



MATCH DAY



EVESHAM UNITED FC
VS
GOSPORT BOROUGH FC

18TH APRIL

15:00 PM KO



Spiers & Hartwell Stadium



Spiers & Hartwell

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2025/26



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“Evesham United Football Club is an unincorporated association”



FORD'S FOCUS



With just two games remaining, every point matters. The margins are fine at this stage of the season, and today's fixture is one where focus, intent, and belief must be evident from the first whistle.

Our home form has been a real foundation for us this season. It's something we take pride in, and again today it has to count. This is our pitch, our environment, and we must use that to our advantage by setting the tempo early and playing with authority.

We are what we are. We're stubborn, tenacious, and we fight to the very end. That identity has carried us through the season, and today it has to be on full display. The message to the players is simple: perform in a way that truly reflects the importance of the occasion. Be fully committed in every challenge, show passion for the badge, and compete with the hunger of a group determined to succeed. Above all, we must give the clear impression—to our opponents and everyone watching—that we are here to win.

Gosport Borough will provide a strong test, but if we play with intensity, discipline, and togetherness, while staying true to our principles, we give ourselves the best possible chance of taking a crucial three points.

Thank you, as always, for your support. Let's make our home advantage count once again.

Enjoy the game

Mike Ford

Manager, Evesham United FC



THE THOUGHTS OF THE CHAIRMAN...



Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Spiers and Hartwell Stadium. a special warm welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Gosport Borough.

This is our last home game of the season so I want to thank each and everyone of you for your fantastic support, it means a lot to us, the players feed off of the atmosphere that you create so well.

I want to put on record my sincere thanks to Mike, his staff and the players for their tremendous efforts over the season. It has been a massive step up in quality and fitness at level 3 and the lads have adapted quite brilliantly in my opinion. We have faced teams this season with massive budgets and players on ridiculous wages and we have more than competed, I hope you will agree with me on that one!

We go into todays game against a very good side who have been in the top end of the league all season and will be very competitive. Your vocal support will help us gain the positive result that we need.

Last week we welcomed champions Walton and Hershaw. We gave them a guard of honour to congratulate them on their achievement, then we went about dismantling them on the pitch with a great forward thinking display. Goals coming from Andre Wright, Ethan Dunbar and Amer Awadh.

One last effort from us all today will be great.

We will be hosting the players presentation after the match so I would be delighted if you can join us in the clubhouse to celebrate what has been a wonderful season for us.

looking further forward..... we will be hosting the England world cup games, with various offers such as Curry, Naan bread and a pint for a tenner, so watch out on social media for updates.

Have a great summer and look forward to seeing you when we start hosting pre-season friendlies.

Together we are UNITED!!



MATCH REPORT



**Yate Town 3 vs Evesham United 0 – Southern League Premier Division South.
Monday 6 April 2026.**

Match Report by Simon Purfield

Evesham United travelled down the M5 on a sunny Easter Monday to the South West Interiors Stadium, facing Yate Town, who were positioned in the relegation zone.

Yate Town started brightly and, in the sixth minute, Marlon Jackson's cross from the left reached Rex Mannings, whose overhead kick went wide. The home side maintained most of the pressure but struggled to create clear chances in the box. Evesham United were largely on the defensive, only posing a threat with sporadic attacks that led to corners.

Eventually, Yate Town's persistence paid off as they broke the deadlock in the 40th minute. A move involving Jackson and Mannings set up James Taylor to deliver a cross into a crowded six-yard box, where Jackson rose highest to head into the corner of the net.

During seven minutes of injury time at the end of the first half, Evesham United had their best chance when captain Andre Wright's free kick from the edge of the Yate penalty area narrowly missed the post.

Yate Town doubled their lead just three minutes after the interval. Lloyd James delivered a lofted free kick which Jackson met, nodding the ball over the advancing Alex Harris in the Evesham goal.

Shortly after the hour mark, Jackson had the opportunity for a hat-trick when Josh Bennett's long throw found him six yards out, but he fired over the bar. Evesham managed a brief resurgence, with substitute Josh McConnell shooting straight at Aaron Sainsbury from the edge of the area. Following a corner from the left, Sainsbury made a strong reaction save as the ball was deflected off a Yate defender.

In the 88th minute, substitute Dani Gonzalez-Birchall was fouled in the Evesham penalty area, and Chris Zebroski calmly converted the resulting penalty, sending Harris the wrong way.

Yate Town fully merited their victory, moving above Evesham United in the league table on goal difference. Evesham now sit 18th, just one place above the relegation zone, having secured only one win in their last ten matches. Their next fixture is at home against champions Walton & Hersham on Saturday.



MATCH REPORT



Evesham United 3 vs Walton & Hersham 1 – Southern League Premier Division South **Match Report by Simon Purfield**

Champions Walton and Hersham made their inaugural visit to Evesham United on Saturday. With the hosts facing the threat of slipping into the drop-zone, the need for three points was paramount.

