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TONY BARNES



Good evening and welcome to The AGL Arena for tonight's Isthmian League North fixture versus Bowers & Pitsea.

A warm welcome is extended to our opponents, their committee and their fans, as well as tonight's match officials, we hope you all enjoy the game and have a safe journey home later tonight.

Thank you to tonight's match and ball sponsors - KDR European and Schallenberg for their continued and appreciated support.

It's back to league action tonight following the end of our FA Cup exploits for this season away at Enfield Town on Saturday. The lads put up a brave performance and despite going three down so early in the match, we continued to play our football and managed to give a few scares to our opponents from a level higher than ourselves. We thank Enfield Town for their hospitality and wish them all the very best in the next round.

Saturday's game will give Boards and his team a good insight into the levels required one division up, in terms of fitness, speed and skill levels as in truth we did struggle at times to live with them so we have some way to go if we have serious ambitions for promotion this season. There is the challenge, guys!

My other team were in action just down the road from Enfield and at the end of our game it was doom and gloom all round as Spurs were a goal down to Sheffield United, a short walk from one side of the pitch to the other to catch up with our Vice Chairman and my spirits were lifted by Spurs goals in the 98th and 100th minutes! I'm glad I'm not playing these days, it was always a struggle to get through 90 minutes and 30 seconds of time added on! Shows just how quickly things can change in this "funny ol' game," and the importance of keeping going till the end.

Tonight's opponents will certainly have the legs for 100 minutes tonight following their day off on Saturday, although both sides will have one eye on this coming Saturday when they each have attractive looking home games in the FA.Trophy, here against Hertford Town from The Southern League Central and Bowers & Pitsea against table topping Bedford Town also plying their trade in the Southern League Central division.

On Sunday I had the pleasure of helping out at the AGL Arena when Ipswich Ladies hosted London Bees - the quality of football has improved massivly in recent years and we are the very grateful beneficaries with the ladies attracting a crowd just short of 600 in attendance to witness a comfortable 5-0 home victory. Same from our boys tonight will be very welcome indeed!

Enjoy the game and look forward to seeing most of you here again on Saturday.

Best Wishes Tony

FROM THE DUGOUT: **STUART BOARDLEY**



ood evening to you all and welcome to our first home midweek league fixture of the season. As a player I always enjoyed a night game even more than a Saturday afternoon, there's something about playing under the lights in front of a good crowd that for me makes the atmosphere a little special.

Saturday before last we met with Brentwood Town in the FA Trophy. Although we started a little slow I felt we grew into the game and overall deserved the 2-0 victory we worked so hard for. The heat was a real challenge on the day but I felt our fitness levels were better than our opponents which allowed us to really kick on second half and dominate the game.

Starting slowly has certainly been an achilles heel for us so far this term and that certainly cost us on Saturday against Enfield Town in the FA Cup. Credit to our opponents who played very directly and pinned us back early on in the game but we must recognise that the higher we progress as a club, we just cannot afford to give teams of that quality a head start in games. Credit to the lads in the second half, they could have rolled over but

instead we tweaked the system and went on to create enough chances to have got ourselves back in the game. How much of this was from our good play and how much was Enfield taking their foot off the gas we will never know, but I was pleased with the reaction we got at half time but unfortunately the damage was already done.

So... tonight we are back in league action against a Bowers side who are off the back of a 3-0 league triumph against Redbridge so are sure to provide stiff opposition.

A brief goodbye has to be said this week. We are sad to say that Kotryna our physio is moving on from the club. She will be replaced by a familiar face in Charlotte who rejoins the club as first team physio. 'Kat' as we all know her only joined last year but had already become an integral part of the management team. I'd just like to wish Kat on behalf of everyone at the club, every success in the future and thank her for her time and dedication whilst with us.....

Time to go to work and get those points.... Enjoy the game, Boards





Not many people know this...

Tuesday Night Football

Tonight is the first of two hugely important matches for the club and hopefully that will be reflected in the level of support we get through the gate. For many who support us, there is also that team down the road who they also support, and even those of us who don't class ourselves as Ipswich Town supporters would always wish them well.

