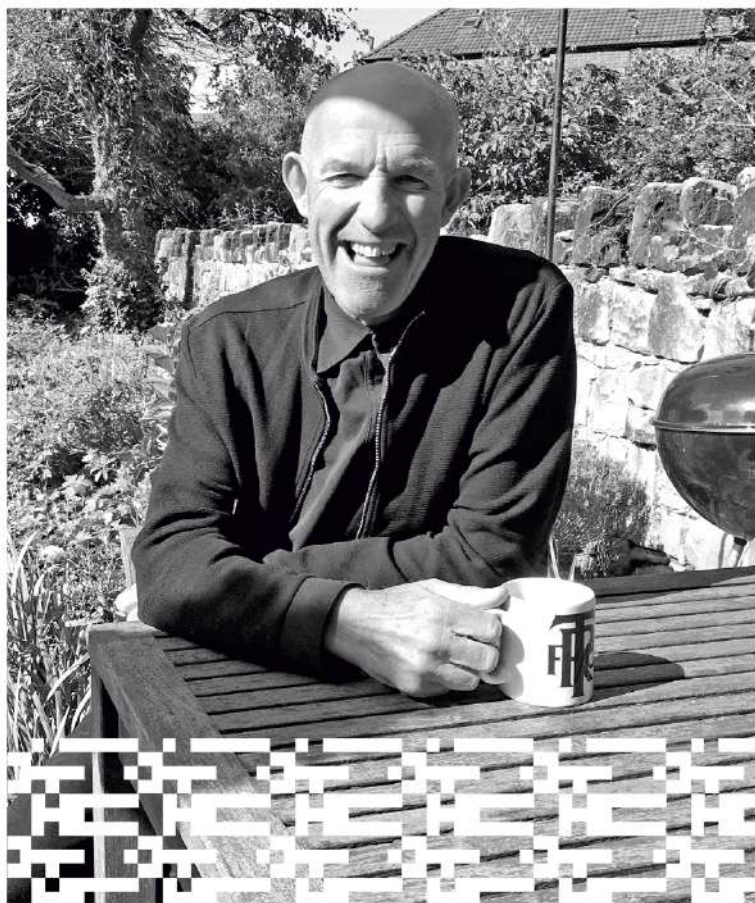


Tranmere Rovers



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME / SEASON 2023-2024 / £3.50



HARROGATE TOWN

Sky Bet League Two

Tuesday 15 August 2023 / Kick-off 7.45pm



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MATCHDAY



Tranmere Rovers versus Harrogate Town



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CONTACT

TELEPHONE 03330 144 452
EMAIL tellus@tranmererovers.co.uk
SUPPORTERS LIAISON OFFICERS
TWITTER: @trfcslo
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At each home game there is a designated Safeguarding Lead on duty and there are also a number is Safeguarding Stewards who can be identified by wearing a purple Safeguarding armband.

Contact David Hughes
controlroom@tranmererovers.co.uk

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TRANMERE ROVERS / OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME / SEASON 2023/24

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS Alex Bullions, Tom Clarke, Charlie Stubbs, Derek Jones, Nick Hilton, Luke Birch, John Adamson, Hannah Naylor, Ross Hughes, Andrew Sturgeon, Tony Coombes, TROSC, Ellis Palmer, Matt Houghton
DESIGN & TYPESET Tony Coombes, Joel Saunders PRINT Print Centre Wales PHOTOGRAPHY Richard Ault, Tony Coombes
Some of the views expressed in this programme may not necessarily represent or reflect the views of the Club

Mark Palios

I would like to welcome Harrogate back to Prenton Park for tonight's game.



Harrogate started the season well, with back to back wins against Doncaster in the League and Carlisle in the Cup, before suffering a narrow loss to Forest Green at the weekend, so we know they will present a challenge tonight.

Our own campaign has seen two narrow losses in the League, and a good win in the Carabao Cup against Barnsley. Whilst it is of course very disappointing not to have early points in the League table, at this early stage I am more focused on the performances. In all 3 matches we have created plenty of chances and I thought we were unlucky not to at least share the spoils against Barrow, who scored a worldie very much against the run of play, and against MK Dons, who had us under pressure in the first half but were put to the sword by us in the second. Against Barnsley, we showed that we have the ability to score in open play, and to hold our nerve when pegged back by the opposition. If we keep creating the chances, I am confident the victories will come.

However, this week results on the pitch have all been put into perspective by the loss of our much loved Associate Director, and Chairman of the Supporters' Trust, Ben Harrison. Ben's passing leaves a big hole in the Club. A passionate supporter for over 50 years, he put his heart and soul into helping both the Club and the wider Wirral community. We will miss him enormously and offer our heartfelt condolences to Polly and the family, who will always have a very warm welcome at the Club. In due course we will announce a fitting memorial to Ben, but in the meantime I hope you will all join me in a minute's applause in his honour on the 60th minute of the game.





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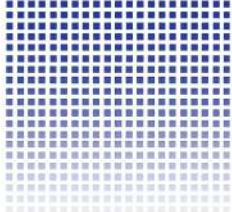
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Ian Dawes



FROM THE MANAGER

Good evening and welcome to Prenton Park for our Sky Bet League Two fixture against Harrogate Town.

It's been a busy start to the campaign, with tonight being our fourth competitive fixture in ten days. The sheer volume of games provides a challenge in itself so the importance of the use of the squad is evident. We have a great group, and there is competition for places among them.

Our summer additions have adapted well to our environment and our way of playing. It's been great to see Kristian Dennis and Luke Norris continue to get minutes as they recover from injuries, and their quality has been apparent. The squad continues to improve, there are things that will be fixed along the way, and they will continue to grow as the season progresses.

My last programme notes came to you before our opening game of the season against Barrow. Although the result was a disappointing one, I felt we produced a performance that warranted more, and I was impressed with the application of the players. I believe we were the better team throughout the 90 minutes and there were encouraging signs that will allow us to plan and prepare for the fixtures to come.

We responded well with a great performance and result in the Carabao Cup against Barnsley. We were organised and very good in possession against a top side in the division above. Conceding at the end felt like a kick in the teeth, but full credit to the players for refocusing and going through on penalties. It was great to see Luke Norris get off the mark for the Club, and Sam Taylor was outstanding. He's come back during pre-season and grown into the squad, and I don't see him as a young player, I see him as part of the frontline.

Then on Saturday we were unfortunate to lose at Milton Keynes Dons. We created some unbelievable chances in the second half, so it hurts to have beaten. However, if we keep performing and creating the chances we did then the results will inevitably come. This season is a marathon and not a sprint. There are 46 games in the league campaign, and we are pleased with the improvements and promise that is being shown by the squad. Despite this the players are hungry to win, and we remain as focused as ever on achieving three points this evening.

We are under the lights at home for the first time this season, and the group can't wait to walk out in front of our brilliant support once again. It was fantastic to see a strong following on the road at Barnsley and Milton Keynes Dons, and we always aim to match your efforts with ours on the pitch. Your support is appreciated by me, the staff and the players and we want nothing more than to produce a performance and result that gets Prenton Park rocking.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the game.





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Tonight's Matchnight Mascot



A warm welcome to tonight's matchday mascot, 6-year-old Daniel Platten from Eastham. Daniel loves his football and has been regularly attending Prenton Park since the age of 4. Despite his Dad's best attempts to get him to support Sheffield United, he has always followed his mum's lifelong passion for the super whites. Since a young age, if Daniel is not in his school uniform, he is always found wearing his beloved Tranmere kits.

Daniel is frequently out in the garden playing football and is eagerly anticipating the kick-off of his first season in September for Bromborough and Eastham Junior Football Club. Having been part of their Kicks Academy since the age of 4, he is geared up to make his debut in the Eastham and District U7 League and hopes one day his journey will lead him to step out at Prenton Park and score the winning goal.

From goalkeeper to goal scorer, Daniel enjoys playing in any position. While his eyes light up whenever the ball finds the back of the net, he also loves tackling, which is why his favourite player is Jordan Turnbull. Daniel will be hoping Jordan helps Tranmere keep a clean sheet tonight and maybe even pop up with the winner.

Send Us Your Super White Snap Shots

We are still running our 'Super White Snap Shots' page for our programmes with both Leicester and Wrexham coming up shortly – so why not send us your photos and messages.

The deadline for all entries is Tuesday 22 August to be included, with the wording no more than 50 words to accompany a good quality image – and email to tonyc@tranmererovers.co.uk

Can You Help?

Rob Sawyer, from the Everton FC Heritage Society, is currently researching the life of Peter Farrell – the former Tranmere player-manager (1957-60) who was also previously at Everton and represented Ireland many times. Rob would be very interested to hear from any senior Rovers supporters who saw the team play in the Farrell era – or from anyone who met Peter at some point. Rob can be reached via 07779 483713 and rsneston@gmail.com

Happy Birthday!

Happy 13th Birthday Christina, from Mum, Dad, Bekah and Stephanie. She's a season ticket holder in the Kop and her favourite player is Tom Davies.



Tranmere Remembers – Peter Dodd

Peter Dodd, lifelong Rovers supporter who sat in the Johnny King, passed away 29th June 2023. Will be sadly missed by all.



THE MARTIN GALLIER PROJECT PRESENTS

AN EVENING WITH STEVE MCNULTY

An evening with Tranmere Rovers legend Steve McNulty including Q&A, memorabilia, music and more.

