



# OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

RYMAN LEAGUE CUP FINAL

**Maidstone United**

VS

**A.F.C. Sudbury**

Tuesday 8th April 2014

Kick Off 7:45pm

Gallagher Stadium, Maidstone





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Robert Dyas



# Welcome to the Gallagher Stadium

Good Evening

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Gallagher Stadium, the home of Maidstone United Football Club for the Final of the Isthmian Football League Cup Competition sponsored for the first time by Robert Dyas Ltd a member company of The Ryman Group. We are delighted to be able to stage the match at this excellent venue and our thanks go to the Directors of Maidstone United for the use of these excellent facilities together with AFC Sudbury who conceded home advantage and the need for the League to find a suitable venue.

A special welcome to representatives from our various sponsors this evening. The Ryman Group are represented by Darren Haines, Group Director of Public Relations together with Daniel Price, the Director of Finance for Robert Dyas and other representatives from Robert Dyas and Ryman Stationers. A welcome to representatives of Macron our Match Ball and Bench Kit Sponsors together with representatives from Shepherds Neame Master Brewers.

AFC Sudbury and Maidstone United Football Clubs will contest this Final; for Maidstone United this will be their first ever appearance in this final. AFC Sudbury are in the final for the second time, the last occasion was in 2008 when they played Ramsgate, which they lost 5-4 on penalties after a 0-0 draw. Maidstone United play in the Premier Division of the League, AFC Sudbury is in Division One North. The progress of the Clubs to this stage of the Competition appears on page 8 of this programme

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 kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Board Decision.

I would like to thank the Match Officials who are officiating at the match this evening and in doing so represent their colleagues who serve us during the season.

Our League strongly supports the Football Association Respect Programme in that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be based on race or ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, faith, age, ability or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association. Finally thanks to all who support both the League and the Member Clubs during the season and of course this evenings match.

Alan Turvey  
Chairman  
Isthmian (Ryman) Football League



## Running Order of Events

*7.35pm - Presentation of teams and match officials*

*7.45pm - First half*

*8.30pm - Half time*

*8.45pm - Second half*

*Extra time and penalties if required*

*Presentation of trophies at conclusion of match*



## Good luck to Maidstone United FC in tonight's Robert Dyas League Cup Final

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# Maidstone United History

Maidstone United FC was founded in 1897 and then reformed in 1992 following the demise of the Football League side. The Stones started life again as Maidstone Invicta under the leadership of then Chairman Paul Bowden-Brown.

Maidstone United joined the Kent County League Division Four for the 1993/94 season and won the title at the first attempt. They also picked up the West Kent Challenge Shield and the Tunbridge Wells Charity Cup. They were promoted to Division Two following a restructuring of the league and won the title again as well as lifting the Kent Junior Cup.

After three seasons in Division One the Stones finally earned promotion to the Kent County League Premier Division. Much of the credit for turning the club around on the field must go to the then manager Jason Lillis. Lillis has a place in Stones' history as the only player to appear in Maidstone United's first and last games in the Football League.

In their second season in the Kent County League Premier Division, during which Maidstone United were awarded senior status, the Stones finished the league season as runners-up to Bearsted to earn promotion.

The 2001/2002 season saw the club return to the Kent League playing their home games at Central Park in Sittingbourne and appearing in the FA Vase for the first time. There were several highlights during the club's inaugural Kent League season. This included a first ever match in the FA Vase, in which The Stones defeated Hellenic League Carterton Town by 4-1.

The Stones finished the league season as champions on the very last day when they defeated Deal Town at the Charles Sports Ground. The following week The Stones completed the Kent League and Cup double after defeating Whitstable Town by 2-0 at Folkestone Invicta's Cheriton Road.

The 2002/2003 season highlight was the return of Maidstone United to the FA Cup. With the added attraction of being the focus of the BBC's Road To Cardiff, the Stones started their cup trail at Ramsgate and on the way defeated Tonbridge Angels and Newport (IoW) before succumbing to a defeat against Boreham Wood in the Second Qualifying Round in front of a home crowd of 937.

In the league, the club led the table for almost the entire season. However, following the late season resignation from the league of Faversham Town, the League

Management Committee decided that the title would be awarded to the club with the highest earned points per match average. So with Maidstone and Thamesmead Town both achieving 63 points from 30 games, the unusual situation arose that the championship was won by Cray Wanderers with 62 points (from 29 games.) The Stones lost the league title by 0.14 points! Silverware was forthcoming though, as the club won the Kent Senior Trophy for the first time in its history with a 3-0 victory over Cray Wanderers at Chatham Town FC.

The Stones were crowned Kent League champions for the second time in 2006 and secured the league and cup double with the title being won on the last day of the season with a resounding 4-1 win away to Sevenoaks Town. The Kent League Cup was won again with a 4-1 hammering of VCD Athletic at Folkestone Invicta's Cheriton Road ground. Promotion to Ryman League Division One South was confirmed at the end of the season.

The Stones repeated their championship success for a second successive season, when, yet again on the last day of the campaign, they travelled to Walton Casuals and they secured the Ryman League Division One South title with a 2-1 win.