The tractor boys made a hugely generous gesture on the 1st July when they brought their full first team squad to the AGL Arena for a pre-season friendly, fielding two completely different teams during the afternoon while also mixing with the supporters, giving those dyed in the wool fans the opportunity to get up close and personal with their heroes. Not since the days of Bobby Robson have we seen such generosity from the Portman Road club at Dellwood Avenue.

We did manage to squeeze 2,350 into the AGL Arena that day and we can only dream of attracting that level of support at step 4 level. I write this independently from the football club who kindly allow me a page in this excellent programme, but make no rules other than respectful ones, about what I write. The views expressed here are my own, based on 50 years lived experience with the club.



To date we have played two home games, the first a league fixture against Bury Town which attracted 401 spectators while the second against Brentwood Town in the FA Trophy, where season tickets or special offers didn't count, so it was all pay on the day, we attracted 371 through the gate, which I thought was excellent. Our average home gate last season was 376 and so far we have kept up that average.

504 watched our cup tie at the QEII Stadium on Saturday, details of which will be elsewhere in this issue I'm sure. On Saturday it is again into the unknown when we host Hertford Town for the first time as we try to make progress in the FA Trophy. Hopefully, I'll see you all there!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

"The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the FA statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly, any form of discriminatory abuse whether it by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, sex and sexual orientation or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association." (The FA 0800 085 0508 / Kick it Out 020 7253 0162). The Isthmian League and all Member Clubs in the League are committed to promoting equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of the community."

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MATCH PHOTOS

SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST ISTHMIAN NORTH

Felixstowe & Walton Utd 2 Brentwood Town 0

Felixstowe & Walton United welcomed fellow Pitching In Isthmian North side Brentwood Town, and continued their unbeaten start with a two-nil win. Joe Whight opened the scoring from the spot just before the break, Noel Aitkens

added a second nine minutes later, and that was that.



HOW WE

1. Callum Robinson

2. Callum Bennett

3. Joe Whight

4. Billy Holland

5. Jack Ainsley

6. Tom Bullard 7. Zak Brown

A Lak Diowii

8. Noel Aitkens

9. Sam Ford

10. Callum Harrison

11. Charlie Warren

SUBS

12. Henry Barley

14. Josh Hitter

15. Stuart Ainsley

16. Josh Mayhew

17. Lamell Howell

18. Harry Blackburn



















ISTI-MIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2023/24

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Lowestoft Town	4	3	1	0	7	3	+4	10
2	Walthamstow	4	3	1	0	6	2	+4	10
3	Heybridge Swifts	3	3	0	0	8	2	+6	9
4	Brightlingsea Regent	3	3	0	0	5	1	+4	9
5	Redbridge	4	2	1	1	6	5	+1	7
6	Gorleston	3	2	0	1	6	3	+3	6
7	Enfield	4	2	0	2	7	7	0	6
8	Felixstowe & Walton United	3	1	2	0	7	4	+3	5
9	Bury Town	4	1	2	1	4	6	-2	5
10	Bowers & Pitsea	3	1	1	1	4	2	+2	4
11	Wroxham	3	1	1	1	4	2	+2	4
12	Basildon United	3	1	1	1	6	6	0	4
13	Brentwood Town	4	1	1	2	5	6	-1	4
14	East Thurrock United	3	1	1	1	4	6	-2	4
15	Witham Town	3	0	2	1	1	2	-1	2
16	Maldon & Tiptree	4	0	2	2	3	6	-3	2
17	Grays Athletic	4	0	2	2	3	8	-5	2
18	Stowmarket Town	4	0	1	3	4	7	-3	1
19	New Salamis	3	0	1	2	3	7	-4	1
20	lpswich Wanderers	4	0	0	4	1	9	-8	0