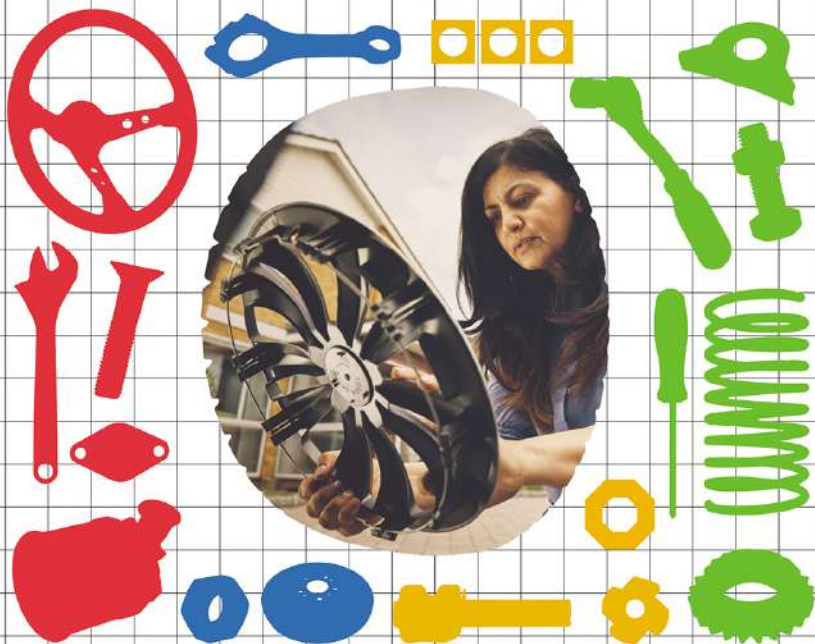
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Ben Harrison

TRANMERE REMEMBERS



It is with enormous sadness that the Club has to report the passing last night of Associate Director of the Club, and Chairman of the Tranmere Rovers Supporters' Trust, Ben Harrison.

The Club would like to extend its heartfelt condolences to Polly and his family.

A book of condolence has been placed in the Club shop so that supporters can share their memories and thoughts, and we hope this will bring Ben's loved ones some comfort and strength as they try to come to terms with their loss.

A personal statement from the Chairman and Vice Chair:

"In the 9 years since we have been back at the Club, Ben became a key member of the senior management team, a trusted advisor, but above all a personal friend to us both. He was absolutely key to the Club forging a fantastic working relationship with the Supporters' Trust - something which is rare in football - and which has seen us collaborating so successfully on a number of projects, including support to the local community during Covid and beyond through the delivery of food parcels, the SWA2# community tickets scheme (now known as Nate's Tickets).

He dreamed big and was hands-on and indefatigable in bringing those dreams to life - as is so well exemplified by the new fan zone, which was his brain-child and something that

many thought he would never be able to make happen. That building will stand as a permanent legacy to his vision and tenacity, and it is tragic that he never got to see it opened, although he was closely following its progress right up to the day of his passing.

Although Ben became a personal friend, he was never afraid to challenge us when he disagreed with something, and we hugely valued his input, safe in the knowledge that he absolutely had the best interests of this great Club, and its fans, at heart.

He lived his life with passion and compassion. He was a fearless champion for the underdog, but also a creative and astute businessman - a rare combination.

When you meet people in life, one of the questions we always ask ourselves is "Would you have them in the trenches with you?" and the answer in relation to Ben was a resounding "yes". He stood up proudly for everything he believed in, he took on huge challenges and ran at them headlong. As Ben's family so beautifully said, "He died as he lived, fearlessly and without compromise."

We will both miss him enormously, as will everyone at the Club.

Rest in peace, Ben.

*We would ask all supporters here this evening to enter into an applause on the 60th minute of tonight's match, to remember Ben



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Gallantry

BRIGHT SIDE
COMMERCIAL PROPERTY



Opposition Luke Birch

Harrogate Town started off their regular season with a 1-0 win at Doncaster Rovers, thanks to Jack Muldoon's second-half goal on Saturday 5 August.



Harrogate Town

Harrogate's pre-season began with wins over Huddersfield Town B and Darlington.

A defeat away at Lincoln City was followed by a 6-1 triumph over South Shields.

The Sulphurites rounded off their pre-season with a defeat against Gateshead, and a 2-1 win over Hartlepool United.

Simon Weaver was appointed as Harrogate Town Manager in 2009, when The Sulphurites were in the Conference North, and has led them to two promotions since.

The club has grown massively under Weaver's stewardship up from having seven season ticket holders in 2011.

Weaver led Harrogate Town to the Football League for the first time in their history in 2020.

Harrogate have consolidated since being promoted, and have finished 19th in League Two in the past two seasons.

Still in-charge today, Weaver is the longest-serving manager in the Football League.

Harrogate Town was Weaver's first job in management, and spent the final three seasons of his playing days as their player-manager.

Two years into his stint at the club Simon's father, Irving, became Harrogate chairman.

Born in Doncaster, Weaver made his first senior appearances for Doncaster Rovers on loan from Sheffield Wednesday.

He spent time playing in non-league, before featuring in the Football League for Macclesfield Town and Lincoln City.

Weaver went on to play for the likes of Scarborough Athletic and Boston United, in an extensive lower-league playing career.





The Present & The Past

THE PRESENT / JOSH FALKINGHAM

Harrogate Town captain Josh Falkingham joined the club in 2017 and has made around 200 league appearances since.

At 5'9" tall the diminutive midfielder has been a crucial part of Harrogate Town's rise up the leagues, helping The Sulphurites to promotion to the National league via the play-offs in 2018.

Falkingham captained Harrogate to their National League play-off victory over Notts County, and their FA Trophy final victory over Concord Rangers in 2020.

Falkingham, 32, is a significant vocal presence in the Harrogate team. He signed a new Harrogate contract in January meaning that he will be under-contract with The Sulphurites until 2025.

Born in Leeds, Falkingham played in the youth ranks at Leeds before being released in 2010 without breaking into the first team.

The Leodensian signed for Scottish Premiership side St Johnstone, for whom he only made one appearance, before moving to Third Division Arbroath later that year.

Falkingham moved to Dunfermline Athletic in 2012, making 120 appearances in four years with The Pars.

The midfielder got his first taste of success, with Dunfermline Athletic, winning Scottish League One in 2016.

He returned to England in 2016, spending a year with Darlington in the National League North.



THE PAST / PAUL HECKINGBOTTOM

Current Sheffield United Manager Paul Heckingbottom featured for Harrogate Town as a player between 2011 and 2012 at the back end of his career.

The left-back made 21 appearances for The Sulphurites in the National League North as a 34-year-old.

Heckingbottom recently managed Sheffield United to the Premier League and won three Championship Manager of the Month awards last season as The Blades finished second in the second-tier.

Heckingbottom initially took caretaker charge of Sheffield United in the Premier League at the end of the 2020/21 season after the sacking of Chris Wilder.

He was re-appointed, this time on a permanent basis in 2021, following The Blades' poor start to the season under Slavisa Jokanovic, signing a four-and-a-half-year contract.

Heckingbottom previously gained managerial experience with Hibernian, Leeds United, and Barnsley.

Born in Barnsley, Heckingbottom started his youth career at the Manchester United academy, before departing for Sunderland in 1995. He gained his first first-team appearances on loan at Scarborough, but never made a senior appearance for The Mackerns.

Heckingbottom played for a myriad of different clubs as a player, he played more games for Darlington between 1999 and 2002 than he did for any other.

He later went on to feature for the likes of Norwich City, Sheffield Wednesday, and his hometown club Barnsley.

Heckingbottom scored the only goal of a 1-0 win for Barnsley over Brian Little's Tranmere at Prenton Park in February 2006.





Three Previous Encounters



THE TEAMS

THE ASSOCIATE & ACADE



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT CHAPEL HILL



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

FOUR-STATE TRIANGLE

ON MARCH 17, 2019



ON MARCH 17, 2019

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THE ASSOCIATE & ACADE

ON MARCH 17, 2019

ON MARCH 17, 2019



TRANMERE ROVERS 1
HARROGATE TOWN 1

Saturday 5 September 2020
Carabao Cup First Round

In September 2020, Harrogate Town defeated Tranmere by penalty shootout 9-8 in a League Cup tie at Prenton Park. James Vaughan rounded the Harrogate goalkeeper Joe Cracknell, before Lloyd Kerry levelled five minutes later.

It was the first competitive game played behind closed doors at Prenton Park due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and Harrogate's first match in the competition.

TRANMERE ROVERS 3
HARROGATE TOWN 2

Tuesday 26 January 2021

Sky Bet League Two

In January 2021, a double from James Vaughan saw Tranmere Rovers defeat Harrogate 3-2 in a topsy-turvy game at Prenton Park.

Josh McPake opened the scoring for Harrogate, before Tranmere scored three around half-time, a penalty and a tap-in from Vaughan, plus a Kaiyne Woolery strike. Josh March later got a goal back for Harrogate.

HARROGATE TOWN 2
TRANMERE ROVERS 2

Tuesday 19 October 2021

Sky Bet League Two

In October 2021, Tranmere drew 2-2 with Harrogate at the EnviroVent Stadium thanks to a second-half Kieron Morris equaliser.

Jay Spearing's penalty, his first goal for the club, had opened the scoring before two Harrogate goals either side of half-time.

It was the first visit to Harrogate Town for most Rovers fans, following the reintroduction of supporters at games.

Notable Numbers

8

Meetings between Tranmere Rovers and Harrogate in all competitions.

18

Goals scored by Tranmere is all meetings so far.

5,000

The new capacity of Harrogate's EnviroVent Stadium.

59

League goals scored by Harrogate in 2022/23.

3

Goals scored by James Vaughan - the top scorer in all fixtures between the two teams.

1

Number of occasions Harrogate have

reached the Third Round of the FA Cup.

14

The number of years Simon Weaver has now managed Harrogate Town.

17

Years spent in the Northern Premier League before promotion to the Vanarama National League North in 2004.



TRANMERE ROVERS

HARROGATE TOWN



MATCH FACTS & TOTAL CARDS

Three of the last four meetings between Tranmere Rovers and Harrogate Town in League Two have ended in a score draw (2-2 in 2021, 1-1 in 2022, 1-1 in 2023).

70

3

62

2

There has been at least one goal scored in all six of the League Two meetings between Tranmere Rovers and Harrogate Town.



GOALS





EXPECTED GOALS

GOALS
CONCEDEDEXPECTED GOALS
AGAINSTCLEAN
SHEETS

SHOTS

AVERAGE
POSSESSION %SHOT CONVERSION
RATE %POINTS GAINED AFTER
TRAILINGPOINTS DROPPED
AFTER LEADING

GOAL TIMES

	SCORED	CONCEDED		SCORED	CONCEDED
0-15	5	8	0-15	9	16
16-30	8	6	16-30	5	9
31-45	8	14	31-45	7	16
46-60	8	4	46-60	15	9
61-75	6	9	61-75	8	6
76-90	10	7	76-90	15	12

Data for 2022/23 campaign.