Evesham United started the match strongly. Just 11 minutes in, Josh Barlow delivered a long pass to Ethan Dunbar, who raced towards goal. Dunbar's attempt from eight yards was expertly turned around the post by Walton's goalkeeper, Jools Lacey. Moments later, Kai Churchley received the ball on the right and unleashed two shots; one was blocked and the other punched away by the keeper.

At the quarter hour mark, Walton and Hersham launched their first significant attack, orchestrated by Francis Amartey. However, resolute defending from Evesham denied a clear shot on goal.

Midway through the half, Evesham lost possession high up the pitch. Walton's midfield quickly transitioned play to Amartey, who found Dawid Rogalski. Rogalski laid the ball off for Jack Wood, who finished calmly from eight yards out to give Walton the lead.

Just three minutes later, Evesham responded. Ethan Dunbar won a free kick, which was taken by Kai Churchley. Churchley's delivery was perfect for Andre Wright, whose powerful header found the top of the Walton net to level the score.

In the 39th minute, Evesham gained a crucial advantage. Amer Awadh won the ball on the halfway line and sent it forward to Dunbar. Dunbar's spectacular strike from around 25 yards soared into the top right corner of the net, earning praise as one of the goals of the season at the Spiers and Hartwell Stadium.

Within two minutes of the restart, Evesham extended their lead to 3-1. A Churchley corner was headed clear by Walton's defence, but Barlow lofted the ball back into the box. Awadh eventually poked it home from six yards to increase Evesham's advantage.

At 54 minutes, Wright's angled shot from fifteen yards was pushed away by the Walton keeper, and Churchley's follow-up effort was deflected wide. Shortly afterwards, Liam Hutt delivered a superb cross to Ioan Richards, who headed just wide from a promising position. Walton then enjoyed a period of pressure but failed to test Brendan Beard in the Evesham goal. Evesham maintained their momentum, with Churchley forcing another save from Lacey, Josh McConnell striking the left post, and substitute Brandon Liggett seeing his effort blocked. Walton managed two corners late in the match but were unable to capitalise, while Player of the Match Wright had a late attempt blocked on the edge of the six-yard box during added time.

For Evesham United, the 3-1 thoroughly deserved victory was vital in their pursuit to remain in the Southern Premier Division South. The Robins now sit two places and two points ahead of the relegation zone, with a home fixture against Gosport Borough on Saturday.



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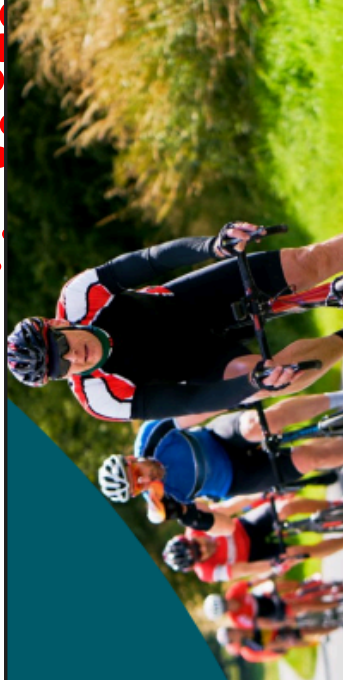
LEAGUE TABLE



	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	Walton & Hershams (C)	40	29	4	7	93	40	53	91
2	Gloucester City	40	24	7	9	91	49	42	79
3	Farnham Town	38	23	8	7	85	48	37	77
4	Poole Town	40	20	11	9	75	47	28	71
5	Berkhamsted	40	20	9	11	60	49	11	69
6	Sholing	40	17	14	9	68	51	17	65
7	Chertsey Town	40	18	10	12	62	50	12	64
8	Havant & Waterlooville	40	17	7	16	77	65	12	58
9	Uxbridge	40	15	12	13	70	66	4	57
10	Gosport Borough	39	17	6	16	65	66	-1	57
11	Bracknell Town	40	15	9	16	67	66	1	54
12	Plymouth Parkway	40	14	8	18	56	76	-20	50
13	Wimborne Town	40	12	13	15	58	57	1	49
14	Hanwell Town	39	13	9	17	54	59	-5	48
15	Basingstoke Town	40	13	9	18	57	68	-11	48
16	Yate Town	40	12	10	18	52	60	-8	46
17	Evesham United	40	11	13	16	50	59	-9	46
18	Taunton Town	39	12	8	19	62	70	-8	44
19	Weymouth	40	12	8	20	48	68	-20	44
20	Dorchester Town	40	9	12	19	48	75	-27	39
21	Hungerford Town (R)	40	9	10	21	47	86	-39	37
22	Tiverton Town (R)	39	5	3	31	36	106	-70	18

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- ✓ Signposting
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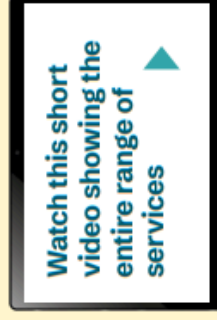
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MEET THE MANAGEMENT



MIKE FORD – MANAGER

Mike, as a player represented Cardiff City and Oxford United, clocking up close to 500 league appearances, gaining two promotions during that time. Following retirement due to injury, Mike has managed Oxford United (twice in caretaker roles) and was also assistant manager there for a period. He then went on to manage Oxford City, (2009-2014) leading them to promotion to the National League Southern Division. He then moved to Banbury United (2015-2020) where he gained promotion from Evesham's level in 2016, before establishing them in the Premier Division from that point. He helped manage St. Ives Town last season. Mike is a UEFA A licensed coach, who has experience working with and developing young players, including being the Oxford United Youth Team Manager.



