mickelover Sports before a move to League One side Coventry City, where he made six appearances, before joining Yeovil on loan in 2019 and again in 2020, signing permanently in 2021. He made 185 appearances for the Grovers, being a key part in their promotion back to the National League at the first attempt.

8 | Alex Hunt

Midfielder

The central midfielder joined York City on loan in February 2024 before signing permanently in June for an undisclosed fee. A Sheffield Wednesday academy graduate, Hunt made 17 senior appearances for his hometown club, had a League Two loan at Oldham Athletic, and totaled 62 appearances across his spells at Grimsby Town.

12 | Joe Grey**Midfielder**

Joe Grey joined Hartlepool in 2019 as a youth prospect, breaking into the first team in 2020/21 and helping secure League Two promotion via the play-offs. Over two Football League seasons, he made 45 appearances, and in total featured 155+ times for Hartlepool, scoring 24 goals and providing 16 assists, before moving to York last summer.

17 | Craig Hewitt**Midfielder**

York City signed left-sided attacker Craig Hewitt permanently from Chorley in November 2025. A Coventry City academy graduate, Hewitt featured for Banbury (44 appearances) and Chorley, scoring six goals in 13 league games in 2025/26. He marked his City debut off the bench at Eastleigh with a goal to put the team ahead.

18 | Dan Batty**Midfielder**

York City signed midfielder Daniel Batty from Fleetwood Town on a three-year deal in August 2023. The experienced player has featured 58 times in the Championship and 81 times in League One with Hull City and Fleetwood, bringing valuable Football League experience to the LNER Community Stadium.

21 | Hiram Boateng**Midfielder**

Boateng joined York City in June 2025 after a successful three-year spell with Mansfield Town. A Crystal Palace academy graduate, he had loan spells at Crawley, Bristol Rovers, Plymouth, and Northampton, before playing for Exeter City, MK Dons, and Cambridge United—helping Cambridge to League Two promotion. At Mansfield, he scored a memorable hat-trick and made 40+ League One appearances.

22 | Greg Olley**Midfielder**

Greg Olley began at Newcastle United's youth system before joining Hull City, making his first-team debut in an EFL Cup win over Exeter. He spent seven seasons at Gateshead, captaining the side back to the National League, earning 28 assists in 2021/22, and lifting the FA Trophy in 2023. Injuries limited his 2024/25 campaign, before swapping Tyneside for York in the summer.

28 | Ollie Banks**Midfielder**

The experienced midfielder joined York City in summer 2025 after leaving Chesterfield. He began at Rotherham United before moves to Gainsborough and FC United of Manchester led to his first Chesterfield spell, where he made 80+ appearances. Stints at Oldham, Tranmere, and Barrow followed, before returning to Chesterfield to help win the 2023/24 National League title.

30 | Alex Newby**Midfielder**

The midfielder joined York City in summer 2025 from Altrincham. A Bolton Wanderers youth product, he progressed through Barrow, Kendal Town, Clitheroe, and Chorley, making 90+ appearances and aiding promotion. He later featured in League One with Rochdale (82 games) and League Two with Colchester, before excelling at Altrincham, scoring 15 goals in 2024/25.

7 | Tyrese Sinclair**Forward**

York City signed attacker Tyrese Sinclair in May 2024 after his Rochdale contract expired. A former Blackburn Rovers and Mansfield Town youth, Sinclair gained senior experience on loans at Radcliffe, Basford, and Scunthorpe. He played 70 times for Rochdale over two seasons, scoring 14 goals, including 11 in his final campaign.



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HISTORIC RAMBLINGS

Written by Mark Frake

Three from the 10th January

Not a particularly busy nor inspiring day in the calendar for SUFC. As a senior club (1910) U's have played fifteen matches before this afternoon, just six at home. The first of those was at The Find in Grove Road in 1914 and ended in a 2-5 reverse to Wimbledon in the South Suburban League (West) attended by around 1,000 spectators. U's took revenge seven days later with a 2-0 victory at Wimbledon. The next was a war-time friendly in 1942 against a RAF XI. Jack Lock scored five goals in a 6-2 win. Another friendly in 1966 saw U's take on an England Amateur XI that included Sutton players Derek Gamblin, Ted Powell and Larry Pritchard. Depleted by those three omissions, U's lost by 2-0. The only competitive home win was a 3-1 defeat of Boston United in the GMV Conference in 1987 while the most recent fixture was in 2012, Joel Ledgister netting twice in a 2-2 draw with Hampton & Richmond Borough in the Blue Square South. Record W2 D2 L2.

Away from Sutton, United's best win was a 4-0 defeat of Dorking in the SSL(W) in 1920; another success was by 1-0 at Woking in the FA Trophy in 1981 as U's began their journey to the Twin Towers. Sutton only scored in one other game, and that is the featured programme below, and failed to net in six, the first of which is featured below and not for those of a nervous disposition. Record W3 D1 L5

Arthur Hance, right back on a humiliating afternoon for Sutton.



The Match

The 1924/25 season was a difficult one for SUFC and would be followed by even worse the following term. Away from GGL in particular form was a struggle with only one away Athenian League win recorded against bottom club West Norwood. This trip to Southall on January 10th would produce the club's heaviest defeat (to that point, it would be eclipsed the following season). The team was suffering from a major injury crisis (nothing new there) and missing five of their regular starters. On a grassy pitch, unusual for January back then, U's were under the cosh early on but survived until the 20th minute when Corben fired in from a Hawkins pass. Eight minutes later Corben scored again and he completed a quick-fire treble in the 32nd minute.

Corben continued his one man dismantling of Sutton in the 50th minute and three minutes later Clark ended a sweeping forward move to fire past J Collier in the Sutton goal. The floodgates had well and truly opened; Ryding scored the sixth goal before U's best chance fell to E Keen but he failed to hit the target. A penalty for handball against H Walduck was converted by Buttery and towards the finish Hawkins added a further two goals. 10-0 to the hosts. Spare a thought for Collier, his only first team appearance for SUFC.

U's: Collier, Hance, Walduck, Goossens, Thornton, Baylis, Austin, Hunt, Rowe, Keen, Long

Sutton finished second from bottom in the Athenian league, even losing at home to bottom club, West Norwood. They had defeated Southall earlier in the season at The Adult Ground (GGL) by 1-0.

The Player

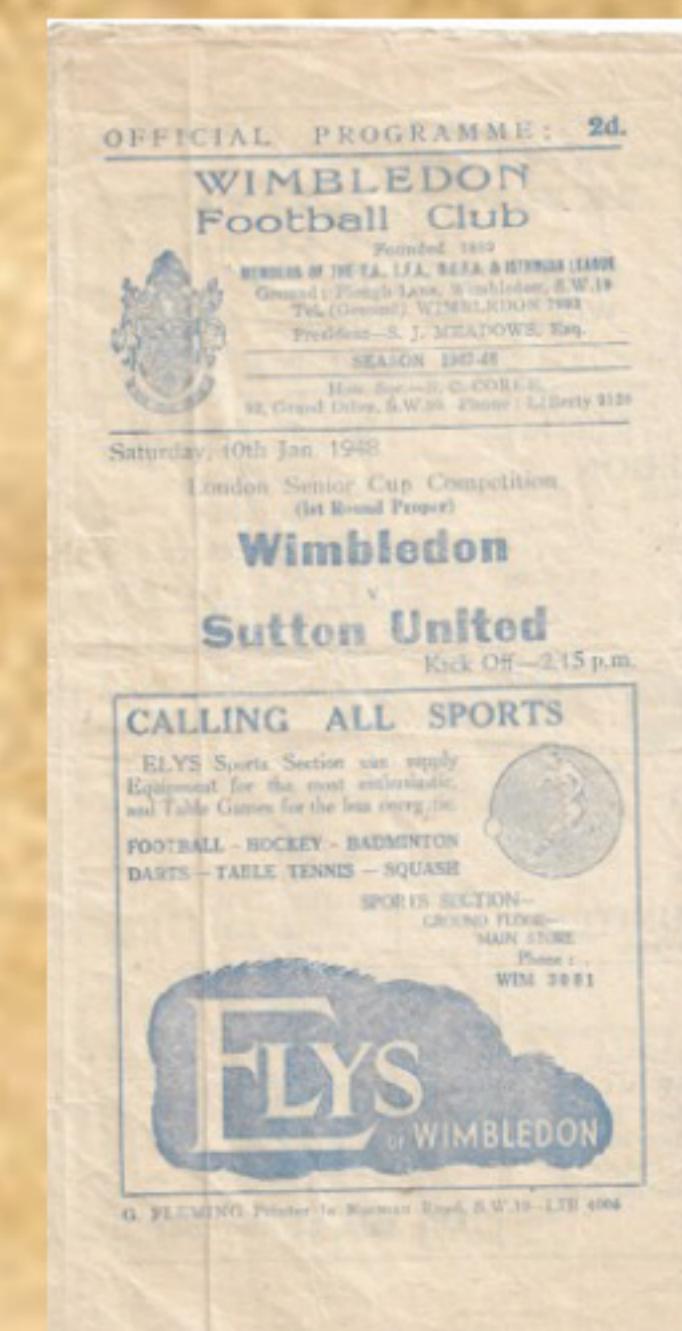
Appearing today – again at Southall but with a more satisfying end, 0-0 in the Amateur Cup first round – in 1959 was Reg Walker. Reg had joined Sutton during the 1949/50 season as a young forward having previously played for Banstead Athletic and after time in the reserve team, he made his debut on 11/03/1950 at home to Wealdstone. It was a joyful debut as he netted a hat-trick and then scored the following week against Hitchin Town. He made just three appearances but had scored four goals. Progress was slow for Reg though and he made just eleven appearances across the next two seasons and even signed as a dual-registration player for Epsom and had a brief spell at Croydon Rovers during the 1950/51 campaign.



With the offer of first team football, he joined Carshalton Athletic for the 1952/3 season but was back at Sutton the following term to begin a six year stay at GGL. During that period, he played in numerous positions for Sutton equally happy in the half-back line or in a forward role. He played in two successive South of the Thames Cup finals in 1953/54 and '54/55 collecting a winners' medal in the latter and was in U's team that was defeated by Wimbledon at Selhurst Park in the 1955 Surrey Senior final. The 1957/58 season saw Reg play 35 times and net five goals, a significant contribution to the club's dual success of the Athenian League and London Senior Cup. Representative honours came from the Surrey FA in 1956/57 and 1957/58. Reg returned to Carshalton for the 1959/60 season before another brief spell during the '60/61 term at Sutton. He then moved on to Epsom & Ewell. Later in life, Reg became a director of Sutton, while his wife, Dina, chaired the Supporters' Club. Reg made 240 appearances for Sutton, scoring 26 goals.

The Programme

Back in 1948, U's defeated Wimbledon in the London Senior Cup first round by 2-1 at Plough Lane, an Athenian success on Isthmian territory. Jack Daley, also a Surrey cricketer, scored twice against one of his former clubs. The programme for the match was basically a sheet of A4 folded to provide six pages; blue print on white paper (front cover below). The fold had the teams presented on pages two and three surrounded by adverts including Kennards Restaurant where a Special Devon Tea cost 1/6 (7.5p). Page four of the fold held club notes and reported that their reserve team had defeated Hurlingham by 9-7 after being 4-7 down at half-time. The other two pages of the fold included one mainly of adverts, Wimbledon Greyhound Racing prominent, and the other with fixtures and results for all three of the Dons teams and up to date Isthmian tables (they sat fifth in the senior table and top of the reserve table). As this was still early post WWII, a decent effort for the standard price of the time, 2d (1p).