UPCOMING ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES



SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER - 3PM

Basildon United v Felixstowe & Walton

Brightlingsea Regent v Maldon & Tiptree

Enfield v Wroxham

Gorleston v East Thurrock United

Grays Athletic v Lowestoft Town

Heybridge Swifts v Witham Town

Ipswich Wanderers v Bowers & Pitsea

Redbridge v New Salamis

Stowmarket Town v Bury Town

Walthamstow v Brentwood Town



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MATCH PHOTOS

SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER FA CUP 2ND QR

Enfield Town 3 Felixstowe & Walton Utd 0

Felixstowe & Walton United lost their unbeaten record this season and in doing so exited the FA Cup at Isthmian Premier Enfield Town. The visitors were undone by an early three goal burst, starting with the award of a seemingly

soft penalty on 4 minutes, Sam Youngs converting. The game was then out of sight soon after with Oliver Knight and Joseph Payne slamming home goals on 8 and 15 minutes respectively to knock the stuffing out of the Seasiders. To Felixstowe's credit they gradually fought their way into the game and were unlucky not to grab one back just before the interval, Sam Ford an inch away. The second half was all Felixstowe and on another day they would have at least made the scoreline a lot closer, Josh Mayhew being denied on three occasions and Ford and Charlie Warren having great efforts saved. Enfield did hit the post late on and probably had an extra gear they could have found given the need, but those early goals and bookings for our central defenders proved to be decisive.





HOM ME

- 1. Callum Robinson
- 2. Harry Blackburn
- 3. Joe Whight
- 4. Noel Aitkens
- 5. Jack Ainsley
- 6. Tom Bullard
- 7. Zak Brown
- 8. Josh Hitter
- 9. Sam Ford
- 10. Callum Harrison
- 11. Charlie Warren

SUBS

- 12. Henry Barley
- 14. Josh Mayhew
- **16. Billy Holland**
- 17. Lamell Howell
- 18. Callum Bennett
- **15. Stuart Ainsley**





















OUR SQUAD

Introducing the Felixstowe & Walton United playing squad and management team of 2023/2024.



STUART BOARDLEY MANAGER

Stuart started his footballing career at Ipswich Town leaving in 2004 after 10 years. He went on to play for Torquay United, Sudbury, Leiston and Felixstowe. In 2018 he was appointed as Manager of Leiston but left in 2019 to become Manager of Felixstowe & Walton United.



ANDY CRUMP ASSISTANT MANAGER

Andy returned to Felixstowe & Walton United as Assistant Manager following the appointment of Stuart Boardley in 2019. Having enjoyed success in previous spells at the club as both player and First Team Coach.



DANNY POTTER GOALKEEPER COACH

A former pro footballer/TV star, Danny was cast into the Sky TV programme 'Dream Team' where he played for the fictional team Harchester United. Danny boasts clubs such as Torquay, Colchester and Cambridge as former employers. Recently appointed as Goalkeeper Coach, Danny brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and professionalism to Stuart's management team.



STUART STEVENSON COACH

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



KOTRYNA STOKNAITE SPORTS THERAPIST

Kotryna Stoknaite is a BSc Sports Therapy graduate from the University of Essex. During her undergraduate degree she had the opportunity to work as a Sports Therapist for the Colchester Rugby First team, as well as treating patients weekly at the university clinic.



DOUG FRENCH KIT MAN

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



CALLUM ROBINSON GOALKEEPER

Callum joined the club in 2020 from Stowmarket Town. He started his career at Colchester United before playing for Wroxham, AFC Sudbury and spent time on loan at Brantham Athletic.



STUART AINSLEY LEFT BACK

Stuart joined the club for his second spell in 2014 from Lowestoft Town. Previous clubs include Chelmsford City and AFC Sudbury. Stuart spent 10 years at Ipswich Town, winning the FA Youth Cup in 2005. Stuart has a sweet left foot and a great work ethic.



JOE WHIGHT DEFENDER

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



CALLUM BENNETT RIGHT BACK

Callum is in his second spell at the club having re-joined in late 2018. An attacking full back with one of the best ball deliveries in non-league football. Callum has plenty of experience from his time at lpswich U18s, Stoke City U21s and Notts County.