ALEX SYKES – ASSISTANT MANAGER

May 2011, Alex was appointed as manager of Bishop's Cleeve. In his first season as manager, he led Bishop's Cleeve to the club's then record high league finish of 11th in the Southern League South & West. At the end of his second season as boss, in April 2013, he stepped down from his role as manager at the club. In May 2013 he became joint-manager at fellow Southern League club Shortwood United alongside John Evans. He would eventually take sole charge of the club following the retirement of John Evans at the end of the 2015-16 season. After leading the side for the 2016-17 season, he left Shortwood in April 2017. In January 2018, Alex was appointed as assistant manager Redditch United. In October 2021 he was appointed manager of Cinderford Town and left at the end of the 2022-23 season.

Alex started his playing career in the Football League with Mansfield Town. However he is best known for his time at Forest Green Rovers from 1996 to 2004 where he played 295 times scoring 73 goals in two spells and a loan. He was also a fans favourite at Gloucester City where he scored 60 goals in 160 appearances. Alex played for other teams such as Nuneaton Borough, Bath City and Bishops Cleeve. He is a former England Futsal international.



DAN HEAD – GK COACH

Dan is an experienced coach and Head of senior goalkeeping at Evesham United. Having played academy football at an early age, Dan played the majority of his senior football at representative level in the Services but stopped playing due to injury at a relatively young age. Turning his attention to coaching, he became an ECB accredited cricket coach and has been involved at minor counties level before turning his focus back to football. Dan is a UEFA B qualified outfield and goalkeeper coach and is also a member of the GK Nexus set up. A small group of goalkeepers, mainly working in the professional game, who are mentored by former Derby and Manchester City goalkeeper Eric Steele who was Sir Alex Ferguson's goalkeeper coach at Manchester United. Dan also previously worked across the junior set up at Evesham United and previously coached at Cheltenham Town Academy.



PLAYER PROFILES



ALEX HARRIS – GOALKEEPER

Alex has played for title-winning teams in this division, firstly with Cinderford Town 2015/16, and then Hereford when they were champions in 2016/17. Since then, Harris has played for Gloucester City, Westfields, and Merthyr Town, as well as a second spell at Cinderford Town, who he also helped reach the play-off final. He signed for Cirencester Town from Merthyr during the Covid-19 season. Up until the end of the 2022-23 season, Alex had chalked up almost 100 appearances for the Centurions, before moving on to play in Europe last season with Penybont of the Welsh national league.



JENSON KILROY – GOALKEEPER

Jenson signed his first professional contract with Walsall. He impressed throughout his scholarship and gained men's football experience during loan stints with Hereford Pegasus, Stratford Town and Farsley Celtic. Jenson has been with Walsall since the age of 10, has also trained with the first team and been involved in matchday squads during his scholarship. His professionalism, character and good performances earned him the Saddlers Apprentice of the Year award for the 2024/25 season. The Saddlers have loaned Jenson to the Robins for the 2025/26 season. Already, the young keeper has made some important saves.



BRENDON BEARD – GOALKEEPER

A promising goalkeeper that has joined us from Stoke Gifford United for the 25-26 season.



PLAYER PROFILES



IOAN RICHARDS – DEFENDER

Ioan is a Welsh-born defender who was on a short-term loan from Gloucester City at Swindon Supermarine. He signed at Gloucester City after a trial period in preseason, having previously been with Redditch United and Taunton Town, and had a previous short spell with Gloucester City in 2019. He was initially on a one-month loan until mid-October, which was extended until the end of the season, but Ioan left City in December and joined Swindon Supermarine for the 2024/25 season. He signed for the Robins permanently for the 2025/26 season.



JYREL BOJANG – DEFENDER

Jyrel joined Evesham from Pershore Town; previously, he played at Studley. A solid defender when called from the bench or in the starting XI.



ETHAN PATTERSON – DEFENDER

Ethan is a product of Aston Villa's academy, where he started the 2016/17 season for three years before a stint at Thróttur Vogum (Iceland) from July 2020 until January 2021. Alvechurch was next for Ethan for the 2021/22 season, a short spell at Hednesford during 2023, followed by a return to Alvechurch in June of that year. Ethan then moved on to Bromsgrove Sporting for the 2024/25 season. Signed as a Robin for the 2025/26 season.