Following another promotion the club spent five years in the Ryman League Premier Division with little in the way of playing success. An eight year ground share with Sittingbourne ended and for two seasons the Stones moved to The Homelands in Ashford. However, it soon became apparent that sharing at Homelands was counter-productive to the success of the club.

The Chairman of 19 years, Paul Bowden-Brown stepped down from the helm of the club having taken it as far as he could. Oliver Ash and Terry Casey replaced Paul Bowden-Brown as majority shareholders and co-owners. The season ended in major disappointment as the Stones were relegated for the first time in their history to Ryman League Division One South.

The Stones missed out on the play-offs at the end of the 2011/12 season but the ultimate prize was happening off the pitch. The £2.6million Gallagher Stadium was completed and 2,226 watched first match between Maidstone and Brighton & Hove Albion on Saturday 14 July. The first season back in the county town ended in a massive celebration when the Stones won promotion to the Ryman Premier Division beating Faversham Town 3-0 in the play-off final.

# Maidstone United Player Profiles

## LEE WORGAN

Worgan began his career by coming through the youth ranks at Wimbledon and was one of a few players to stay with the squad during the move to become Milton Keynes Dons. He went on to sign for Wycombe Wanderers, Rushden & Diamonds, Cardiff City and Merthyr Tydfil. In late-2006, he joined Eastbourne Borough before being snapped up by Hastings United. A move to Kent following in 2008 when he signed for Tonbridge Angels, helping them win promotion to Conference South. Last season he was named in the Conference South Team of the Year.

## WILL GODMON

Will spent eight years with Chelsea's youth academy before joining Maidstone United during the summer. He plays for the club's Football Conference Youth Alliance team and the Ryman under 21s.

## RICHARD DAVIES

Twenty-year-old Richard joined the Stones over the summer from Erith & Belvedere. The pacy right back, who can play across the back line when required, won the Kent Hurlmann Premier Division league and cup double with the Deres last season. He picked up a serious injury in an FA Cup tie against Merstham in September and is expected to miss the rest of this season.

## ELLIOTT COX

The 21-year-old joined the Stones from Margate in January. Elliott started his career as a junior with Queens Park Rangers and was handed a one year professional contract in summer 2010. He spent the last couple of months of the following season on loan at Histon and, after his release from Loftus Road, rejoined the Cambridgeshire side ahead of the 2011/12 campaign. He then moved to Hastings United twelve months later after an impressive pre-season, during which he was chiefly employed as a right back, despite being more adept in an attacking role.

## TOM MILLS

Tom is a 22-year-old defender who has played more than 100 times for the Stones. He is a product of Maidstone United's youth system and has been a contract player since March 2011. He is an exciting left-back who causes opponents problems with his pace, surging runs and pinpoint crosses. He lives in Minster-on-Sea on the Isle of Sheppey. His formative football years were spent with Sheppey United and Sheerness East.

## DAN PARKINSON

Part of the successful Maidstone United football academy, Dan was recalled from a loan spell with Ryman South side Leatherhead in December. He gained valuable Premier Division experience last season while registered with Cray Wanderers.

## JACK PARKINSON

Jack signed for Maidstone in December 2013 from Skrill Premier side Woking. During his time with Surrey side he made 58 league and cup appearances, scoring fourteen times. While at previous club Welling, Parkinson made more than 130 league appearances

for the Kent side, captaining the team in his last two seasons and leading them to the play-off final in 2011/12. He is the head coach of Maidstone United's football academy.

## JERROME SOBERS

Six foot four Jerrome joined the Stones last season from Bromley having also spent time at Kingstonian. In May 2012 he won the Ryman League Premier Division title with Billericay. He began his career at Ford United before being spotted by Ipswich Town, signing for the Tractorboys in 2004. He then spent time on loan at Brentford before returning to the non-league game with Chelmsford City.

## STEVE WATT

Twenty-eight year-old Steve joined the Stones from Dover Athletic in March, following a month on loan. Scotsman Watt made his way through the ranks at Aberdeen before moving to Chelsea, for whom he made two professional appearances during the Jose Mourinho era. After a loan spell at Barnsley he then moved onto Swansea before returning north of the border to play for Inverness and Ross County. Steven then moved to Grimsby before relocating back south, signing for Dover in the summer of 2011.

## ALEX BROWN

Alex joined the club on a contract until the end of last season after being made available by Gillingham. The Maidstone-based player initially joined on loan from the Sky Bet League One club. The tenacious midfielder first joined the Gills Centre of Excellence at the age of 13, having previously been on the books of Charlton Athletic.

## NATHAN CAMPBELL

Nathan signed from Skrill South side Basingstoke Town in December 2013. Standing at 6ft 3in tall, he is a central midfielder but is equally capable in the heart of the defence. Campbell joined Basingstoke from AFC Totton in June 2012. He has also played for Chipstead and Croydon Athletic.

## ALEX FLISHER

Alex is an all-action attacking midfielder who has progressed through the club's youth and reserve structure to the first team. He was a member of the Kent County FA U18 side who won the FA County Youth Cup in 2009-10. He was placed on contract by the club after his performances attracted interest from clubs further up the footballing ladder. He is 21-years-old and lives in Maidstone.