JACK AINSLEY DEFENDER

Rejoins from Stowmarket. Jack played professionally for ITFC after coming through their academy and went on to make 4 appearances playing under Roy Keane. Jack went on to have spells at Step 3 Lowestoft and Leiston but finds himself back at the Seaside where many describe him as a "Rolls Royce" type of player who can play in any position for the team.



TOM BULLARD DEFENDER

Another who joins us from Stowmarket. 'Bully' has experience across Step 3 and 4 with long and successful spells as captain at both Leiston and Bury Town. Tom is a serial winner who's experience, defensive qualities and leadership skills will add to an already impressive back line.



HARRY BLACKBURN RIGHT BACK/MIDFIELDER

Like Charlie Warren, Harry graduated through the Needham Market academy and joins the Seasiders predominantly as an attacking fullback. Harry plays with confidence in possession and supporters will enjoy seeing him create chances for our forward players.



BILLY HOLLAND MIDFIELDER

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



NOEL AITKENS MIDFIELDER

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



LEON OTTLEY-GOOCH MIDFIELDER

Leon signed for the club in 2020 and is another vastly experienced player at step 3 and 4 level. Previous clubs include Leiston, Bury Town, Hadleigh Utd and Stowmarket Town. Leon is very versatile but is predominantly a dynamic midfield player.



JOSH HITTER MIDFIELDER

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



CALLUM HARRISON MIDFIELDER

Former Colchester United, Needham, Sudbury and more recently Chelmsford midfielder joined the Seasiders for the 22/23 campaign. A highly sought after creative and technically gifted midfield player that loves to get forward and provide the team with both goals and assists.



IVAN COSTA MIDFIELDER

Promoted into the first team squad from our Academy after a strong preseason. Ivan is an industrious central midfield player whose work ethic and attitude is second to none.



KUBI KUSSAN MIDFIELDER

Another young player promoted to the first team squad from our Academy. Kubi is a technically gifted midfield player who enjoys moving with the ball. He has an edge to his game that has impressed the management throughout preseason.



HENRY BARLEY MIDFIELDER/FORWARD

Henry signed for the club in 2019 following his contract expiring at Ipswich Town. Another popular young player who had also been on loan from the then EFL Championship club the previous season.



LAMELL HOWELL MIDFIELDER/FORWARD

Lamell signed from
Brightlingsea Regent in 2020.
He can play on both wings
or in the number 10 position
and brings pace and trickery
to the side. He has previously
played for Stowmarket
Town, Debenham FC and
Brantham Athletic.



CHARLIE WARREN MIDFIELDER/FORWARD

Having initially joined on loan from Needham Market, Charlie made an instant impact on his debut in the FA Trophy win at Hastings. Following a number of impressive performances, manager Boardley moved quickly to secure the permanent services of one of Suffolk's brightest young players.



ZAK BROWN FORWARD

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



SAM FORD FORWARD

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



JOSH MAYHEW FORWARD

Josh joins us from promotion winners AFC Sudbury. An experienced front man who has been prolific at Step 4 and 5 with an impressive spell at Stowmarket yielding 136 goals in 173 games. Josh's physical presence will bring a focal point to our attack as well as a being natural finisher who is a proven goalscorer at this level.















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THE OTHER SIDE BOW/ERS & PITSEA

After the war years, once stability had come to the nation, many new sporting clubs sprang up. One such club was our own, BOWERS UNITED, started in 1946 by Bert Salmon, playing at Gun Meadow, Pitsea, in the Southend District League as a junior club before moving across to Thurrock & Thameside Combination, he was to be joined a few years later by his brother Len Salmon, who passed away in 2002 and is still sorely missed by everyone within the club. The biggest tribute Bowers Sport & Social Club could give him was to name his beloved football stadium after him.

In 1965 Bowers United entered the Essex Olympian League and this was to be where they stayed until 1974 when the club was successful in their application to join the recently newly formed Essex Senior League. As well as moving to a new League the Club also moved from Gun Meadow (Behind the Gun Pub) into their current ground at 20 Crown avenue in 1975 a Tottenham Hotspur x1 helped open the ground on the day, Senior status was granted by the Essex FA in 1978.

