

Welcome to Staines Town Football Club

Respect



Alan Boon Cup

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FINAL TIE



East Thurrock United



Wednesday 28th March
KO 7.30pm





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Welcome to the final

Good Evening

It is my please to welcome you all to Wheatsheaf Park the home of Staines Town Football Club for the Final of the Ryman Football League Cup Competition which for this season is known as 'The Alan Boon Cup' sponsored by Boon Building Services Limited in memory of that very special man known and loved by all, Alan Boon former Chairman of Staines Town Football Club who was also a Vice President and Director of the Ryman Football League and who passed away earlier this season.

We are delighted that we are able to stage the match at this excellent venue of which Alan was so proud, our thanks to Matthew Boon and his sisters Corrine and Michelle for the use of these excellent facilities.

Bury Town and East Thurrock United Football Clubs will contest this Final and for both clubs this will be their first ever appearance in this match, both clubs currently competing in the Premier Division of the League. Bury Town are challenging for Promotion or a Play Off spot and East Thurrock had success in the Football Association Challenge Cup and the Challenge Trophy Competitions.

The progress of the clubs to this stage of the competition will appear elsewhere in the programme and both are to be congratulated on their progress.

If tonight's match is a draw after 90 minutes play, 30 minutes extra time will be played. In the event of a draw after extra time the team winning the tie will be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty marks in accordance with the International Board Decision.

I would like to thank the Match Officials who are officiating at the match this evening and so doing represent their colleague who serve us during the season. Our League strongly supports the Football Association Respect Programme and asks that all football supporters do the same.



Finally thanks to all our Sponsors who support both the League and the Clubs during the season and last but not least YOU the supporters of our League and level of football.

Alan Turvey

**Chairman
Ryman Football League**

THIS EVENING'S ORDER OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 7.20pm | Presentation of teams and match officials |
| 7.30pm | First Half |
| 8.15pm | Half Time |
| 8.30pm | Second Half |
| 9.25pm | Presentation of Trophies at conclusion of match |

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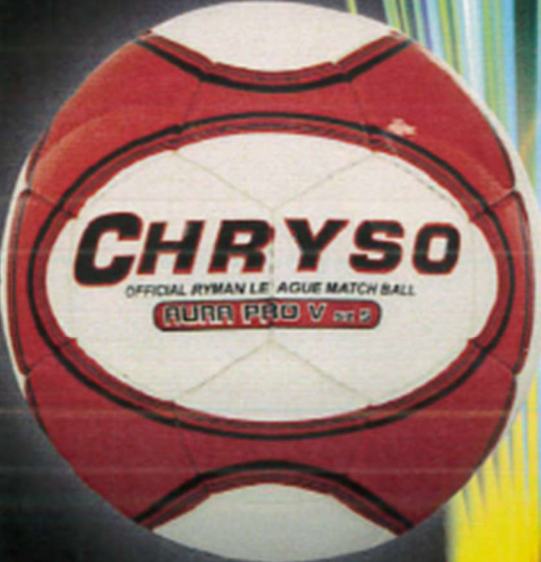


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The FA



Respect

League Cup known as the Alan Boon Cup

THE Alan Boon Cup, under its various titles, has had an affinity with the Essex borough of Thurrock ever since the first competition in 1974-75, when Tilbury were the winners of an event in which clubs from the top division took no part. They beat Croydon 3-1 over two legs. Since then all clubs have been involved. Tilbury reached the first 'open' final as well, but were beaten 4-0 by Slough Town at Hayes.

The only other Thurrock club in the league at that time were Aveley, and it became their turn to win the competition in 1990 when, as members of Division Two South, they outclassed St Albans City, of the Premier Division, 3-0 at Dagenham.

By then Grays Athletic and Purfleet had joined the league, making four Thurrock clubs in all. Grays beat Enfield 3-1 in the 1992 final, also at Dagenham.

East Thurrock United became Isthmian members that summer and tonight they will be bidding to make it a full house for their home borough, for in 2004 Purfleet's name was added to the list of cup winners. Well, not actually Purfleet, for by then the club had changed its name to Thurrock. They thrashed Dunstable Town 5-1 in a final at Bishop's Stortford which was actually held over until August.

Tilbury returned to the final in 2009 and produced a shock 2-0 victory over Harrow Borough here at Staines, thus making it five successes in six finals for teams from Thurrock. Can the Rocks make it six out of seven by winning the inaugural Alan Boon Cup tonight?

The county of Suffolk has not enjoyed so much success over the years, for the very sound reason that it was not until 2006 that the league expanded to that county as a result of The FA's adjustments to the pyramid system.

Bury Town joined the league that year, as did county rivals AFC Sudbury who reached the final in their second season but lost out on penalties to Ramsgate after a goalless draw at Dartford.

They were not able to defend the trophy as further adjustments to league boundaries saw both Suffolk clubs switch to the Southern League for the 2008-09 season.

Lowestoft renewed Suffolk involvement in 2009, thus far with great success, and the county's quota rose to four the following season with the return of Bury and Sudbury, accompanied by Needham Market. Leiston made it five this term and it can hardly be claimed that

the league's north-eastern extension has weakened it. All five Suffolk clubs could be in the promotion mix this season, as champions or play-off participants. So, even if Bury fail tonight, it will surely not be long before one of them celebrates a League Cup victory.

Incidentally, the fact that neither of tonight's finalists have reached this stage means that one of them will become the 26th different winners of the competition in the past 26 seasons. That is surely a tribute to the overall strength of the league. It seems unlikely that anyone will again be able to dominate the competition as Sutton United did when they took the honours three times in four seasons between 1983 and 1986.

Further evidence of the league's strength can be found in the fact that tonight's winners will be the first successful Premier Division club since Ashford Town (Middlesex) in 2007. The winners since then, Ramsgate, Tilbury, Leatherhead and Wingate & Finchley, were all playing in Division One at the time, though last season's final between Wingate and Dulwich Hamlet was the first between two lower-division sides. It will be the first all-Premier final since Fisher Athletic whitewashed Billericay 4-0 in 2006.

Three current Football League clubs have won the cup: Wycombe Wanderers (1985), Yeovil Town (1988) and Aldershot Town (1999). Make that four, if you include Dagenham (1978) and Leytonstone-Ilford (1982), two of the clubs now merged under the Dagenham & Redbridge name.