Continues

SUFC vs York City

This season's opening day 2-2 draw was the fourth such score line in the previous five meetings. The one that wasn't was Sutton's 2-1 victory at the LNER Community Stadium last January. Will "Gucci" Davies netted both Sutton's goals and also scored in the 2-2 draw here in August 2024 making him U's top scorer against York with three. The previous two matches came during the 2016/17 season and saw U's earn a point with ten men thanks to two Jamie Collins penalties, Sutton's only visit to Bootham Crescent, while the return here saw a very late comeback by York from two goals down.

U's record at GGL W0 D2 L0 F4 A4

The aforementioned Davies, of course, played for York during the 2023/4 season while from our current squad Alex Woodyard has also represented the Minstermen. A short list of players to have worn the colours of both clubs also includes David Ajiboye, Craig Clay, Richard Pacquette and Alan Pouton.



PARTNERSHIPS WANTED

Contact jack.daly@suttonunited.net

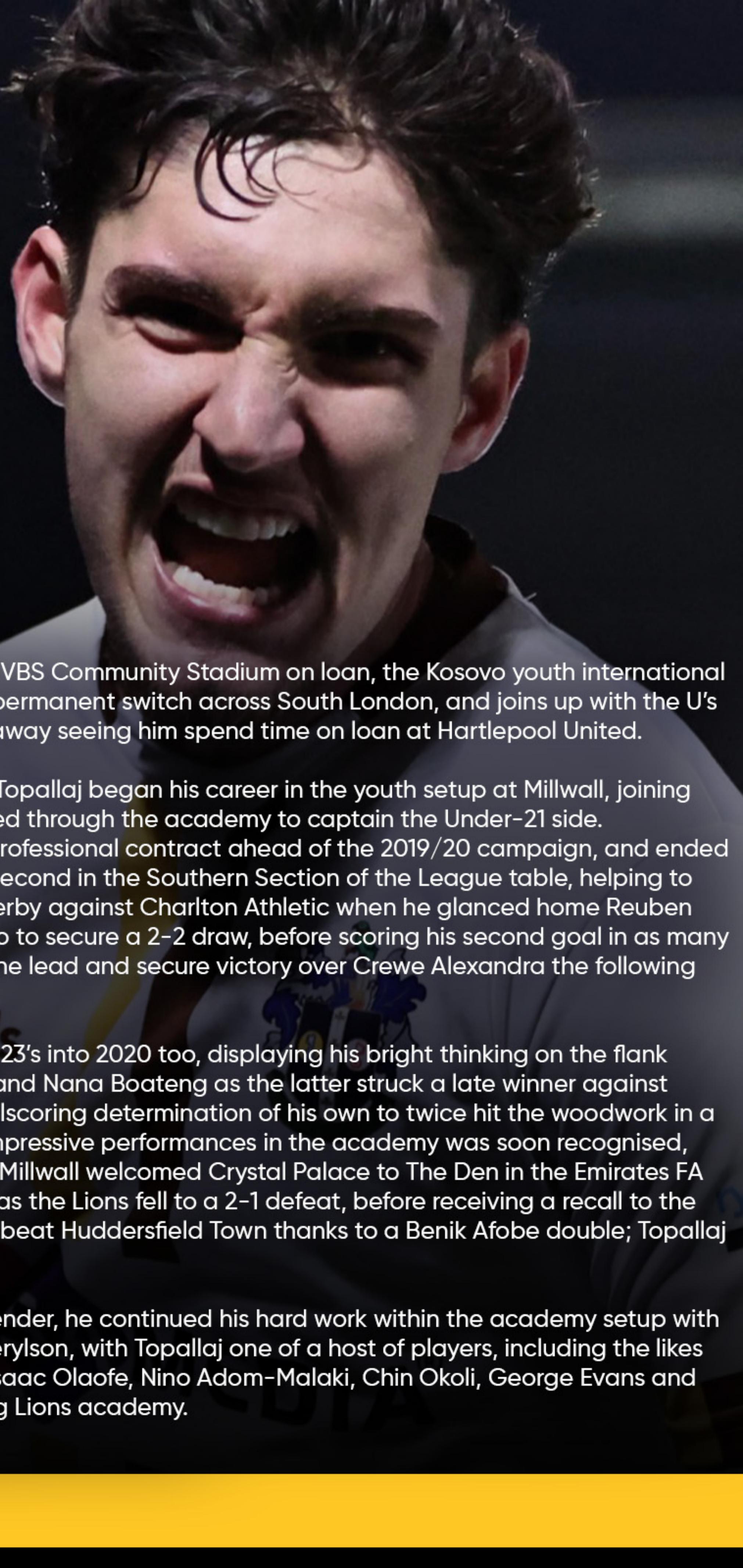
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WELCOME BACK

BESART TOPALLAJ



Besart Topallaj is a Sutton United player once more, and this time he is to stay.

Having spent the 2024/25 campaign at the VBS Community Stadium on loan, the Kosovo youth international has opted to depart Bromley in favour of a permanent switch across South London, and joins up with the U's under different management, with his time away seeing him spend time on loan at Hartlepool United.

Born in England but with Kosovan heritage, Topallaj began his career in the youth setup at Millwall, joining the club at the age of 15 where he progressed through the academy to captain the Under-21 side. The wing-back was rewarded with his first professional contract ahead of the 2019/20 campaign, and ended the year by contributing to Millwall's rise to second in the Southern Section of the League table, helping to stage a late fightback in the young Lions' derby against Charlton Athletic when he glanced home Reuben Duncan's corner with just three minutes to go to secure a 2-2 draw, before scoring his second goal in as many games with a 25-yard screamer to double the lead and secure victory over Crewe Alexandra the following week.

He continued his superb form for the Under-23's into 2020 too, displaying his bright thinking on the flank when he combined with George Alexander and Nana Boateng as the latter struck a late winner against Coventry City, before showing plenty of goalscoring determination of his own to twice hit the woodwork in a 2-0 defeat to Wigan Athletic. His string of impressive performances in the academy was soon recognised, and led to Bes' maiden senior call-up when Millwall welcomed Crystal Palace to The Den in the Emirates FA Cup, being named as an unused substitute as the Lions fell to a 2-1 defeat, before receiving a recall to the first team two months later as Rowett's side beat Huddersfield Town thanks to a Benik Afobe double; Topallaj replacing Zak Lovelace on the bench.

An invaluable experience for the young defender, he continued his hard work within the academy setup with praise coming even from Chairman, John Berylson, with Topallaj one of a host of players, including the likes of Boateng, Hayden Muller and former U's, Isaac Olaofe, Nino Adom-Malaki, Chin Okoli, George Evans and Harry Ransom, who participated in a thriving Lions academy.

He captained the side for the first time in a 1-0 win over Peterborough United and triggered a contract extension at the end of the campaign, before seeing his contributions to the first team continue into pre-season, appearing in a win over Dartford and a draw with Ipswich Town, as well as defeats to Crystal Palace and Hammarby IF, and his inclusions soon extended into the 2022/23 Championship campaign.

He appeared twice on the bench in defeats to Cambridge United in the Carabao Cup and to Sheffield United in the league, before continuing to be a mainstay in Kevin Nugent's successful Under 21s side, and was followed by him embarking on a one-month loan spell at Dagenham & Redbridge as Bes gained his first taste of senior action, featuring once for the Daggers in a thrilling 5-4 win over Barnet, with manager Gary Rowett citing the need for first-team minutes as the driving factor behind the loan move.

Despite only spending a brief period at Victoria Road, he later got the opportunity to further his development with a second month-long loan move, this time at Bromley, as the captain of Millwall's successful Under-21 side continued his development at an impressive rate. His time on loan with the Ravens got off to a perfect start as he was involved across the full game as they beat Southend United, before bagging his first goal in a 4-1 defeat to Yeovil Town at the start of 2023 with a stunning half-volley.

Bes soon became a full-time member of the National League outfit though, making the decision to depart The Den permanently after seven years as he joined Bromley for an undisclosed fee just a few days later, crediting the desire to play regular first-team football as the driving factor behind leaving Millwall.

Topallaj went on to end the campaign with 24 league appearances to his name, including two goals as he notched the winner in the reverse fixture against Yeovil, before playing every minute in their failed play-off campaign losing to eventual winners Chesterfield in the semi-final after originally beating Woking in the previous round.

Nonetheless, Andy Woodman's side soon bounced back from this heartbreak, and the Kosovan played a big part as they won promotion for the first time in their 133-year history the following year, notching a goal and five assists in the process. He subsequently made his Football League debut for the Ravens in a 1-1 draw with Colchester United and went on to appear four times for them in all competitions last term, scoring once in the Vertu Trophy against AFC Wimbledon, before spending a period away from Hayes Lane as he linked up with Sutton for the first time.

Moving to Gander Green Lane in November 2024, he quickly became a key part of the team with 11 appearances during the first half of the campaign, as well as scoring a crucial goal against Barnet on Boxing Day, capitalising on an error at the back to put Sutton in front against the Bees with 20 minutes to go, having ran the length of the pitch in order to get in the position to score.

His goal certainly epitomised what Bes is about, and after extending his loan spell until the end of the season, he went on to display his energy and versatility across a total of 24 games for Sutton, before adding another 21 appearances in the National League this term, though away from London for the first time in his career. Making the decision to move up north, the 24-year old joined Hartlepool United on loan last summer and notched the winner in a 1-0 triumph against North-East rivals Gateshead, as well as two assists against Woking and former club Sutton as he became a regular under Simon Grayson prior to his dismissal.

However, Bes was recalled from his loan last week and his contract at Bromley mutually terminated, with the wing-back returning to a place under new management, but a familiar one nonetheless.



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Happy New Year!

Here we are in 2026 with what is set to be another jam-packed year here at Sutton United, both on and off the pitch, with another Meet the Manager to be announced shortly, along with some events for our younger fans, and of course the annual Shoebox Trophy Fans Game at the end of the season - details on that to follow soon, so do watch this space if you want to don your boots this season.

The last Strikers Are Key draw took place on Boxing Day, with Ball 12 making an appearance from the bag - Admin for the Win, Vicky stepped up to do the honours for her syndicate, but sadly was unable to open the safe. There is no Strikers Are Key today, so next weekend after the FGR game there will be a double draw.

As ever, if you have anything you want to chat about, ideas or feedback, do drop me a line **slo@suttonunited.net** 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.

Claire
#ForeverAmber

SUFC FOUNDATION

Happy New Year to you all!

We are delighted to share details of three new sessions starting this month designed to make sport, activity, wellbeing and Sutton United more accessible for everyone in our community. These sessions reflect our commitment to inclusion, confidence-building, and creating welcoming spaces for people of all ages and abilities.

Youth Dart Sessions - Wednesday Evenings @ Gander Green Lane for young people aged 11-16

Our new Youth Darts Sessions provide a fun, safe and supportive environment for young people to learn and develop darts skills. These sessions focus on building confidence and coordination, encouraging focus, sportsmanship and social interaction as well as introducing darts in an age-appropriate and engaging way.

All abilities welcome, whether participants are completely new to darts or are looking to improve their skills.