CAMERON WALTERS – DEFENDER

Sam was previously at Southampton FC, joining when he was 8 years old and left at the age of 21. He played all the way up to U23 level in which he made his U23 debut at 17. During his time there he earned a 2 year scholarship and following that a 2 year professional contract. After leaving the club, he spent time with Derby County, Bath City and Chippenham, before eventually signing for Kidlington FC for the remainder of the 2023/24 season. Sam later signed for Evesham FC in July 2024 and was part of the 2024/25 promotion winning team. He can play across the back line and as a defensive midfielder.



PLAYER PROFILES



LIAM HUTT – DEFENDER

A product of the Swindon Town youth academy, Hutt made his senior debut for the club during the 2023–24 season in the EFL Trophy group stage.

To gain further first-team experience, he spent time on loan during the 2024–25 season at Weymouth, where he made five appearances in the National League South. He is a young player looking to establish himself in the professional game.



OWEN FOYE – DEFENDER

After a short spell with Swindon Supermarine, he now looks forward to helping Evesham this season.

The young defender, who is in the second year of his scholarship at Swindon Town, has featured in Town's Youth Alliance League and Cup competitions.

He has joined Evesham on a work experience loan to help further develop and give important Men's first-team experience.



JOSHUA BARLOW – MIDFIELDER

Josh started his career at Cheltenham before making the move to the Salop Academy in the 2020/21 season. Whilst impressing in the middle of the park, Steve Cotterill, the Shrewsbury manager, took a shine to Barlow and rewarded him by naming him on the bench towards the end of 21/22 season as a scholar. During the 22/23 season, Josh started three games in the EFL Trophy, making his debut in a 2-1 defeat against Wolverhampton Wanderers. He went on to feature twice more in the same competition, with Shrewsbury eventually bowing out in the group stage. Despite the results in the EFL Trophy. He joined Banbury in June 2023 before leaving them in December. A solid member of the squad with good vision on the ball.



WILL OWENS – MIDFIELDER

Will joined Evesham permanently after signing for Worcester City at the start of the season 23/24.

22-year-old Will originally came on loan from Oxford United in February 2023 and played for us mainly on the left wing.



PLAYER PROFILES



AMER AWADH – MIDFIELDER

28-year-old Amer Awadh is an attacking midfielder who came through the youth system at Oxford City, playing primarily for their Nomads side, though he progressed to make a few first-team appearances. He had been playing for Fanja SC in Oman before joining Banbury United in February 2018, for whom he made 84 appearances. In 2021-22, he started the season at Nuneaton Borough before moving to North Leigh later that term. For the Oxfordshire outfit, he turned out on 70 occasions, scoring 6 goals. Amer captained the Robins promotion side in 2024/25 and continues in the role this season.



BRANDON LIGGETT – MIDFIELDER

Brandon started with Cheltenham Town Under 18s in the 2023/24 season before being loaned early in the year to Gloucester City. Back to Cheltenham the following year, and a month's loan to Salisbury ensued. Brandon moved to the Robins on a free transfer for the 2025/26 season.



LEWIS MIDDLETON – MIDFIELDER

18-year-old Lewis joined Evesham from Kidlington last season. He recently scored his first FA Cup goal for the Robins, hopefully the first of many. This season, 2025/26, Lewis is becoming a super sub, causing our opponents' defence many problems with his speed.



PLAYER PROFILES



ANDRE WRIGHT – FORWARD

Andre joined Evesham from Stratford Town FC. Andre was a product of West Bromwich Albion's academy. He was loaned out to Kidderminster Harriers, Torquay United, and Coventry City in his early career to gain senior football experience. He has also had experience playing in League Two for Yeovil Town in January 2017. He joined National League North side Hereford in January 2022 before moving to Hereford in the same season. Andre signed for Stratford Town in October 2022. Andre has a natural instinct for a chance to score; when in the right place, his shot is deadly.



ETHAN DUNBAR – FORWARD

Ethan signed from Bishops Cleeve for this season, 2025/26. Ethan is a hardworking, right-footed forward who started out in 2021-22 with Longlevens AFC before moving to Slimbridge in 2022-23, where he scored 18 goals. Bishops Cleeve signed Ethan for 2023-25, and he scored 39 goals in two seasons with them. Already finding the net this season, Ethan is a handful for the opposition defence.



KAI CHURCHLEY – FORWARD

Kai had an excellent 4-year spell (2 years scholar and 2 years pro) with Bristol City, where he played a key role in the Robins' successful Under-21s team in the Professional Development League Two. Kai also had a loan spell with Gloucester City during their National League North campaign in 2023/24, before having a spell with Tiverton Town in the Southern League Premier South during the 2024/25 season. Kai comes to the Robins as a loan signing from Merthyr Town. The 21-year-old attacker joins the Robins on a deal that will run until at least the New Year.