Opposition Dream Team

Charlie Stubbs selects a former Harrogate fantasy 'eleven'



1 - Goalkeeper: James Belshaw
Starting between the sticks is Nottingham-born James Belshaw. He was the starting goalkeeper as Harrogate Town rocketed reached League Two for the first time, helping win both the National League North and National League playoffs.

2 - Centre Back: Warren Burrell
Harrogate's current number 6, Warren Burrell starts at the right centre back. With seven seasons at the club, including starting in their play-off final victory against Notts County, he's been an important part of the club's recent success.

3 - Centre Back: Connor Hall
Just as capable in centre midfield, Colchester United's Connor Hall starts at centre half. A tall, imposing player, he was described as a 'big target' by manager Simon Weaver, in the summer of 2019, and it ultimately paid off. He scored the second goal for the Sulphurites in the 2020 Play-Off final, cementing their place in League Two,

4 - Centre Back: Mark Barnard
Sheffield-born Mark Barnard only played a season and a half for the side, but helped them win promotion to the National League North in 2003. Originally a forward but converted to a left wing back or left back, he was an incredibly attacking left sided player and was seen as one of the best in his position in the league, but for this side,



he will need to play left centre back.

5 - Right Mid: Michael Ord
Striker turned midfielder, Michael comes in on the right hand side. He may have only played three seasons for the Yorkshire-based side, however was part of the team who won promotion from the Northern Premier League Premier Division and Northern Premier League Division One, as champions, helping the club reach their highest tier in their history.

6 - Centre Mid: Lloyd Kerry
Kerry joined ahead of the 2014-15 season but couldn't hold down a permanent position at the start. Once he was in the team, he helped Harrogate reach as high as they ever have in their history, winning promotion to the National League, and then the Football League. He was also part of the team that won the 2020 FA Trophy.

7 - Centre Mid: Josh Falkingham
You don't score a winner in a cup final to help your club win their first major cup trophy in their history and not be counted as a great. Captain for the Sulphurites in the 2020 FA Trophy final, Josh hasn't scored many goals throughout over 150 appearances for the club, but he has scored on of the important ones. He is still at the club.

8 - Left Mid: Jack Diamond
A two-time loanee at the club, Diamond



was the club's top goalscorer upon their promotion to League Two in the 2021-22 season. A versatile left midfielder, he still has his entire career ahead of him, as he was only born in the year 2000.

9 - Centre Attacking Mid: Danny Holland
Member of the Harrogate Hall of Fame, Danny is the fourth highest goalscorer of club history. He scored 98 goals in 190 games between 2004-09, primarily in the non-league system. He was the top goalscorer for three successive seasons throughout his time.

10 - Striker: Luke Armstrong
Harrogate's number 29, he joined the League Two side upon their promotion to the league and made himself an important player. He scored 30 goals across two seasons for the North Yorkshire side. Ahead of this season, after the club had rejected transfer bids for him, Armstrong made himself unavailable for selection.

11 - Centre Forward: Jim Hague
The club's all time top goalscorer, Jim has scored 135 league and cup goals for the side across 17 seasons and two stints. From 1956-68 and 1961-74, he racked up over 400 appearances, placing him third in the all time appearance list. He was also the youngest player to play for the club, with his debut coming at the age of 14.

Luke Norris



Luke Norris got off the mark last Tuesday - and is the focus of our next player conversation

Luke, welcome to Tranmere Rovers, how has your time been so far?

Enjoyable! Frustrating with my injury, but after a lot of hard work I'm raring to go. I've been careful, it's a long season so I'm just making sure I'm 100% and I'm delighted to get out there now.

You're one of a few promotion winners to join the Club this summer, what did you learn in your promotion winning season that can you bring to Tranmere?

The experience of it is huge, you see the lads who've been brought in this year. We have a taste for it and want it

again, you go into the changing room and there's lots of people who've done it. This team can achieve it but it's down to us now. Also, we had a tight-knit group at Stevenage and the new lads here have all jelled with the squad very quickly. In my first meeting with the Club, they wanted to know the sort of person I am, so the aim has been to create a good atmosphere in the changing room. Everyone's happy, smiling, no sulking. Every club has bad spells, but we have the staff and senior players to push spirits up every day.

You're new to the area, of course, how are you adjusting to life up north?

I've been a pro for 13 years and I've always been down south so it's a big change of lifestyle. I've got family, a little boy, so it's a big change for them but we're settling in. I'm a big golf fan and there's lots of lovely courses up here! The guys have been really helpful, they've told me the places to go.

Have you picked up any sayings up here?

There's a few but I mostly get the mick taken out of me because I'm probably the most Southern here! Harvey Saunders does a little impression of me every morning which makes me laugh.



Who have you grown close with since joining the Club?

There are a few lads who play golf and I've played with Kieron. When we get some time off, I'm just waiting to get out on the nice links courses around here! We're all getting on really well, it's a brilliant group.

What are your thoughts on Prenton Park and the SWA?

I've played here before and the fanbase has always been very strong, all the players I know that have played for Tranmere say the same. Our aim now is to get the Club promoted and see the numbers rise. We want to see 9-10k fans at the ground every week, but you've got to give them something good

to watch and that's what we want to do this year.

Let's delve into some of your personal tastes, what music are you listening to in the car before training or a game?

I listen to a bit of Morgan Wallen, which is country, but then Drake comes on the song afterwards so it's a bit of everything. I like a bit of 80's as well!

What movies or TV shows have you been watching recently?

I've just started watching Hijack on Apple TV, Idris Elba's in it. I watched all the episodes in one go, I'm a big fan of that, well worth a watch.

Favourite footballer of all time?

Dennis Bergkamp – my wife got me a video message from him for my 30th birthday. He told me life begins at 30, which is true! I'm a big Arsenal fan and we've got two season tickets in the family, I don't get to go that much obviously, but I do when I can.

And finally, who would you consider to be your role model?

My parents. My dad got me into football, I don't know anyone who likes football as much as him. I've got a little boy now, the father-son football thing is massive and that comes from him.

***Luke was talking to Alex Bullions*





PLAY FOR THE
Badge



ESSAR



FROM A PRESS PERSPECTIVE

THE SAUDI PRO-LEAGUE

There was an informative article on the BBC Sport website just last week asking if the recent 'remarkable' spending spree by the Saudi Pro League is just the start. According to one of its leading executives the answer is a simple 'Yes!'



British director Peter Hutton, who sits on the league's board says 'I think the budgets are in place for a number of years. I don't see this slowing down.' The SPL has lured some of football's biggest names since five-time Ballon d'Or winner Cristiano Ronaldo joined in January from Manchester United. They include former Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema and more established players from Chelsea, Manchester City, Bayern Munich and Liverpool's former captain Jordan Henderson. To follow that we heard of a world-record bid for Paris St-Germain forward Kylian Mbappe.

Hutton who has been a senior executive at Eurosport, ESPN, IMG & Facebook, said: 'I've worked in sport for 40 years and I've never seen a project as big, as ambitious and as determined to be a success.' Speaking to BBC sports editor Dan Roan in a wide-ranging interview for BBC Radio 5 Live's special 'The Saudi Story', he said it was 'not necessarily a bad thing' if European football was not as strong as it has been.

Hutton also put the Saudi spending into context, saying 'it has got the world of sport talking but it's a quarter or fifth of what Premier League clubs have spent this summer.'

City manager Pep Guardiola has said the Saudi Pro League's financial power has 'changed the market' for transfers and elite clubs 'need to be aware of what is happening', while Liverpool counterpart Jurgen Klopp has expressed concern about the transfer window closing late in Saudi.

According to Transfermarkt, SPL clubs have spent 409m euros (£352m) so far this summer – the fifth highest total in world football and more than Spain's La Liga's 254m euros (£218m). The Premier League



leads the way with 1.37bn euros (£1.17bn) spent. Asked how big a threat the SPL is to the established powers of football, Hutton said: 'The investment from Saudi is remarkable. It's certainly been a big acceleration. This doesn't necessarily mean that Europe isn't going to be as strong in world football going forward. But I would say that's not necessarily a bad thing. It's good that football has strength around the world.'

Saudi Arabia has invested heavily in sport in recent years and has been accused of using events to 'sportswash' its reputation. There are concerns over human rights and women's rights in the country, while same-sex sexual activity is illegal in Saudi Arabia, with the death penalty a possible punishment. Indeed Henderson's move to Al-Ettifaq drew criticism given his previous support of the LGBTQ+ community. Responding to these issues, Hutton said: 'The reason I got involved in the KSA (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) was I saw some stuff that was happening on the ground. I look at the evidence I see. You've got 50,000 school girls playing football. You've got 1,000 women coaches. In 2018 there were 750 registered coaches. Now there are over 5,500. So you see that as evidence of change, and women's football development as part of societal change. That for me is the real attraction of this project.'

These questions and more such as 'are they real clubs with real fan bases' and 'what are the commercial gains' for the SPL are discussed at length in 'The Saudi Story' – a BBC Radio 5 Live special – so if you are interested in finding out more take a listen on BBC Sounds.

DEREK JONES

BBC RADIO Merseyside



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Tranmere Rovers In The Community

Sign up to the latest free Fit Rovers 12-week men's fitness programme.

Tranmere Rovers in the Community will be taking on a whole new group of male supporters looking to improve their health and fitness for free this September. Fans who have previously completed the 12-week programme have been extremely positive about its effects. One participant said, "I've loved the programme, it's been a real success for me as I've lost weight and I feel better, which is even more important than losing the weight really."

"I'm fitter and not out of breath when walking – it's just been fantastic."

The programme is free and is for male supporters aged 35-65.

The men's group will take place every Wednesday at 1.15pm-3.15pm at Prenton Park Recreation Centre from 13th September to 6th December.

It's quick and easy to sign up too - just email Liam on LiamF@tranmererovers.co.uk to register your interest or give us a call on 0151 608 2354.

Come along to our TRFC Summer Club at Beechwood Recreation Centre!

Are you looking for activities for your children this summer holiday? Here at Tranmere Rovers in the Community, we've



got plenty of activities for you to bring the kids along to including our Summer Club at Beechwood!

Our Summer Club at Beechwood Recreation Centre will take place every Friday in August (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th), for two hours between 10.30am-12.30pm.