Get On Downs Football - Saturday Mornings @ Goals North Cheam for all those Under 18

We are so excited to launch our football sessions for those with Down Syndrome in partnership with the local charity Get On Downs. These sessions are designed to create an inclusive, supportive, and enjoyable football experience for individuals with Down Syndrome. The sessions aim to promote physical activity, teamwork, and confidence whilst supporting skill development in a safe encouraging environment.

Working alongside Get On Downs ensures these sessions are delivered with understanding, care, and a strong focus on individual needs and wellbeing.

PT Video Classes

Our new PT Classes offer flexible, guided fitness sessions that participants can follow at their own pace. Led by Rosina, our new Community Coach, classes are designed to improve strength, mobility and overall wellbeing whilst being accessible to different fitness levels and allowing participants to train in a way suits their lifestyle. These classes provide a supportive option for those who prefer structured guidance with the flexibility of video-based training.

If you are interested in joining the above or any of the sessions run by The Foundation then please reach out to harry.dunne@suttonunited.net

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THE DAVID WEIR DIARIES

The latest news from David Weir Leisure Centre; the home of the Sutton Academy and Women's teams.

Slough completed a National League Academy South Division double over Sutton, overturning a 3-2 half-time deficit to win after a dramatic second half.

Sutton returned to action after their postponed trip to Leyton Orient, but went a goal down early through Frankie Phillips before Joel Sala's own goal levelled it. Milan Trotman restored Slough's lead, but Sutton hit back via Tolani Bello and Kai McKenzie's penalty to lead at the break. Sutton dominated after half-time, but Charlie Bell's second yellow proved decisive. Dylan Griffen equalised from the resulting free kick, then struck again five minutes from time to seal a 4-3 victory. The comeback capped a fluctuating contest marked by momentum swings and finishing.

Salaam Joins Hastings On Loan

Tito Salaam has joined Hastings United on an initial 28-day loan.

The defender makes the switch to Sussex on his first loan spell since moving to Gander Green Lane last summer, and joins a Hastings side that currently sit 14th in the Isthmian League South East Division.

Salaam initially joined the U's after playing at first team level for Crawley Down, having previously been developed by the Mass Elite Academy, and has been a consistent part of the academy side under Jimmy Dack and Glen Nichols.

Good luck, Tito!



UP NEXT

Saturday 10th January 2026 | 11am
Cutenhoe Road
EFL Youth Alliance South

Sunday 11th January 2026 | 3pm
Gunnersbury Park Sports Hub
**London and South East Women's Trophy
2nd Round**

Due to the continuing freezing weather, the South East Counties League game against Chessington & Hook, scheduled to be played at the David Weir Centre, was postponed.

Our development side are next in action next Sunday at home to Epsom & Ewell, while the first team return to action tomorrow away to Hammersmith in the London & South East Regional League Trophy.



GIRLS COLLEGE PROGRAMME TRIAL

Monday, 16th February 2026
10am - 12pm

Carshalton Sixth Form
Winchcombe Road, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 1RW

National Football Youth League

A-Levels & Level 3 Qualifications
in all subjects

Boots, shin pads and a
water bottle required

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current boys U18/Year 13 players for our
2026/27 paid U19 Apprenticeship Scheme

Thursday 19th February
Thursday 2nd April

TBC to Successful Applicants

National League Alliance

Level 4 Qualification in Coaching

• 72% OF UNDER-19S
HAVE TRAINED
WITH FIRST TEAM
THIS SEASON

• 50% OF UNDER-19S
HAVE BEEN
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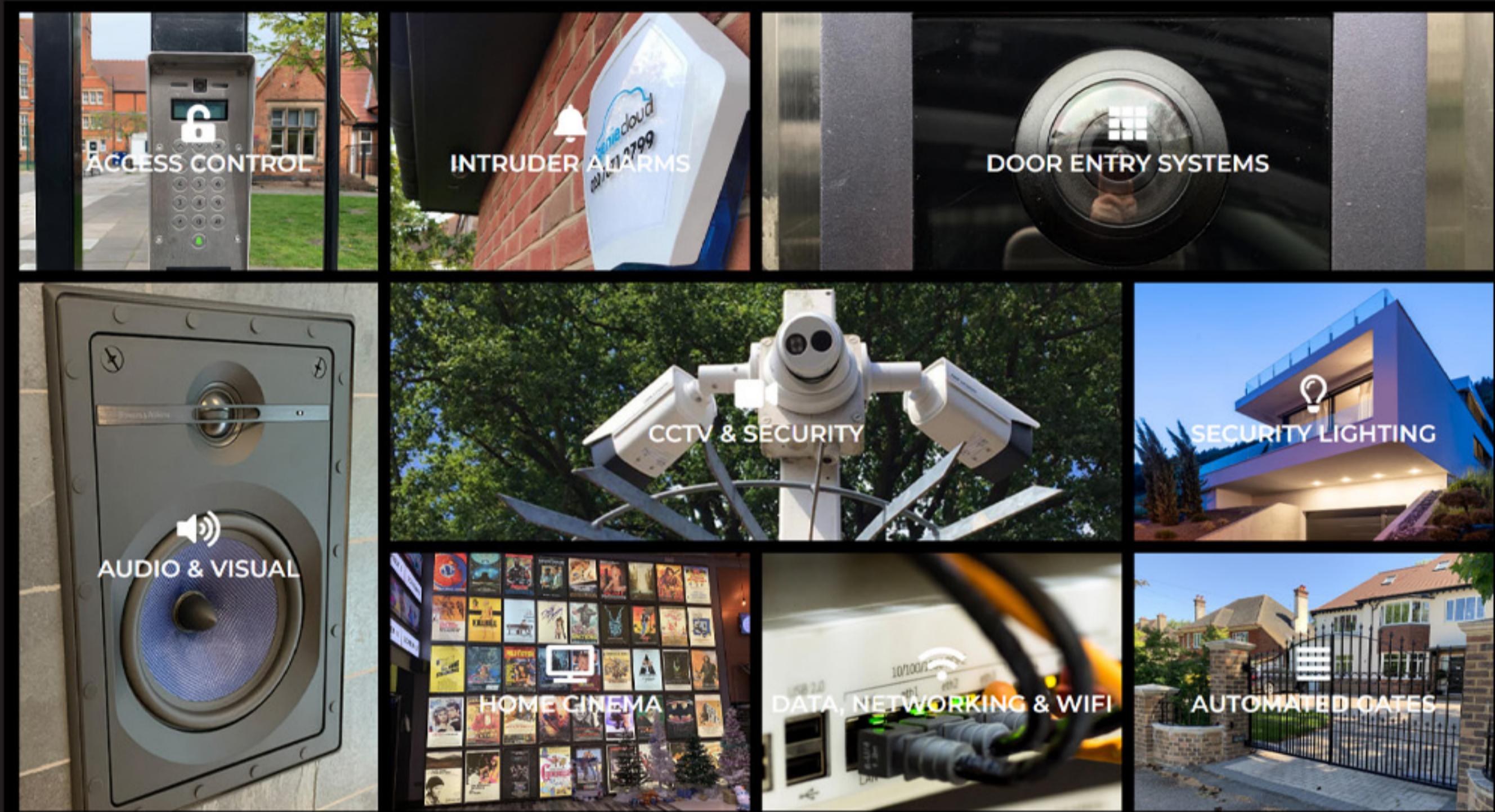
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DUBEM EZE:

"It Feels Like I'm Back Home"

New Sutton United signing Dubem Eze says joining the club feels like coming home, as he looks to kick-start the next chapter of his career back in South London.

The attacking midfielder signed for Sutton on a permanent deal from Bolton Wanderers after spending the last few years in the North of England, but having grown up in Morden, a stone's throw away from SM1, it was a no brainer to take the next step in his career at Gander Green Lane.

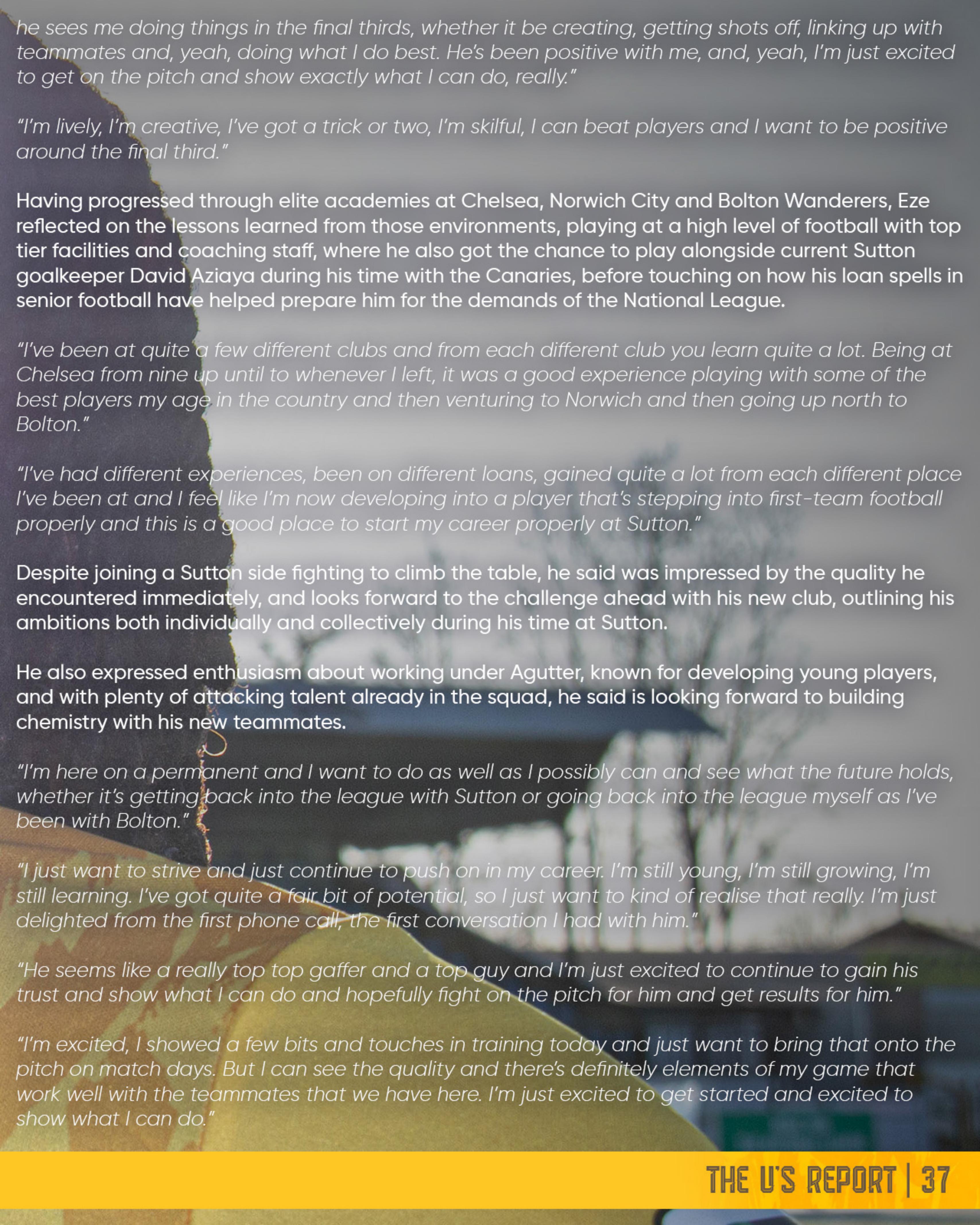
"I'm over the moon, I'm excited to be here. It feels like I'm back home, obviously, being from just around the corner. It's good to be here and I'm excited to get started."