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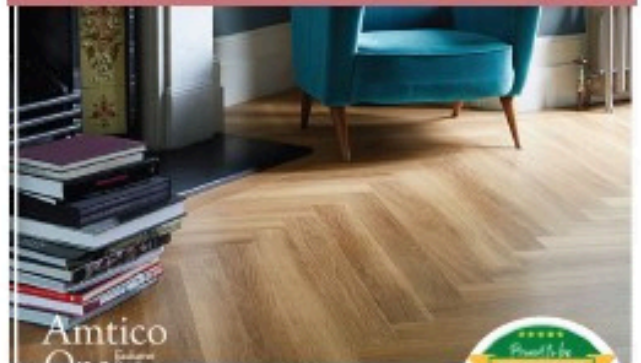
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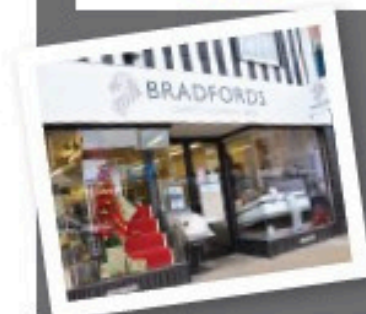
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PLAYER APPEARANCES & GOALS 2025-26



	LEAGUE Starts	Subs	Goals	CUP Starts	Subs	Goals	TOTAL Starts	Subs	Goals
Aaron Heap	20	7		2	3		22	10	
Alex Harris (GK)	30			3			33		
Amer Awadh	27	10	4	5	1	1	32	11	5
Andre Wright	33	6	10	5	1	2	38	7	12
Brandon Liggett	25	9		4	2		29	11	
Brendan Beard	2	1		1			3	1	
Cameron Walters	33			5			38		
Ethan Dunbar	23	16	8	2	4		25	20	8
Ethan Patterson	13	1	1	1			14	1	1
George Alston		4					0	4	
Ioan Richards	33		2	6		1	39		4
Jac Lee Poffley	9	3					9	3	
Jenson Kilroy (GK)	7			2			9		
Josh Mcconnell	8	7	1				8	7	1
Joshua Barlow	34	3	2	3	2		37	5	2
Jyrel Bojang	24	7		5			29	7	
Kai Churchley	17	15	4	4	1		21	16	4
Levi Steele	21	7	10	4	2	2	25	9	12
Lewis Middleton	1	23	1	2	3	2	3	26	3
Liam Hutt	21	4	2	1			22	4	2
Owen Foye	19		1	1			20		1
Reegan Messenger	1	5		4	1	2	5	6	2
Roger James	2	6					2	6	
William Owens	12	3	1	5			17	3	1



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GOSPORT BOROUGH PLAYER PROFILES



RYAN HALL (Goalkeeper)

Previous Clubs: Bognor Regis Town, Aldershot, Dorchester Town, Wimborne Town.

Signed in July 2025, from Bognor Regis where he had been for a season after leaving Aldershot where he had been playing National League football. Ryan has signed for his home town Club.

LUCAS THOMAS (Goalkeeper)

On loan from Luton Town, signed professional contract last year. Quickly has become a fans favourite after displays that have impressed both the management at the Boro and at Luton Town.

BENNY READ (Defender)

Previous Clubs: Sholing, AFC Totton, Havant & Waterlooville, Horndean

Signed in July 2025, from Southern League side Sholing. Experienced full back again having played for some very interesting Managers who will bring these experiences to The Boro changing room.

RORY WILLIAMS (Defender)

Previous Clubs: Havant & Waterlooville, Andover, GE Hamble

Pacey left-back Rory Williams started his footballing life in the Boro' youth ranks, before departing the club in 2011. He was re-signed part-way through the 2012/2013 campaign and instantly struck up a fine strike partnership with Dan Wooden. The pair fired Boro' to Conference South promotion and Rory went on to feature in the FA Trophy final at Wembley in 2014. He departed Gosport for Havant & Waterlooville in 2016, starring for the Hawks' as they won back-to-back promotions. Just after signing a new deal at Westleigh Park, he moved to Conference South side Dorking Wanderers in 2019, staying just a few weeks before returning home to Privett Park.

JOE MORRISON (Defender)

Previous Clubs: Woking, Egham Town, Walton Casuals, Hartley Wintney, Beaconsfield Town.

Joined the Borough in October 2023 from Beaconsfield Town, no nonsense centre half been outstanding since joining and has become a fans favourite at Privett Park.

CHARLIE WASSMER (Defender)

Previous Clubs: Crawley Town, Cambridge United, Margate, Maidenhead United, Hampton & Richmond Borough, Woking & Hayes & Yeading United.

Joined the Boro at the end of 22/23 for a loan period from Hayes and Yeading United. After moving to the south coast in the Summer signed a contract at Privett Park in June 23.

JORDAN STEPNEY (Defender)

Previous Clubs: Farnham Town, Badshot Lea, Raynes Park Vale, Uxbridge

Signed in early 2026 from Uxbridge, experienced defender who won the Isthmian League title with Farnham Town in 2025.

GOSPORT BOROUGH PLAYER PROFILES



JOE OASTLER (Defender)

Previous Clubs: AFC Totton, Havant & Waterlooville, Oxford City, Gosport Borough, Aldershot, Torquay, QPR, Bognor Regis Town, Portsmouth

Signed and returned to The Boro in early 2026. Made his league debut for QPR. Experienced defender having spent all of his career at a high level in the game.

