

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF OSSETT UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

£2

THE INGFIELDER

STRONGER TOGETHER



OSSETT UNITED
VS
MATLOCK TOWN

TUESDAY 18TH AUGUST - 7:45PM
PITCHING-IN NPL EAST



LAST TIME WE MET
LOOK BACK AT OUR BOXING
DAY VICTORY OVER THE
GLADIATORS



CAPTAIN'S COLUMN
JOSH ASKEW REFLECTS ON
BACK TO BACK WINS AT
INGFIELD



THE OPPOSITION
GET THE LATEST ON
TONIGHT'S VISITORS



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Programme Editor: Joseph Williamson

CLUB HONOURS

(**Ossett United**, **Ossett Town**, **Ossett Albion**)

West Riding County Senior Cup

Winners: 1949/50

West Riding County Cup

Winners: 1958/59, 1964/65, 1965/66, 1967/68, 1981/82, 1998/99, 2018/19

Runners Up: 2000/01

Northern Premier League First Division

Runners Up: 2001/02

Play-off Runners Up: 2016/17

Northern Counties East Premier Division

Winners: 1998/99, 2003/04

Runners Up: 1998/99, 2000/01

Northern Counties East First Division

Winners: 1986/87

Northern Counties East Second Division

Winners: 1988/89

WELCOME TO



Good evening everyone and welcome back to Ingfield for tonight's league fixture against Matlock Town.

A warm welcome to the players, officials, directors and supporters from Matlock. I hope everyone travelling to Ossett has had a safe journey and enjoys the evening with us.

It was a fantastic start to our league campaign on Saturday as we secured a 1-0 victory here at Ingfield against Consett.

There was plenty to like about the performance and, most importantly, we got the three points. We have a great set of lads this year and I'm really enjoying watching this group develop. There is a good spirit within the squad and I think supporters are going to enjoy following this team throughout the season.

Away from the football, there is plenty happening around the club.

Our Bonfire Night tickets are now on sale. It is always one of the biggest events we host at Ingfield and I would encourage you to get your tickets early. We are looking forward to welcoming the community back to the ground for what should be another fantastic evening.

I'm also delighted to announce a new partnership for the club.

Hickory's Horbury are joining us as our new Hospitality Partner. We will be working closely with Hickory's throughout the season, with plenty more to come, so please keep an eye out for further details over the coming weeks.

I would particularly like to thank Theo from Hickory's for making this partnership happen. His foresight, enthusiasm and passion for working with Ossett United have been instrumental in bringing the deal together. It is exactly the sort of relationship we want to build with local businesses and I'm really looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together.

There is a lot happening at Ossett United and we are continuing to work hard behind the scenes to develop

INGFIELD

PHIL SMITH - CHAIRMAN

the club both on and off the pitch.

For tonight, though, the focus is on the football.

Matlock are a strong side and we know we will have to work hard for another positive result. With the support of everyone inside Ingfield, hopefully we can make it another memorable evening.

Enjoy the game and thank you, as always, for your continued support.



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THE PRESIDE



Our ninth season as Ossett United kicked off with an FA Cup tie against North West Counties League side Abbey Hey. In our very early years we weren't required to enter the competition until the Preliminary Round at the earliest but a relative lack of real extended success in recent seasons now required us to start at the Extra Preliminary Round stage. We did progress in seasons 2021/22 and 2022/23 and 2023/24 but we fell at the first hurdle in each of the last two seasons so at least a draw against Abbey Hey followed by a victory in the replay was a small step in the right direction. We now face a stiff challenge with a short trip to Liversedge, who have made an impressive start to the season, in the Preliminary Round.

We have made an encouraging start to the 2026/27 season. We had a pretty

successful pre-season with no defeats in five outings and this followed by a draw and a win in the FA Cup and a home victory against Consett in our opening Northern Premier League fixture. That's no defeats in eight starts to date. This evening's encounter against Matlock Town I think we could argue will be our sternest test to date followed by the trip to Liversedge on Friday evening. That said confidence should be high considering our early season form.

One of the main talking points so far is without doubt the state of our pitch here at Ingfield and we extend apologies in advance to this evening's opponents for that situation.. There were all kinds of projected pitch preparations planned to commence immediately following the 'Tribfest' Music Festival in mid-May. Ironically the 'Tribfest' was marred by the rain on the day but since then there has barely been a drop over and above the very short isolated shower let alone a prolonged period of rain since then and we all know you can't grow grass without water/rainfall. We were predicted by the Met Office to enter our fifth official heat wave of the Summer so far and a local television

NT'S ADDRESS

NEVILLE WIGGLESWORTH - CLUB PRESIDENT

programme recently reported that our part of West Yorkshire has gone well in excess of 60 days with no significant rainfall. The obvious answer in such instances is a pitch irrigation system but that is way beyond our financial situation as attractive and beneficial as it may be.