"It was a no-brainer, obviously speaking to Agi, the gaffer, yeah, he just sold it to me, and as soon as I heard of the project and obviously I've seen how things have turned and how he wants to finish the rest of the season, it was a no-brainer for me to come and sign it, really."

Eze revealed that conversations with Agutter quickly gave him clarity on his role within the squad and how he can make an impact, with the shift towards the possession-based style the Head Coach has implemented since arriving from Worthing bringing the qualities of Sutton's midfielders to the fore. Now though, there is another body which has been added to bring extra quality in depth to the centre of the park, with the midfielder highlighting the attacking qualities he hopes to bring to Sutton's frontline.

"He just spoke to me about where he sees me in the system."

"Obviously, I'm an attacking player who's exciting, who likes to get at people, to drive, run with the ball, and



he sees me doing things in the final thirds, whether it be creating, getting shots off, linking up with teammates and, yeah, doing what I do best. He's been positive with me, and, yeah, I'm just excited to get on the pitch and show exactly what I can do, really."

"I'm lively, I'm creative, I've got a trick or two, I'm skilful, I can beat players and I want to be positive around the final third."

Having progressed through elite academies at Chelsea, Norwich City and Bolton Wanderers, Eze reflected on the lessons learned from those environments, playing at a high level of football with top tier facilities and coaching staff, where he also got the chance to play alongside current Sutton goalkeeper David Aziaya during his time with the Canaries, before touching on how his loan spells in senior football have helped prepare him for the demands of the National League.

"I've been at quite a few different clubs and from each different club you learn quite a lot. Being at Chelsea from nine up until to whenever I left, it was a good experience playing with some of the best players my age in the country and then venturing to Norwich and then going up north to Bolton."

"I've had different experiences, been on different loans, gained quite a lot from each different place I've been at and I feel like I'm now developing into a player that's stepping into first-team football properly and this is a good place to start my career properly at Sutton."

Despite joining a Sutton side fighting to climb the table, he said was impressed by the quality he encountered immediately, and looks forward to the challenge ahead with his new club, outlining his ambitions both individually and collectively during his time at Sutton.

He also expressed enthusiasm about working under Agutter, known for developing young players, and with plenty of attacking talent already in the squad, he said is looking forward to building chemistry with his new teammates.

"I'm here on a permanent and I want to do as well as I possibly can and see what the future holds, whether it's getting back into the league with Sutton or going back into the league myself as I've been with Bolton."

"I just want to strive and just continue to push on in my career. I'm still young, I'm still growing, I'm still learning. I've got quite a fair bit of potential, so I just want to kind of realise that really. I'm just delighted from the first phone call, the first conversation I had with him."

"He seems like a really top top gaffer and a top guy and I'm just excited to continue to gain his trust and show what I can do and hopefully fight on the pitch for him and get results for him."

"I'm excited, I showed a few bits and touches in training today and just want to bring that onto the pitch on match days. But I can see the quality and there's definitely elements of my game that work well with the teammates that we have here. I'm just excited to get started and excited to show what I can do."

Strong Swimmers, Confident Kids!

A photograph of three children in a swimming pool. A girl on the left in a purple and green swimsuit flexes her right bicep. In the center, a boy in an orange swim cap and goggles flexes his left bicep. On the right, a girl in a black swimsuit with colorful circles flexes her right bicep. They are all wearing swim caps and goggles. The background shows a swimming pool with lane lines and other swimmers.

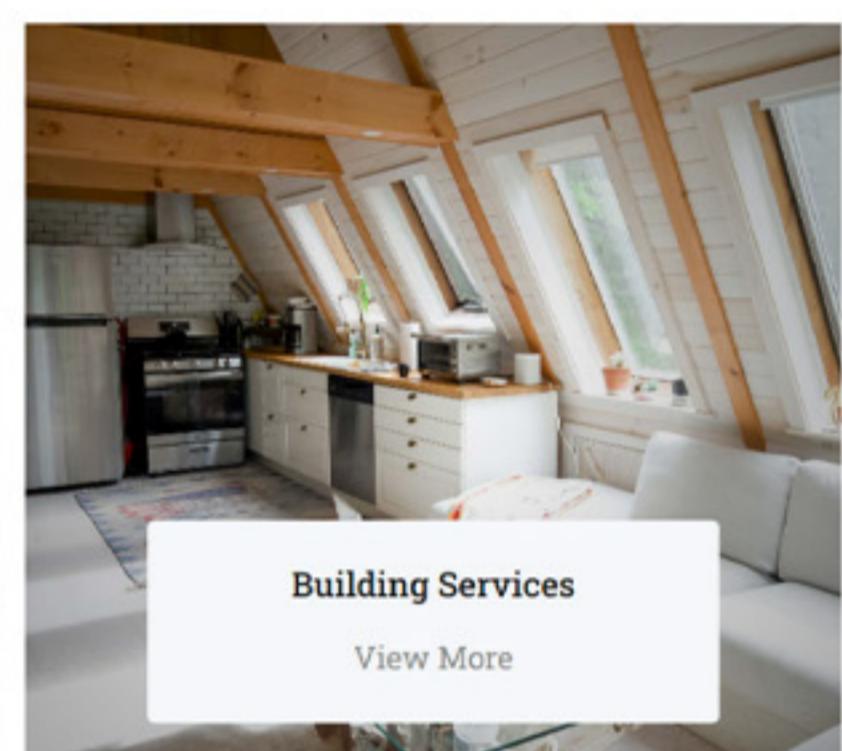
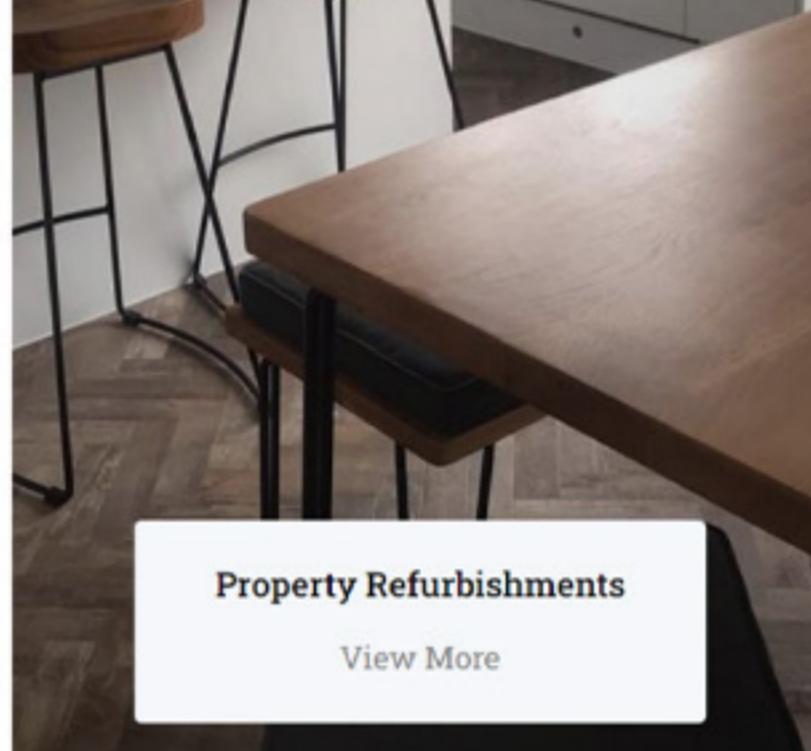
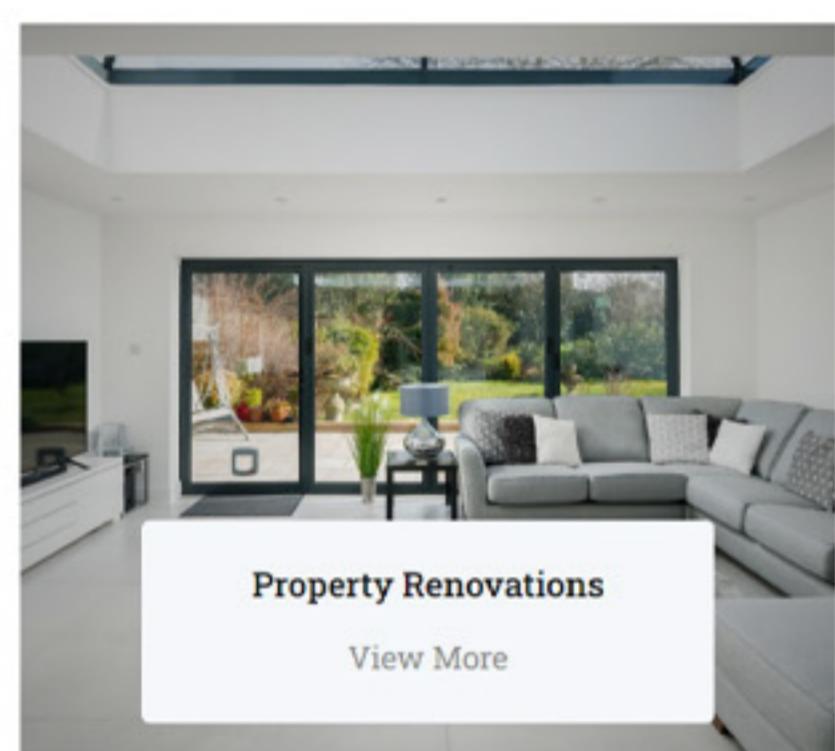
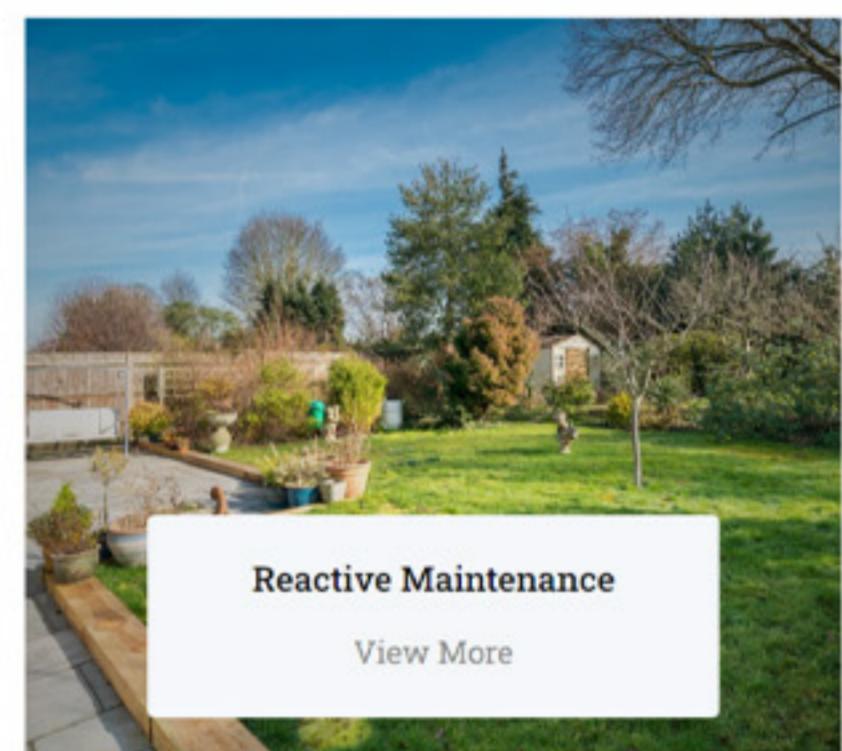
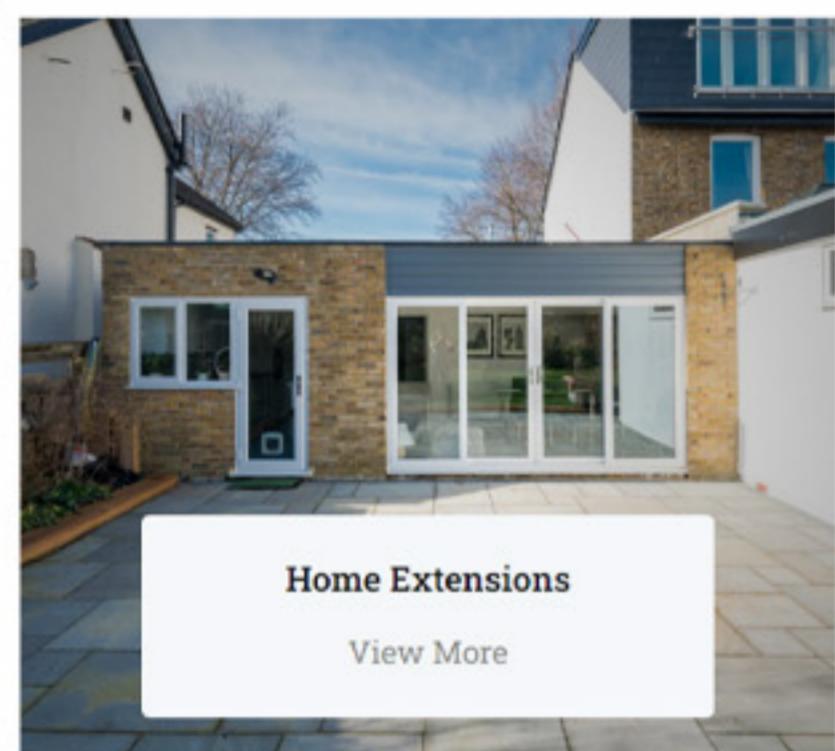
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LOAN WATCH:

DECEMBER

As we reach the turn of the year and the midway point in the 2025/26 season, six senior Sutton players, along with two in the academy, continued to rack up minutes away on loan across the non-league pyramid.

Kane Crichlow got off to a goalscoring start to life back at Chelmsford City, having returned to Essex until the end of the season.

After notching an impressive 13 goals last term for the Clarets, the Bermuda international continued where he left off by keeping his cool and producing a composed finish to add a third goal against Enfield Town, having got on the end of an unselfish Lyle Taylor pass, and proved to be a key contribution as a brace from Taylor, either side of goals from Archie Tamplin and Crichlow, secured a comfortable 4-0 win over the Towners.

After coming back with a bang in his 76-minute spell on Boxing Day, the midfielder followed it up with a less successful outing to end 2025, facing off against Sutton teammate Dillon De Silva and Dagenham & Redbridge. Evidently a key part of Angelo Harrop's plans, Crichlow made it two starts in a row before the turn of the year, but he was unable to prevent his side from falling to a disappointing 4-1 defeat at the hands of their rivals.

He notably had one key moment in the lead-up to the Clarets' equaliser, picking up the ball before weaving in and out of the home defence and laying it to Jason Adigun, who dragged his effort wide, but was followed by the 23-year old making amends just a minute later to see Chelmsford enter half time on level terms. However, Dagenham restored their advantage midway through the second half and led to Crichlow before being replaced by Louie Kudiabor with ten minutes to go with a final roll of the dice in an attempt to salvage something from the game at 2-1 down, but it wasn't to be as two stoppage time goals sealed the win for the Daggers.

In the South-West, having confirmed his loan move to Salisbury on the eve of their clash with Farnborough, Mo Dabre made his debut for the Whites in a 1-0 defeat to the Yellows, playing 77 minutes on his maiden appearance for the club, and he followed this up with a 12-minute cameo in their 2-0 defeat to Bath City the following week.



The Italian midfielder then received a host of plaudits for his work rate and energy into the centre of the park on Boxing Day, adding a second start to his Salisbury tally as he played a crucial role in the Whites' 3-1 win over AFC Totton, notably notching an assist for the opener. After Josh Sommerton was able to drive with the ball into the middle of the field, he chipped a pass over the top of the Totton defence and into the path of Dabre who kept the ball under his spell excellently, squaring the ball to Josh Hedges who tapped the ball home to draw first blood in the local derby. This proved to be the cherry on top of a Man of the Match-worthy display from the midfielder, winning plaudits from manager Brian Dutton who described him as the epitome of what they were looking for – hard work, effort and quality.

He then closed out the year with another start, playing 86 minutes as the Whites lost 1-0 to Weston-super-Mare.



Moving back East, after being named as an unused substitute in their 0-0 draw with Slough Town in the league, Dillon De Silva made his first competitive club appearance in over month when he came straight in to the team Dagenham & Redbridge team for their Isuzu FA Trophy win over Hanwell Town, playing 90 minutes as the Daggers secured their place in Round Four with a 1-0 win.

The Sri Lankan, who had spent time on loan at Tamworth prior to his switch to Victoria Riad, was selected from the start once more the following week, playing 87 minutes in a 2-2 draw with Tonbridge Angels in which he was booked towards the end of the first half, before starting again and playing 90 minutes in a dramatic 3-2 defeat to Hornchurch. Former U Henry Sandat notched his third goal in two games to give the highflying Urchens a 2-0 lead at the break, and despite drawing level with a minute to spare, six added minutes gave Hornchurch the opportunity to steal the win when former Dagger Josh Rees got the better of his old club with a 90+6th minute winner.

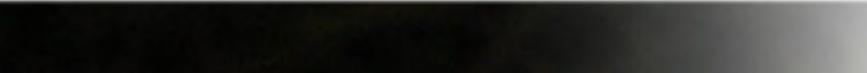
The East London side quickly bounced back though, and De Silva played a little under half-an-hour as Lee Bradbury's side brushed past rivals Chelmsford City to close out the year. Going head-to-head with Sutton teammate Kane Crichlow, who played his second game for the Clarets since returning on loan, Stan Leech notched his third goal in as many games since signing from Newmarket Town before Harvey Broad added a second minutes before De Silva's introduction, and was followed by stoppage goals from Dylan Stephenson and Broad to seal a 4-1 win, with the Sutton winger going close to making the win safe himself with an effort with five minutes to go.

Just as De Silva had done to kick-start what has so far been a far more fruitful loan spell compared to his previous one, Jaiden White was able to utilise the FA Trophy in order to get some crucial minutes in his legs, scoring the decisive penalty in the shootout following a 1-1 draw with Radcliffe.

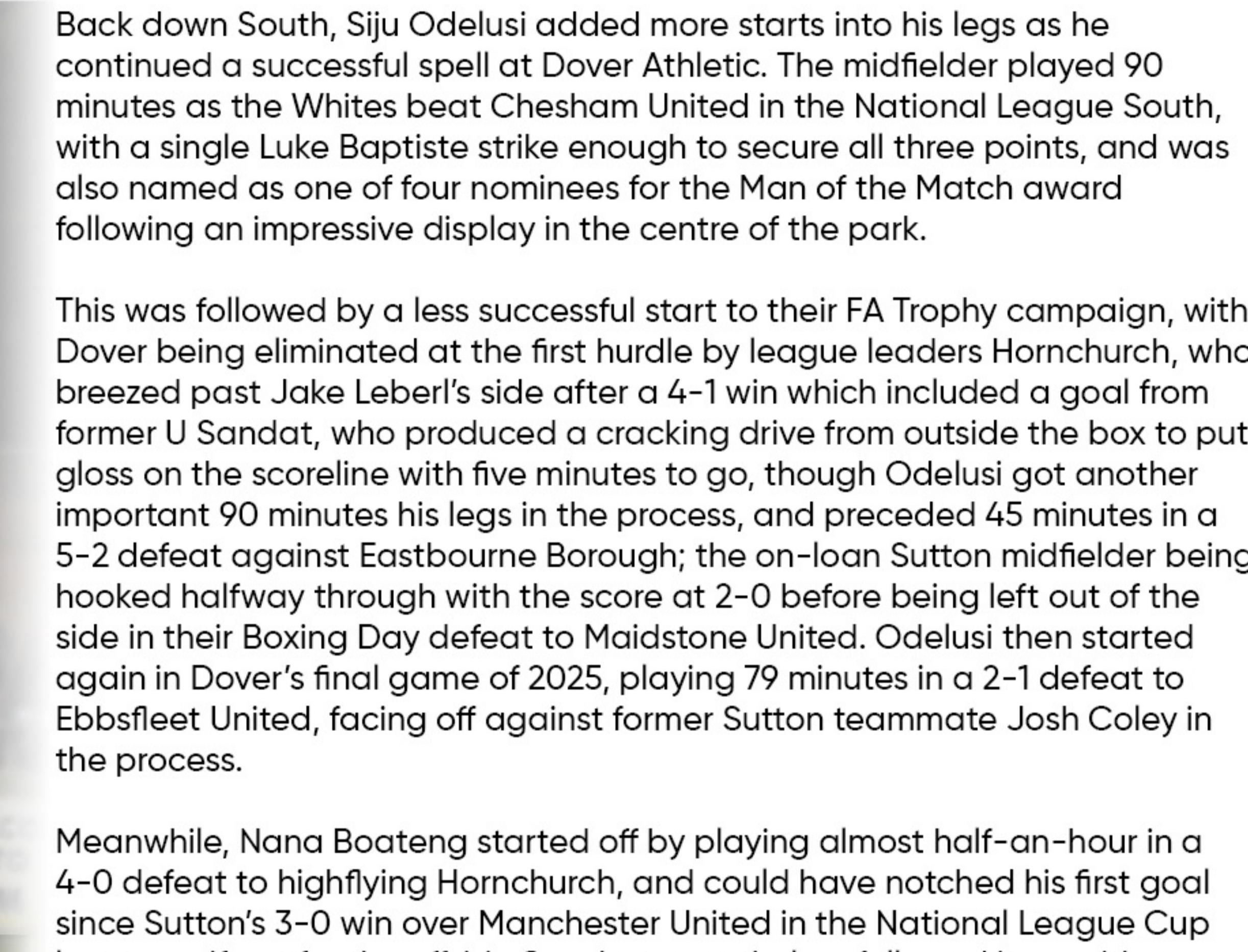
Having played 17 minutes in the Bulls' 2-0 win over Peterborough Sports, White was rewarded with a start as his side got all the way to penalties against Radcliffe, seeing a couple of attempts go amiss after they had gone behind early on, before a penalty at the start of the second half saw the Bulls draw level and send the game to penalties.

With three converted and one saved, the on-loan Sutton man stepped up with Hereford's fifth and final spot-kick, making no mistake from 12 yards to send his side to the Fourth Round after Theo Richardson had saved a second Radcliffe penalty moments before, with the Bulls now set to face AFC Fylde.