## RORY HILL

Rory signed for Maidstone from neighbours Tonbridge Angels in February. The 23-year-old midfielder was at Bromley in between two stints at Longmead. He started out with Millwall before joining Gillingham on a three-year scholarship, which was followed by a year's professional contract. Other clubs include Lewes and Croydon Athletic.



# Maidstone United Player Profiles

## MICHAEL PHILLIPS

Michael initially joined the Stones from Hastings United in January 2011 before briefly leaving the club at the end of that season. He then re-joined the club in October 2011. He began his career at Gillingham where he spent six seasons before injury curtailed his full-time football ambitions. Subsequently he played for both Ramsgate and Tonbridge Angels and had a short spell at Erith Town in between his spells with the Stones.

## CHARLEY ROBERTSON

Eighteen-year-old Charley hails from the club's football academy. He impressed team management and supporters alike with his performances during this pre-season.

## FABIO SARAIVA

Fabio joined the Stones on a one-year contract in May. The 20-year-old scored 18 league goals for Merstham during the 2012/13 season and impressed Jay Saunders when the Stones played The Motesiders. He scored in three of the four recent matches between the two sides. The former Lewisham college student also had trials with Championship sides Charlton Athletic and Crystal Palace. He is currently on loan until the end of the season at his former club.

## KIERNAN HUGHES-MASON

Kiernan signed for the Stones this month from Skril Premier side Welling United. The winger/striker joined The Wings in summer 2012 and was part of the Conference South championship side. He appeared for Grimsby in the Conference before joining the south London side and also was at Millwall as a youngster.

## ORLANDO SMITH

Orlando signed for Maidstone after impressing club bosses during pre-season. He was part of the Erith & Belvedere squad that won the Kent League championship last season, racked up 15 league goals and numerous assists. The former Jamaican youth international signed for Welling United in August 2007 after spells at Beckenham Town and Chipstead. Smith spent a couple of seasons at Park View Road before signing for Farnborough. He went on to play for Carshalton Athletic, Bromley and Aveyley before joining The Deres. Currently out injured and is expected to miss the rest of this season.

## JACK SULLIVAN

Eighteen-year-old Jack made his league debut for the Stones in a 5-3 win over Hendon in August. The versatile player is also part of the club's football academy and a member of the 2012/13 Football Conference Youth Alliance championship side.

## ZAC ATTWOOD

Zac joined the Stones earlier this month. The 24-year-old scored three goals in five starts for Margate in a brief spell with the Thanet club at the start of the 2013/14 season. Last season he was at Hastings United where he clocked up 14 goals in 48 appearances for The U's. Previous clubs include Bognor Regis Town, Histon and Welling, and he was also on the books of Charlton Athletic as a youngster.

## FRANNIE COLLIN

Maidstone is the fourth Kent club for the prolific centre forward. He joined Gillingham in 2005, scoring on his debut in a 2-0 league cup win. When the then Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler moved to Dover Athletic, Collin joined him at the Crabble and his 21 league goals were crucial to the Whites' promotion from the Ryman Premier Division. He signed for Tonbridge Angels in 2010 and in his first season at Longmead he scored 21 goals in 43 appearances – 16 of those in the league. Another promotion from the Ryman Premier Division was added to his CV and in the following Conference South campaign he won the Golden Boot after bagging 29 league goals.

## JACK HARRIS

Nineteen-year-old Jack signed for the Stones at the end of October from Tunbridge Wells. He scored 51 goals in 112 starts for the Southern Counties East side. A highlight from last season was playing at Wembley in front of almost 17,000 people in the FA Vase final.

## MANAGEMENT

### JAY SAUNDERS

The 2012/13 season was a memorable one for the Stones boss. Not only did he manage the first game at the Gallagher Stadium, he also secured promotion to the Ryman League Premier Division with a play-off victory. Jay was appointed as caretaker manager following the departure of Andy Ford in March 2011 before being given the job on a permanent basis at the end of that season.

He is an experienced midfield player who began his career at Gillingham before moving to Gravesend & Northfleet for the first of two spells at Stonebridge Road. In three periods at Hartsdown Park Jay made almost 300 appearances. He has also played for Lewes.

### STEVE WARD

Steve joined the Stones last summer from Carvey Island. Despite being in his early 40s, he is an extremely fit person and has played all of his club football for Essex teams despite being a Maidstone lad. He had two spells at Carvey spanning 12 years, helping them reach the Conference, plus nine years with Grays Athletic. He also spent four seasons with Chelmsford City. He is an England C international and has also represented The FA, Essex FA and toured with the world famous Middlesex Wanderers on numerous occasions. Wardy has two FA Trophy Final appearances to his name – winning it in 2001.