Success was just around the corner as in 1980-1981 the club won their first Essex Senior League title under the guidance of ex Southend United winger Malcolm Slater. They also added the League Challenge Cup the following year. Before Slater departed the club.

In 1998-99 a clean sweep of all three cups was achieved as they won the The Essex Senior League title, League Challenge Cup and the Harry Fisher Trophy under Tony Cross's all conquering team. They also won the Don Douglas Trophy for top goal scorer with David Hope as he scored 52 League and Cup goals that season.



With the club unable to apply for promotion the team was soon broken up and it was not until 2004/05 when we saw a new name on the footballing map when Bowers United took Pitsea Football clubs name to produce BOWERS & PITSEA FOOTBALL CLUB, and with a new start and a new team at the helm success was just around the corner because a strong link was established with the local community, and the clubs facilities that offered the residence a large Clubhouse, Bar and Function room Together with a ground capacity for 3000+ spectators, which includes seating for 400 in a well-appointed stand, excellent floodlighting is also an advantage at a higher level in which to play our football on. This showed that after years of being in the wilderness, Bowers & Pitsea Football Club (formerly Bowers United) now intended to take the football side of the club forward. Michael Barnard and Barry Hubbard joined forces to try to bring success to the club both on and off the field of play.

In season 2015/16 Rob Small topped his haul from the previous season by winning the Essex Senior League Championship, getting to the quarter finals of the Essex Senior Cup but more impressive was reaching the semi-finals of the FA Vase were Bowers were narrowly beaten by eventual winners Morpeth Town 2-1 away after drawing the home leg 2-2.

We finally achieved one of our goals to reach and play in the Isthmian League and we finished our first season in 6th place just three points outside the play-off positions. This followed with a third-place finish in season 2017/18 which saw us narrowly miss out on promotion, losing in the play-offs to Canvey Island.

The 2018/19 season saw us reach the Premier League as we finished the campaign with 92 points, 29 wins, 5 draws and 4 losses with a very healthy 71 goal difference.

Season 2019/20 saw our first ever season in the topflight and although sitting 14th the season was abruptly ended due to the Covid19 outbreak. and with the upgrade to a 3g pitch and new stands, changing rooms,



bar and turnstiles things are heading in the right direction.

Season 2021/22 saw us hit another milestone as we reached the FA Cup 1st round, Gallantly losing to Lincoln City 1-0. This was also to be Rob Smalls last season at the managers helm as his departure was to herald a new era for the club.

The summer of 2022 saw the departure of not only Rob Small, but every member of the previous year's playing squad. New Manager James Collins, brought in from Faversham Town, was left with the nigh impossible task of assembling a full squad in time for the new campaign that could compete against relegation.

Despite a valiant effort, including an upturn in form after Christmas, Bowers succumbed to relegation. The 2022/23 season did see some success for James Collins men, as they overcame Grays Athletic 3-2 tin win the Thameside Trophy for the first time in the clubs' history. This despite playing over 80 minutes with midfielder Oscar Shelvey in goal!







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FIXTURES 2023/24

SAT 12	MALDON & TIPTREE	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 211
	Holland, Hitter					
SAT 19	WELLINGBOROUGH Ford, Harrison, Holland, Warren	A	3PM	EMIRATES FA CUP	W 4-1	ATT 135
SAT 26	BURY TOWN Ford, Harrison, Hitter	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 401
MON 28	STOWMARKET TOWN OG, Ford	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 433
SEPTE	MBER					
SAT 2	WOODFORD TOWN Holland, Brown, Hitter, Aitkens	A	3PM	FA CUP FIRST QR	W 4-1	ATT 225
SAT 9	BRENTWOOD TOWN Whight (P), Aitkens	Н	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	W 2-0	ATT 371
SAT 16	ENFIELD TOWN	Α	3PM	FA CUP SECOND QR	L 3-0	
TUE 19	BOWERS & PITSEA	Н	7.45PM	ISTHMIAN LEAGUE	THE STATE OF THE S	In Will
SAT 23	HERTFORD TOWN	Н	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY 2	ND QR	1/1//
WED 27	LAKENHEATH	Α	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREMIER C	UP	/ / / /
SAT 30	BASILDON UNITED	Α	3PM	LEAGUE		
ОСТОЕ	BER					
SAT 7	REDBRIDGE	Н	3PM	LEAGUE		
TUES 10	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	Н	7.45PM	LEAGUE	19	
SAT 14	WALTHAMSTOW	Α	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 21	WROXHAM	Н	3PM	LEAGUE		/
SAT 28	GRAYS ATHLETIC	Α	3PM	LEAGUE		
NOVE	WBER					
	ENFIELD	Н	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 4		^	2014	LEAGUE		
SAT 4 SAT 11	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	Α	3PM	LLAUUL		
	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS EAST THURROCK UNITED	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