Fortunately the Board's decision to at least re-turf the goalmouths (at no little expense by the way) has certainly paid dividends. All we can say in our defence is that we as a Club have done our very level best to do what we could to alleviate the situation. It's obvious for all to see that things are far from perfect or expectations but we have done everything possible within our financial constraints. We are sorry that supporters are disappointed with the quality of the playing surface and its effect on the quality of football played but we should all realise that we are totally committed to keeping a close watch on income and expenditure with the stated aim of the Board of Directors being to run the Club sustainably whatever the problems facing us and this has been the case all along.

There is a lot to report on regarding

progress over the close season but that's for later programme notes. I must, however, single out one person for special mention – a gentleman called Mark Thomson owner of Thomson Gardening Services Ltd. Mark answered our SOS call for help in providing and laying the turf in the two goalmouths. Firstly Mark, on the day in question, travelled to York to pick up the turf before arriving back at the ground around 9.15am. By this time the temperature had soared into the mid-thirties. He grafted manfully firstly digging the surface up by hand prior to laying the turf itself. He eventually left the ground with the turf laid and the job completed around ten o'clock at night. We cannot possibly thank Mark enough for what he did for us and I'm told he carried out the work FOC simply to do his bit in helping a club in his own community which was experiencing difficulties. There are not a lot of people around that would undertake a job of that enormity as did Mark and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. Thanks also to the small group of people (Simon and Wayne Hudson and Stuart Garside) who undertook to visit the ground twice a day every day to turn make sure the newly laid turf survived the drought conditions.

THE DUGOUT

JAMES WALSHAW - MANAGER



Good evening once again and a warm welcome back to Ingfield for tonight's game.

This is our third home fixture in seven days, following victories over Abbey Hey and Consett. Playing in front of our own fans is great but so many games in quick succession can raise their own challenges. Firstly, the people behind the scenes see their workload increase alongside juggling external commitments. For their continued support they have the thanks of myself and the squad. Secondly, repeat home fixtures limits the amount of work that can be put into the playing surface. As Neville has mentioned, this isn't for lack of trying and I know that our volunteers are giving their all to get it to where we all want it to be.

On to tonight and we welcome a strong Matlock Town side to Ingfield. They are undoubtedly one of the 'big-hitters' in our division and missed out on promotion through the play-offs last term. However, as we've shown time and time again, we fear no one and have the belief that we can secure a positive result at the end of the night.

To do so we will need to show more of what we have seen over the past two games, where we have created chances aplenty. With time and playing together even more, I believe that we will become more clinical and secure results and scorelines that our performances deserve. In addition to this, our backline has shown a real steel in the opening games allowing us to grind out wins where we otherwise may have faltered in the past.

Get behind the lads as you always do and enjoy this evening's game.

Wally



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CAPTAIN'S COLUMN

JOSH ASKEW - CAPTAIN



Our second league fixture at home tonight against Matlock Town who as we know are a big team in our league.

It's games like these which don't need much said to get ourselves up for tonight's battle.

Saturday we battled hard and deserved the victory against a good footballing side of Consett.

We have a lot of positives to take from Saturdays performance and the main one is how many chances we are creating. Once we take more of them the scoreline will represent our quality at the top of the pitch.

A massive positive is that it was another clean sheet and a solid performance from our defensive players all round.

We hope to make Ingfield a fortress this season and we need you, the fans to help us do that. Keep that amazing atmosphere going for us and get behind the lads as you do week in week out and we hope to have a real go for it this season!

As always, we are stronger together.

Josh



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OSSETT UNITED

— 2026/27 —

MEET THE TEAM MANAGEMENT & STAFF

JAMES WALSHAW

Manager

SPONSORED BY THE SMITH FAMILY

A non-league legend, James began his career at Ossett Town before successful spells with clubs including Harrogate Town and Scarborough Athletic. A multiple promotion winner and Golden Boot recipient, he was also voted No. 46 in the NPL's Top 100 Players of All Time.

Appointed Ossett United manager in November 2024, James steered the club clear of relegation before maintaining United's NPL East status in his first full season in charge.

LUKE POTTER

Assistant Manager

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Luke made almost 30 appearances for Barnsley before a knee injury ended his professional playing career. He moved into coaching with Barnsley Academy before spending four years as assistant manager at Ossett Albion.

Managerial spells with Athersley Rec and Basford United followed, along with a period as interim manager at Guiseley, before Luke joined James Walshaw's backroom team in 2024.

MATT BROOKE

Goalkeeper Coach

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

One of our own! Matt lives a goal kick away from Ingfield and previously represented Ossett Town and Nostell Miners Welfare.

After moving into coaching with Ossett Town Juniors and working with the goalkeepers here at Ingfield, Matt enters his third season with United.

JONATHAN RIMMINGTON

First Team Coach

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

A familiar and respected face in non-league football, Jonathan has previously coached at Matlock Town and managed local rivals Liversedge to the NPL East title.

His knowledge of the level and wealth of experience make him an invaluable member of the United coaching staff.

ALISON BELL

First Team Physio & Sports Therapist

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Ali joined Ossett ahead of the 2025/26 season, overseeing pitch-side medical response, injury triage and long-term player rehabilitation.

Her first full season in semi-professional football saw her make an immediate impact, providing expert support for the welfare and safety of the playing squad.