While Bury are seeking to become the first cup winners from Suffolk, an East Thurrock victory would be the ninth for Essex and put them ahead of Surrey, whose record of eight wins includes four for Sutton. There have been seven Middlesex triumphs and six for Berks & Bucks: it's as well that those counties have a combined FA, otherwise there would be the knotty problem of where to allocate Slough Town's three successes. Slough is in Berkshire but the club's Wexham Park ground was across the Buckinghamshire border.

There have been two victories apiece for Hampshire, Hertfordshire and Kent, just the one for Somerset – somewhat off the beaten Isthmian track – and Sussex. The low Sussex figure, represented by Bognor Regis Town's win over Hendon in the 1987 final, is perhaps surprising considering the county's lengthy association with the league.

Bury Town – History

Founded in 1872, Bury Town Football Club is one of the oldest Football Clubs in the country and has a proud history dating back over 130 years.

The club was founded by Mr William Lake at a meeting in the Suffolk Hotel. The original name of the club was Bury St Edmunds FC and the first committee of the club elected to choose royal blue as the club's colours, and therefore the club has been nicknamed the 'Blues' for its history.

The club took up residence at Kings Road, also known as the Cemetery Road ground, in 1888. Kings Road was the first football ground in East Anglia to operate floodlights when on Monday 12th January 1953, the Blues played their first ever floodlit game against Cambridge City in front of 2,105 spectators. A total of 14 bulbs of 1500 watts illuminated the Suffolk skyline for the first time and history was created. The lights were financed by the Bury Town Supporters Club.

A notable player for the club in the early days was Reginald De Courtney Welch who appeared as a defender for Bury St Edmunds in 1877. De Courtney Welch was a member of The Wanderers side that successfully won the first ever FA Cup in 1872 and he also played in the first ever official international match for England, against Scotland in November 1872.

The club was one of 11 founder members of the Suffolk County Football Association in 1885 and had won the Suffolk Premier Cup on 9 occasions.

The club's name was changed by a vote to Bury Town in September 1885, however 10 years later the members chose to adopt the full name of the Town back as the name, before changing to Bury United in 1908. In 1923 the club's members decided that the name 'United' was no longer appropriate as there were a number of sides in Bury St Edmunds, and decided to revert to Bury Town, which has remained to this day.

The club played in various local leagues until 1935 when it became a founder member of the Eastern Counties League. The club spent a total of 22 consecutive seasons in the Eastern Counties League, finishing as runners up in 1937-38. The Blues claimed the ECL title in the 1963-64 season as part of an historic treble, as they also captured the ECL Knockout Cup and the Suffolk Premier Cup.

This success saw the club move to the Metropolitan League and they kicked off their first ever game against Charlton Athletic 'A' at Kings Road in front of 1,150 spectators, Bury running out 1-0 winners. The club finished 4th in their first season and also retained the Suffolk Premier Cup.

Season 1965-66 was another successful season and another treble haul of trophies as the club stormed to the Metropolitan League title, won the Metropolitan League Cup and the Suffolk Premier Cup again. By this time the club were averaging over 1,000 supporters at their home matches and interest in the club was at an all time high.

In 1968, the Blues reached the First Round Proper of the FA Cup and drew Third Division side Bournemouth & Boscombe at Kings Road. 3,000 spectators assembled and witnessed Bury hold the Football League side to a goalless draw. The replay saw Bournemouth win through by 3 goals to 0 at Dean Court. The season had further success when the Blues won the Metropolitan League title for a second time.

The club's success resulted them taking the bold step to join the Southern Football League for the 1971-72 season. The club

struggled to adapt to their new surroundings and after five seasons, decided to take the decision to re-join the Eastern Counties League, a decision that proved unpopular with supporters.

On Wednesday 28th April 1976, Bury Town played their final match at the historic Kings Road ground when West Ham United were the visitors. 1,750 watched on as the sides drew 2-2, and a pitch invasion signalled the end of the Blues' spiritual home.

Bury Town moved into their current Ram Meadow ground in 1978 and collected the Suffolk Premier Cup as a reward.

The Blues spent a total of 11 seasons in the ECL and their greatest moment came in their final season when they reached the 4th Qualifying Round of the FA Cup and were drawn away at Football Conference leaders Enfield. The sides drew 0-0 at Southbury Road and returned to Ram Meadow for the replay, however in front of 2,500 supporters, the visitors sneaked home 1-0 to reach the First Round Proper.

The 1987-88 season saw ambition returned to the Town and Bury were promoted to the Southern League, leaving their ECL rivals Braintree Town and Sudbury Town behind.

After a few seasons of promising results and large home crowds, the Blues failed to reach the Premier Division, the closest they came was finishing 4th in 1988-89. Years of overspending on players and ground improvements finally caught up and the club drifted into decline as the crowds drifted away. On the 4th May 1996, the Blues were relegated at Redditch United from the Midland Division of the Southern League, back to the Eastern Counties League; a Suffolk Premier Cup final victory over Woodbridge Town was the only thing to cheer up the supporters. The club was however in severe financial difficulty and supporters were relieved to see football at Ram Meadow in 1997.

The club spent another 10 years in the ECL, and despite some early seasons of struggles, success coincided with the appointment of former Colchester United captain Richard Wilkins to the manager's seat. The club reached the Quarter Final of the FA Vase in 2005 and then the Semi Final in 2006. Crowds rose back up and after two consecutive runners up spots in the Premier Division of the ECL, the club were promoted to the Isthmian League for the first time in their history.

The stay lasted two seasons and after adjusting to a higher level in 2006-07 with a 17th place finish, the following season saw the Blues finish in 7th position.

The FA re-organisation in 2008 saw Bury moved into the Southern League for a third spell of membership. A successful campaign saw Bury finish in 7th position in the Midland Division table, reach the First Round Proper of the FA Cup, losing 4-2 at Alfreton Town, and reach the Semi Final of the Southern League Cup, however in 2009-10, Bury Town clinched the Southern League Midland Division Championship on the final day of the season with a 3-0 home victory over Marlow in front of 1,550 supporters. The Blues piped Hitchin Town to the title, scoring 115 goals during the campaign and collecting 102 points to gain promotion. Another move across the pyramid saw the Blues re-join the Ryman League for the 2010-11 season, entering the Premier Division. A great season saw Bury finish third, but go out of the play off's to Lowestoft Town. There was however some silverware for the boardroom as Bury defeated Needham Market 2-0 in the final of the Suffolk Premier Cup at Portman Road.

Bury Town – Meet the players

Manager – Richard Wilkins:

The former Colchester United favourite has been in charge for 11 seasons at Ram Meadow and has led the Club to the FA Vase Semi Final, First Round of the FA Cup and the Southern League Midland Division Championship. As a player Richard was also at Cambridge United and Hereford United.