# Road to the Final

## Round 1

Eastbourne Town	0-3	Burgess Hill Town
Leatherhead	0-2	Walton & Hersham

## Round 2

Billericay Town	7-2	AFC Hornchurch
Bury Town	0-1	AFC Sudbury
Chatham Town	4-1	Ramsgate
Crawley Down Gatwick	1-3	Redhill
Cheshunt	3-2	Barkingside
Dulwich Hamlet	1-0	Tooting & Mitcham United
Hampton & Richmond B	3-3	Carshalton Athletic

(Hampton & Richmond win 5-3 on pens)

Hastings United	4-0	Faversham Town
Horsham	2-7	Burgess Hill Town
Lewes	2-1	Corinthian - Casuals
Lowestoft Town	4-1	Heybridge Swifts
Maidstone United	2-1	Herne Bay
Maldon & Tiptree	3-4	Burnham Ramblers
Margate	1-1	Folkestone Invicta

(Margate win 4-3 on pens)

Merstham	1-2	Kingstonian
Metropolitan Police	3-1	Chipstead
Needham Market	2-5	Leiston
Peacehaven & Telscombe	3-1	Worthing
Redbridge	1-3	Enfield Town
Romford	1-0	East Thurrock United
Sittingbourne	3-1	Erith & Belvedere
Soham Town Rangers	1-4	Harrow Borough
Three Bridges	0-2	Cray Wanderers
Thurrock	1-2	Aveley
Tilbury	1-1	Grays Athletic

(Grays win 4-1 on pens)

Ware	5-3	Thamesmead Town
Wealdstone	1-0	Hendon
Waltham Abbey	1-0	Brentwood Town
Waltham Forest	0-1	Harlow Town
Walton Casuals	0-2	Walton & Hersham
Whitstable Town	0-1	Hythe Town
Wingate & Finchley	1-1	Witham Town

(Witham Town win 5-3 on pens)

## Round 3

Aveley	2-1	Billericay Town
Burnham Ramblers	1-6	AFC Sudbury
Cray Wanderers	5-1	Dulwich Hamlet
Enfield Town	1-2	Harlow Town
Lewes	3-2	Redhill
Lowestoft Town	1-4	Leiston
Maidstone United	3-1	Hythe Town
Margate	0-3	Hastings United
Kingstonian	5-0	Walton & Hersham
Metropolitan Police	3-1	Hampton & Richmond B
Romford	0-2	Grays Athletic
Peacehaven & Telscombe	0-1	Burgess Hill Town
Sittingbourne	0-2	Chatham Town
Waltham Abbey	3-4	Cheshunt
Ware	2-2	Witham Town

(Ware win 4-2 on pens)

Wealdstone	2-2	Harrow Borough
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(Harrow Borough win 4-3 on pens)

## Round 4

AFC Sudbury	3-1	Leiston
Burgess Hill Town	3-1	Lewes
Chatham Town	2-1	Cray Wanderers
Cheshunt	1-1	Ware

(Ware win 9-8 on pens)

Grays Athletic	2-1	Aveley
Harlow Town	3-1	Kingstonian
Maidstone United	2-0	Hastings United
Metropolitan Police	0-3	Harrow Borough

## Quarter Finals

Ware	2-2	Harrow Borough
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(Ware win 5-4 on pens)

Grays Athletic	3-3	Chatham Town
Harlow Town	1-4	AFC Sudbury
Maidstone United	1-0	Burgess Hill Town

## Semi Final

Ware	1-2	AFC Sudbury
Maidstone United	6-0	Grays Athletic

## Final

Maidstone vs A.F.C Sudbury



# League Cup Final History

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 pens)
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	Billericay 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 pens)
2008-09	Tilbury	Harrow Borough	Staines Town	2-0
2009-10	Leatherhead	Wealdstone	Met Police	0-0 (4-3 on pens)
2010-11	Wingate & Finchley	Dulwich Hamlet	Metropolitan Police	2-0
2011-12	Bury Town	East Thurrock Utd	Staines Town	1-0
2012-13	Concord Rangers	Dulwich Hamlet	Maidstone Utd	3-2 (AET)

# Meet the Officials & Mascots

## Chris O'Donnell

Chris started his refereeing in November 2003 after a friend asked him to do the course. Progressing through the levels, he was promoted to level 3 (current level) at the end of 2007 / 08 season having spent one season as an Assistant Referee at this level. In 2011 he was fortunate to be promoted as an Assistant Referee to the Football League following 3 seasons as an Assistant Referee on the Conference National list.

Highlights along the way include refereeing on the Women's Premier League, 4th official on his supply league (Spartan South Midlands League) cup final in 2008. He refereed the Bedfordshire Senior Cup final in 2013 and has been an Assistant Referee for over 45 Football League games. The biggest highlight of his career is being asked to Referee tonight's cup final.

He has had a lot of support through his 10+ year career to date from many people to whom he owes a debt of gratitude. No more so than to Vince Hannon & Mick Ewen who from early on have been amazing in their support and are both here tonight.

Away from football, he got married last June to Laura and they are expecting their first baby which is due on 28th of April. Laura is his greatest support and biggest critic, due to their impending arrival Laura cannot be here this evening.

## Andrew Hickman – Assistant Referee

Andrew, 25, has been officiating for 12 years, the last 5 being at Isthmian League level. Refereeing has given him some fantastic opportunities, including officiating at some of the major stadiums in this country, including Wembley, Stamford Bridge and White Hart Lane, as well as representing the FA at the 2011 Dallas Cup in Texas, USA and the Middlesex FA at the 2012 Iber Cup in Lisbon, Portugal. He currently referees in the Hellenic League, in addition to assisting at this level.