BEN GREENWOOD (Defender/Midfield)

Previous Clubs: Weymouth, Eastleigh, Bournemouth

On loan from Farnborough

JORDA NGALO (Midfield)

Previous Clubs: Salisbury, Dorchester Town, Aldershot, Hayes & Yeading, AFC Totton, Weymouth, Poole Town

Signed in early 2026 from National League Salisbury, tough tackling midfielder who manager Glenn Howes has managed before.

HARVEY REW (Defender/Midfield)

Previous Clubs: Portsmouth, Gosport Borough, AFC Totton, Bognor Regis Town.

Starting his career at Portsmouth playing games in the EFL Trophy for the Club, while at Portsmouth made his international debut for Wales. On leaving Portsmouth he joined his home town club Gosport Borough but after a season of high level performances joined AFC Totton. Moved to Bognor and after serious injury has returned to the AEI.

ADAM TOMASSO (Midfield)

Previous Clubs: AFC Totton, AFC Portchester (Loan) Winchester City

Signed in July 25 from AFC Totton where he had won two promotions with Totton as well as many cup competitions. Tough tackling midfielder whose departure to The Boro caused much surprise but testament to the Boro management team

JACK BAGNALL (Midfield)

Jack is home grown having come through the Boro Youth set up. Has attracted interest from professional clubs and has started well in his Southern League performances while continuing to be a leading player in the Boro U18s.

HARVEY SOLLEY (Midfield)

Previous Clubs: AFC Telford United, Port Vale

Signed in March 25 from AFC Telford. Captained England U18s last season. Gosport lad signed for his home town Club who has become a fans favourite after his performances so far.

ETHAN JONES (Midfield)

Product of our Youth set up, has appeared for Eastleigh in pre season making his first appearance against Southampton. Talented midfielder who has a bright future.

GOSPORT BOROUGH PLAYER PROFILES



BRAD TARBUCK (Midfield)

Previous Clubs: Portsmouth, Dartford, Dorchester Town, Havant & Waterlooville, Weymouth

Tricky winger Bradley Tarbuck began his career at Portsmouth, making his two appearances for his boyhood club and also enjoying a loan spell at National League Dartford. He was released by Pompey in May 2015, signing for Dorchester Town shortly after. Havant & Waterlooville then snapped him up in 2016, with Bradley playing as both a wing-back and advanced wideman as the Hawks won back-to-back promotions. He found first team opportunities hard to come by during the 2019/2020 campaign, signing for Gosport shortly after his release in the summer of 2021

ETHAN TAYLOR (Forward)

Previous Clubs: AFC Totton

Signed from AFC Totton in July 25, Ethan scored the winning goal in last seasons play off final. Despite AFC Totton making two improved contract offers Ethan decided that he would join The Boro. Comes from a family with pedigree in the game. Ethan is also a high level cricketer who is one of the very best with a bat in his hand.

MICHAEL FERNANDES (Forward)

Previous Clubs: Swindon Supermarine, Hayes & Yeading United, Hungerford Town, Farnborough, Salisbury (loan), Leatherhead (loan), Dartford (loan), Colchester United, Farnborough, Hampton & Richmond Borough

Michael signed for the club in July 25 and has a wealth of experience, having signed from Swindon Supermarine. He also had previous spells with National South side Farnborough, Football League side Colchester United along with Hungerford Town, Dartford and Hampton & Richmond Borough and also loan spells at Leatherhead and Salisbury.

DAN WOODEN (Forward)

Previous Clubs: Moneyfields, AFC Portchester

Gosport legend Dan Wooden first joined the club all the way back in 2010 after impressing coach Tony Stares during his time at Moneyfields. Operating as a left winger or striker, Woody helped the Boro to back-to-back promotions from the Southern League Division One South & West to the Conference South - both via the playoffs. The success kept on coming with Dan featuring in the 2014 FA Trophy final at Wembley and in an FA Cup First Round tie against Colchester United. After a fruitful spell, he re-joined Moneys in 2017 before moving to AFC Portchester, where he reunited with former Boro' boss Mike Catlin. Wooden finally returned home to Privett Park in 2021, much to the delight of fans

OLUTAYO SINGERR (Forward)

On loan from Portsmouth when he has made his debut this season in the Championship and Football League Cup when he has scored for Portsmouth

Joined the Boro this month to help both parties develop to the end of the season.

GOSPORT BOROUGH CLUB HISTORY



Gosport Borough Athletic Club as the club were originally known, were formed just two weeks after D-Day in the summer of 1944.

Despite winning the Hampshire League at their first attempt in 1945/46, dropping "Athletic" in the 1960s, and over the decades being a major force in county football, silverware was rare at Privett Park and the title was not realised again until back-to-back titles in 1976/77 and 1977/78.

The two Hampshire League titles led to a successful application to join Southern League for 1978/79 and a period of 14 seasons in the (then) upper echelons of the non-league game began.

After four seasons at the top end of the Southern League's Southern Division, promotion was won to the Premier Division for 1982/83 - at the time an equivalent level to the later Conference South.