Assistant Manager - Richard Skelly:

Richard ended his playing career with Bury Town a few seasons ago. Richard played for many clubs, including King's Lynn, Sutton United and Cambridge City. Retired from playing to take up managerial positions at Great Shelford and Mildenhall Town before returning to Ram Meadow in the summer of 2009.

Tom Bullard: Tom has been at the heart of the Bury Town defence for a number of seasons now, and captained the side to 3rd place in the Premier Division and the Suffolk Premier Cup last season. Tom has had trials with professional sides in the past. A loyal player and fans favourite at Ram Meadow.

Billy Clark: Billy joined Bury Town in October 2011 and made his debut in the Suffolk Premier Cup match at Walsham-Le-Willows. Billy was formally at Ipswich Town and made some first team appearances in the Championship for the Tractor Boys before being released. Billy has also had trials at a number of professional clubs.

Mark Coulson: Mark joined Bury Town in the summer of 2010. A former professional at Peterborough United, he has also had spells at Histon and Hemel Hempstead Town. Made an appearance in every fixture last season and is a consistent performer in every match.

Marcus Garnham: Marcus joined Bury Town in the summer of 2008 after playing for Woodbridge Town. He has been the number 1 goalkeeper at the club for three seasons now and is a big favourite with the supporters at Ram Meadow. An excellent shot stopper.

Roscoe Hipperson: Roscoe joined Bury Town in the summer of 2008 after spending nine seasons with Histon, playing an important part in their rise from the Eastern Counties League to the Conference National division. An athletic centre half who adds vital experience to the team.

Elliot Hunter: Elliott progressed through the Bury Town Under 18's side to earn a place in the First Team, however his stay in the side was cut short by a serious injury. After an operation, Elliott is now back to full fitness and will be an important member of Richard Wilkins side after some impressive performances at the end of last season.

Callum Kearns: Callum joined Bury Town from Soham Town Rangers in 2008. A skilful midfielder who has previously played for Newmarket Town and was involved in the Youth sides at Cambridge United and Southend United. Suffered a serious injury at Staines Town in November 2010 but is now back playing after rehabilitation.

John Kennedy: John signed for the Blues in the Summer of 2011 from Cambridge City. John started his career at

Ipswich Town and made 8 league appearances before going on loan to Morcambe. John was a big part of the successful Histon side and also played a big part in Canvey Island's successful rise up the pyramid.

Kieran Leabon: Kieran re-joined Bury Town from Histon after a successful loan spell in 2009-10. He has also spent time on loan at Blue Square North side Harrogate Town just after his first stint at Ram Meadow. Kieran's previous clubs include Ipswich Town and Boston United.

Sam Nunn: Sam is a solid central defender who progressed from the Under 18's side a few years ago. Has formed a good partnership with his defensive colleagues and will be at the heart of the Blues defence during the 2011-12 season. Before joining Bury Town, Sam was a product of the Ipswich Town academy.

Craig Nurse: Craig is a former member of the Bury Town Under 18's side and has made the step up to the First Team. Made a number of impressive performances last season and scored his first hat-trick for the first team in the 4-1 victory at Horsham last season.

Lee Reed: Lee joined from Haverhill Rovers three years ago, Lee is an exciting and skilful player who troubles defences who was also previously with Newmarket Town. Lee also collects plenty of goals each season, one of his most important goals coming in the FA Cup first round at Alfreton Town in 2008-09.

Sam Reed: Sam was with Cambridge United before joining Newmarket Town where he made a big impact. He was then signed by Cambridge City at the start of the season, before transferring to Ram Meadow in December 06. Sam hit both goals in last year's Suffolk Premier Cup final victory against Needham Market at Portman Road.

Richard Robbins: Richard signed during the summer after leaving Colchester United. Richard was the academy goalkeeper at the Weston Homes Community Stadium and impressed during his pre-season performances for the Blues. Will provide important cover for Marcus Garnham during the season.

John Sands: John joined Bury Town on a permanent basis in December 2011 after spending an initial period on loan from Mildenhall Town. John was Mildenhall's leading goalscorer last season and has so far scored 8 goals for The Blues, with a particularly good goalscoring record in the Alan Boon Cup.

Lee Smith: Lee re-joined Bury Town from Histon in July 2011. Lee progressed through the Bury Town youth structure before he was sold to Histon to play in the Conference. After two seasons at Bridge Road, Lee was re-signed and will be looking to carry on the form he showed in his first spell at Ram Meadow.

Russell Short: Russell signed in January 2009. He was previously with Wivenhoe Town, Histon and as an academy player at Ipswich Town. Russell recovered from a broken leg two years ago to reclaim his place in the starting 11. A strong defender who helped the side to the Play off's last season.

2011/12 Alan Boon Cup

1st Round

Dulwich Hamlet 2-2 Godalming Town
(Dulwich Hamlet won 4-2 on penalties)
Great Wakering Rovers 2-2 Maldon & Tiptree
(Maldon & Tiptree won 4-2 on penalties)

2nd Round

Billerica Town 2-1 Grays Athletic
Bury Town 1-0 Harlow Town
Canvey Island 1-1 Aveley
(Canvey Island won 4-2 on penalties)
Chatham Town 4-1 Ilford
Cheshunt 3-1 AFC Hornchurch
(Needham Market won 3-1 on penalties)
Corinthian-Casuals 1-1 Hythe Town
(Corinthian Casuals won 5-4 on penalties)
Crawley Down 0-4 Lewes
Cray Wanderers 0-4 Ramsgate
Dulwich Hamlet 4-1 Burgess Hill
East Thurrock United 2-3 Redbridge
(Redbridge withdrawn for fielding an ineligible player)
Enfield Town 3-0 Waltham Forest
Faversham Town 0-3 Eastbourne Town
Folkestone Invicta 5-0 Horsham
Harrow Borough 2-1 Hendon
Heybridge Swifts 0-1 AFC Sudbury
Leatherhead 2-2 Wealdstone
(Leatherhead won 4-3 on penalties)
Leiston 3-0 Waltham Abbey
Lowestoft Town 2-2 Tilbury
(Lowestoft Town won 3-1 on penalties)
Maldon & Tiptree 4-1 Romford
Margate 3-1 Kingstorian
Maidstone United 6-0 Merstham
Sittingbourne 0-2 Hastings United
Soham Town Rangers 0-3 Brentwood Town
(11th October)
Thamesmead Town 1-0 Wingate & Finchley
Tooting & Mitcham 3-1 Croydon Athletic
Walton Casuals 0-5 Bognor Regis Town
Ware 1-0 Potters Bar Town
Whitehawk 0-2 Metropolitan Police
Whitstable Town 0-0 Chipstead
(Chipstead won 5-3 on penalties)
Whyteleafe 0-2 Walton & Hersham
Worthing 1-3 Carshalton Athletic