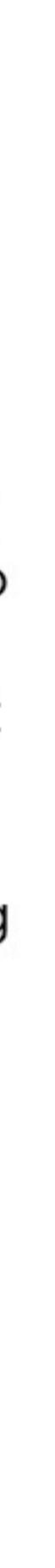
White then followed this up with a second successive start, playing 69 minutes as they lost 4-1 to Chorley, and was followed by a late substitute appearance as they lost again against his old side, Kidderminster Harriers, on Boxing Day before ending 2025 in more positive circumstances. The winger started and played 90 minutes as Hereford secured a dramatic draw against Merthyr Town, with Kyle Howkins notching a 90+4th minute leveller after going behind to a Martyrs side that contained former U Jay Williams, who had come off the bench with two minutes to go.



Back down South, Siju Odelusi added more starts into his legs as he continued a successful spell at Dover Athletic. The midfielder played 90 minutes as the Whites beat Chesham United in the National League South, with a single Luke Baptiste strike enough to secure all three points, and was also named as one of four nominees for the Man of the Match award following an impressive display in the centre of the park.



This was followed by a less successful start to their FA Trophy campaign, with Dover being eliminated at the first hurdle by league leaders Hornchurch, who breezed past Jake Leberl's side after a 4-1 win which included a goal from former U Sandat, who produced a cracking drive from outside the box to put gloss on the scoreline with five minutes to go, though Odelusi got another important 90 minutes in the process, and preceded 45 minutes in a 5-2 defeat against Eastbourne Borough; the on-loan Sutton midfielder being hooked halfway through with the score at 2-0 before being left out of the side in their Boxing Day defeat to Maidstone United. Odelusi then started again in Dover's final game of 2025, playing 79 minutes in a 2-1 defeat to Ebbsfleet United, facing off against former Sutton teammate Josh Coley in the process.



Meanwhile, Nana Boateng started off by playing almost half-an-hour in a 4-0 defeat to highflying Hornchurch, and could have notched his first goal since Sutton's 3-0 win over Manchester United in the National League Cup last term, if not for the offside flag, but nonetheless followed it up with an

increased opportunity later in the week. The forward replaced Finley Wilkinson after just half-an-hour against Salisbury due to injury and came close to scoring when he tested Will Buse midway through the second half, but couldn't do enough to prevent Lee Allinson's side from falling to defeat in the South-West. However, Boateng was rewarded with his first start since last season's National League Cup Final defeat against Leeds United, playing 68 minutes as the Tudors beat London Lions in the Herts Senior Cup, including contributing an assist for Mauro Vilhete's opener, and the games continued to come thick and fast with another cameo appearance against Horsham in the FA Trophy, with the on-loan Sutton man playing seven minutes as Hemel lost 2-0.

Down in the Academy, Liam Moore continued his return from injury with a start as Cray Valley (Paper Mills) fell to a 7-2 defeat to Queens Park Rangers in the London Senior Cup, before contributing to a 3-0 win over Chichester City as the Millers switched attention back to league action.

This was followed by a third successive start for the young midfielder, who notched two assists and a goal in a 4-1 win over Wingate & Finchley. Kicking things off with a pinpoint pass to set up Rowan Liburd's opener, he followed this up by producing a precise corner that Cem Tumkaya headed home, before rounding things off by scoring the fourth and final goal at the death, slotting Ibby Akanbi's cross from the right into the back of the net.

Moore was then involved again in more disappointing circumstances as the Millers fell to three defeats in a row despite battling performances on the south coast against Folkestone Invicta and Whitehawk, having the best chance of the first half, along with a couple more opportunities against the latter, before starting again as Steve McKimm's side were condemned to a 5-0 loss against local rivals Cray Wanderers to finish off the year.

In more positive circumstances though, Mehmet Halim continued to write his name into the hearts of Leatherhead supporters with some blistering displays throughout December.

The former West Ham United man kicked off the month with the opener against Southall, burying home from close range after Cameron Black's looping header bounced off the crossbar, though the Ealing-based side fought back from two down to draw level before the half was out.

Halim was the man on everyone's lips though, rescuing all three points with 15 minutes to go when Louie Paget raced down the right-hand side before seeing his cut-back deflect into Halim's path, who smashed home his second to restore their advantage, and was followed by Kelvin Massango sealing the win with a fourth soon after.

Halim's performance saw him named Man of the Match with over half of the vote, and he was subsequently rewarded with a call-up by his parent club for Sutton's FA Trophy clash with Walton & Hersham, meaning he was unable to feature as Leatherhead beat Harrow Borough to make history in the same competition, reaching the Fourth Round for the first time.

He did however return to Tanners action in the Isthmian League Premier Division as they beat Bognor Regis Town 2-0, with the on-loan Sutton striker coming on at half time to go close to a third goal, before Nathan Hogan soon did notch what proved to be the winner with the Rocks scoring a late penalty to narrow the deficit to one goal.

It wasn't long before Halim returned to the scoresheet though, scoring the opener in a 4-1 win away at Metropolitan Police with a beauty, as Kane Fitzgerald combined with Jacob Breckon to float the ball across to the midfielder who smashed home the opener on the volley.

While the hosts did draw level on the stroke of half time, the Tanners soon put all three points beyond doubt with second half goals from Nathan Hogan (2) and Anas Igozouln sealing a comfortable triumph that sees Ian Selley's men end 2025 at the top of the tree, with a four-point gap to second-placed Westfield in the Isthmian League South Central Division.



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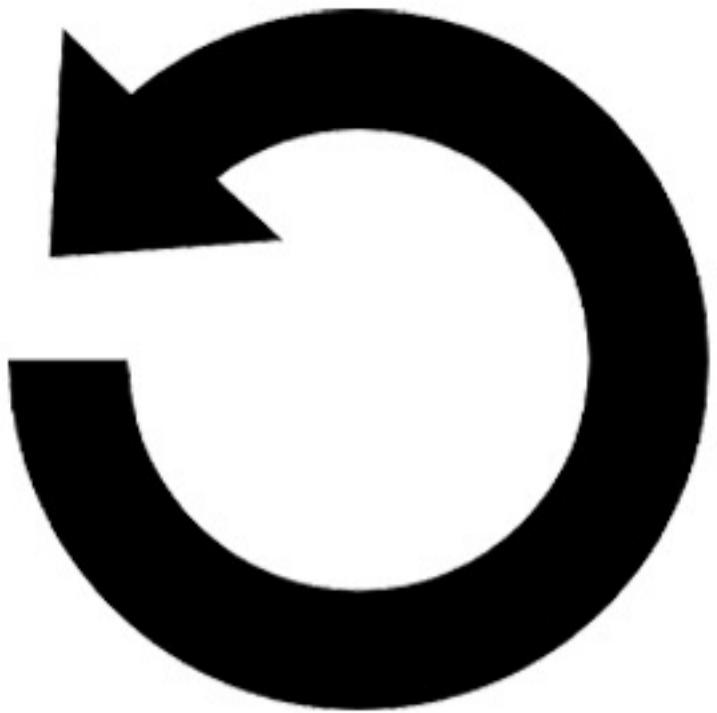
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REWIND



Photos by Paul Loughlin



SUTTON UNITED 0 ALDERSHOT TOWN 0



SUTTON UNITED

Sims
Mrisho (Vaz 46')
Muller
Tizzard
Taylor
Jennings
Taylor (Bell 81')
Simper
Harris (Njoku 60')
Ogbonna
Rodari



ALDER SHOT

Boyce-Clarke
Grogan
Nightingale
Inwood
Penney
Hill
Widdrington
Tetek
Warren
Henry (Hargeaves (58')
Barrett (Jones 76')





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LATEST FROM THE LEAGUE

Written by Louis Massingham Rowell

There were significant home comforts in the heavily reduced docket of National League fixtures last weekend. In the five games taking place, four home sides took maximum points.

Carlisle took full advantage of title rivals York, Boreham Wood and Rochdale's postponements and took top spot. The Cumbrians brushed aside Wealdstone 2-0 at Brunton Park to make it three wins from three over the festive period.

Luke Armstrong scored his fourth goal in five games to give them a deserved lead. Aaron Hayden doubled Carlisle's advantage an hour into the contest and gave Wealdstone little hope of a fightback.



The Stones find themselves on a run of eight league games without a win, their latest a 1-0 victory against Braintree on the 8th of November. Sam Cox's side have the welcome distraction of a FA Trophy tie against Dagenham & Redbridge at home today.



Another side that made up ground in the title race was Forest Green. Robbie Savage's side had to come from behind at home to Halifax to win 2-1. Will Hugill gave the Shaymen the lead on the stroke of half-time but could not hold on in the second half.

A brace from Forest Green's new striker Ricardo Rees secured a vital three points for the Green Devils after one point in their previous two games against Brackley and Truro. Rees sits on twenty-eight goals from twenty-six games this season having made the step-up from National League North side Merthyr Town.



Despite a change in manager, it was a twelfth defeat in a row for Gateshead as they lost 3-1 at Tamworth. The Heed had a managerial restructure prior to the game with former manager Rob Elliot returning to the dugout and previous manager Alun Armstrong taking on the role of the club's Head of Football Development.

Stefan Mols bagged a brace, scoring Tamworth's opener to give them a 1-0 lead at half-time. Despite Kain Adom's tenth league goal of the season, it did not provide the opportunity for his side to come away with any points as the Lambs put back-to-back defeats during the festive period behind them.



The only side to drop points at home last weekend was Boston. Despite taking the lead, the Pilgrims lost 2-1 at home to Eastleigh. Gregory Sloggett opened the scoring within ten minutes for the home side but they could not hold on. Tranmere loanee Harvey Saunders equalised for the Hampshire side before Aaron Blair took advantage of Rhys Lovett's howler to score his third goal in four games and secure the win for the Spittfires.



The result left Graham Coughlan's side winless at home since their 2-0 win against Braintree on the 24th of September. On the flip side, Scott Barlett's side find themselves on a five match unbeaten run ahead of their FA Trophy tie against Southport today.

In the late kick off, Yeovil saw off Braintree 3-1 to move them eight points clear of relegation. Goals from Luke McCormick, James Daly and Brett McGavin compounded Braintree's misery.



McCormick's goal was his sixth goal involvement in as many games and it started a good twenty-four hours for the midfielder as he signed a new deal until 2028 the following day. The defeat left Braintree one point clear of the drop-zone ahead of their crucial fixture at home to Boston in today's late kick-off, live on DAZN.