This session is free of charge, and includes football, multi-sports, and access to our brand new for this year Youth Zone where the kids can play games like pool, table tennis, darts, video games and more.

Our free Summer Club at Beechwood is for children aged 10-16, and you can secure your child's place now by emailing Tom on TomR@tranmererovers.co.uk.

You can follow us on all social media channels @TRFCCommunity to keep up to date with all our summer activities such as these sessions and more.





MATCH IMAGES

Carabao Cup First Round 8/8/2023

Rovers booked a date with Leicester City last Tuesday night, following a 7-6 penalty shootout victory over League One Barnsley, this after the two sides had drawn 2-2 within normal time (plus 8 minutes!)

Photos: Richard Ault/Tony Coombes



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GIANTS



of Prenton Park

If Tranmere's thrilling rise through the divisions during the late 1980s and early 90s was, as manager John King described it, "a rocket ride to the moon," then Ian Muir was the expedition's Flash Gordon.

The striker became a dashing hero figure for supporters because not only did he score the goals that fired Tranmere from the Football League's fourth tier to the second, he delivered them in style. Muir had a skill set that put balls in the net and bums on seats. Without being especially quick, tall or strong, he had the ability to outsmart and outmanoeuvre defenders, create opportunities for himself and others and finished clinically with either foot or with his head.

He plundered goals so consistently that he became Tranmere's all-time leading scorer with 180 in 393 league and cup appearances between 1985 and 1995.

Although his talents and career blossomed in the teams built by King, he was signed by another Tranmere manager, Frank Worthington, who recruited the 22-year-old from Brighton in the summer of 1985.

Muir's early career had spluttered. He made barely a dozen league appearances during spells at Queens Park Rangers (where he progressed through the youth ranks), Birmingham City and Brighton. But once at Prenton Park, his game began to develop. Muir benefited from playing alongside Worthington, a former England international and talent, and notched 15 goals in his first season >>>

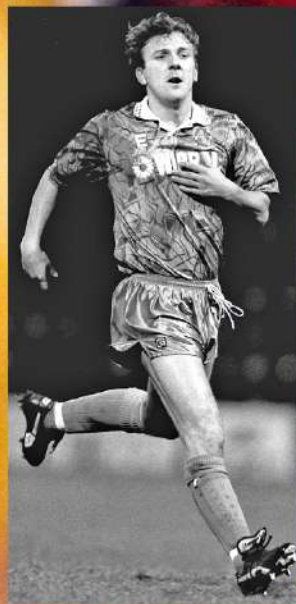


NICK HILTON'S ROVERS RETROSPECTIVE

IAN MUIR

2

The following season, during which Warthington lost his job as Tranmere plunged into administration, Muir's tally was 25. Without those goals, Tranmere would almost certainly have lost their Football League status rather than engineer the final game escape that became a launchpad for King's rocket ride. Muir hit 27 league and cup goals in Tranmere's 1987/88 campaign in Division Four and 30 in all competitions the following season when they won promotion as runners-up. Rovers clinched a place in Division Three with a final game 1-1 draw at home to Crewe Alexandra, with Muir scoring the all-important goal.



Like a number of players in King's team, Muir responded to the challenge of playing at a higher level by raising his own game. Some, like Dave Higgins and Chris Malkin, had come from non-league football, a number of others were graduates from the youth development set-up, revived in 1987, that yielded a crop of high quality young players very quickly.

Muir believed the harmony and team spirit that developed among the group was key to their success. He told the Daily Post in 2013: "We were all good friends and we all went out together after games. It did not matter which members of the team you went out with because everyone joined in."

"I got better and better as the new players came along."

"We came from all over the place, Steve Vickers from the north-east, Eric Nixon from Manchester, Jim Harvey from Ireland and I was from the Midlands. A lot of the squad were Scousers, like Johnny Morrissey, Dave Martindale, Dave Higgins and the younger players who came up through the youth team like Tony Thomas, Kenny Irons and Ged Brannan."

"A lot of us had been released by other clubs and we all wanted to prove something."

"Tony Thomas called it a 'once in a career dressing room' and it was special. We were a very tight group."

Tranmere did not require a settling season in 89/90, qualifying for the play-offs by finishing fourth. Muir's contribution was 35 goals, including 23 in the league and seven in the Leyland Daf Trophy.

He scored one of the goals in Tranmere's 2-1 win over Division Three champions Bristol City in the Leyland Daf final at Wembley but a week later was on the losing side as the team were beaten 2-0 by Notts County in the play-off final.

Muir had notched 13 goals from 33 games during the following campaign when his career hit a turning point.

He sustained a cruciate ligament injury in a 2-0 win at Chester City on March 23, 1991, that would put him out of action for 10 months.



During that absence, King found a temporary replacement in Steve Cooper, who helped get Tranmere over the line in winning promotion to the second tier, thanks to a fifth place finish and the 1-0 win over Bolton Wanderers in the play-off final.

Then, in the summer of 1991, King pulled off a transfer coup by recruiting the former Liverpool striker John Aldridge from Real Sociedad.

By the time Muir was able to make a tentative return to first-team action in January 1992, Aldridge had notched 28 league and cup goals.

Even when fully recovered, Muir wasn't quite the player he was before the injury. His first-team appearances were limited by the free scoring consistency of Aldridge and manager John King's reluctance to pair the two marksmen together.

King argued, often against supporter sentiment, that Aldridge and Muir were too similar in style to create a good balance and he believed the hard running Chris Malkin was a better foil for Aldridge.

Muir started only seven league games in 1992/93, 10 in 93/94 (which yielded nine goals) and 12 in 94/95.

The parting of the ways came in 1995 when Birmingham City manager Barry Fry paid £120,000 for Muir and then played him only once.

Muir moved on to another brief spell at Darlington, then headed to Hong Kong where he spent two seasons with First Division clubs Sing Tao and Happy Valley. After giving up the game, Muir ran a greetings card business in his hometown of Coventry.

LUKE
MC GEE

1



Supporting Tranmere Rovers in the Community and local causes

MORE THAN A LOTTERY

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
**NATE'S
TICKETS**



We are proud to confirm the Tranmere Rovers fundraiser will support Nates tickets formerly the community scheme that has been renamed in honour of Nate Gidman, a five year old supporter who sadly passed away earlier this season following a battle with brain cancer.

We are supporting the scheme which will now be known as Nate's tickets and we will continue to provide a football experience through organised charities and groups to families whom would not have the opportunity due to financial or other circumstances since launching the scheme seven years ago we are proud to have welcomed 23,500 people to Prenton Park through the original community ticket scheme.

OUR LATEST WINNING NUMBERS



SATURDAY 5.8.2023

The winners of our prize draws for are:

2023/24 Home Shirt: **Pauline West**

£40 gift voucher: **Matthew Norman**

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£15 gift voucher: **David Martin**

£10 gift voucher: **Elizabeth Harrison**

£10 gift voucher: **Chris Bell**

Well done to all this weeks' winners!

Your prizes can be collected from the Club Store, or please get in touch via lottery@tranmererovers.co.uk



COVER TO COVER

ANDREW STURGEON ON **HARROGATE TOWN V TRANMERE 2020/21**

We don't have to go back far for the first meeting between these teams, as Harrogate compete in only their fourth EFL season.



Indeed, Tranmere have the distinction of being the first team Harrogate faced as a league side, albeit in the League Cup, which started off the delayed 2020-21 season. Harrogate came away from Prenton Park victorious 8-7 on penalties, as the first round game was drawn 1-1.

No programme was issued for this game, nor for any home cup games this season.

Harrogate produced an impressive 44 page 'behind closed doors' issue for £3. Only 10 pages of these were advertising, one, of course, being for the synonymous Harrogate Spring Water. A page advertising live streaming for all matches home and away for £10 a match is a sign of the times, but no specific reference is made to it - Follow.

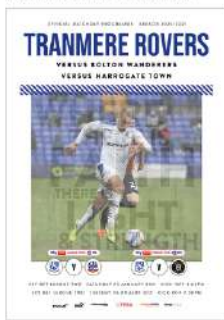
Seven pages delved into the life of midfielder George Thomson, who graced the front cover.

Six pages were dedicated to the Rovers, and a fantastic effort was made by Phil Harrison, who profiled players who have

represented both teams, down to those who had made only 1 or 2 substitute appearances for the respective clubs.

Harrogate's first visit to Birkenhead was on a Tuesday night in January and a 'double issue' programme was produced.

With Bolton having been the visitors the previous Saturday, it was not deemed productive to produce two issues for what remained 'behind closed doors'



games. Keith Hill and Mark Palios in their respective manager and boardroom notes had to cover the nuances of both opposing sides.

In a quirk of fate, 23 programmes were still produced this season, as Tranmere reached the Play Offs.

This season was Tranmere's first foray into electronic programmes, which were offered to season ticket holders free of charge.

These were also available for non season ticket holders as well as physical copies which were still available to buy for £2.

The player action photos on the front cover, in this instance of James Vaughan, sported the legendary watermark, "where there is faith, there is light and strength".

This double issue came in at the standard 32 pages, three pages of which were dedicated to The Sulphurites.


The team line ups for the Harrogate match were on the back cover, relegating Wanderers to the inside of the programme.



IMAGE PERFECT

This week...Sam Taylor celebrates his strike at Barnsley 8.8.2023
(Richard Ault)

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Prentonian Personal Effects



For tonight's programme, our overview of Rovers memorabilia offers another look at printed matter - this time the postcard. Where as football trade cards are rather plentiful for collectors everywhere, the football postcard has proved rather more rare in the case of coverage of Tranmere Rovers alone.

The first postcards of any kind appeared in 1870 and were non-illustrated, as they were just simple pieces of card in fact issued by the Post Office on which you could write a message. They also came pre-stamped - users wrote the address on one side where it had the halfpenny stamped and said POSTCARD, with the message on the other side. By law, no other sort of postcard was allowed at first.

In 1890 however, pre-paid envelope was made available to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Penny Post, on the back of the 'Penny Black' the world's first pre-paid postage stamp introduced in 1840 and now a much sort after item by stamp collectors around the world.

Illustrated postcards were then produced by individual manufacturers and started to appear widely around about 1894 distributed in all sorts of weird shapes and size.