THE SQUAD

GOALKEEPER

ALEKS PETROVIC

Goalkeeper

SPONSORED BY STANLEY KELLY

A real asset to United, Aleks combines an experienced head with calmness and composure under pressure. An excellent shot-stopper, he has collected several Man of the Match awards during the past two seasons as well as a Player of the Season award.

DEFENDERS

ETHEN VAUGHAN

Defender

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

A former Wales Under-19 international, 24-year-old Ethen has spent time with Norwich City and Burnley as well as non-league spells with Brighouse Town, Hyde United and Guiseley.

Comfortable at either right-back or centre-half, his versatility provides United with valuable options at the back.

FERDINAND ANNOR

Defender

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Ferdinand joined United from Brighouse Town following seven successful years playing in Australia.

A talented left-footed full-back, he provides an attacking threat going forward while remaining strong in his defensive duties.

JOSH BURNS

Defender

SPONSORED BY ROB THOMPSON

After a short spell with Pontefract Collieries, Josh returned to United towards the end of last season and quickly re-established himself in the defence.

A strong and commanding centre-half who leads by example on and off the pitch.

WILL THOMPSON

Defender

SPONSORED BY JOHN BOWKER

The former Barnsley defender enjoyed an outstanding 2025/26 campaign, collecting a host of awards at the end of the season.

Despite his young age, Will shows composure on the ball and is an absolute asset to the club.

This will be his second season at Ingfield.

TOM JAMIESON

Defender

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Tom joined United from Grimsby Borough, having also represented Cleethorpes Town and Grimsby Town.

A quick and athletic defender, equally comfortable getting forward or dealing with opposition attackers in one-on-one situations.

TY DUANE

Defender

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Ty has made the step into semi-professional football through United's Emerging Talent pathway.

After spells with Golcar and Liversedge, he joined the first-team squad towards the end of last season. A promising young defender with plenty to offer.

THE SQUAD

MIDFIELDERS

JOSH ASKEW

Midfielder / Club Captain

SPONSORED BY ROB THOMPSON

Josh continues as United captain this season and remains a hugely influential presence in the centre of the pitch.

Having previously represented BPA and FC United of Manchester, Josh is a real club man who has won the Directors' Player of the Year award in each of his first two seasons with United.

ALFIE PROCTOR

Midfielder

SPONSORED BY THE SCOTTISH SUPPORTERS CLUB

A genuine utility player, Alfie can always be relied upon wherever he is asked to play.

Hard-working and comfortable on the ball, his goalscoring ability has also shone through during pre-season.

CONOR QUALTER

Midfielder / Defender

SPONSORED BY THE ADAMSON FAMILY

Conor returns to the squad after injury curtailed his previous campaign. He began his career with Leeds United and also spent time in the USA.

Now entering his third season with United, Conor drives the side forward with his strong and commanding presence.

ADAM TWEED

Midfielder / Defender

SPONSORED BY RICH CALLAGHAN

Adam previously represented York City's Under-19 Academy before initially joining United on dual registration.

He has now joined the club permanently. A strong and determined player who showed real resilience and quality at the end of last season.

JACOB JOHNSON

Midfielder

SPONSORED BY PAM & LAWRENCE

Jacob progressed through Stockton Town's junior system before breaking into their first team.

An influential midfielder with plenty of drive and energy to push the team forward.

JEAN CLAUDE MAKIESSI

Midfielder

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

After making an appearance at Barnsley, Jean Claude moved to Basford United before joining Ossett United in 2025.

A defensive midfielder with dual citizenship and could represent either England or Congo.

THE SQUAD

FORWARDS

YOUSEEF CHENTOUF

Forward

SPONSORED BY JILL & MARY

London-born Youseef earned a professional contract at Wigan Athletic after impressing for Rising Ballers Kensington.

He has had spells with Hendon, Royston Town and Emlay before signing for Brighouse Town last season.

FIONN MURPHY

Forward

SPONSORED BY CSI TECHNICAL

A promising left-sided player who arrived highly recommended from Step 3 side Cheshunt after moving north to study at Leeds University.

He joined United in 2025/26 and made an impact in every game he played.

JACK CROOK

Forward

SPONSORED BY BONNIE KELLY

Jack enters his second season with United after claiming the Golden Boot last campaign with a collection of spectacular goals.

He has also played for Liversedge, Stocksbridge, Brighouse Town and Tadcaster Albion.

JOE POXON

Forward

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

One of United's own, Joe has emerged from the youth set-up and impressed James Walshaw and Luke Potter both in training and during matches.

A talented young forward with an excellent attitude around the club.

JOE CROSBY

Forward

SPONSORED BY PIZZA ITALIA HORBURY

Joe returns to the squad and is one of United's hardest-working players. He presses relentlessly, looks for weaknesses and forces errors in opposition defences.

A leader from the front line.

DEVONTE MORTON

Forward

AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR

Dev has represented clubs including Leeds United Youth, Hull City Academy, Guiseley, Eccleshill and Pickering Town.