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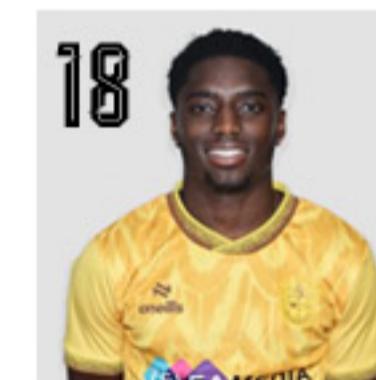
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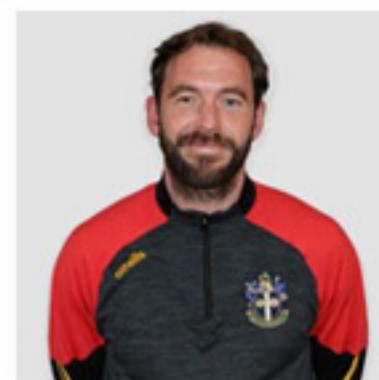
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Jake Taylor
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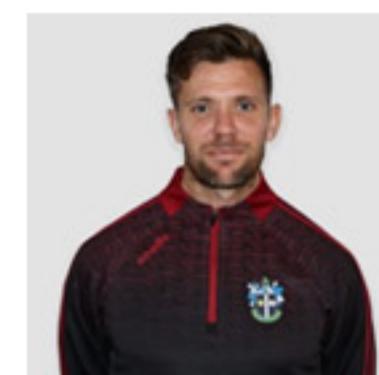
Junior Eccleston
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Joined 2025
Sponsored By Sam Hall



Chris Agutter
Head Coach
Joined 2025
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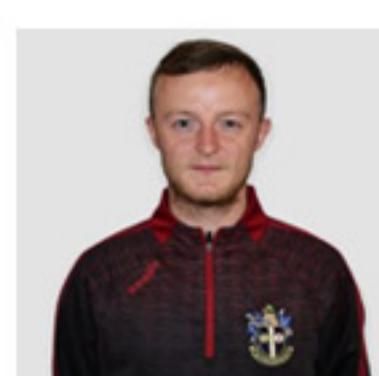
Kai Jennings
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Assistant Manager
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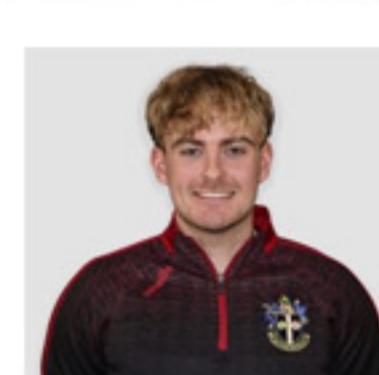
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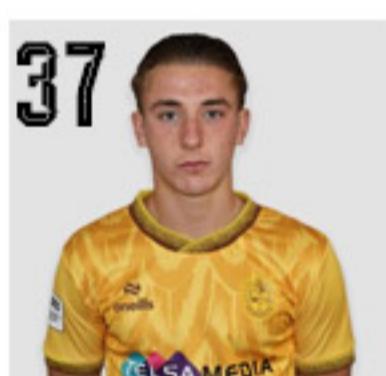
Ben Cornelius
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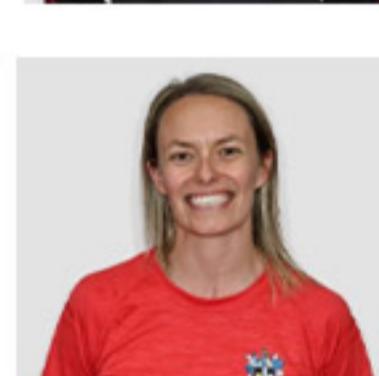
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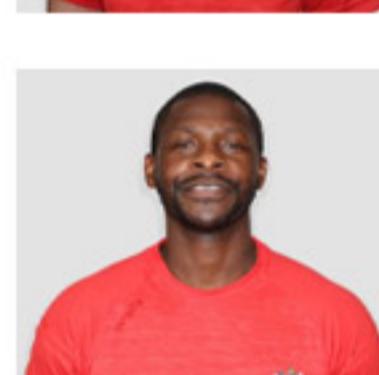
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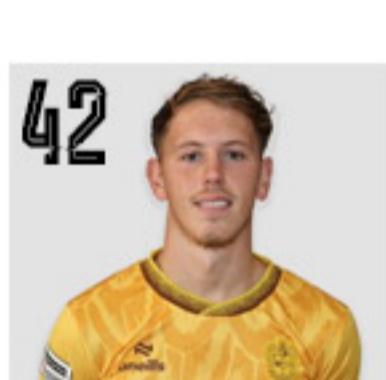
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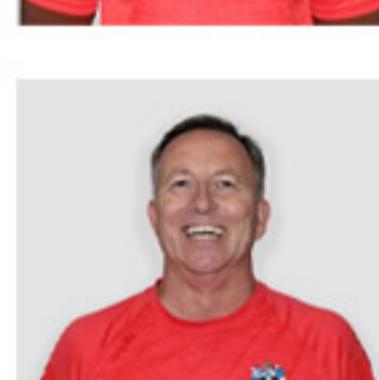
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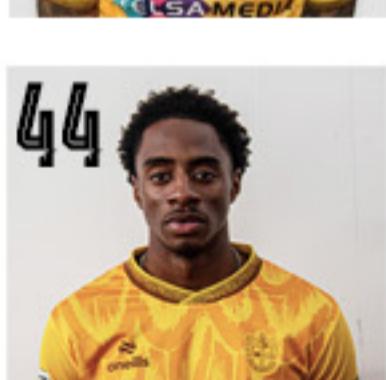
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FIXTURES & RESULTS



Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	Enterprise National League							
Sat Aug 9	York City	2-2 D	5,937 (199 away)	Sims	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Vincent	Wood	
Sat Aug 16	Solihull Moors	0-0 D	1,939 (105 away)	Sims	Jones	Tizzard	Phipps	Pruti	Vincent	Wood	
Wed Aug 20	Forest Green Rovers	4-0 L	1,463 (81 away)	Sims	Jones	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Vaz	Simple	
Sat Aug 23	Scunthorpe United	2-3 L	2,332 (365 away)	Sims	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Vincent	Odelusi	
Mon Aug 25	Rochdale AFC	1-0 L	2,647 (67 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Dabre	Crich	
Sat Aug 30	Carlisle United	2-1 W	2,507 (599 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Boutin	Dabre	
Wed Sep 3	Boreham Wood	3-4 L	1,852 (72 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Boutin	Wadham	
Sat Sep 6	Altrincham	2-1 L	1,604 (77 away)	Sims	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Boutin	Wadham	
Sat Sep 13	Tamworth	2-3 L	2,194 (89 away)	Sims	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Vincent	Odelusi	
Sat Sep 20	Brackley Town	1-0 L	883 (144 away)	Sims	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Wadham	Harris	
Tue Sep 23	Woking	1-1 D	2,739 (225 away)	Sims	Jones	Eccleston	Taylor	Pruti	Vincent	Wadham	
Sat Sep 27	Boston United	1-1 D	2,049 (155 away)	Sims	Jones	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Boutin	Bell	
Tue Sep 30	Yeovil Town	1-2 L	1,891 (188 away)	Aziaya	Jones	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Boutin	Dabre	
Sat Oct 4	Braintree Town	0-0 D	1,042 (90 away)	Aziaya	Jones	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Vincent	Dabre	
Sat Oct 18	Hartlepool United	3-3 D	2,557 (144 away)	Aziaya	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Ogbonna	Muller	
Sat Oct 25	Wealdstone	4-2 L	1,536 (249 away)	Reid	Jones	Phipps	Taylor	Tizzard	Boutin	Muller	
Wed Nov 5	Eastleigh	2-1 W	1,759 (67 away)	Reid	Jones	Taylor	Pruti	Eccleston	Muller	Jenni	
Sat Nov 8	Morecambe	2-2 D	3,650 (87 away)	Reid	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Ogbonna	Muller	Taylor	
Sat Nov 15	FC Halifax Town	2-1 W	2,381 (101 away)	Reid	Muller	Taylor	Pruti	Eccleston	Taylor	Jenni	
Sat Nov 22	Truro City	2-3 W	2,089 (94 away)	Reid	Eccleston	Muller	Pruti	Taylor	Taylor	Jenni	
Sat Nov 29	Gateshead	4-2 W	2,327 (30 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Muller	Pruti	Taylor	Taylor	Jenni	
Sat Dec 20	Solihull Moors	4-1 L	885 (110)	Sims	Mrisho	Muller	Pruti	Tizzard	Ogbonna	Bell	
Fri Dec 26	Aldershot Town	0-0 D	3,153 (533 away)	Sims	Mrisho	Taylor	Tizzard	Muller	Taylor	Jenni	
Tue Dec 30	Southend United	1-0 L	8,798 (221 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Taylor	Muller	Tizzard	Taylor	Jenni	
Sat Jan 3	Scunthorpe United	P-P									
Sat Jan 10	York City										
Sat Jan 17	Forest Green Rovers										
Sat Jan 20	Woking										
Sat Jan 24	Tamworth										
Sat Jan 31	Brackley Town										
Sat Feb 7	Boston United										
Wed Feb 11	Braintree Town										
Sat Feb 14	Hartlepool United										
Sat Feb 21	Wealdstone										
Wed Feb 25	Yeovil Town										
Sat Feb 28	FC Halifax Town										
Sat Mar 7	Morecambe										
Sat Mar 14	Gateshead										
Sat Mar 21	Truro City										
Tue Mar 24	Eastleigh										
Sat Mar 28	Rochdale AFC										
Fri Apr 3	Aldershot Town										
Mon Apr 6	Southend United										
Sat Apr 11	Carlisle United										
Sat Apr 18	Altrincham										
Sat Apr 25	Boreham Wood										
Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	National League Cup							
Tue Aug 12	Fulham	0-7 L	806	Aziaya	White	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Vaz	Odelusi	
Tue Sep 16	Brighton & Hove Albion	1-2 L	437	Aziaya	Eccleston	Tizzard	Reeves	Boutin	Odelusi	Bell	
Tue Oct 21	West Ham United	3-3 D	633	Aziaya	Jones	Tizzard	Phipps	Pruti	Boutin	Muller	
Tue Nov 25	Southampton	4-1 W	505	Sims	Jones	Tizzard	Taylor	Vaz	Jennings	Bell	
Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	Emirates FA Cup							
Sat Oct 11	Farnham Town	3-3 D	2,300 (375 away)	Aziaya	Tizzard	Taylor	Pruti	Jones	Phipps	Wadham	
Tue Oct 14	Farnham Town	3-2 W	1,496 (365 away)	Aziaya	Phipps	Taylor	Pruti	Jones	Dabre	Wadham	
Sat Nov 1	AFC Telford United	2-1 W	1,575 (444 away)	Reid	Jones	Taylor	Pruti	Eccleston	Muller	Jenni	
Sat Dec 6	Shrewsbury Town	1-2 L	2,505 (346 away)	Sims	Eccleston	Muller	Pruti	Taylor	Taylor	Jenni	
Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	Isuzu FA Trophy							
Sat Dec 13	Walton & Hersham	4-1 L	1260	Sims	Jones	Muller	Taylor	Pruti	Taylor	Jenni	
Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	Surrey Senior Cup							
Wed Oct 29	Guildford City	0-5 W	103	Reid	Tizzard	Taylor	Muller	Eccleston	Phipps	Dabre	
Tue Dec 2	AFC Croydon Athletic	2-1 W	254	Reid	Jones	Muller	Tizzard	Reeves	Vaz	Dabre	
Tue Feb 3	Horley Town										