As far as football was concerned, it was naturally the high profile clubs, especially those who were founders of the Football League that figured on the very first related postcards, portraying team groups and individual players.

Rovers' earliest foray into the world of football 'postcards' was solely indicated by a team group photo, transferred to the format and ultimately used to raise funds for the benefit of player Ralph Holden in 1919.

Holden lost his leg in military action, and in order to attract a healthy crowd, it was Liverpool who came to Prenton Park on Saturday 3 May 1919 to contest a testimonial match for him. The records show Rovers winning 3-0, but also note that the gate receipts, together with the sale of 500 cards at 2d (1p) each, these printed by the Birkenhead Advertiser, added to the auctioning of the matchball for



£5.10s.6d, which in turn raised a grand total of £450 for Holden. With the First World War at an end and Rovers taking a step closer to their ultimate goal of League football, team group photos were now becoming commonplace, snapped up by supporters to send to friends and family across the country. It also included individual players and proved popular with the items sold not only at the Club, but also from the abundance of grocery shops around across Wirral.

By the mid-1930s however, the 'football' trend had taken a downturn, especially with the rapid improvements in magazine printing and the emergence of such football related periodicals as the 'Topical Times'.

A erratic scattering of postcards re-emerged in the late 1940s to the mid-50s, again depicting Rovers' team groups of the period, until the format all but died off as supporters again looked to other items to help celebrate their support for their club. However, 'The Homes of Football' collection of photographs taken by

Stuart Clarke opened up a whole new perspective of how the beautiful game was viewed. The collection featured Rovers on a handful of occasions, but only two photos were then chosen for the official postcard collection, which appeared shortly afterwards.

John Aldridge, the 'Goalscoring Thoroughbred' from 1992 was a prominent image, taken within the old home dug out at Prenton Park, while the diverse 'Neon Girls' was set against the backdrop of the stadium catering facilities. Whether or not it was our current food caterers, Willow, has yet to be confirmed!

From this point, stadium postcards were the order of the day, with Prenton Park featuring 'officially' on two postcards during the 1990s the first shortly before redevelopment in 1994 and issued by Aerofilms, and the second by North West Programmes following the construction of the three new stands a couple of years later. They now prove collectable items not just to serious followers of the Club but all general postcard enthusiasts across the country with the rarer ones fetching high prices at auction.

Why not share your Rovers 'Personal Effects' with us - we'd love to hear from you!
Email us at tonyc@tranmererovers.co.uk

IN THE MEDIA

The FOOTBALL LEAGUE Paper

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"What, so every game we're going to play for 100 minutes?" queried the Spaniard. "Wasting time, from my point of view, is not going to be solved by extending ten more minutes."

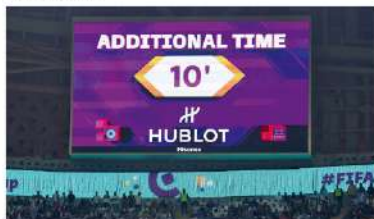


Exhibit B, Raphael Varane, who hadn't actually played anyone. "We have shared our concerns for many years now," said the Manchester United defender.

"There are too many games, the schedule is overcrowded, and it's at a dangerous level for players' physical and mental well-being. Despite this feedback, they are now recommending longer games and more intensity. I feel these changes are damaging our game."

Want more? How about the PFA, which says the additional time is "too much" for its members to bear in an already "unsustainable" calendar.

Let's rewind here. The rules unveiled last weekend, both in the Community Shield and across the EFL, are designed to prevent the kind of niggly dark arts coyly passed off as gamesmanship but more properly described as cheating.

Pretend head injuries. Goalkeepers with cramp. Fouling a player, then standing in front of the ball to prevent a quick free-kick. Pretending you *just* can't make your mind up which way to lob a throw-in. If you've played football - or just watched the Italian national team - you know the score.

Previously, referees were simply instructed to add a nominal amount of time, which usually meant nothing at all.

But after a study revealed that the ball averaged less than 55 minutes in play during an average top-flight match, the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the game's lawmakers, recommended that every stoppage - no matter how brief - be added to the clock.

Cue outrage, as last weekend's games stretched to what in some cases amounted to an entire half of extra-time.

Squint hard, and you can see Varane's point. Ten minutes of stoppage time, multiplied over a 38-game season, is equivalent to playing four extra fixtures.

But hang on. Isn't that a bit like complaining you can't afford your heating bills because you keep receiving speeding fines?

The solution is not to eradicate the fines. It's to drive more slowly. The fine is a deterrent, not a punishment, and this is the point that appears to have been missed - wilfully or otherwise - by Guardiola, Varane and everyone else crying foul.

Nobody actually wants to see ten minutes of injury time. It's not a ploy to make footballers work harder. It's a deterrent, designed to improve behaviour.

The solution - call me crazy, here - is to stop wasting time. Stop feigning injury. Stop berating the ref. Stop putting the ball under your arm and legging it 30 yards after conceding a free-kick. Play fair, and - poof! - all that injury time will magically disappear.

Does that mean players will expend more energy than before? Yes. But if that really was a concern for elite managers and players, they could always go on strike and refuse to play in the expanded Champions League, which will add considerably more minutes to their workload.

Or use the enormous squads they've stockpiled over the years. They won't, though. There's too much money riding on it and, if they're entirely honest, it's not about fatigue.

It's about old habits dying hard, resistance to change, and frustration that 'experience', 'professionalism' or whatever euphemism you choose to use has been called out for what it really is.

Implemented consistently, IFAB's clampdown has the potential to improve football as a spectacle more than any innovation since the backpass. Referees must ignore the noise and stick to their guns.



By Chris Dunlavy, reporter, The Football League Paper

Ahead of the 2023/24 campaign, we spoke to Tranmere Rovers Women manager, Sam Irvine, on his thoughts on pre-season and what we are looking to achieve in the new season.



Speaking on the girl's return to training, Sam said:

"I've been really impressed and satisfied with the pre-season campaign. The team were back in early and have worked extremely hard on the training pitch both technically & physically, the benefits of which we've already begun to see during the games."

Having played four pre-season fixtures, including the Britannia Cup, which saw team pick up the trophy going undefeated for the whole tournament:

"In terms of the games, we've played a variety of teams that have all tested us in different areas of our game which has provided us with excellent preparation for the season. Including our successful trip to the Britannia Cup with one pre-season game remaining, we've played 9 fixtures undefeated, scoring 29 goals & conceding only 3 so we were happy with where we're at & are looking forward to the business starting for real now when we face Cheadle in our first game of the new season at home on Sunday 20 August."

Ending last season with winning the Cheshire Cup and having already won silverware in pre-season, Sam spoke about the importance of continuing with the winning mentality:

"Of course, the winning feeling is something that everyone in the game is striving for so to have brought home two pieces of silverware already during my time at the club is something I am proud of. I know that these successes have given our players a lot of belief & confidence that they can compete & get over the winning line & it's crucial that we use that belief & experience to our advantage as we embark on a new campaign looking for more success." Tranmere Rovers Women have signed new players ahead of the new

season and it has created healthy competition amongst the squad:

"I am delighted with the players we've been able to bring in. They all add real quality & good depth to the squad and there is a real healthy competition for places. It's important to us also that anyone new coming into the group is a good person first and is aligned with what we want to try & achieve with the club. I am pleased that we've been able to recruit people of quality both on the pitch & off the pitch with Aidan Spurling & Elliott Davies both joining the coaching staff over the summer too."

Looking ahead to the league campaign, Sam spoke to us about the tough competition they will come up against:

"I'm expecting another competitive campaign, this is a league in which the majority of teams are fairly evenly matched. We know from experience that it's a competition in which you cannot afford to have an off day without being punished & so we'll approach every game with that in mind & with the focus on what we need to do as a team if we are to be successful."

Talking about the ultimate goal for the campaign, Sam said:

"We want to build & improve on last season and of course have more success. Everyone in the group has agreed on what our goal is & we know what we need to do to achieve that. It's important that we are focussed and best prepared for every single game & take it one step at a time. Further to this, we've shown a commitment to developing & giving young players an opportunity. Every age group team throughout the pathway tasted success last season in terms of picking up silverware & it is our goal to continue further strengthening our player pathway throughout the club, developing young players & giving them an opportunity to flourish."

Tranmere Rovers Women kick start their new season with a home fixture against Cheadle Town Stingers this coming Sunday, 20 August, 2pm kick off, at the Ellesmere Port Sports Village.

Scan here for the latest Women's team news



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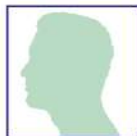
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PAGET



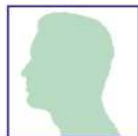
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Steve Bower

One of the factors that was clearly evident as I attended the season opener here against Barrow, apart from the wintry rain, was the 14 extra added minutes over the whole game making it a 104 minute match.

English football's new radical approach to stoppage time and time wasting in general was always going to debate.

I first experienced it while out in Qatar commentating for the BBC at last year's World Cup. Initially you'd have to do a double take as you looked down to see 10 or 11 minutes of added on time. It lead to some significant moments very late on that cost some countries further progression in the tournament. I arrived back in England still to be sold on the idea.

I totally understand the principle- more of the ball in play every game, I'm yet to be convinced that this is the perfect solution. In fact over the whole of the EFL last weekend I'm informed the ball was in play over the three divisions a total of 8 minutes more.

The day after our defeat to Barrow I saw Pep Guardiola respond to Arsenal's equaliser in the 11th min of second half stoppage time in the Community Shield by retorting they'll soon still be playing at 8 o'clock the next morning!

At the highest level the subject of too many games in a crowded schedule has again reared its head. Whatever the level we are watching, we want to see the best players on the pitch not in the stands.

In my own industry concern has been raised with the broadcast of live games surrounding time slots, commercial breaks and back-to-back time slots where there could be very little if any reaction/preview time to the next match or even a struggle to be on air for the kick-off of the following game.

I also don't think the supporters, especially the travelling fans have been considered at all, particularly with public transport times and arrangements.

It certainly makes managers substitutions, and the strength and timing of them even more important.

Change is never straight forward and it's very early days in the season.

Let's see how it settles down but for me I don't want to see 100 plus minute matches every week.