Outside of football, Andrew spends the working week as a primary school teacher, teaching all subjects across the curriculum but specialising in music. He is also the principal trumpeter and assistant conductor of the Harrow Symphony Orchestra, as well as working with The Harrow Young Musicians charity, with whom he has travelled to Venice, Barcelona, Nice and Liege with.

Andrew would like to thank everyone who has helped with his development and given him support along his refereeing journey so far.

## Paul O'Hare – Assistant Referee

Paul qualified as a referee in 1999 but did not seek promotion until 2003 upon which he went from Level 7 to Level 4 in three seasons. Paul has been a Contributory Leagues Assistant Referee since 2006 and has officiated in many enjoyable matches. Notable appointments include several play off matches and this cup final. As a supply league referee, Paul operates on the Hellenic League. Notable achievements as a referee include being fourth Official on the 2009 Hellenic League floodlit cup final and refereeing the 2009 Berks and Bucks Senior Trophy Final. Paul has also refereed various charity matches and tournaments, and one highlight was refereeing at the Oil Aid Charity fundraising event at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground, where he refereed Prince Harry!

## Sam Purkiss – 4th Official

Sam is now in his tenth year as a referee having qualified in 2004 after taking the course to help referee the junior teams of his playing club in Nottinghamshire. Having spent a few years in the Central Midlands and East Midlands Pool, Sam moved south, firstly to Cambridge for university and then to London for work.

His first season in London saw him promoted from the Spartan South Midlands League to Contributory League football. Sam has been officiating in Isthmian League fixtures for 3 seasons and is currently in his first season as an Assistant Referee on the Football League.

Sam is part of the FA's Referee Development Group, as part of which he works with his coach, former Football League referee Lee Cable. His career highlight to date (before tonight!) is being the Assistant Referee on last season's Football Conference Play-Off Semi-Final Second Leg between Newport County and Grimsby in front of 11,000.

## Barney Booth – AFC Sudbury Mascot

My name is Barney Booth and it was my tenth birthday yesterday. I play for AFC Sudbury under 10's and have scored 2 goals this season. My favourite AFC Sudbury players are James Baker and Sam Clarke. I attend Great Waldingfield Primary School and support Liverpool. My favourite players are Steven Gerrard and Suarez. I really hope that AFC Suffolk can win and bring the cup back to Suffolk.

## Huw Brooks – Maidstone United Mascot

My name is Huw Brooks and I am eight-year-old. I attend Ryarsh Primary School and plays football at the Maidstone Player Development Centre. My favourite team is Maidstone United and my favourite player is Alex Fisher.



# A.F.C Sudbury History

AFC Sudbury was formed on Tuesday 1st June 1999 from the amalgamation of Sudbury Town (founded 1885) and Sudbury Wanderers (founded 1958). The club plays at The MEL Group Stadium, Sudbury, Suffolk with a capacity of 2500.

In their first season 1999/00, they club finished third in the Jewson Premier League and the Reserve side won the Premier League title in the Essex and Suffolk Border League.

In 2000/01 the club powered their way to the Jewson League Premier title, reached the first round proper of the FA Cup and the Reserves won the Essex and Suffolk Border League Cup.

In 2001/02 the club retained the Jewson League and reached the semi-finals of the F.A. Vase and won the Suffolk Premier Cup.

In 2002/03 A.F.C. Sudbury again retained the Jewson League Premier title, and won the Suffolk Premier Cup. They also reached the final of the F.A. Vase at Upton Park, being beaten 2-1 by Brigg Town. After this manager Keith Martin stepped down and was replaced by the reserve team manager Gary Harvey.

In 2003/04, Harvey led his team to the club's fourth successive Ridgeons League title and also won the Suffolk Premier Cup again. The club again reached the final of the F.A. Vase but lost 2-0 to Winchester City at St Andrews. The Reserves lost in the final of the Essex and Suffolk Border League Cup.

Improvements were made to King's Marsh with it becoming fully enclosed, new turnstiles and a fully automated sprinkler system installed.

In 2004/05 the club were again successful, they won their fifth consecutive Ridgeons Premier League title (a record for the Eastern Counties League), and yet again reached the final of the F.A. Vase. This was the third year in succession another record, unfortunately they again lost. Didcot Town won 3-2 at White Hart Lane Tottenham in front of 8862 spectators. The semi-final of both the Suffolk Premier Cup and the Ridgeons League Cup were also reached.

In 2005/06 the club continued to play in the Ridgeons Premier League and finished third in the table, the Ridgeons League Cup was won for the first time and the fifth round of the F.A. Vase reached.

The Reserve side played in the Ridgeons Reserve League Southern Division and won that. In the play-off between the North and South winners, they were runners up. The highlight of their season was winning the Suffolk Junior Cup at Portman Road Ipswich.

Season 2006/07 saw the club accept promotion to Step 4, and the new Ryman League Division One North. The club changed managers with Mark Morsley replacing Harvey. The season was to be a good one, reaching the play-off finals in the league, where they failed in a penalty shoot out against Harlow Town.