A striker known for his physical presence and determination. He impressed during pre-season and brings quality on and off the pitch.

JAANAI GORDON

Forward

SPONSORED BY OSSETT ORIGINALS

Jaanaï began his professional career with Peterborough United, making four appearances before earning a move to West Ham United.

He has had several Football League loan spells and also played for Tamworth, Hereford and Boston United.

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THE OPPOSITION



MARCUS DEWHURST | GOALKEEPER

FA Trophy-winning shot-stopper Marcus joined the Gladiators from Aldershot Town. The experienced goalkeeper has previously represented the likes of Sheffield United, Boston United and Wealdstone FC.



DYLAN PARKIN | GOALKEEPER

A pre-season trialist, Dylan joined the Gladiators after impressing with his performances during the summer. He has previously turned out for clubs including Chesterfield FC, Boston United and Cleethorpes Town.



LEVI ANDOH | DEFENDER

Levi joined the Gladiators during pre-season ahead of the 2026/27 campaign. The Dutch defender is capable of playing at right-back or centre-back and has previously represented clubs including Aston Villa, York City and Kettering Town.



PIERCE BIRD | DEFENDER

A former Northern Ireland U21 international, central defender Pierce arrived at the Proctor Cars Stadium in the summer from Kidderminster Harriers. Bird has established himself as one of the most consistent defenders in the non-league pyramid.



JO CUMMINGS (C) | DEFENDER

A formidable central defender, Jo joined the Gladiators in the summer from FC Halifax Town. Known for his aerial ability, he is a threat in both boxes.



JEREMIE MILAMBO | DEFENDER

A hard-working full-back known for his committed performances and never-say-die attitude, Jeremie joined the Gladiators in 2024/25 and has gone on to become a firm fan favourite.



TOM SENIOR | DEFENDER

The highly rated former Barnsley U21 captain arrived at the Proctor Cars Stadium in the summer after gaining valuable senior experience on loan with Guiseley AFC, Mickleover FC and Grantham Town.



DECLAN ERATT-THOMPSON | DEFENDER/MIDFIELDER

Comfortable in both defence and midfield, Declan joined the Gladiators last summer and was a standout performer during the 2025/26 campaign.



MAX ASANTE-BOAKYE | DEFENDER

Max joined the Gladiators on a short-term loan in August of this season from Sheffield United. The youngster has previously appeared for Aston Villa.



THE OPPOSITION



RAKEALAN JEFFERS | FORWARD

An energetic and versatile forward, 'Keke' arrived at the Proctor Cars Stadium this summer, eager to make his mark and contribute to the Gladiators' campaign.



BRANDON BRADBURY | MIDFIELDER

Brandon joined the Gladiators this summer from fellow East Division side Hallam FC after an impressive six-year spell with the club. A dynamic and energetic midfielder, he is known for his work rate and industry.



JOSH WALDRAM | MIDFIELDER

A composed and intelligent midfielder, Josh joined the Gladiators this summer after impressing while on trial during pre-season. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from the non-league game.



JED ABBEY | MIDFIELDER

A dynamic and versatile player, Jed is capable of operating in a variety of roles. Comfortable in central midfield, he can also play further forward as an attacking midfielder or out wide, offering the Gladiators quality, physicality and creativity across the pitch.



TOM ELLIOTT | MIDFIELDER

A classic number 10 who is equally capable of operating in midfield when required, Tom joined the Gladiators last summer from Buxton FC and impressed supporters with his ability and quality on the ball.



CONOR WASHINGTON | FORWARD

A Northern Ireland international with 43 appearances for his country, Conor joined the Gladiators from Derby County last summer and finished the previous season with an impressive goal return.



RICKY RAVENHILL | MANAGER

After a storied playing career, Ricky turned to coaching and has had spells as Assistant Manager at Mickleover FC, Buxton FC, Brighouse Town and Matlock Town before taking the reins at the helm of the Gladiators this summer.



CONOR WASHINGTON | PLAYER/ASSISTANT MANAGER

See player profile for details.



RICH LAWRENCE | GOALKEEPING COACH

Rich has 20 years' experience coaching goalkeepers at a professional level and is a fully FA-qualified coach.



MO BAILEY | SPORTS THERAPIST

Mo returned to the Gladiators' coaching staff ahead of the 2026/27 season. She is a Level 4 Sports Therapist with experience in local grassroots football and at Belper United.



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SPORTS & LEISURE



THE OPPOSITION

Matlock Town can trace their history back to 1878, when the club was formed simply as Matlock Football Club. They first entered the FA Cup in 1885 and five years later became founder members of the Derbyshire Senior League, winning the championship in its inaugural season and retaining the title the following year. After spells in the Midland Amateur Alliance and Midland League, Matlock returned to the Derbyshire Senior League. Following the First World War, the club adopted the name Matlock Town and continued to compete in a variety of regional competitions, including the Central Alliance.

The years following the Second World War brought greater stability. Matlock rejoined the Central Alliance in 1947 and were placed in Division One when the competition expanded three years later. Their fortunes improved considerably towards the end of the 1950s.