Tickets & Travel News

ADMISSION PRICES 2023/24

Main Stand - Bebbington End & Town End

Age Category/Status	Advance	Matchday
Adult	£26.00	£28.00
Senior (65+)	£21.00	£23.00
Young Person (18-22)	£19.00	£21.00
Disabled & Personal Assistant	£19.00	£21.00
Junior (Under 18)	£9.00	£11.00
Accompanied Junior (Under 12)	£5.00	£7.00

Town Paddock (including 'Bunny Bell' Bar)

Age Category/Status	Advance	Matchday
Adult	£24.00	£26.00
Senior (65+)	£19.00	£21.00
Young Person (18-22)	£17.00	£19.00
Disabled & Personal Assistant	£17.00	£19.00
Junior (Under 18)	£9.00	£11.00
Accompanied Junior (Under 12)	£5.00	£7.00

Kop, Bebbington Paddock & Johnny King Stand

Age Category/Status	Advance	Matchday
Adult	£23.00	£25.00
Senior (65+)	£18.00	£20.00
Young Person (18-22)	£16.00	£18.00
Disabled & Personal Assistant	£16.00	£18.00
Junior (Under 18)	£9.00	£11.00
Accompanied Junior (Under 12)	£5.00	£7.00

The Ian Muir Bar

Age Category/Status	Advance	Matchday
Adult	£51.00	£53.00
Personal Assistant	£25.00	£27.00
Junior (Under 18)	£29.00	£31.00

The Ray Mathias Lounge

Age Category/Status	Advance	Matchday
Adult	£66.00	£68.00
Personal Assistant	£40.00	£42.00
Junior (Under 18)	£44.00	£46.00

*Please note: Matchday prices listed above are before 12.00pm

*There are no cash admissions on the turnstiles

AWAY GAMES 2023/24

Notts County

Sky Bet League Two
Saturday 25 August 2023
Kick-off 3.00pm



Match Admission

Jimmy Sirrel Stand (Covered Seating).
Advance Sales: Adults £22, Seniors £16, 18-21 Years £16,
Under 18 £8, Under 16 £6, Under 12 £1.
Matchday Sales: Adults £22, Seniors £18, 18-21 Years £18,
Under 18 £10, Under 16 £8, Under 12 £1.
Tickets now on general sale.

Club Coach Travel

Departs Prenton Park 10.30am.
Adults £31 Concessions £29.
Seats subject to availability.

Stadium Location & Main Contact

Meadow Lane Stadium, Meadow Lane, Nottingham
NG2 3HJ.
Main Telephone: 0115 952 9000.

Fleetwood Town

EFL Trophy First Round
Tuesday 5 September 2023
Kick-off 7.00pm



Match Admission

All details to be confirmed/announced.

Club Coach Travel

All details to be confirmed/announced.
Seats subject to availability.

Stadium Location & Main Contact

Highbury Stadium, Park Avenue, Fleetwood, Lancashire,
FY7 6TX.
Main Telephone: 01253 775 080.

TO BUY ONLINE GO TO WWW.TRFCTICKETS.CO.UK >>>



Fancy taking your first step into football coaching?



Tranmere Rovers will soon launch our 'Football for Change' project which will offer 12 young people the opportunity to gain the FA accredited 'Introduction to Coaching Football' qualification free of charge. This is an internationally recognised qualification and a prerequisite to the UEFA C Licence.

The qualification will be offered as part of a wider project that will also include weekly sport and education workshops, guest speaker sessions and an end-of-project trip to the National Football Museum in Manchester where participants will have the opportunity to explore the history of 'The Beautiful Game' and celebrate gaining their qualification. Participants must be aged between 18-24 and not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and be able to commit to attending all sessions for a 16-week period.

Sessions are likely to take place every Wednesday between September and December (TBC) and will be delivered from Prenton Park and The Campus.

Head of Business Development and Community Matt Houghton said 'This is a great opportunity for any young person who's interested in football coaching to come down to the club and get involved in a range of activities whilst also working towards a qualification. Young people will benefit from being within a professional sporting environment and will also get to hear firsthand from club staff who have a wealth of experience in the industry. I'd urge anyone aged 18-24 who haven't gone to college or university or haven't got full-time work to get in touch for more information.'

What's on offer?

- ** FA accredited 'Introduction to Coaching Football'
- ** Weekly sport and education workshops (Wednesday)
- ** Guest speakers from Tranmere Rovers
- ** Day trip to the National Football Museum, Manchester (Dec/Jan)
- ** Potential pathways to work experience/employment opportunities

Your Commitment

- ** Attendance at all weekly workshops
- ** Desire to learn and develop
- ** Commitment to complete the coaching qualification

There are no costs associated to the project and all sessions will be delivered by qualified staff from Tranmere Rovers.

For more information and to register your interest, please contact Matt Houghton by emailing matthoughton@tranmererovers.co.uk



DISABLEDROVERS

Tranmere Rovers Disabled Supporters Association

Hello and welcome back to Prenton Park to the Super White Army. What a win that was against Barnsley in the first round of the League Cup. I, for one, am incredibly excited about the Second Round match against Leicester. A warm welcome is also extended to Harrogate's fans for making the trip across from West Yorkshire and we hope you enjoy your day on the Wirral.

RIP Ben Harrison

All at Disabled Rovers would like to express their deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Ben Harrison, the chair of the Tranmere Rovers' Supporters Trust.

A tireless community champion, massive Rovers fan and prominent local businessman, Ben represented, in many ways, the best of someone dedicated to their community and its success. He will be greatly missed by all at Tranmere Rovers and by the patrons of his businesses in Oxtown and across the Wirral.

Disabled Supporters Survey

We recently launched a short survey to find out what disabled Tranmere Rovers fans want from us as their Disabled Supporters' Association! Fill it in by going to <https://bit.ly/3s1Ck53>.

New Disability Identifiers

We are delighted to be launching a new scheme whereby fans who have either a visible or hidden disability can opt to wear a disability identifier during matches at Prenton Park. Staff are aware that anyone wearing ID may need additional support.

Any fan who feels they might benefit from this can choose either a green lanyard OR a more discreet silicone wristband. These can be collected from the Club Shop free-of-charge anytime from 4th August onwards. We're delighted to supporting this scheme with the Supporter Liaison Officers, so if you have any questions about how it'll work, please drop us or the SLOs a message on FB, Twitter or email.

New Food System

If you're a disabled supporter sitting in the accessible seating area of Bebington Paddock or the Kop, we're delighted to say that, after talking to Cowsheds' Catering, we've been able to sort out food and drink orders to your seats. It's all the usual good grub, available to order and eat in the accessible seating area of Bebington Paddock or the Kop.

WhatsApp Group

Last summer, we set up a WhatsApp group, so we can chat as disabled Tranmere fans and share our opinions on everything from the football on the pitch to our matchday experiences.

If you'd like to join our inclusive, informal group, please drop us a line on TranmereRoversDSA@gmail.com.

Easy Access Tickets

Just a quick reminder that if you are a fan with mobility difficulties who attends away games, it's really easy to get a seat that suits your support needs by selecting the "Easy Access" filter on the ticketing website. This way, you can make sure you get a seat that suits you and your needs in a hassle-free fashion.

Please feel free to drop us a line with any experiences, positive or negative, of away days as a Tranmere fan so we can feed that back.

Tins, Tins, Tins

We're still running our collection tin fundraiser and, in fact, we've got some new reusable tins and stuck our new design of labels on them too.

The idea is simple: take a tin from us, fill it with whatever change you have, and hand it back to us when it's full. The funds will be used towards supporting disabled members of the SWA.

Maybe you know of a local shop or pub that might like participate. If so, please do get in touch.

Ideas Wanted

We're always open to new ideas and fresh thinking to support our work as a disabled supporters' association.

If you've got any ideas about how you might be able to raise funds to

If you have any concerns this afternoon about access or accessibility, please feel free to ask one of our stewards who'll only be too happy to help.

Any queries relating to the experience of disabled supporters - and those who come with them - can be directed to TranmereRoversDSA@gmail.com.

QU?Z ZONE

CAN YOU HELP JUNIOR FIND THE ANSWERS? >>>>



10 X QUESTIONS...

1. Which side did Rovers legend Pat Nevin join the club from?
2. What is the name of the Argentinian midfielder Liverpool recently signed from Brighton and Hove Albion?
3. Which country did England face in their most recent European Qualifier at Old Trafford?
4. Who scored Rovers' only goal in the 2-1 League Cup defeat against today's opponents in 2021?
5. Which MLS side recently acquired the services of Lionel Messi?
6. Which former Tranmere striker finished last season as League Two top goal scorer?
7. In what league position did Harrogate Town finish the 2022/23 season in?
8. What was the score the last time Rovers faced Harrogate here at Prenton Park?
9. Which Indian Premier League side did Josef Yarney feature for during the 2021/22 season?
10. Who is the current manager of Premier League side Aston Villa?

WORDSEARCH...

T	G	R	E	M	G	H	B	C	L	K	D	T	H
R	N	I	U	Y	A	T	U	R	H	B	A	H	N
C	I	T	N	E	T	R	X	I	L	S	L	O	T
W	H	H	S	L	E	O	T	H	H	N	T	F	H
O	T	E	O	R	S	W	O	E	M	G	R	A	G
K	R	R	U	O	H	M	N	D	N	E	I	R	I
I	O	E	T	H	E	A	E	I	L	T	N	N	E
N	W	F	H	C	A	T	L	A	E	B	C	B	L
G	T	O	P	N	D	R	D	N	H	D	H	O	T
B	H	R	O	R	A	H	R	T	E	L	A	R	S
W	C	D	R	D	C	A	W	R	R	A	M	O	A
N	H	T	T	O	B	A	R	M	T	N	O	U	E
N	R	B	R	O	M	L	E	Y	E	O	N	G	L
A	A	D	L	E	I	F	R	E	T	S	E	H	C

DARLINGTON
BROMLEY
EASTLEIGH
WORTHING
GATESHEAD
CHESTERFIELD
HEREFORD
WOKING

SOUTHPORT
BUXTON
TAMWORTH
BARNET
FARNBOROUGH
ALTRINCHAM
CHORLEY
ROCHDALE

KIT OF
THE DAY

>>>>>



Which year
is this kit
from?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 57...