The 2007/08 season will go down as the nearly season, AFC nearly won promotion and they nearly won the Ryman League Cup. The club was still managed by Morsley aided by assistant Nicky Smith and coach Paul Skingley. The club got to the final of the Ryman League Cup but lost on penalties. They again reached the play-off finals but lost in the semi-finals.

The club's Reserve side under the management of Ian Manby finished runners up in the Ridgeons Reserve League South.

In May 2008, Morsley resigned and Nicky Smith was appointed manager with Chris Tracey as his assistant. A few days later the club were moved from the Ryman League and placed in the Southern League Midland Division for 2008/09.

The FA Cup saw AFC go out in the preliminary round, but in the FA Trophy, they reached the First Round. The season was one of inconsistency in the League and meant AFC finished the season in twelfth position.

The Reserves continued in the Ridgeons Reserve League under Ian Manby, and a mid-table finish ensued but did win the Chell Trophy.

The 2009/10 season saw Smith and Chris Tracey still in charge, and still in the Southern League. It turned out to be not a particularly successful one as AFC lost in the First Qualifying Round of both the FA Cup and FA Trophy. In the Southern League Cup it was a Second Round exit and it was the same round in the Suffolk Premier Cup. AFC finished the season in fourteenth position in the league.

The club's Reserve team played in the Ridgeons Reserve League and their form mirrored very much that of the first team with some good results, but not enough of them.

During the season the King's Marsh new facilities were finished on time in May 2010 and later in the month the club were told they were back in the Ryman Division One North. Jamie Redknapp performed the official opening of the new clubhouse in June 2010 and the ground was re-named The MEL Group Stadium.

Smith and Tracey remained in charge of the first team for 2010/11 and Ian Manby the second team, with a new A Team started and played in the Colchester and North Essex League under Phil Root.

The first team ending up eventually two places outside the play-off slots. The club had a good run in the FA Trophy, before losing in the First Round Proper.

The Reserve side finished third in the league and lost in the final of the Suffolk Senior Reserve Cup. The A Team completed their first season satisfactorily giving a number of local young players a taste of junior football.

Season 2011/12 saw Smith and Tracey start the season but Smith resigned and Tracey was put in temporary charge and later appointed permanent manager, still in the Ryman League North. The Reserves continued in the Ridgeons Reserve League while the A Team started their second season.

The first team finished just outside the play-offs in eighth place, the Reserves had a disappointing season as did the A Team but enjoyed their football.

The start of season 2012/13 saw Chris Tracey in charge with Barry Lakin at his side, however he departed in September and Ian Brown joined as his assistant. With results not going well Tracey resigned in March 2013 and Michael Shinn and Ian Brown took charge until the end of the season.

The Reserves continued in the newly named Thurlow Nunn League under Ian Manby and Dave Walton and the A Team continued under the guidance of Phil Root.

In May 2013 the club appointed former Wroxham manager David Batch along with Steve Eastaugh as their new management team and they quickly set about building not only a fresh squad but also the entire structure of the football club. The Reserve/Under 21 side was elected into the Thurlow Nunn First Division and now have Ian Brown in charge as Coach. Ian will be fulfilling the role of developing our Reserves and to help steer them to a clear pathway through to The First Team, working closely with David Batch and Steve Eastaugh. The A Team continues as previously, with John Baldwin & Phil Root in charge.

# A.F.C Sudbury Player Profiles

## STEVE ADAMS

A strong central defender who was previously with Long Melford, he has been with the club for a number of years and has made a return to first team action in recent months acquitting himself well.

## JAMES AKINTUNDE

A fast raiding forward/wide player, he joined the club on a non-contract basis on 24th January 2014 as second year scholar at Cambridge United. He has had previous experience with Southend United and their youth set-up.

## ALEX ARCHER

Former Peterborough United Goalkeeper joined Needham Market at the start of the 2012/13 season making eleven appearances before transferring to AFC at the start of October 2012, making thirty three starts and winning the Players Player of the Year Award.

## JAMES BAKER

Strong, well-built raiding forward whose previous clubs include Chelmsford City, Braintree Town, Eastleigh, Welling United and Billericay Town from where he signed for AFC at the start of the 2010/11 season.

## JOSH CARUS

A strong, experienced and dependable central defender, he started his long career with Norwich City. He played for King's Lynn before joining Wroxham where he spent many seasons winning many honours. He joined AFC at the start of the 2013/14 season.

## JACK CAWLEY

A tall defender signed in October 2013, his previous clubs include, Leyton Orient, Bury Town and Leiston. He made his debut in a Suffolk Premier Cup tie on 8th October 2013.

## SAM CLARKE

Club captain, he signed for AFC at the start of the 2008/09 season. He is a strong tough tackling midfielder who missed most of last season after suffering a broken arm early in the season and later on a knee injury. He has now fully recovered and looking to make up for lost time in season 2103/14. He is the club's current longest serving player.

## GREG CRANE

A very experienced central defender he started his career with Norwich City before leaving the Canaries and joining Lowestoft Town. He let to join up with King's Lynn winning the Southern League title with them. He returned to Lowestoft Town and helped them win the Ryman North title and then onto the

Ryman Premier League where they reached the play-offs in two consecutive seasons. He signed for AFC last October.