The Gladiators won the Central Alliance Division One North championship in 1959/60, a season which also saw them reach the First Round of the FA Cup, where they eventually lost 1-0 to Crook Town following a replay. Matlock retained their league title the following season before joining the reformed Midland League.

Success followed immediately as Matlock became Midland League champions in 1961/62. They lifted the title for a second time in 1968/69 and subsequently joined the Northern Premier League.

WEMBLEY GLORY

The greatest day in Matlock Town's history arrived during the 1974/75 season. Former England international Peter Swan had taken charge at the beginning of the campaign and introduced an exciting attacking style. Matlock reached the First Round of the FA Cup, losing 4-1 at home against Blackburn Rovers, but it was in the FA Trophy that the Gladiators really made their mark. Matlock progressed all the way to the final at Wembley, where they faced Scarborough. In front of the Wembley crowd, the Gladiators produced a memorable performance to record a remarkable 4-0 victory and lift the FA Trophy. The final also produced a unique piece of Wembley history, with three brothers appearing for Matlock – the only occasion on which three brothers have played for the same side in a Wembley final.



THE OPPOSITION

Just two days after their Wembley triumph, Matlock were back in action. They defeated Glossop 6-1 to complete a 9-3 aggregate victory and add the Derbyshire Senior Cup to their trophy cabinet.

FA CUP ADVENTURE

Another memorable campaign followed in 1976/77 under manager Tom Fenoughty. Matlock embarked on their best-ever FA Cup run, reaching the Third Round for the first – and so far only – time in the club's history.

The highlight came in the Second Round when the Gladiators travelled to Field Mill and produced a stunning 5-2 victory over Mansfield Town, who would go on to become Third Division champions that season. Their adventure finally ended away against Second Division Carlisle United in the Third Round.

Matlock also enjoyed an excellent league campaign, finishing third behind Boston United and Northwich Victoria, while another Derbyshire Senior Cup success ensured the season ended with silverware.

The following campaign brought another trophy as Matlock defeated Boston United 3-0 at Maine Road to win the Northern Premier League Challenge Cup. That success earned the club qualification for the Anglo-Italian non-league tournament in 1979, where they played matches against Chieti, Pisa, Juniorcasale and Cremonese.

THE GLADIATORS

Matlock's best Northern Premier League campaign came in 1983/84, when they finished runners-up to Barrow. Their most recent appearance in the FA Cup First Round came in 1989/90, ending with a 4-1 defeat at Scunthorpe United. After losing their Premier Division status in 1995/96, Matlock eventually returned to the top flight in 2003/04, finishing runners-up behind Hyde United. The following season brought further success when they defeated Whitby Town over two legs to win the NPL League Cup. The Gladiators have also enjoyed considerable success in the Derbyshire Senior Cup, winning the competition on numerous occasions. More recent triumphs came in 2014/15 and 2016/17, when they defeated Gresley 7-0 and 5-0 respectively in finals staged at Chesterfield. Another notable club record belongs to Ross Hannah, who scored an extraordinary 52 goals during the 2010/11 season. Today, Matlock Town continue to play at their picturesque home at Causeway Lane, a ground regarded as one of the most scenic settings in non-league football.

THE UNT

Football's governance is coming under increasing scrutiny at the moment, with the political machinations around the FIFA Forward Enterprise backfiring against its creator Gianni Infantino, and the money men who decided to buy a piece of our beautiful game (who seem to have connections to Donald Trump). What once looked like a guaranteed victory for the Swiss administrator in next year's elections now looks like being a bitterly fought contest. Europe lead the fight against him, with North American allies and some support in Asia, while Africa and South America seem to strongly support the incumbent President. But those fault lines go back far beyond Infantino, almost to the genesis of the international game itself, and while the arguments have changed, the rivalries have stayed - mostly - the same.

The FA, for all the criticisms we may have of it, is still 'The FA'. By virtue of being first, it never needed to add the word 'English', and at the beginning of the last century was the arbiter of the game while British trade and emigration transported football all over the world. Some of the more prominent importers of the game set up their own FAs in their own countries. Others, like South Africa, were at first an affiliated part of the FA in England. And then in the early twentieth century a global body was proposed. Despite initial British concerns, in 1904 FIFA was founded, and in 1906 The FA joined, with Daniel Woolfall given the position of President.

FIFA might not have gained control of the laws, but they certainly changed the game. Before the Second World War, football moved beyond British and eventually European control, with the most innovative developments taking place in South America. Brazil took to the sport immediately, as you might expect, but mass participation did not lead to dominance. Instead, Uruguay and Argentina developed a heated rivalry for supremacy on the international stage. Without a World Cup, Uruguay won the first two World Championships at the 1924 and 1928 Olympics, and then the first World Cup in 1930. That World Cup caused an early schism between FIFA and the European nations (UEFA wasn't formed until 1954).

European nations argued that as the founders of the game, and as the nations where football had first developed, the first tournament should be played there. FIFA argued that the World Champions deserved to host. In the end, it came down to money. Not quite bribes, although that was certainly an allegation, but

OLD GAME

MARTYN GREEN

Uruguay promised a full infrastructure, new stadia, and to pay everyone's travel costs. FIFA gave them the tournament, and some European nations boycotted it. It would prove a prophetic turn of events.