Substitutes											
yard	Simper	Harris	Ogbonna	Nadesan	Aziaya	Odelusi	De Silva	Tizzard	Crichlow	Njoku	
yard	Simper	Harris	Crichlow	Nadesan	Muca	Odelusi	Taylor	Ogbonna	Wadham	Eccleston	Njoku
or	Wadham	Harris	Ogbonna	Nadesan	Aziaya	Phipps	Odelusi	White	Crichlow	Eccleston	Njoku
si	Simper	Harris	Ogbonna	Njoku	Aziaya	White	Nadesan	De Silva	Wadham	Dabre	Eccleston
ow	Simper	White	Wadham	Nadesan	Aziaya	Odelusi	De Silva	Jones	Ogbonna	Harris	Njoku
am	Wadham	Nadesan	Nadesan	Njoku	Aziaya	Odelusi	White	Simper	Jones	Ogbonna	Crichlow
am	Simper	Harris	Nadesan	Njoku	Aziaya	Odelusi	White	Jones	Ogbonna	Dabre	Reeves
si	Simper	Harris	Ogbonna	Nadesan	Aziaya	Odelusi	Pruti	Eccleston	Reeves	Halim	Njoku
am	Simper	Harris	Wadham	Nadesan	Aziaya	De Silva	Tizzard	Ogbonna	Boutin	Eccleston	Njoku
am	Simper	De Silva	Njoku	Boutin	Aziaya	Odelusi	Nadesan	Pruti	Tizzard	Ogbonna	Eccleston
am	Bell	Simper	Ogbonna	Nadesan	Aziaya	Phipps	De Silva	Tizzard	Crichlow	Harris	Njoku
am	Simper	Harris	Njoku	Nadesan	Aziaya	Vincent	Odelusi	De Silva	Ogbonna	Dabre	Eccleston
am	Simper	Harris	Njoku	Nadesan	Eyers	Vincent	Odelusi	De Silva	Ogbonna	Eccleston	Bell
am	Odelusi	Harris	Simper	Nadesan	Eyers	De Silva	Ogbonna	Boutin	Eccleston	Njoku	Bell
am	Wadham	Harris	Simper	Nadesan	Eyers	Tizzard	Dabre	Boutin	Eccleston	Njoku	Bell
am	Jennings	Harris	Simper	Nadesan	Aziaya	Crichlow	Wadham	Dabre	Eccleston	Njoku	Bell
ngs	Simper	Ogbonna	Harris	Nadesan	Aziaya	Phipps	Tizzard	Boutin	Woodyard	Njoku	Bell
ngs	Eccleston	Jennings	Simper	Njoku	Aziaya	Phipps	Nadesan	Jones	Harris	Woodyard	Bell
ngs	Ogbonna	Harris	Simper	Njoku	Aziaya	Tizzard	Jones	Crichlow	Foyo	Halim	Bell
ngs	Ogbonna	Harris	Simper	Foyo	Sims	Vaz	Tizzard	Jones	Crichlow	Njoku	Bell
ngs	Ogbonna	Harris	Simper	Crichlow	Reid	Vaz	Tizzard	Jones	Dabre	Bell	Vorster
ngs	Jennings	Harris	Simper	Rodari	Aziaya	Vaz	Taylor	Jones	Njoku	Urpens	Sheargold
ngs	Simper	Harris	Ogbonna	Rodari	Aziaya	Vaz	Jones	Njoku	Urpens	Bell	Vorster
ngs	Simper	Harris	Ogbonna	Njoku	Aziaya	Rodari	Vaz	Jones	Urpens	Bell	Mrisho

Substitutes											
si	Wadham	De Silva	Crichlow	Njoku	Sims	Phipps	Sandat	Ogbonna	Eccleston	Woodyard	
	Halim	De Silva	Ogbonna	Njoku	Sims	Vincent	Nadesan	Pruti	Wadham	Fennelow	Urpens
	Wadham	Harris	Simper	Njoku	Eyers	Vincent	Taylor	Dabre	Eccleston	Bell	Sheargold
	Simper	Ogbonna	Crichlow	Njoku	Reid	Pruti	Dabre	Eccleston	Reeves	Urpens	Muller

Substitutes											
am	Ogbonna	Harris	Simper	Nadesan	Eyers	Vincent	Dabre	Boutin	Eccleston	Njoku	Bell
am	Boutin	Harris	Simper	Njoku	Eyers	Vincent	Nadesan	Tizzard	Ogbonna	Eccleston	Bell
ngs	Simper	Ogbonna	Harris	Nadesan	Aziaya	Phipps	Tizzard	Crichlow	Dabre	Boutin	Woodyard
ngs	Simper	Ogbonna	Harris	Nadesan	Aziaya	Vaz	Tizzard	Jones	Crichlow	Dabre	Bell

Substitutes											
ngs	Simper	Harris	Vorster	Crichlow	Aziaya	Vaz	Tizzard	Reeves	Halim	Njoku	Bell
	Boutin	Bell	Jennings	Njoku	Aziaya	Crichlow	Woodyard	Reeves	Vorster		
	Bell	Sheargold	Vorster	Harris	Aziaya	Simper	Pruti	Taylor	Eccleston		

PLAYER STATISTICS



2025/26
TOTAL

	APP SUB GLS					
1 Jack Sims	16 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	19 0 0
3 Liam Vincent	8 1 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	8 2 0
4 Alex Kirk	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
8 Lewis Simper	23 1 8	2 0 1	4 0 1	1 0 0	0 0 0	30 1 10
9 Davide Rodari	2 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 1 0
10 Ashley Nadesan	15 3 2	0 1 1	3 1 1	0 0 0	0 0 0	18 5 4
12 Eduino Vaz	1 3 0	2 0 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	1 0 1	4 5 1
13 Chris Haigh	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
14 Edon Pruti	19 0 3	2 1 0	4 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	26 1 3
15 Will Tizzard	10 5 1	4 0 0	1 2 1	0 1 0	2 0 0	17 8 2
16 Jack Taylor	22 0 2	2 1 0	4 0 0	1 0 0	1 1 0	30 2 2
17 Aaron Jones	14 3 0	2 0 0	3 1 0	1 0 0	1 0 1	21 4 1
18 David Ogbonna	14 9 4	2 1 0	3 1 2	0 0 0	0 0 0	19 11 6
20 Jack Wadham	9 2 0	2 1 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	13 3 0
21 David Aziaya	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 2 0	8 2 0
23 Jayden Harris	21 3 4	1 0 1	4 0 1	1 0 0	1 0 0	28 3 6
25 Jake Taylor	6 0 0	0 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	8 0 0
26 Junior Eccleston	10 7 1	1 3 0	2 1 0	0 0 0	1 1 0	14 12 1
28 Kai Jennings	9 0 3	1 0 1	2 0 1	1 0 0	1 0 0	14 0 5
30 Alex Woodyard	2 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 1 0	2 5 0
31 Adam Reeves	0 0 0	1 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
33 Mehmet Halim	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	1 1 0
34 Brandon Njoku	9 13 4	4 0 2	1 2 1	0 0 0	1 0 2	15 15 9
36 Dan Urpens	0 0 0	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 1 0
37 Charlie Bell	3 8 2	2 1 0	0 2 0	0 1 0	2 0 1	7 12 4
39 Besart Topallaj	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
42 Hayden Muller	10 0 0	1 1 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	2 0 0	16 1 0
43 Bobby Sheargold	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
44 Omari Mrisho	2 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 1 0
45 George Vorster	0 1 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 0 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
47 Dubem Eze	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
6 Siju Odelusi	3 6 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	5 6 0
7 Jaiden White	1 2 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 2 0
11 Dillon De Silva	1 6 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	3 6 0
19 Kane Crichlow	3 4 0	2 0 0	0 1 0	1 0 0	0 1 0	6 6 0
22 Mo Dabre	4 2 0	0 2 1	1 1 0	0 0 0	2 0 0	7 5 1
Nana Boateng	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0

Out On Loan

AS IT STANDS:

LEAGUE TABLE

2025/26



#	Team	PL	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Carlisle United	26	17	4	5	46	27	+19	55
2	Boreham Wood	24	16	5	3	48	22	+26	53
3	Forest Green Rovers	26	15	8	3	44	24	+20	53
4	York City	24	15	7	2	63	26	+37	52
5	Rochdale AFC	22	17	1	4	42	16	+26	52
6	Scunthorpe United	24	14	7	3	41	25	+16	49
7	Southend United	23	12	5	6	35	18	+17	41
8	FC Halifax Town	26	11	5	10	39	36	+3	38
9	Hartlepool United	25	9	10	6	29	21	+8	37
10	Solihull Moors	25	9	7	9	40	37	+3	34
11	Tamworth	26	10	4	12	33	46	-13	34
12	Woking	25	8	8	9	32	28	+4	32
13	Wealdstone	26	8	8	10	33	41	-8	32
14	Eastleigh	25	8	7	10	29	34	-5	31
15	Yeovil Town	26	9	4	13	26	34	-8	31
16	Altrincham	25	8	2	15	29	40	-11	26
17	Brackley Town	24	7	5	12	18	30	-12	26
18	Boston United	26	6	7	13	29	40	-11	25
19	Braintree Town	26	6	6	14	19	35	-16	24
20	Aldershot Town	25	6	5	14	41	49	-8	23
21	Sutton United	24	5	8	11	34	44	-10	23
22	Morecambe	25	5	5	15	31	55	-24	20
23	Truro City	25	5	4	16	24	45	-21	19
24	Gateshead	25	5	4	16	29	61	-32	19

TODAY'S SQUADS



SUTTON UNITED

HEAD COACH

Chris Agutter

Jack Sims (GK)	1
Liam Vincent	3
Alex Kirk	4
Lewis Simper	8
Davide Rodari	9
Ashley Nadesan	10
Eduino Vaz	12
Chris Haigh (GK)	13
Edon Pruti	14
Will Tizzard	15
Jack Taylor	16
Aaron Jones	17
David Ogbonna	18
Jack Wadham	20
David Aziaya (GK)	21
Jayden Harris	23
Jake Taylor	25
Junior Eccleston	26
Kai Jennings	28
Alex Woodyard	30
Brandon Njoku	34
Charlie Bell	37
Besart Topallaj	39
Hayden Muller	42
Omari Mrisho	44
Dubem Eze	47



MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee

Aaron Jackson

Assistant Referee

Jonathon Wilks (Red/Yellow)
Richard Carter (Yellow)

Fourth Official

Kai Morgan

UP NEXT AT THE VBS COMMUNITY STADIUM

Sutton United vs Forest Green Rovers
Saturday, 17th January | 3pm KO



TODAY'S OTHER GAMES

(National League)

Aldershot Town vs Solihull Moors
Braintree Town vs Boston United

(FA Trophy)

Bath City vs Southend United
Chatham Town vs Carlisle United
Eastleigh vs Southport
Ebbsfleet United vs Forest Green Rovers
FC Halifax Town vs Anstey Nomads
Hereford vs AFC Fylde
Hornchurch vs AFC Telford United
Kidderminster Harriers vs Morecambe
Leatherhead vs Horsham
Marine vs Gloucester City
Scunthorpe United vs Clitheroe
Tamworth vs Rochdale AFC
Walton & Hersham vs Brackley Town
Wealdstone vs Dagenham & Redbridge
Yeovil Town vs Alvechurch

YORK CITY

MANAGER

Stuart Maynard

1	Harrison Male (GK)
2	Ryan Fallowfield
3	Mark Kitching
4	Malachi Fagan-Walcott
5	Callum Howe
6	Ashley Palmer
8	Alex Hunt
9	Josh Stones
10	Ollie Pearce
12	Joe Grey
14	Ben Brookes
15	Jeff King
16	Rory Watson (GK)
17	Craig Hewitt
18	Dan Batty
21	Hiram Boateng
22	Greg Olley
23	Joe Felix
27	Morgan Williams
28	Ollie Banks
29	Zak Johnson
30	Alex Newby
31	George Sykes-Kenworthy (GK)