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SAT 2	GORLESTON	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 9	NEW SALAMIS	А	3PM	LEAGUE	900
SAT 16	MALDON & TIPTREE	Н	ЗРМ	LEAGUE	
TUE 26	IPSWICH WANDERERS	А	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 30	BOWERS & PITSEA	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	

JANUARY

MON 1	STOWMARKET TOWN	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 6	BRENTWOOD TOWN	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 13	LOWESTOFT TOWN	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 20	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	A	3PM	LEAGUE	7
SAT 27	BASILDON UNITED	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	

FEBRUARY

SAT 3	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 10	WALTHMANSTOW	H	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 17	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 24	GRAYS ATHLETIC	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	

MARCH

SAT 2	ENFIELD	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 9	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 16	BRENTWOOD TOWN	Н	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 23	LOWESTOFT TOWN	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	
SAT 30	BURY TOWN	Α	3PM	LEAGUE	

APRIL

MON 1	IPSWICH WANDERERS	Н	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 6	EAST THURROCK UNITED	А	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 13	WITHAM TOWN	Н	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 20	GORLESTON	Α	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 27	NEW SALAMIS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

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PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH ROUND UP

BY IAN TOWNSEND, TAKEN FROM WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK

Lowestoft Town had the chance to hit the summit as they welcomed Stowmarket Town to the seaside. The Trawler Boys were unbeaten in the league and hit five in the FA Trophy last Saturday, and in striker Jake Reed have a regular matchwinner and Reed opened the scoring on twenty seven minutes, his fifth of the season. Reed made it two with ten minutes left (pictured - Shirley Whitlow), but the visitors made the closing stages tense by pulling a goal back right at the end, Joseph Yaxley the scorer. The Trawler Boys held on to triumph, however, and hit the summit.

Walthamstow, in fourth, knew that they could also go top of the table. The East Londoners were quickly ahead against **Maldon & Tiptree**, Damaray Anyadike scoring after fourteen minutes, and that turned out to be the only goal of the game, Stow up to second.

Brentwood Town were looking for their first league win as Ipswich Wanderers, newly managed by Glen Driver who you might remember from his successful years with Leiston- arrived at the Arena. The Blues had departed Cup and Trophy during the last two weeks, whilst Wanderers had done the same, and it was an own goal which gave the hosts a half time lead. That turned out to be that, the hosts up to thirteenth.

Grays Athletic played their Under 23 side in the Velocity Cup in midweek as they saved their first team for their match against **Bury**



Town, but they fell behind after just seven minutes, Cemal Ramadan doing what he does best after just seven minutes- his fifth of the season. The visitors made it two almost immediately after the restart, Ryan Horne with that one, but the hosts struck back through Charlie Stimson on the hour, and Stimson then levelled matters with ten minutes to go. Neither side could find a winner.

Redbridge were unbeaten at home, and hoped to continue that run as Enfield came to call. The Motormen took the lead from the spot just before the break, Solomon Oguwomoju holding his nerve, and doubled it eleven minutes later, James Barlow with their second. It was as good as game over when Benjamin De Lacy Turner added a third, and soon it was actually game over, the hosts into the top five.

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R. BUGG TRADING LTD LAST WEEK, I had the pleasure of speaking to a young man whose life had been turned upside down due to one innocuous moment on the football field.