England had left FIFA in 1928 over an argument, again, about money, but returned after the Second World War with Stanley Rous installed as President. He used his position to firmly strengthen European dominance in the game. FIFA meetings were held exclusively in Europe, usually Switzerland, and no travel costs were provided. In South America, football was big enough that representatives could find the money. But in the growing market of Africa and Asia, many nations simply couldn't afford to send someone. In an era of declining imperialism, a European FIFA simply dictated the rules to the former colonies of the nations its attendees represented. It left a bad taste, and widened the gap between UEFA and the other confederations.

In 1966, a Rous-led FIFA grouped Oceania, Asia and Africa into one qualifying bracket. Winners of the continental qualifying would enter playoffs for just one place in the final tournament. This was an outrageous insult to the emerging nations, and Africa boycotted the World Cup immediately. A move designed to increase European power in the game simply did the opposite.

But 1974, there was a non-European challenger to Rous. One country one vote was a nice idea to placate the distant nations, but Rous knew it wasn't something he had to contend with as most wouldn't get to the meetings. Joao Havelange changed that. He personally funded the travel costs of every FIFA representative who couldn't afford their own, which again led to allegations of bribery and corruption. Angered at the constant diminishing of their role under Rous, the non-Europeans voted heavily for the Brazilian, and Havelange became the seventh FIFA President, and under him the organisation changed for the better, and for the worse.

Unfortunately though, under Havelange, the corruption grew exponentially too. In 2012 he was found to have taken £37m in bribes for the awarding of World Cup television rights. It set a tone in the organisation that it hasn't been able to shake off, leading to the current crisis.

To read more visit ***theuntoldgame.co.uk***



ANDYSMANCLUB



#ITSOKAYTOTALK

WHAT IS ANDYSMANCLUB?

ANDYSMANCLUB is a free peer-to-peer group that provides a place for men to come together in a safe and open environment to talk about the issues or problems that they have faced or are currently facing.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The process is about bringing men together who have been in similar situations, to help each other on a peer to peer basis, sharing how they have dealt with various situations through lived experiences. No matter how big or small your problem feels, we are here to support each other. The 5 questions that are asked each week are designed not only to encourage men to talk, but to start to focus on the positives and on strategies to keep moving forward. There is no pressure to answer any of the questions and it is not uncommon for men to just listen for the first few sessions. The clubs all run on the same format and adhere to the same guidelines. A key principle of ANDYSMANCLUB is anything that is said in the club, stays within the club.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The club is open to any man 18 or over, who is going through a storm, been through a storm or just wants to meet a good group of people with the aim of improving one another.

WHEN IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUB meet every Monday at 7pm (excluding Bank Holiday Mondays).

WHERE IS IT?

ANDYSMANCLUB has clubs in many locations across the UK. Check our website below for a full list.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Just turn up on the night. No registration or referral is required, all we ask is that you arrive before 7pm. The full list of our locations is available on our website.

CONTACT US

f @andysmanclub

t @andysmanclubuk

@andysmanclubuk

andysmanclub.co.uk

info@andysmanclub.co.uk

in andysmanclub

LAST TIME WE MET...

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE EAST DIVISION

BOXING DAY 2025

OSSETT UNITED 3 MATLOCK TOWN 0

THOMAS DOUBLE SEALS IMPRESSIVE HOME WIN

Ossett United made a flying start as they secured an impressive 3-0 victory over Matlock Town, with Rhys Thomas grabbing a brace and Jack Crook also finding the net.

The Sheepicorns could hardly have asked for a better opening. With barely a minute played, Rhys Thomas struck to give Ossett an immediate advantage and put the visitors on the back foot.

Ossett continued to enjoy the better of proceedings and doubled their lead on the stroke of half-time. Jack Crook found the net in the 45th minute, sending the hosts into the interval with a deserved two-goal cushion.

Matlock made a change just after the hour, with Harlain Mbayo replacing captain Fouad Bachirou, before Kiyani Zane Clayton was introduced for Finn Flanagan on 72 minutes as the Gladiators searched for a route back into the contest.

Instead, Ossett put the result beyond doubt three minutes later. Thomas struck again in the 75th minute, completing his brace and making it 3-0.

With the points secure, Ossett used the closing stages to make several changes.

It completed an excellent afternoon for Ossett, who combined a clinical attacking display with a clean sheet to record an emphatic 3-0 win.