The opening weekend of the 2023/24 Sky Bet League Two season began with a bang as newly relegated MK Dons and newly promoted Wrexham played out an eight goal thriller at the Racecourse Ground.



The Dons were two nil up inside ten minutes through an own goal and Mohamed Eisa's composed finish past Ben Foster. The Red Dragons fought back and halved the deficit, but Jonathan Leko's rapid brace made it 4-1 to the Milton Keynes outfit. Jordan Davies and Anthony Forde's

attempts at inspiring a comeback were suppressed by Daniel Harvie, with the game ending 5-3. The other promoted side, Notts County also conceded five as they fell to a heavy defeat at the hands of Sutton United. Sutton got off to the perfect start as Joseph Mohamed Kizzi



headed home at the far post in the second minute. County's goalkeeper, Aidan Stone, was shown a straight red card with 15 minutes on the clock and things went from bad to worse as Omari Patrick scored a goal either side of half-time to make it 3-0. Harry Beautyman made it four before David McGoldrick grabbed a consolation goal for his side. Harry Smith nodded in a fifth to complete the scoring and mark Notts County's return to the football league with a loss. Gresty Road laid host to a thrilling tie as Mansfield Town travelled to Crewe Alexandra. Davis Keillor-Dunn squeezed in the opener in the 22nd minute and was the man of the moment again only four minutes later as he capitalised on a misplaced pass in the heart of the Crewe defence to double Town's advantage. Mickey Demetriou curled the ball into the far corner just after the half hour mark after the ball dropped to him from a corner. Mansfield were then reduced to ten men after Callum MacDonald



received a straight red card for a dangerously high challenge. With the momentum now swinging in the hosts favour, Rio Adebisi found the equaliser on the hour mark and made it 2-2.





Tranmere Rovers

Supporters Club



Good evening, a warm welcome to all home and away fans. The first home game under the lights always has a special buzz so let's hope tonight is no different. Today's opponents always seem to visit us on a Tuesday night and will no doubt be a tricky opponent as we look to pick up three points.

Thanks to everyone who has signed up with us for the new season. If you're still waiting to sign up, you can do so via the club's ticketing website. Simply login with your TR number as you would when buying tickets and select 'Memberships'. From there you should find the process fairly simple but please get in touch via supportersclub@tranmererovers.co.uk with any queries.

If you've already signed up, you can collect your membership pack from Aldo's before today's game if you're reading this early, or prior to the Salford game on Saturday.

As ever, we will be providing coaches for away games, we've had sold out coaches for Barnsley and MK Dons - please keep an eye on our social media channels (see bottom of the page) for details of future coach trips, with Notts County next up, and remember that all TROSC members receive a discount on each coach.

We will be in Aldo's tonight as always, with our hub offering continuing to complement the draught bar. We are open pre-game for all home fans, and during the game (8.00pm onwards) if you're in the Kop.



As well as our usual great offers, you can expect lots of live music this season post-match on Saturdays, once again keep an eye on social media for more details.

All of us at TROSC were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Ben Harrison. Ben was a truly wonderful man, always willing to help others and did more for the club, the fans and indeed the local area than can ever be fully appreciated. The fact Ben was so easy to work and get along with was key to the successful creation of the TROSC and an effective working relationship between ourselves and the Trust has been a real positive over the years. Many words will be written and spoken about Ben in the time ahead which is a testament to what he meant to people.

At this difficult time we send our deepest sympathies to his family and no doubt this will be echoed across the fanbase.



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PHONE: 03330 144 452

VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @COWSHEDSUK





A League Of Our Own

John Adamson...and Notts County

PART 1

"Galloping Goshers, Batman. What are they driving?"

The Caped Crusader and his Batmobile have been around since 1939, when the red vehicle would certainly have raised a few eyebrows. In the improbable event of the dynamic duo having been in the Nottingham area a thousand years or more earlier, he would not have been surprised by Robin's question, as a gosherd is a person who cares for geese.

The goshers would have been driving geese, all the way to an ancient Midlands agricultural fair. Nottingham can prove that its annual Goose Fair goes back at least to 1284, geese attending the annual event until they became surplus to requirements, when it morphed into a giant funfair 200 years ago. There were earlier versions too, back to Saxon times.

Remember the last time your arrector pili muscles contracted, causing your tiny skin hairs to be pulled upright? Or maybe you felt a swelling of the hair follicles?

If you did, then you were experiencing goosebumps. If you are of a vegetarian or vegan persuasion, look away now.

Next time you find a gosherd with a spare goose and decide to end the bird's days for gastronomic purposes, check out its bumpy plucked skin under the hair and feathers. That's the goosebumps. Then its fan oven 180 degrees, 20 minutes per pound.

Tourism chiefs felt movements of their own arrector pili muscles last year, when over half a million people were driven to attend the event. For the more compassionate, there's hen racing annually over the Derbyshire border at Bonsall, during which the birds are forbidden to fight. The spectators are hushed by the referee at the start after the hens have been warned about the consequences of misconduct. The event takes

place in complete silence, with smug librarians suspected to be in the crowd.

More headaches, then, for tourism bosses if not the police, but the solution originates from Nottingham.

Why are there no pain killer tablets in the jungle? Because the parrots ate 'em all. Ibuprofen, first sold as Nurofen, was invented by two scientists working for Boots the Chemist in 1983.

The pioneer of modern two-wheeled travel was the nearby Raleigh Bicycle Company. It brought the Chopper in 1970, and it became everyone's pride and joy. A million and a half were sold. You were nobody if you didn't keep your nuts tight and your Chopper in good nick.

Then one day, giving your chopper a good rub down and using it to impress your friends was suddenly no longer cool. The world had moved on, but not completely.

"Pulsating Plastic Pigs, Robin! What are they driving?" 44 years on, Batman's question answered itself. The RBC developed three-wheel transport too, leading to the 1973 launch of the Reliant Robin. Batman's sidekick shunned them, probably so he didn't upstage his boss's car.

On the Nottingham antiques scene and beyond, the bikes are greatly sought after. The arrector pili muscles only move when a quest for an old Chopper turns into a wild goose chase.





**Luke
McGEE**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Larne Wallissson
Sweden

BUSINESS SWA2

REHAB CENTRES UK



**Lee
O'CONNOR**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Sol-Britt Wallissson
Sweden

BUSINESS SWA2



**Brad
WALKER**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Tom
DAVIES**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Jordan
TURNBULL**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Jim & Calum
Hanrahan

Cuman Clothing

BUSINESS SWA2



**Charlie
JOLLEY**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Joe
MURPHY**

HOME KIT

The Abraham
Family

BUSINESS SWA2



**Kristian
DENNIS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Ian & Denise Lally

CASE & CASE
KITCHENWARE

BUSINESS SWA2



**Ben
HOCKENHULL**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

PAVING
SHOPPER

BUSINESS SWA2



**Chris
MERRIE**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Phil Hughes

Geoff Meeson

DEKOT COLOUR

BUSINESS SWA2



**Kieron
MORRIS**

FULL KIT

Bet Press
Sweden

BUSINESS SWA2

Joshua's
Independent Jewellers



**Regan
HENDRY**

FULL KIT

Steve & Tim
Shepherd
Foxboro USA

BUSINESS SWA2



**Luke
NORRIS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2

MJH
PAVING
CONSULTANCY



**Kane
HEMMINGS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Josh
HAWKES**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Liv Harding

BUSINESS SWA2



**Rhys
HUGHES**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Connor
JENNINGS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Ian & Denise Lally

Larne Wallissson
Sweden

Double Trouble
(Phil & Mark)

BUSINESS SWA2



**Harvey
SAUNDERS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Midlands SWA

Liv Harding

BUSINESS SWA2



**Sam
TAYLOR**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

Car Lease Deals

BUSINESS SWA2



**Paul
LEWIS**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2

Player Sponsors

Season 2023/24



**Reece
McALEAR**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Mikey
DAVIES**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2

ZEGO



**Joe
YARNEY**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2



**Jake
LEAKE**

AWAY KIT HOME KIT

BUSINESS SWA2

UKsmiles



**Ian
DAWES**

FULL KIT

SPORTS PATH

BUSINESS SWA2

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- Home Kit £250
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- SWA2 £150

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**TRANMERE ROVERS CAMPUS TRAINING GROUND
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PLAYER	D.O.B.	NAT	PREVIOUS CLUB	SN	POS	SBL2		FACUP		CCUP		EFLT		TOTAL	
						GMS	GLS	GMS	GLS	GMS	GLS	GMS	GLS	GMS	GLS
MIKEY DAVIES	23/09/2004	England	Youth/College	28	DEF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOM DAVIES	18/04/1992	England	Bristol Rovers	5	DEF	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
KRISTIAN DENNIS	12/03/1990	England	Carlisle United	14	STR	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
JOSH HAWKES	28/01/1999	England	Sunderland	11	MID	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1
KANE HEMMINGS	08/04/1992	England	Burton Albion	10	STR	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
REGAN HENDRY	21/01/1998	Scotland	Forest Green Rovers	8	MID	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
BEN HOCKENHULL	03/09/2001	England	Brentford	15	DEF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RHYS HUGHES	21/09/2001	Wales	Everton	17	MID	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONNOR JENNINGS	29/10/1991	England	Wrexham	18	STR	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
CHARLIE JOLLEY	13/01/2001	England	Wigan Athletic	12	STR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JAKE LEAKE (L)	20/02/2003	England	Hull City (L)	3	DEF	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
PAUL LEWIS	17/12/1994	England	Northampton Town	22	MID	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
REECE McALEER	12/02/2002	Scotland	Norwich City	23	MID	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
LUKE MCGEE	02/09/1995	England	Forest Green Rovers	1	GOL	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
CHRIS MERRIE	02/11/1998	England	Wigan Athletic	16	MID	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KIERON MORRIS	03/06/1994	England	Walsall	7	MID	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
JOE MURPHY	21/08/1981	Ireland	Shrewsbury Town	13	GOL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
LUKE NORRIS	03/06/1993	England	Stevenage	9	STR	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	1
LEE O'CONNOR	28/07/2000	Ireland	Celtic	2	DEF	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
HARVEY SAUNDERS	20/07/1997	England	Bristol Rovers	19	STR	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
SAM TAYLOR	23/12/2004	England	Youth/College	20	STR	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	1
JORDAN TURNBULL	30/10/1994	England	Salford City	6	DEF	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
BRAD WALKER	25/04/1995	England	Port Vale	4	MID	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
JOE YARNEY	08/10/1997	England	Oldham Athletic	21	DEF	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
OWN GOALS	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0

The Factual Figures From Season 2023/2024

13

Substitutions made in all games played so far

1

Penalties in favour of Rovers in open play and in all competitions

1

Goals scored at home in all competitions

2

Goals scored in all competitions in the second half of matches

Quiz Zone Page: Answers from Page 49

10 x Questions

1. Everton.
2. Alexis Mac Allister.
3. North Macedonia.
4. Nicky Maynard.
5. Inter Miami.
6. Andy Cook.
7. 19th.
8. 1-1.
9. RoundGlass Punjab.
10. Unai Emery.