"I went in for a 50/50 ball, nothing at all sinister, and ended up with his shin wrapped around his leg" Ashford United winger said Adem Ramadan speaking of the incident which occurred during the Nuts & Bolts' Bank Holiday Monday derby clash with Hythe Town.

"I went to get up and my leg just folded. It was just one of those things - an unlucky accident."

Sadly for Adem, that 'unlucky accident' had far-reaching consequences. The 27-year-old was taken to hospital with a horrific double leg break – an injury has now ruled him out of football for up to a year but, more importantly, forced him out of work, as a self-employed electrician, for the next six months.

Thankfully for Adem, an Isthmian League insurance policy through his club - coupled with a GoFundMe page set up by family and friends - Adem won't suffer too much in the way of undue financial hardship during his long period of recovery. It's hard for him to comprehend at the moment, but he is actually one of the lucky ones.

Adem told me of one of his teammates at Ashford who has just bought his first family home for his new wife and two young children. What if it was he whose leg buckled over and wasn't quite so lucky?

"Hindsight is a wonderful thing," Ramadan, the former Margate and Folkestone Invicta midfielder said. "You always think 'it won't happen to me', but it could, so easily. "It makes you realise just how important it is for players of any level really to get protected. There are personal insurances out there for between £7 and £10 a month. In hindsight, I'd have definitely paid that knowing what I know now.

"I'm a single man so, as a result, I don't have to worry too much about paying the bills while I'm off work. It's a huge weight off my shoulders. "But if the same happens to my teammate it might be a different story and that's why I would urge players to get some advice and at least look into getting insured and protecting themselves.

"Paying £7-£10 a month, or whatever, is nothing compared to the risk of losing your house. It could be the best money you've ever spent."

One man who knows just how Adem is feeling right now is Francis Duku. Then at Gravesend & Northfleet, the 24-year-old had just been part of their 2001-02 Isthmian Premier title win and his performances were getting noticed.

"I was getting a lot of attention and, maybe, going back into the pro game," our old friend Duku told The NLP back in March. "But I broke my leg in pre-season at Weymouth. I had no idea it was broken. It was an attempt at an overhead clearance – it was hot and I didn't want to keep running so I thought I could hook it away and take a breather!"

An X-ray back in London showed a broken ankle and he was booked in for an op. "The guy who did it, fixed me as if I was a non-athlete – put pins in my ankle, which created loads of scar tissue and my ankle was never the same again. To this day you can see the difference. I still did alright, but I wasn't the level I was before."

Duku was able to use private medical care through his work in the city but it set the cogs whirring for Our Game Football, a membership service created to ensure that UK football has access to a minimum level of care and support.

For as little as £1 to register, members have access to affordable insurance policies as well as a whole network of benefits – and clubs can benefit too.

"There's a real motive to provide a route for change who want it," Duku says. "We've spoken to people time and again, they look at me and say, 'I get it, I get it'. But they don't want to do anything; players, chairmen, managers.

"For me, it's crazy. You know if you're playing football, you're going to get injured. You see GoFundMe pages from someone who is self-employed and needs to be on their feet to work, maybe they've got a young family. Everyone has shortfalls to cover. Rather than

put structures in place, people choose to go that fundraising route.

"I am not here to lecture. But clearly there is a better route and that's what Our Game has built."

Our Game have also also launch Project 250 where if every member club can get 250 people to register as part as your community, a digital infrastructure is in place to help them create insurance benefits to cover costs of wages, contract liabilities or medical expenses when players are injured.

Whatever your financial position and whatever level you play, firms like Our Game can prove a lifeline to sportspeople everywhere in their hour of need. Don't delay, get yourself covered. As Adem says, it could be the best money you've ever spent.

For more info visit **ourgamefootball.com**BY JON COUCH

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CROOK, CATALONIA AND COLOMBIA BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME Find more at TheUntoldGame.co.uk or on social media @TheUntoldGame.