3rd Round

Bury Town 3-2 Chatham Town
Canvey Island 5-1 Ware
Corinthian Casuals 2-0 Eastbourne Town
Dulwich Hamlet 2-1 Walton & Hersham
East Thurrock United 2-0 Thamesmead Town
Enfield Town 0-2 AFC Sudbury
Harrow Borough 1-2 Cheshunt
Hastings United 2-1 Tooting & Mitcham United
Leatherhead 2-0 Bognor Regis Town
Leiston 1-0 Billerica Town
Lewes 3-1 Folkestone Invicta
Maidstone United 2-2 Carshalton Athletic
(Maidstone United won 4-2 on penalties)
Maldon & Tiptree 0-1 Lowestoft Town
Metropolitan Police 3-2 Margate
Needham Market 3-0 Brentwood Town
Ramsgate 2-1 Chipstead

4th Round

Bury Town 2-1 Corinthian Casuals
Canvey Island 2-0 Cheshunt
East Thurrock United 5-1 Ramsgate
Leiston 0-1 Hastings United
Maidstone United 3-0 Leatherhead
Lowestoft Town 1-0 Dulwich Hamlet
Metropolitan Police 1-2 Lewes
Needham Market 2-2 AFC Sudbury
(AFC Sudbury won 4-3 on penalties)

Quarter Final

East Thurrock United 3-0 Maidstone United
Hastings United 0-2 Bury Town
Lewes 1-1 AFC Sudbury
(Lewes won 5-4 on penalties)
Lowestoft Town 3-2 Canvey Island

Semi Finals

Bury Town 2-0 Lowestoft Town
East Thurrock United 1-0 Lewes

Final

Bury Town v East Thurrock United

Previous Winners

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE CUP

(1977-85 called Hitachi Cup; 1974-77 called Subsidiary Cup; 1985-91 called AC Delo Cup; 1974-75 open to Division 2 Clubs only)

Season	Winners	Runners-up	Venue	Score
1974-75	Tilbury	Croydon	(Two-legs)	3-1
1975-76	Slough Town	Tilbury	Hayes	4-0
1976-77	Hendon	Barking	Harrow	1-0
1977-78	Dagenham	Leatherhead	Dulwich	1-0
1978-79	Enfield	Hayes	Slough	2-1
1979-80	Enfield	Sutton United	Harrow	2-1
1980-81	Slough Town	Walthamstow Avenue	Hayes	4-2
1981-82	Leytonstone-Ilford	Kingstonian	Boreham Wood	2-0
1982-83	Sutton United	Wycombe Wanderers	(Two-legs)	2-1
1983-84	Sutton United	Wycombe Wanderers	(Two-legs)	3-1
1984-85	Wycombe Wanderers	Farnborough Town	(Two-legs)	5-1
1985-86	Sutton United	Uxbridge	Metropolitan Police	3-1
1986-87	Bognor Regis Town	Hendon	Windsor	3-2
1987-88	Yeovil Town	Hayes	Basingstoke	3-1
1988-89	Bishop's Stortford	Farnborough Town	Hayes	1-0
1989-90	Aveley	St. Albans City	Dagenham	3-0
1990-91	Woking	Carshalton Athletic	Kingstonian	2-1
1991-92	Grays Athletic	Enfield	Dagenham	3-1
1992-93	Marlow	Molesey	Aldershot	2-1
1993-94	Chertsey Town	Enfield	Hayes	3-0
1994-95	Aylesbury United	Slough Town	Marlow	1-1 (7-6 on penalties)
1995-96	Kingstonian	Aldershot Town	Aldershot	4-1
1996-97	Boreham Wood	Braintree Town	Dagenham	1-0
1997-98	Sutton United	Oxford City	Harrow	6-1
1998-99	Aldershot Town	Boreham Wood	Slough	2-1
1999-2000	Farnborough Town	Maidenhead United	Basingstoke Town	1-0
2000-01	Heybridge Swifts	Croydon	Purfleet	3-0
2001-02	Northwood	Hampton & Richmond Boro	St. Albans City	3-2
2002-03	Yeading	Canvey Island	Hornchurch	2-0
2003-04	Thurrock	Dunstable Town	Bishop's Stortford	5-1
2004-05	Slough Town	Hampton & Richmond Boro	Staines Town	3-1
2005-06	Fisher Athletic	Billerica Town	Grays Athletic	4-0
2006-07	Ashford Town (Middx)	Dover Athletic	Bromley	4-1
2007-08	Ramsgate	AFC Sudbury	Dartford	0-0 (5-4 on penalties)
2008-09	Tilbury	Harrow Borough	Staines Town	2-0
2009-10	Leatherhead	Wealdstone	Metropolitan Police	0-0 (4-3 on penalties)
2010-11	Wingate & Finchley	Dulwich Hamlet	Metropolitan Police	2-0

East Thurrock United – History

THE 2011-12 season sees East Thurrock United appearing in the Ryman Premier League for the second time in their relatively short history.

Their last stay lasted three seasons, ending with relegation due to a docked point after the club had accumulated 51pts in play, just two short of the highest ever for a club going down. It has taken three seasons to get back – and a remarkably eventful journey it was too.

However, the Rookery Hill club did it in style in the end, winning the Ryman One North title last season after a campaign which saw them battle throughout for top spot with Needham Market. In the end John Coventry's side emerged victorious – and in the final sprint won by a handsome margin.

The Rocks were founded in April 1969 by enthusiasts who felt the expanding area around the towns of Corringham and Stanford-le-Hope needed a senior non-league football club.

The Corringham Social Sunday side formed the basis for the new team but there were hurdles to overcome for the new club including finding a suitable ground.

During the first season as members of the Southern Essex Combination in 1969/70 the home matches were played at Corringham Recreation Ground. Manager Brian Payers guided the club to third place during the initial season and was a key figure in the team's formation.

The following season the Rocks moved up to the Intermediate section of the old Greater London League.