## MATT DANIELS

A skilful former Ipswich Town midfielder who joined AFC at the start of the 2013/14 season following his previous manager at Wroxham to the club.

## JAMIE FORSHAW

A quick former Southend United and Lowestoft Town forward, who was with Norwich City as a schoolboy before joining The Shrimpers. A prolific goal scorer at Ryman North level with Lowestoft Town before joining AFC in June 2013.

## RYAN HENSHAW

A strong defender, who originally signed for AFC in March 2010. He had short spells with Chelmsford City and Haverhill Rovers before this period.

## RYAN HORNE

A tricky midfielder he joined the club on a non-contract basis in January 2014 as a second year scholar from Cambridge United. He has recently been awarded a professional contract with them. He previously played for Stoke City, Crewe Alexander and Ipswich Town in their youth set-ups.

## OLLIE HUGHES

A young forward he began his football with Walsham le Willows where he spent three seasons and at the start of the 2013/14 season had trials with Luton Town. In September 2013 he joined Leiston before signing for AFC in November last year.

## SCOTT MITCHELL

He started his career with Ipswich Town making his debut in November 2003 and made four appearances. He left at the end of the 2005/06 season and joined Scottish Division One side Livingston in May 2006 on a two-year contract making over 40 first-team appearances. He joined Peterborough United in January 2008 making five appearances. From there he went to Rushden and Diamonds in the Conference in June 2008. In August 2009 he signed for Lowestoft Town, before signing for AFC on 6th August 2013.

## MICHAEL SHINN

A very experienced central midfield player who started his career at League club Cambridge United. He signed for AFC in January 2011 after leaving Dartford after also playing for Braintree and Billericay. He had a short spell as caretaker manager last year and is expected to be a dominant player for AFC in 2013/14.



# A.F.C Sudbury Player Profiles

## STEVE SPRIGGS

A very nippy forward player he started with the Cambridge United before going to Ely City, King's Lynn, Mildenhall Town and Wroxham where he played in the FA Vase Final. He re-joined King's Lynn Town before leaving to play professionally in Sweden. He returned to the Norfolk club from where he joined AFC in November 2013.

## BEN THOMPSON

Strong and quick former Norwich City player who has been a prolific goal scorer in Step 5 and 4 both locally and in Oxfordshire. He scored 17 goals at Ryman North last season despite missing 3 months through injury. He signed for AFC at the start of the 2013/14 season.

## PAYTON SWATMAN

A quick, nimble, versatile young player he can play in almost any position on the field. He came through the Wroxham Academy before signing for AFC at the start of the 2013/14 season joining up again with his old manager.

## JACK WILKINSON

A skilful midfielder, signed for AFC on 4th March 2014 from Haverhill Rovers, he had played one game previously for AFC in April 2010. He started his football with Needham Market before going on loan with a number of local clubs eventually joining Haverhill Rovers in January 2013.

## MANAGEMENT

### DAVID BATCH

A Full UEFA A licence holder who played for Cambridge United, Wisbech Town and Norwich United; he then became the youngest Senior Football manager in the country at Downham Town and from there, took over the youth team and later the reserves teams at Cambridge United whilst they were a Football League Club, before becoming manager of Cambridge City.

He then concentrated on building up business affairs before in April 2009 taking over as manager of Wroxham, leading the club to Wembley and the Final of the FA Vase in his first season in charge. The club also finished in third place in the league and reached the League Cup Final in his second season before guiding them to promotion at the end of the 2011/12 season, where they joined the Ryman North and finished in fifteenth place.

He joined AFC as Manager on 21st May 2013.

## STEVE EASTAUGH

A UEFA A licensed coach; he previously worked at Norwich City's Academy for four years. He then managed Wroxham Reserves for two seasons before joining their senior side as assistant manager and latterly Director of Football in June 2012. He joined AFC on 21st May 2013 as Head of Coach & Player Development.

## IAN BROWN

A former professional with Birmingham City, Bristol City, Colchester United and Northampton Town he also played with many local East Anglian clubs including Chelmsford City, Braintree Town and Sudbury Town. He managed Whitton United from 2009 to 2011.

He joined AFC as first team coach in October 2012 and in March 2013 he was put in charge of team affairs along with Michael Shinn after the then manager resigned. For the 2013/14 season he will continue his role as Assistant Manager.

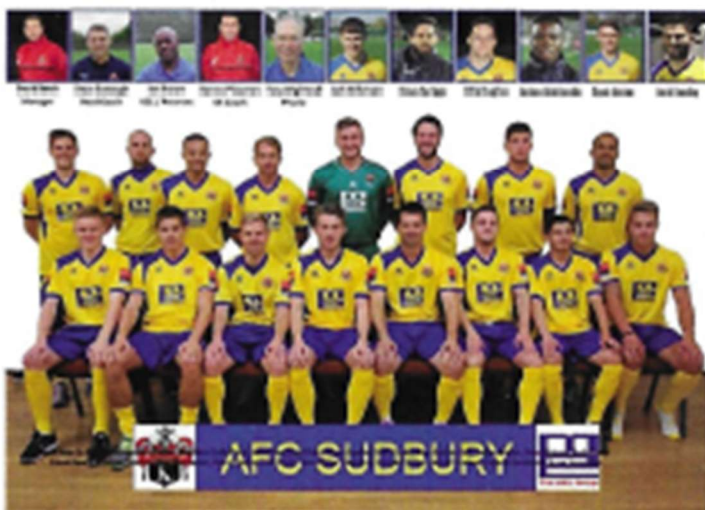
## DARREN PLOWMAN

He joined AFC as the club's goalkeeping coach in June 2013.