MATCH STATS

ATTENDANCE	524
HALF TIME	2-0
REFEREE	TBC



OSSETT UNITED

- Aleksandar Petrovic (GK)
- Adam Tweed
- Josh Askew (c)
- Benjamin Tweed
- William Thompson
- Conor Qualter
- Luca Bolino
- Alfie Proctor
- Jack Crook
- Jack Degruy
- Rhys Thomas

SUBSTITUTES

- Essa Jannah
- Jacob Johnson
- Kyle Fanning
- Alfie King
- Franklin Middleton



MATLOCK TOWN

- Dylan Adam Wharton (GK)
- Declan Eratt-Thompson
- Jeremie Milambo
- Fouad Bachirou (c)
- Dwayne Wiley
- Charlie Oglesby
- Jake Thompson
- Finn Flanagan
- Conor Washington
- Ben Sault
- Cameron Wilson

SUBSTITUTES

- Josh Granite
- Harlain Mbayo
- Kiyani Zane Clayton
- Liam Ravenhill
- Adam Clayton



GOALS

Thomas 1', 75'
Crook 45'



BOOKED

Adam Tweed (30')

PITCHING-IN NPL EAST

		P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
	1 Liversedge	2	2	0	0	4	0	+4	6
	2 Lincoln United	2	2	0	0	4	1	+3	6
	3 Matlock Town	3	2	0	1	5	4	+1	6
	4 Heaton Stannington	3	1	1	1	4	3	+1	4
	5 Dunston	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
	6 Bradford (Park Avenue)	1	1	0	0	3	1	+2	3
	7 Garforth Town	1	1	0	0	3	1	+2	3
	8 Silsden	1	1	0	0	2	1	+1	3
	9 Ossett United	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	3
	10 Ashington AFC	2	0	2	0	3	3	0	2
	11 Morpeth Town	3	0	2	1	1	3	-2	2
	12 North Ferriby	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
	13 West Auckland Town	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
	14 Pontefract Collieries	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	15 Blyth Spartans	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1
	16 Bridlington Town	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1
	17 Guisborough Town	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	1
	18 Stocksbridge Park Steels	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	1
	19 Hallam	2	0	1	1	1	3	-2	1
	20 Beverley Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	21 Consett AFC	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
	22 Grimsby Borough	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0

PITCHING-IN NPL EAST

THE FULL MATRIX

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE EAST DIVISION 2025/26

Every result between the 22 clubs in the Northern Premier League East Division this season.
Read across for home results, down for away results.

	ASH	BEV	BLY	BRA	BRI	CON	DUN	GAR	GRI	GUL	HAL	HEA	LIN	LIV	MAT	MOR	NOR	OSS	PON	SIL	STO	WES
ASH	24/10	29/3	13/3	8/9	7/11	25/8	15/9	20/2	16/1	10/4	2/1	20/3	23/1	26/9	1-1	19/12	14/11	5/9	10/10	28/11	6/2	
BEV	6/3		10/4	30/1	29/3	27/2	6/9	21/11	17/10	13/2	19/2	3/10	29/9	18/8	9/1	7/11	2/1	25/8	22/9	20/3	19/9	5/12
BLY	26/12	31/10		17/4	16/1	27/3	1-1	17/10	6/3	27/2	13/2	29/9	3/10	12/12	12/9	31/8	19/9	22/9	30/1	28/11	14/11	3/4
BRA	17/10	15/9	7/11		20/3	10/4	19/12	26/9	22/9	28/11	25/8	6/3	5/9	10/10	6/2	20/2	16/11	2/1	29/3	8/9	16/1	23/1
BRI	5/12	26/12	18/8	12/9		3/4	26/9	31/8	27/3	24/10	1-1	9/1	17/4	21/11	20/2	10/10	31/10	6/2	13/3	23/1	12/12	15/9
CON	17/4	10/10	25/8	31/10	19/12		16/1	20/2	23/1	2/1	5/9	23/3	14/11	26/9	24/10	6/2	28/11	20/3	15/9		13/3	
DUN	27/3	12/12	21/11	3/4	13/2	18/8		1-3	12/9	29/9	3/10	30/1	19/9	9/1	5/12	26/12	27/2	10/4	7/11	17/10	6/3	31/8
GAR	30/1	8/9	13/3	13/2	2/1	3/10	28/11		16/1	20/3	27/2	19/12	22/9	17/4	31/10	14/11	25/8	5/9	19/9	29/3	29/9	24/10
GRI	3/10	13/3	24/10	5/12	26/8	19/9	20/3	19/8		5/9	30/9	13/2	2/1	0-3	21/11	10/4	29/3	19/12	27/2	7/11	30/1	9/1
GUL	19/8	26/9	10/10	1-3	6/3	31/8	6/2	12/9	12/12		22/8	21/11	17/10	27/3	3/4	16/9	17/4	23/1	9/1	20/2	31/10	26/12
HAL	31/10	3/4	26/9	27/3	28/11	12/12	20/2	10/10	6/2	5/12		17/4	0-2	15/9	31/8	23/1	16/1	13/5	24/10	14/11	26/12	12/9
HEA	31/8	20/2	5/2	24/10	14/11	26/12	15/9	3/4	26/9	1-1	7/11		28/11	12/9	23/1	26/3	13/3	10/10	10/4	16/1	2-0	11/12
LIN	12/9	6/2	20/2	12/12	7/11	9/1	23/1	5/12	31/8	13/3	21/11	2-1		3/4	26/12	26/9	24/10	15/9	18/8	10/4	27/3	10/10
LIV	19/9	16/1	5/9	27/2	1-0	13/2	14/11	7/11	28/11	25/8	30/1	20/3	19/12	13/3	24/10	29/9	29/3	2/1		3/10	10/4	
MAT	13/2	14/11	20/3	29/9	3/10	6/3	0-2	10/4	3-2	19/12	2/1	19/9	29/3	17/10		28/11	30/1	16/1	25/8	5/9	27/2	7/11
MOR	21/11	17/4	2/1	3/10	27/2	29/9	29/3	9/1	31/10	30/1	19/9	25/8	13/2	6/3	0-2	5/9	20/3	5/12	19/12	17/10	18/8	
NOR	3/4	31/8	23/1	9/1	10/4	5/12	10/10	27/3	26/12	7/11	18/8	17/10	6/3	6/2	15/9	12/12		20/2	21/11	26/9	12/9	2-2
OSS	9/1	27/3	5/12	31/8	29/9	1-0	31/10	12/12	3/4	19/9	17/10	27/2	30/1	26/12	18/8	12/9	3/10		13/2	6/3	17/4	21/11
PON	12/12	28/11	15/9	26/12	17/10	12/9	17/4	23/1	10/10	6/3	31/10	16/1	31/8	27/3	0-0	8/9	26/9		6/2	3/4	20/2	
SIL	27/2	12/9	2-1	21/11	19/9	30/1	13/3	26/12	17/4	3/10	9/1	18/8	31/10	5/12	12/12	3/4	13/2	24/10	29/9		31/8	27/3
STO	2-2	23/1	9/1	19/8	5/9	21/11	24/10	6/2	16/9	10/4	29/3	5/12	26/8	20/2	10/10	13/3	20/3	7/11	19/12	2/1		26/9
WES	29/9		19/12	19/9	30/1	17/10	2/1	14/11	29/3	20/3	20/3	4/9	27/2	31/10	17/4	16/1	28/11	8/9	3/10	25/8	13/2	