Boro spent seven seasons in the Premier Division before relegation in season 1989/90. Despite surviving the following season, Gosport finished bottom in 1991/92 and were relegated back to county football (Wessex League).

The club competed for a couple of seasons and did lift the Wessex League Cup in 1993 but with the Club struggling for money, Chairman Ian Hay set up a trustee scheme which kept the club alive through their darkest days, helping to support the club with fans providing regular income.

At the start of the century, things started to turn for the better at The Boro.

Reserve team manager Mick Marsh was put in charge of the 1st XI and with the Club emerging from their financial difficulties, a return to the Southern League was back on the agenda. Marsh chased the dream for five seasons, finishing in the top four on four occasions before he retired in 2005.

Under manager Alex Pike, Boro won the Wessex League title on goal difference in Pike's first season (2006/07).

With the club back in the Southern League in 2007/08, it wasn't until season 2011/12 that success came when Boro achieved third spot and a play-off place, winning the Play-Off Final after a Steve Claridge strike sent the game to extra time. Two goals without reply in the additional 30 minutes saw Boro promoted back to the Southern League Premier Division.

In season 2012/13, Pike's men enjoyed FA Cup success as a precursor to an unbeaten run of 23 games which lifted Boro into a play-off place.

GOSPORT BOROUGH CLUB HISTORY



Boro saw off second placed Stourbridge in the semi, before beating Hemel Hempstead Town 2-0 in the final only to concede two late goals before winning promotion on penalties. So the board's planned rise from county football to Conference South was complete and Gosport started 2013/14 again looking to establish themselves at a new level. Like the season before, Boro struggled to find their feet at the new level and after flirting with the relegation zone for much of the season, it took another cup run to gain the belief needed to lift the team clear of danger.

An FA Trophy run which started in November, ended with The Boro playing beneath the Wembley Arch in a final against Cambridge United in front of over 18,000. The result saw United run out 4-0 winners, but the belief that flowed through the squad as a result of the Trophy run put Gosport back on track and lifted them into a comfortable mid-table league place.

The club were able to plough the financial windfall from the FA Trophy run back into the infrastructure at Privett Park. During the summer of 2014, a number of improvements were made including the installation of a new hospitality suite/club office building and a state-of-the-art pitch irrigation system.

A solid start to the 2014/15 league season saw Boro well placed in the league. The confidence gained from the league campaign helped the club finally make the First Round Proper of the FA Cup for the first time.

Boro hosted Colchester United of League One in a tie that attracted over 2,000. Gosport acquitted themselves well in a memorable match, but ultimately lost to the Football League side 6-3.

Boro were well placed for a play-off place until a little wobble in March saw them drop just too far off the pace - eventually finishing sixth. But the club did have the consolation of lifting the Hampshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1988 and seeing Justin Bennett pick up the award for the Conference South's leading goal-scorer.

GOSPORT BOROUGH CLUB HISTORY



The 2015-16 season got off to a good start, with the club pushing into play-off contention from the off. But as the New Year came, the club were hit with financial problems. But the campaign did at least end on a high with a 2-1 win against AFC Portchester in the Russell Coates Cup Final, with talismanic striker Justin Bennett recording his 262nd and 263rd goals for Gosport.

In 2016-17 Boro were relegated to the Southern League Premier Division and former Portsmouth FC Chairman Iain McInnes took control of the club in the following autumn. After a couple of narrow relegation escapes, the club consolidated under Lee Molyneux in the 2019-20 season, but the pandemic put an outside hope of a late play-off run to bed and the club parted company with Lee in June 2020.

For the 2021-22 season Shaun Gale is the club's head coach, assisted by Ben Kneller and with the highly experienced Graham Rix as first team coach.

At the end of the 22/23 season Pat Suraci and Joe Lea were appointed head coaches and asked to take the Club forward achieving a play off position at the end of the 23/24 season. The start of the 25/26 season saw Club legends Danny Hollands and Glen Howes take charge and with them Ben Kneller returned.

Boro's principal honours are:

- 1945-46 Hampshire League Winners
- 1969-70 Russell Coates Winners
- 1976-77 Hampshire League Winners
- 1977-78 Hampshire League Winners
- 1977-78 South West Counties Cup Winners
- 1987-88 Hampshire Senior Cup Winners
- 1992-93 Wessex League Cup Winners
- 2005-06 Russell Coates Cup Winners
- 2006-07 Wessex League Champions
- 2011-12 Southern Div One Play Off Winners
- 2012-13 Southern Premier Play Off Winners
- 2012-13 Russell Coates Cup Winners
- 2013-14 FA Trophy Runners Up
- 2014-15 Hampshire Senior Cup Winners
- 2015-16 Russell Coates Cup Winners
- 2021-22 Portsmouth Senior Cup Winners

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And with many leagues at Steps 5 and 6 blowing the final whistle on another spell-binding season as early as this afternoon, champions are being crowned left, right and centre.