Previously he was with both Wroxham and the Norwich City Academy where he coached a number of high profile goalkeepers through the Youth ranks.

## TONY BRIGHTWELL

One of the best-known well respected and qualified physios in the East Anglian region. His wealth of knowledge has been put to good use as in recent years he has been passing it onto younger members of the profession.



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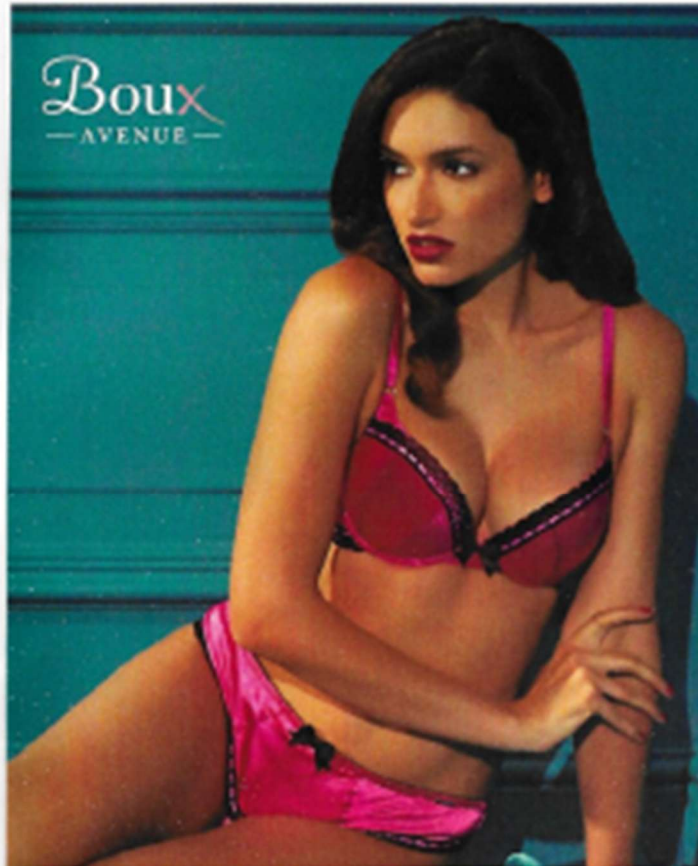


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## The Team Line Ups

### Maidstone United v AFC Sudbury

Amber / Black / Black

Red / Red / Red  
GK: Green

Lee Worgan	1	1	Alex Archer
Elliott Cox	2	2	Scott Mitchell
Tom Mills	3	3	Jack Wilkinson
Alex Brown	4	4	Michael Shinn
Graeme Andrews	5	5	Steve Adams
Jerrone Sobers	6	6	Ryan Henshaw
Kiernan Hughes-Mason	7	7	James Aki ntunde
Luke Rooney	8	8	Sam Clarke [Captain]
Zac Attwood	9	9	James Baker
Frannie Collin	10	10	Jamie Forshaw
Alex Flisher	11	11	Steve Spriggs
Charley Robertson	12	12	Ryan Horne
Michael Phillips	14	13	Ben Thompson
Dan Parkinson	15	14	Payton Swatman
Jack Sullivan	16	15	Ollie Hughes
Will Godmon	21	16	Jack Cawley
		17	Tom Wingfield



**Referee: Chris O'Donnell**  
**Assistant 1: Andrew Hickman**  
**Assistant 2: Paul O'Hare**  
**4th Official: Sam Purkiss**



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Ryan Henshaw - Red Card    0' Yellow Card - Steve Watt  
Sam Clarke - Yellow Card    Yellow Card - Dan Parkinson  
Andrew Heald - Yellow Card  
Ryan Horne - Yellow Card

38' Goal - Michael Phillips

83' Penalty - Frannie Collin

90' Goal - Frannie Collin

Att. 1,829

**AFC Sudbury: -**

**Maidstone United:** Michael Phillips 38, Frannie Collin 83 (pen) and 90.

**AFC Sudbury:** Alex Archer, Ryan Henshaw, Jack Wilkinson, Michael Shinn, Scott Mitchell, Andrew Heald (Ollie Hughes 79), James Akintunde (Scott Kemp 87), Sam Clarke, Ben Thompson, Jamie Forshaw, Ryan Horne (Payton Swatman 55). **Subs not used:** Jack Cawley, James Crisell.

**Maidstone United:** Lee Worgan, Jack Sullivan, Tom Mills, Steve Watt, Alex Brown (Charley Robertson 86), Michael Phillips, Dan Parkinson (Stephen Butcher 62), Jack Parkinson, Zac Attwood, Frannie Collin, Jack Harris (Kiernan Hughes-Mason 77). **Subs not used:** Aidan Hayes, Will Godmon.

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