Barcelona were in a period of transition, working out how to make their way in a changing football landscape. The Spanish giants had just won the Copa del Rey, and wanted to build that success into a new era of domination against rivals close to home, and those further across the country. Choosing to ignore the various Spanish options available to them, they turned to England, and picked a man from the north east. With his impressive tactical acumen and knack for man management, he would become a legend in the city. But that man from the north east was not Bobby Robson. He would become Barcelona's longest serving manager, Jack Greenwell.

Born in Crook in 1884, Greenwell was a tricky wing-half who made his debut for his local

team at the age of 17, and spent 12 years turning out for the side. Invited to play as a guest for West Auckland in 1909, he toured Europe and showcased his talents against teams from Germany and Switzerland. More importantly, he attracted the attention of Barcelona's Swiss founder Joan Gamper. Gamper approached Greenwell in 1912 to ask him to take charge of the Catalans. Greenwell, seeking adventure, accepted the offer.

Initially a player-coach, Greenwell managed a young Barcelona team that included Philippine sensation Paulino Alcantara, who would score 395 goals, only bettered by Lionel Messi. Greenwell led the club to silverware in his first season. Owing to political disagreements with the Catalan FA, competitive games were rare. Greenwell invited his former club to play three exhibition games in Spain, two of which Barcelona drew, and one they lost. His fitness started dwindling, and he took a less active role on the pitch, before in 1917 he finally retired. He was given the manager's job full-time. The following season, Greenwell led Barcelona to the Campionat de Catalunya, losing just one game. After that, they dropped just a single point as they retained their title. A year later, they won the Copa del Rey.

The Copa del Rey win prompted the purchase of some land for a new ground, which was hastily put up, and opened with a friendly against St. Mirren, but Greenwell's time at the club was coming to a close. They lost the Campionat in the season that followed,



but won the Copa del Rey again in 1922. For Greenwell, it was the right time to go out on a high. After a decade at the club, he resigned, and started a tour of Spain.

First was a stop just down the road, where he helped newly formed UE Sants to the Campionat, beating his former club, before heading to CD Castellon, where he finished second, twice, in the Campeonato Regional de Valencia. Espanyol, Gijon, another short stint at Barcelona, and Real Sociedad followed, before the Spanish Civil War broke out. Fearing for his family's future, Greenwell fled the country. He struggled to find work in his home country, but accepted an offer to take charge of Universitario de Deportes, who he led to the Peruvian championship in his first season. With the South American Championship that summer, he was invited to take charge of the national team.

Peru were technically brilliant when Greenwell arrived, but lacked experience. Due to withdrawals they would have to beat Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and favourites Uruguay. Greenwell decided to make the most of his attacking talents, just as he had done at Barcelona, and set up a very attacking

2-3-5 formation. Peru breezed past debutants Ecuador in the first game, and saw off bitter rivals Chile 3-1. A 3-0 victory over Paraguay set up a thrilling final encounter against Uruguay, who had also won all three games.

In front of 40,000, Peru took an early lead, and doubled it just before half time. Uruguay were one of the best teams in the world at the time, and wouldn't go down without a fight. They pulled one back in the second half, but Peru held on for their first ever South American Championship.

His time in Peru would prove to be short, however. Irregular pay and difficult living conditions meant that when an offer came to aid Colombia in the Central American games, he took it. The games were delayed, however, and he took charge of Independiente Santa Fe. The short term appointment nearly yielded immediate success, as Independiente lost in the final of the Torneo di Cundinamarca, but Greenwell wouldn't get the chance to go one better. He died of a heart attack that summer, driving to a training session.

He remains the only Englishman to have won the South American Championship. **Enjoy the game.**

PUBLICATION OF OWNERSHIP:

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



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MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian League North Tuesday 19th September, 7.45pm



Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley
Assistant Manager: Andy Crump

Jack Ainsley	
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Josh Mayhew	
Leon Ottley-Gooch	
Callum Robinson (GK)	
Charlie Warren	
Joe Whight	

Bowers & Pitsea FC

Manager: James Collins

Harrison Abu	
Fikayo Ajayi	
Archie Cane	
Harrison Carnegie	
Lewis Chambers	
Sam Elwood	
David Hughes (GK)	
Malakai Hyman	
Mechack Kisoka	
Geoff Okonkwo	
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