Success followed for the club, now playing at the Billet, Stanford-le-Hope, winning division two and one in of the league. The side then applied to the Essex FA for senior status. After moving in with Grays Athletic, the club was admitted to the Senior Division Two of the Metropolitan London League. Following a third championship in a row, the club won promotion to the Premier Division. But there was a ten year period of struggle as the founding fathers of the club stepped down.

There were managerial and ground changes with the team at the Billet and then at Tilbury FC.

After joining the Essex Senior League in 1979 the Rocks changed ground again to the former Thames Board Mills ground, Purfleet.

With loans from the Football Association, Thurrock Council and Greene King the club was able to buy its site in Corringham and played its first match there in 1984.

The club won its first senior trophy, the League Cup, in the 1988/89 season and won again in 1992.

An application to the Isthmian League was successful and the following season the Rocks joined Division Three.

Lee Patterson was appointed manager at the start of the 1999-2000 season and guided them to the Ryman

Division Three Championship title and promotion to Division Two, breaking every club record en-route.

Patterson left during the next season with The Rocks sitting top of the table. Along with him went many of the players and the club slid down the table but still finished in the top half. 2002/03 saw the formation of Division One North and also new owners at Rookery Hill.

After a poor start to the season with the club bottom of the league, the new owners offered Patterson the job again. Rocks climbed out of trouble and picked up an impressive 45 points after Christmas.

Silverware also returned to Rookery Hill with the East Anglian Cup being won for the first time with a 1-0 victory over Long

Melford. 2003/04 saw the club reach the FA Cup 4th qualifying round for the first time eventually losing to Conference side Woking 2-0 after a 1-1 draw at Rookery Hill. In the same season Rocks were in with a chance of promotion till April and a fixture backlog eventually took its toll.

2004/05 saw the club switch to the Southern League in an FA re-structure. The club were never out of the top five all season and finished runners-up to Fisher Athletic and the promotion that followed was to the Ryman Premier. Rocks survived their first two seasons in the Premier without too much trouble but last season, despite heading the table in the early stages, they found it more of a struggle, particularly after Patterson left in the autumn to take over at Conference South Braintree.

Patterson's assistant, John Coventry, took over the reins but they were eventually relegated by the cruellest of margins, by one point - which they had been docked for playing an ineligible player who only featured for two minutes at the end of a match.

It looked as if Rocks would bounce back at the first attempt but they lost out on the Ryman One North title in a last day defeat by Aveley and then bowed out in the play-off to Concord Rangers – a fate that was to befall them again the following season after finishing fifth.

However, it was to prove to be third time lucky last season, when Rocks earned many plaudits for their brand of flowing football, that eventually swept them to the title.

This season has seen the club set new records, reaching the first round proper of the FA Cup for the first time, losing 3-0 to Macclesfield with the ITV cameras at Rookery Hill. They also made the last 3-2 of the FA Trophy and have reached the final of the Ryman Alan Boon League Cup.

East Thurrock United – Meet the players

Richard Wray (Goalkeeper): Now in his fourth season with Rocks, who he joined from Tilbury. An ever present last season when the club were Ryman One North champions.

Ben Wood (Captain and Central Defender): A London firefighter and the 'veteran' of the side now in his fifth year with East Thurrock. Has won several player of the year awards here and is an accomplished and versatile player. Simon Peddie (Central Defender): Joined Rocks midway through last season from Redbridge where he played more than 100 games.

Ryan Sammons (Right Back): Versatile right-sided player who can operate equally effectively in defence or midfield. However, he has become the club's established right back, with an eye for getting forward and pot shot at goal.

Tom Stephen (Left Back): Trainee trader in the City. Signed in the close season from Redbridge. Another highly rated young prospect who has made a big impression in a short time at Rookery Hill.

Reiss Gilbey (Central Midfield): Highly rated young midfielder who joined Rocks last season from Thurrock. A 'pocket dynamo', cuts a striking figure despite his diminutive size with his shock of bright blond hair. A student at University in Eastbourne. One of several football brothers (his younger brother Mitchell joined Canvey Island this season).

Greg Cohen (Central Midfield): Greg is a teacher locally. Sparked the club's FA Cup season by coming off the bench when they were 3-0 down at half time to North Greenford United and scored a 20 yard screamer and made the other two goals as Rocks came back to 3-3. The replay was won 3-0. Brother of Chris Cohen of Nottingham Forest (and formerly West Ham).

Sam Collins (Midfield/Defender): Versatile left-sided player who joined Rocks a couple of weeks into the season from Concord Rangers. Another who has settled in well and become a key part of the side.

Petrit Elbi (Striker): A dynamic forward of Albanian origin, Petrit has featured for several Essex and East London non-League sides. Signed for Rocks a couple of weeks into season.

Matthew Hall (Midfield): A fellow student with Reiss Gilbey at Eastbourne, Matt joined Rocks a couple of months into the season from Hastings United.

Kris Newby (Striker/Midfield): Returned to East Thurrock, where he was last season's top scorer with more than 30 goals in all competitions after starting the season with Blue Square Bet South Thurrock. Another young man who benefits from the calming influence and coaching of John Coventry.

Sam Higgins (Striker): Prolific goalscorer and highly rated in non-League circles. Was at Wembley for the final last May as an FA's player of the round after scoring four goals against Chertsey in the qualifying round when he was playing for Chelmsford City. However, at the turn of the year last season he felt he wasn't enjoying his football with Chelmsford, who released him from his contract and he returned to East Thurrock and his 'mentor' John Coventry. The previous season he was the Ryman One North's Golden Boot winner. His footballing apprenticeship was with Millwall and Southend.

Jamie Riley (Keeper): Keeper who has been with Rocks on and off for several seasons. Yet to make a sustained run in the side but a popular member of the squad.

Kye Ruel (Midfield/Striker): Now in his third full season at Rocks after signing from Aveley. A highly versatile player who has appeared in defence, up front and in midfield, popping up with many useful goals. Likely to be in the thick of things if Rocks do well. The side's Joe Cool!

Neil Richmond (Striker): Currently sidelined by a knee injury. Neil is a prolific striker who has spent much of his footballing life locally, having had several spells at Great Woking Rovers. Joined Rocks

last season and though he also suffered injuries, popped up with some vital goals and led the line up front superbly.

Michael Ramkin (Midfield): Michael has Ryman Premier experience with AFC Hornchurch. Suffered a bad injury that kept him out of the game for much of last season. Again hampered by injury but still young enough to forge a sustained career in the game and highly rated.