So, ahead of the midweek action, here's a quick rundown of who's already joined the Non-League Roll of Honour for 25/26.

While the nation are left praying they get to witness a historic National League title decider between Rochdale and York City on April 25, the battle for play-off places and to avoid relegation are as good as done.

Sadly, life at Step 1 is all over for Truro City, Braintree Town, Morecambe and Brackley Town, while the final play-off spot is Southend United's to lose at the expense of FC Halifax Town.

Perennially, National League North and South are ultra-tight affairs and it's no different this year with promotion places still very much up for grabs in both.

In the North, AFC Fylde and South Shields are slugging it out for the title with no fewer than TWELVE teams still dreaming of success. For relegated Leamington and Peterborough Sports, it's Step 3 for next season.

The South is equally as competitive with Worthing having leapfrogged a stuttering Dorking Wanderers to take charge with 11 teams harbouring promotion aspirations.

Eastbourne Borough, Enfield Town and Chippenham Town are relegated, with Bath City needing a miracle in order to avoid joining them.

The top of NPL Premier is just as exciting with Hebburn Town, Hednesford Town and FC United of Manchester all vying for title honours with Gainsborough Trinity, Stockton Town and Lancaster City all vying to join Warrington Rylands in the play-offs. In fact it's so tight, no team is officially relegated at the time of writing.

Folkestone Invicta have been crowned champions of Isthmian Premier with Aveley and Billericay Town guaranteed a play-off spot. It's the end of the line, though, for Canvey Island and Potters Bar Town – their first relegation since 1979! Southern League Premier Central also has new champions, in Harborough Town, while just three points separates five teams for two play-off spots, to join Spalding United and Real Bedford, seeking a FOURTH successive promotion. It's farewell, though, to AFC Sudbury, Royston Town and Barwell.

Walton & Hersham impressively waltzed to the Southern League Premier South title – their fourth promotion in six years, from Step 6 to Step 2 – with Gloucester City and Farnham Town, seeking a third straight promotion, guaranteed a play-off spot. Tiverton Town and Hungerford Town slip through the trapdoor.

In the Northern Premier League at Step 4, Redcar Athletic were impressive winners of the East division, racking up over 100 points in the process, Bury FC are seemingly closing in on NPL West success, and Anstey Nomads and Carlton Town are neck-and-neck in a thrilling finale to the Midlands division.

In the Isthmian League, Three Bridges clinched the South East title on Saturday to reach their highest ever level, joining South Central champions Leatherhead on the winners' rostron. Maldon & Tiptree and Felixstowe & Walton United are producing a thrilling finale to the North.

In the Southern League, Leighton Town wrapped up Division One Central on Saturday, joining Division One South champions Frome Town in Step 3 next term.

Confirmed champions at Steps 5/6 are as follows:

Combined Counties League: Premier South – Cobham FC. Division One – Penn & Tylers Green

Eastern Counties League Premier – Mulbarton Wanderers

Hellenic League Premier – Slimbridge. Division One – FC Stratford

Midland Football League Premier – Hanley Town. Division One - Knowle

North West Counties League First Division North – Nelson. First Division South – Runcorn Town

Northern Counties East League Premier – Liversedge. Division One – Dearne & District

Northern League Division One – Guisborough Town

Southern Combination Division One – Godalming Town

Southern Counties East League Premier – Whitstable Town

Spartan South Midlands League Division One – Everett Rovers

United Counties League Premier North – Boston Town. Premier South – Nuneaton Town. Division One - Retford

Wessex League Premier – AFC Stoneham

Western League Division One – Devizes Town

Come 5pm this afternoon, more champion clubs will be added to this illustrious list with champagne on ice at various locations up and down the country.

It's the time of year for partying on the terraces, celebrating league or cup glory after a memorable campaign.

Make sure you have a glass on us.

Jon Couch
Editor at large
The Non-League Paper

TODAY'S SQUADS



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"THE ROBINS"
RED & WHITE

ALEX HARRIS
CAMERON WALTERS
JYREL BOJANG
AMER AWADH
KAI CHURCHLEY
JOSHUA BARLOW
ETHAN DUNBAR
ANDRE WRIGHT
OWEN FOYE
BRANDON LIGGETT
IOAN RICHARDS
BRENDON BEARD
LEWIS MIDDLETON
WILL OWENS
LIAM HUTT
ROGER JAMES
JOSH MCCONNELL

MANAGER: MIKE FORD
ASST MAN: ALEX SYKES
GK COACH: DAN HEAD
COACH: RICHARD JOYCE
PERFORMANCE: DARREN MORSON



LUCAS THOMAS
JOE MORRISON
BRAD TARBUCK (C)
JORDAN NGALO
JORDAN STEPNEY
HISHAM KASIMU
MICHAEL FERNANDES
BEN GREENWOOD
JOE OASTLER
OLUTAYO SINGERR
HARRY KAVANAGH
CHARLIE WASSMER
ADAM TOMASSO
DAN WOODEN
HARVEY REW
ETHAN TAYLOR

REFEREE:
MICHAEL PATTISON

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