HOME WIN

AWAY WIN

DRAW

Fixtures blank at the time of going to press.

Visit footballwebpages.co.uk for full fixtures and the latest results.

2026-27

Date	Opponents	Comp	Venue	Res	Att
08.08.26	Abbey Hey	FA Cup EP	A	1-1	
11.08.26	Abbey Hey	FA Cup EPR	H	1-0	
15.08.26	Consett AFC	L	H	1-0	249
18.08.26	Matlock Town	L	H		
21.08.26	Liversedge	FA Cup PR	A		
25.08.26	Beverley Town	L	A		
29.08.26	Guisborough Town	FA Trophy 1Q	A		
31.08.26	Bradford Park Avenue	L	H		
05.09.26	Garforth Town	L	A		
12.09.26	Morpeth Town	L	H		
15.09.26	Lincoln United	L	A		
19.09.26	Guisborough Town	L	H		
26.09.26	Pontefract Collieries	L	A		
29.09.26	Bridlington Town	L	H		
03.10.26	North Ferriby	L	H		
10.10.26	Heaton Stannington	L	A		
17.10.26	Hallam	L	H		
24.10.26	Silsden	L	A		
31.10.26	Dunston	L	H		
07.11.26	Stocksbridge Park Steels	L	A		
14.11.26	Ashington AFC	L	A		
21.11.26	West Auckland Town	L	H		
28.11.26	Consett AFC	L	A		
05.12.26	Blyth Spartans	L	H		
12.12.26	Garforth Town	L	H		
19.12.26	Grimsby Borough	L	A		
26.12.26	Liversedge	L	H		
02.01.27	Bradford Park Avenue	L	A		
09.01.27	Ashington AFC	L	H		
16.01.27	Matlock Town	L	A		
23.01.27	Guisborough Town	L	A		
30.01.27	Lincoln United	L	H		

06.02.27	Bridlington Town	L	A		
13.02.27	Pontefract Collieries	L	H		
20.02.27	North Ferriby	L	A		
27.02.27	Heaton Stannington	L	H		
06.03.27	Silsden	L	H		
13.03.27	Hallam	L	A		
20.03.27	Morpeth Town	L	A		
27.03.27	Beverley Town	L	H		
29.03.27	Liversedge	L	A		
03.04.27	Grimsby Borough	L	H		
10.04.27	Dunston	L	A		
17.04.27	Stocksbridge Park Steels	L	H		



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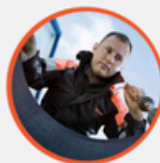
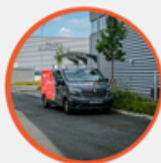
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DECLAN ERATT-THOMPSON

JED ABBEY

FOUAD BACHIROU

BRANDON BRADBURY

JOSH WALDRAM

TOMMY ELLIOTT

RAKEALAN JEFFERS

CONNOR WASHINTON

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: MATTHEW O'SHEA

ASSISTANT REFEREES: LEIGH GELL & LEWIS MASON

NEXT UP AT INGFIELD:

BRADFORD (PARK AVENUE) - MONDAY 31ST AUGUST - 3PM