Marc Gorbell (Defender): Young centre back who played at Aveley in the Ryman Premier last season before joining Great Woking. Signed by Rocks in the close season, he returned to Burroughs Park for a brief spell to get match fitness and experience with Rovers, but returned to Rookery Hill.

Joe Keith (Midfield): Joe played in the Football League for Colchester United, Bristol City, Leyton Orient, Shrewsbury Town and Brentford.

Primarily a midfielder, Keith can also play as a full back. Started his career at West Ham United as a trainee but did not make a senior appearance. He joined Colchester United in 1999 and went on to score 28 goals in 247 league and cup appearance for the club in six seasons.

After a brief loan spell with Bristol City at the end of the 2004-05 season, Keith was released by Colchester and joined Leyton Orient in June 2005. He made over fifty appearances in his 18 months at Orient.

He joined Shrewsbury on loan in October 2006, returning to Orient the following month. Keith signed for Brentford in January 2007 on a five month contract, linking up with former Colchester team-mate and then Brentford manager Scott Fitzgerald. He played 18 games for Brentford, scoring twice, before being released in May 2007. After being released by Brentford, he dropped into non-league football, joining AFC Hornchurch. In August 2008 Keith went on to play for Tilbury of the Isthmian League First Division North where he spent a successful 2008-2009 season playing 42 league games and scoring 11 goals. He was instrumental in helping the Dockers win their first Silverware since 1975 when they won the Isthmian League Cup, beating Harrow Borough 2-0 in April 2009. In the 2009-10 season Keith took a player/coach role at Tilbury where he was joined by former teammate Lee Hodges.

He then joined East Thurrock and spent two successful seasons, including helping Rocks to the Ryman One North title last season when he was an ever present.

Broke his leg in a pre-season friendly this season and was sidelined for several months. Shortly afterwards joined up with Hodges again as player coach at Aveley but when Hodges left at the end of January returned to East Thurrock.

Harry Cook (Striker): Young player who spent his first year of senior football with East Thurrock to Rocks in early February, before joining Tilbury.

John Coventry (Manager): A popular character on the South East non-League scene. Widely regarded as an astute coach with a good eye for a young player. He is an advocate of passing football and was the Ryman One North manager of the Month last season, having won three individual awards during the campaign. John was a tanker driver for BP based at nearby Coryton Refinery for many years before he became a sports teacher at a local school. Devoted to football, an in possession of many coaching qualifications, he has been coaching the District youth side for many years and many players from Thurrock have gone on to graduate to the Football League after benefiting from his experience.

Jay Devereux (Coach): Former Redbridge manager joined the team last season to bring a different view to the bench. Regarded by John Coventry as one of his 'best signings' in the title-winning campaign. Has also been manager of Ford United and a coach at the school of excellence at Dagenham & Redbridge.

Terry Hornsby (Coach): Recently joined the Rocks backroom staff from Tilbury.

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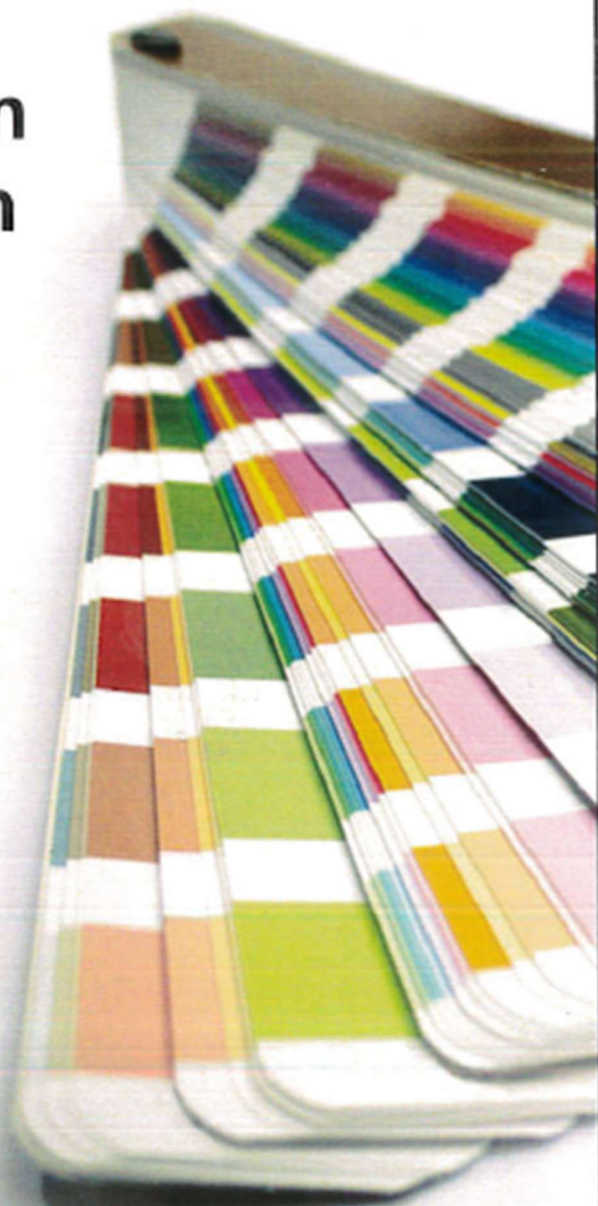
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How we stand



RYMAN PREMIER	Home						Away						Pts	GD
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
Billerica Town	36	12	5	1	41	16	10	5	3	34	15	76	44	
AFC Hornchurch	35	8	3	6	23	12	14	0	4	36	18	69	29	
Lowestoft Town	34	12	4	1	32	14	8	2	7	28	24	66	22	
Bury Town	35	12	3	2	36	14	7	3	8	33	32	63	23	
Cray Wanderers	34	8	4	5	29	25	9	3	5	35	20	58	19	
Hendon	35	6	7	4	24	22	10	2	6	23	14	57	11	
Lewes	36	9	6	3	25	18	7	3	8	17	22	57	2	
Kingstonian	35	8	3	7	25	26	8	4	5	23	21	55	1	
Metropolitan Police	34	10	2	5	28	13	6	4	7	26	23	54	18	
Concord Rangers	35	6	6	5	29	22	9	2	7	31	25	53	13	
Canvey Island	35	7	1	9	21	24	9	4	5	24	21	53	0	
Wealdstone	32	9	6	3	31	18	4	7	3	22	13	52	22	
East Thurrock United	33	9	3	5	27	18	4	5	7	20	30	47	-1	
Margate	34	8	2	7	32	21	5	5	7	25	27	46	9	
Wingate & Finchley	35	7	4	7	29	36	4	6	7	19	29	43	-17	
Carshalton Athletic	35	4	2	11	15	25	7	6	5	22	23	41	-11	
Hastings United	35	5	4	8	17	18	6	3	9	18	32	40	-15	
Harrow Borough	35	6	4	8	24	31	4	3	10	17	27	37	-17	
Leatherhead	36	4	3	11	17	30	5	4	9	21	22	34	-14	
Tooting & Mitcham United	35	3	3	11	20	42	4	2	12	22	46	26	-46	
Aveley	36	2	5	11	18	40	3	5	10	20	33	25	-35	
Horsham	36	1	2	15	15	48	2	4	12	17	41	15	-57	

RYMAN NORTH	Home						Away						Pts	GD
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
Leiston	36	13	4	1	45	17	13	2	3	42	16	84	54	
Enfield Town	36	14	3	1	51	19	9	5	4	34	23	77	43	
Needham Market	36	14	0	4	59	21	7	7	4	38	26	70	50	
Grays Athletic*	36	10	3	5	34	19	11	3	4	38	21	66	32	
Tilbury	36	11	5	2	37	22	7	5	6	32	34	64	13	
AFC Sudbury	36	8	5	5	24	21	10	4	4	33	26	63	10	
Harlow Town	36	10	6	2	33	16	8	2	8	27	25	62	19	
Redbridge	36	8	6	4	36	28	9	3	6	30	22	60	16	
Brentwood Town	36	8	3	7	31	18	8	4	6	21	15	55	19	
Potters Bar Town	36	8	5	5	34	31	7	3	8	30	32	53	1	
Romford	36	8	5	5	26	27	6	4	8	29	34	51	-6	
Thamesmead Town	36	7	2	9	35	35	7	5	6	20	25	49	-5	
Chatham Town	36	9	3	6	33	27	5	2	11	13	30	47	-11	
Waltham Abbey	36	6	4	8	38	37	7	3	8	35	34	46	2	
Heybridge Swifts	36	6	3	9	22	26	7	3	8	29	28	45	-3	
Maldon & Tiptree	36	6	3	9	24	29	6	6	6	26	32	45	-11	
Waltham Forest	36	6	3	9	29	38	4	4	10	22	40	37	-27	
Cheshunt	36	5	5	8	17	36	2	6	10	17	36	32	-38	
Soham Town Rangers	36	5	3	10	21	35	1	8	9	25	46	29	-35	
Ilford	36	4	4	10	21	32	2	2	14	20	44	24	-35	
Great Wakering Rovers	36	2	8	8	19	32	2	2	14	15	50	22	-48	
Ware	36	3	3	12	13	28	1	3	14	18	43	18	-40	

RYMAN SOUTH	Home						Away						Pts	GD
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
Bognor Regis Town	34	13	4	0	48	11	10	4	3	41	17	77	61	
Dulwich Hamlet	35	12	4	1	32	8	11	4	3	33	13	77	44	
Whitehawk*	34	13	3	1	37	11	11	2	4	31	14	74	43	
Worthing	34	11	5	1	43	13	6	5	6	20	21	61	29	
Folkestone Invicta	34	9	4	4	37	23	8	3	6	29	27	58	16	
Maidstone United	35	11	3	4	29	16	6	4	7	27	26	58	14	
Godalming Town	34	8	3	6	28	21	9	3	5	30	25	57	12	
Chipstead	34	8	4	5	22	16	7	4	6	30	24	53	12	
Ramsgate	35	9	3	5	27	25	6	3	9	27	36	51	-7	
Mersham	35	10	3	5	30	30	4	3	10	24	33	48	-9	
Hythe Town	33	8	4	5	34	21	5	3	8	16	34	46	-5	
Eastbourne Town	34	5	4	8	19	22	5	8	4	23	29	42	-9	
Corinthian-Casuals	34	4	7	6	27	29	5	5	7	15	23	39	-10	
Faversham Town	34	5	4	8	20	25	5	4	8	17	29	38	-17	
Walton & Hersham	33	5	3	8	24	21	5	4	8	15	20	37	-2	
Whitstable Town	34	6	2	9	22	32	5	1	11	21	49	36	-38	
Crawley Down	34	6	1	10	32	36	4	2	11	20	32	33	-16	
Walton Casuals	34	6	2	9	26	32	3	4	10	17	33	33	-22	
Sittingbourne	34	3	7	7	12	18	3	4	10	17	38	29	-27	
Burgess Hill Town*	34	4	4	9	23	38	3	2	12	13	36	24	-38	
Whyteleafe	34	2	3	12	14	31	2	5	10	13	27	20	-31	

*Three points deducted for fielding an ineligible player

Stats and Facts

BURY TOWN ROUTE TO THE FINAL

ROUND	DATE	VENUE	OPPONENTS	RES	SCORERS	ATT
1			Bye			
2	18/10	H	Harlow Town	1-0	Leabon	228
3	15/11	H	Chatham Town	3-2	Sands (2), Leabon	187
4	06/12	H	Corinthian-Casuals	2-1	Nunn, Sands	167
QF	17/01	A	Hastings United	2-0	Sands (2)	238
SF	21/02	H	Lowestoft Town	2-0	Cunningham (p), S.Reed	574

EAST THURROCK UNITED ROUTE TO THE FINAL

ROUND	DATE	VENUE	OPPONENTS	RES	SCORERS	ATT
1			Bye			
2	15/11	H	Redbridge	2-3	Gorbell, Elbi (p)	71
* Redbridge were removed from the competition and the tie awarded to East Thurrock United						
3	06/12	H	Thamesmead Town	2-0	Higgins, Ruell	61
4	13/12	H	Ramsgate	5-1	Elbi (2), Gilbey, Newby (p), Collins	61
QF	15/02	H	Maidstone United	3-0	Collins, Cohen, Higgins	109
SF	21/02	H	Lewes	1-0	Sammons	110

PREVIOUS RECORD BURY TOWN

SEASON	ROUND
2010/11	Round 2

PREVIOUS RECORD LAST FIVE YEARS

EAST THURROCK UNITED

SEASON	ROUND
2006/07	Round 4
2008/09	Round 2
2009/10	Round 2
2010/11	Round 3

ADDITIONAL INFO

ALAN BOON CUP DIVISION PROGRESS – ROUND BY ROUND

ROUND	PREMIER	1 NORTH	1 SOUTH	TOTAL
First	0	2	2	4
Second	22	21	21	64
Third	13	10	9	32
Fourth	10	4	1	16
Quarter Finals	6	1	1	8
Semi-Finals	4	0	0	4
Final	2	0	0	2

2011-2012 ATTENDANCES

Round	Aggregate	Matches	Average	%	2011	2012
First	233	138	2	2	116	69
Second	3,400	3,071	32	32	106	96
Third	2,025	1,388	16	16	126	87
Fourth	1,187	505	8	8	148	63
Quarter-Finals	1,001	265	4	4	250	66
Semi-Finals	684	163	2	2	342	81
Final		502		1		
Total		6,032		65		93

WINS ANALYSIS

(As at 26th March 2012)

Premier Division

Matches Played	383
Home Wins	156 (40.73%)
Away Wins	145 (37.86%)
Draws	82 (21.41%)
Home Goals	558
Away Goals	533
Total Goals	1091
Goals per game	2.85

Division One North

Matches Played	396
Home Wins	171 (43.18%)
Away Wins	139 (35.10%)
Draws	86 (21.72%)
Home Goals	682
Away Goals	594
Total Goals	1276
Goals per game	3.22

Division One South

Matches Played	358
Home Wins	158 (44.13%)
Away Wins	123 (34.36%)
Draws	77 (21.51%)
Home Goals	586
Away Goals	479
Total Goals	1065
Goals per game	2.97

Leading Goal Scorers – League Goals Only (as at 26th March 2012)

Ryman Premier

Richard Jolly	Wealdstone	24
Tony Stokes	Concord Rangers	23
Kwesi Appiah	Margate	22
Martin Tuckey	AFC Hornchurch	22
Sam Higgins	East Thurrock United	20
Leon Smith	Wingate & Finchley	19
Jack Clark	Cray Wanderers	15
Tommy Whitnell	Cray Wanderers	15
Lewis Smith	AFC Hornchurch	14
Jay May	Billericay Town	14

Ryman North

Sam Newson	Needham Market	21
Liam Hope	Enfield Town	21
Alex Read	Tilbury	21
James Baker	AFC Sudbury	19
James Gershfield	Potters Bar Town	19
Rhys Henry	Leiston	17
Gareth Heath	Leiston	15

(Includes 1 league goal for Harlow Town)

Jeff Hammond	Harlow Town	14
Steve Cawley	Waltham Abbey	14

(Includes 9 league goals for Waltham Forest)

Ryman South

Jason Prior	Bognor Regis Town	24
Stuart King	Folkestone Invicta	20
Shaun Welford	Maidstone United	18
Frankie Sawyer	Dulwich Hamlet	17
Ryan McBride	Worthing	16
Stuart Vahid	Whitstable Town	15
Roscoe Dsane	Mersham	14
Luke Blewden	Crawley Down	14

Meet the Officials and Mascot

Referee – Lee Venamore: 33 years of age. Married. Works as a Senior Regional Development Manager for Sterling Insurance. This is my 8th season as a Contributory league referee. Refereed last years Ryman League Division 1 North Play off semi final. I am a Conference Premier Assistant referee. Would like to progress as far as I can up the refereeing ladder.

Assistant Referee – Martyn Holmes: 26 years of age. I live with my partner and we hope to get married in the near future. I work for Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue service as a Fire-fighter and I really enjoy my job, the sense of pride I get from helping people is brilliant. I first qualified as a referee in 2002 and progressed my way to Level 4 Supply league, I am in the process of promotion and hope aim to gain Level 3 status to referee on the national Contributory Leagues. In my time as a referee I have refereed in tournaments in Tampa, Florida USA, Norway Cup, Oslo, Norway and most recently in the Donosti Cup in San Sebastian, Spain. My hobbies are going to the gym and keeping fit, Football (Watching and officiating), watching rugby, spending time with family and friends and going to the cinema to watch the latest films. I help out my local county FA with retention and development of referees in all levels of the game. My best moment in football along with many Cup final appointments was being appointed to England VS France U21 Friendly (Learning Disability Teams) as an assistant referee when I was a Level 6 county referee. I really enjoy meeting new colleagues within refereeing and working with them on games.

Assistant Referee – Jairo Marin: I live with my wife and two children, Jordan and Christian. I am a Football Services Manager. My best moments in football were officiating on the Burton Albion v Ilkeston and Luton Town v AFC Wimbledon. I enjoy a Chinese meal on a Saturday night with my family. I spent my last holiday in Cornwall and loved it, but my favourite holiday destination is America. Invictus is the best film I have seen.

4th Official – Anthony Da Costa: I am in my seventh year of refereeing, first year at Level 3. Before this I used to be a player for Newtown AFC and Mold Alexandra in the League of Wales whilst studying Sports Science and Business Studies at the North East Wales Institute in Wrexham. My biggest game to date is when I was in the middle for Cambridge United v Cambridge City in a preseason friendly and was a great experience. My goal is to reach the Football League if not higher within the next three years and be a stay at home Dad. My interests are Poker, Music and Movies. My wife is the Head Coach for West Ham Ladies and Centre Manager for the Cambridge Womens Centre of Excellence and so understands the commitment that is needed to progress within football.

Today's Mascot from East Thurrock United is Jack Coventry, aged eight.
He is the grandson of East Thurrock United manager John and plays for East Thurrock United Under 8s.

The Teams

Tonight's match footballs
are sponsored by Chryso



Bury Town

1. Marcus Garnham
2. Russell Short
3. Connor Hall
4. John Kennedy
5. Sam Nunn
6. Tom Bullard (C)
7. Lee Smith
8. Kieran Leabon
9. Sam Reed
10. Lee Reed
11. John Sands

Substitutes:

12. Mark Coulson
14. Roscoe Hipperson
15. Callum Kearns
16. Daniel Cunningham
17. Craig Nurse

Manager: Richard Wilkins

Assistant Manager:

Richard Skelly

Physio: Lisa Beyton-Smith

East Thurrock

1. Richard Wray
2. Ryan Sammons
3. Tom Stephen
4. Marc Gorbell
5. Simon Peddie (C)
6. Reiss Gilbey
7. Greg Cohen
8. Matt Hall
9. Sam Higgins
10. Kye Ruel
11. Sam Collins

Substitutes:

12. Ben Wood
14. Joe Keith
15. Reece Hewitt
16. Mike Ramkin
17. Jamie Riley

Manager: John Coventry

Assistant Manager:

Jay Devereux

Physio: Payal Patel

Referee – Lee Venamore
Assistants – Martyn Holmes & Jairo Marin
4th Official – Anthony Da Costa