Kit Of The Day

The season was 2019/20.



2023/2024



+ Live on Sky Sports # Live on BT Sports



MN	DATE	H/A	OPPOSITION	COMP	RESULT	POS	ATT	AWAY	GOALSCORERS	REFEREE
1	Sat 5 Aug	H	BARROW	SBL2	L 1 - 2	17th	4,584	557	Hawkes (83 pen)	Oliver Yates
2	Tue 8 Aug	A	Barrow	CC1	D 2 - 2*	—	4,343	439	Norris (23), Taylor (47)	Thomas Kirk
3	Sat 12 Aug	A	Milton Keynes Dons	SBL2	L 0 - 1	23rd	5,831	819		Sunny Sulthwaite Gill
4	Tue 15 Aug	H	HARRINGTON TOWN	SBL2	7.45pm					
5	Sat 19 Aug	H	SALFORD CITY	SBL2	3.00pm					
6	Sat 25 Aug	A	Notts County	SBL2	3.00pm					
7	Tue 28 Aug	H	LEICESTER CITY	CC2	7.45pm					
8	Sat 2 Sep	H	WREXHAM	SBL2	12.30pm					
9	Tue 5 Sep	A	Fleetwood Town	EFLT1-NGD	7.00pm					
10	Sat 9 Sep	A	Colchester United	SBL2	3.00pm					
11	Sat 16 Sep	A	Crawley Town	SBL2	3.00pm					
12	Sat 23 Sep	H	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	SBL2	3.00pm					
13	Sat 30 Sep	A	AFC Wimbledon	SBL2	3.00pm					
14	Tue 3 Oct	H	BRADFORD CITY	SBL2	7.45pm					
15	Sat 7 Oct	H	GRIMSBY TOWN	SBL2	3.00pm					
16	Tue 10 Oct	H	LEICESTER CITY U21	EFLT1-NGD	7.00pm					
17	Sat 14 Oct	A	Crewe Alexandra	SBL2	3.00pm					
18	Fri 20 Oct	H	DONCASTER ROVERS	SBL2	7.45pm					
19	Tue 24 Oct	A	Morecambe	SBL2	7.45pm					
20	Sat 28 Oct	A	Stockport County	SBL2	3.00pm					
21	Sat 4 Nov		EMIRATES FA CUP ROUND 1							
22	Sat 11 Nov	H	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	SBL2	3.00pm					
23	Tue 14 Nov	H	WIGAN ATHLETIC	EFLT1-NGD	7.00pm					
24	Sat 18 Nov	A	Sutton United	SBL2	3.00pm					
25	Sat 25 Nov	H	GILLINGHAM	SBL2	3.00pm					
26	Tue 28 Nov	A	Mansfield Town	SBL2	7.45pm					
27	Sat 3 Dec		EMIRATES FA CUP ROUND 2							
28	Sat 9 Dec	H	NEWPORT COUNTY AFC	SBL2	3.00pm					
29	Sat 16 Dec	A	Walsall	SBL2	3.00pm					
30	Sat 23 Dec	H	SWINDON TOWN	SBL2	3.00pm					
31	Tue 26 Dec	A	Salford City	SBL2	3.00pm					
32	Fri 29 Dec	A	Harrington Town	SBL2	TBC					
33	Mon 1 Jan	H	NOTTS COUNTY	SBL2	3.00pm					
34	Sat 6 Jan	A	Barrow	SBL2	3.00pm					
35	Sat 13 Jan	H	MILTON KEYNES DONS	SBL2	3.00pm					
36	Sat 20 Jan	A	Swindon Town	SBL2	3.00pm					
37	Sat 3 Feb	H	CREWE ALEXANDRIA	SBL2	3.00pm					
38	Sat 10 Feb	A	Doncaster Rovers	SBL2	3.00pm					
39	Tue 13 Feb	H	MORECAMBE	SBL2	7.45pm					
40	Sat 17 Feb	H	STOCKPORT COUNTY	SBL2	3.00pm					
41	Sat 24 Feb	A	Forest Green Rovers	SBL2	3.00pm					
42	Sat 2 Mar	H	SUTTON UNITED	SBL2	3.00pm					
43	Sat 9 Mar	A	Gillingham	SBL2	3.00pm					
44	Tue 12 Mar	H	MANSFIELD TOWN	SBL2	7.45pm					
45	Sat 16 Mar	A	Wrexham	SBL2	3.00pm					
46	Sat 23 Mar	H	CRAWLEY TOWN	SBL2	3.00pm					
47	Fri 29 Mar	A	Bradford City	SBL2	3.00pm					
48	Mon 1 Apr	H	COLCHESTER UNITED	SBL2	3.00pm					
49	Sat 4 Apr	H	WALSALL	SBL2	3.00pm					
50	Sat 13 Apr	A	Newport County AFC	SBL2	3.00pm					
51	Sat 20 Apr	H	AFC WIMBLEDON	SBL2	3.00pm					
52	Sat 27 Apr	A	Accrington Stanley	SBL2	3.00pm					








KEY: ● Played ● First Sub ● Second Sub ● Third Sub ● Fourth Sub ● Fifth Sub ● SO Sent Off






*Won 7-6 on Penalties:- Scored: Hawkes, Jennings, Hemmings, McAlear, Saunders, Leake, Lewis. Missed: Hendry (saved).

ENGLISH FOOTBALL LEAGUE - LEAGUE TWO TOP FIVES






GOALS

1		28	ANDY COOK
2		22	SAM HOSKINS
3		20	KRISTIAN DENNIS
4		17	OMAR BOGLE
5		16	DANIEL AGYEI

ASSISTS

1		15	OWEN MOXON
2		15	ELLIOT WATT
3		12	REMEAO HUTTON
4		12	BEN WHITFIELD
5		10	TOM NICHOLS




TOTAL SHOTS

1		140	SAM HOSKINS
2		121	OMAR BOGLE
3		120	ANDY COOK
4		113	CALLUM HENDRY
5		109	LUKE ARMSTRONG






CHANCES CREATED

1		124	ELLIOT WATT
2		93	MITCHELL PINNOCK
3		90	OWEN MOXON
4		80	RICHARD SMALLWOOD
5		76	BEN WHITFIELD






% OF GOALS INVOLVED IN

1		57.1	ANDY COOK
2		46.8	SAM HOSKINS
3		43.8	DANIEL AGYEI
4		37.3	LUKE ARMSTRONG
5		36.2	BEN WHITFIELD






SUCCESSFUL PASSES

1		2199	ELLIOT WATT
2		1919	THEO VASSELL
3		1809	IDRIS EL MIZOUNI
4		1794	RICHARD SMALLWOOD
5		1686	OMAR BECKLES

DRIBBLES COMPLETED

1		73	DANIEL AGYEI
2		65	PAUL SMYTH
3		64	OWEN MOXON
4		62	LUKE BOLTON
5		56	REMEAO HUTTON

SAVES

1		138	SOLOMON BRYNN
2		118	JONATHAN MITCHELL
3		117	HARRY LEWIS
4		112	MAX CROCOMBE
5		109	BEN KILLIP

ENGLISH FOOTBALL LEAGUE - LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

MK Dons boss Graham Alexander has lost his two away Football League matches as a manager against Crawley Town, losing with Fleetwood in 2014 and Salford in 2019.

Mansfield manager Nigel Clough hasn't lost in any of his last 11 league games against Doncaster Rovers (W7 D4) since a 3-1 defeat with Derby in March 2011.

Data from 2022-23 campaign.

Pos	Club	Home Record						Away Record						GD	PTS
		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
1	MK Dons	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	3	3	6	
2	Barrow	2	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	2	1	2	6	
3	Gillingham	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	6	
4	Mansfield Town	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	2	2	3	4	
5	Salford City	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	4	
6	Crawley Town	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	4	
7	Sutton United	2	1	0	0	5	1	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	
8	Accrington Stanley	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	3	
9	Newport County AFC	2	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	3	
10	Walsall	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	
11	Bradford city	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	
12	Harrogate Town	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	
13	Forest Green Rovers	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	-1	3	
14	Morecambe	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	3	-2	3	
15	Notts County	2	1	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	1	5	-3	3	
16	Crewe Alexandra	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	
17	AFC Wimbledon	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
18	Swindon Town	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
19	Grimsby Town	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	-1	1	
20	Wrexham	2	0	0	1	3	5	0	1	0	1	1	-2	1	
21	Colchester United	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0	
22	Stockport County	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	-2	0	
23	Tranmere Rovers	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	-2	0	
24	Doncaster Rovers	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	-5	0	

NEXT UP...



Salford City are the next side to visit Prenton Park, as Neil Wood's men will make the journey to Merseyside in search of three points on Saturday 19 August.

City narrowly missed out on promotion to League One last season after finishing the season in seventh place. It was heartbreak for Salford in the semi-finals of the play-offs, as they were defeated on penalties by Stockport after winning the first leg 1-0. They will be hopeful of going one step further this campaign, and have commenced this season with a 2-0 win away at Forest Green.

Manager, Wood, has been at the club since 2022 after departing Manchester United where he was head coach of the Under 23s. The 40-year-old was born in Stretford, and joined United at the age of eight. He made his name as a coach with the Red Devils, and led the development side to a variety of successes before taking charge of Salford.

Saturday 19 August 2023

Kick-Off 3.00pm - Tickets On Sale Now



23 Images

For our first midweek home fixture of the new season, the past weekends' root through the club photo archives conjured up, amidst many, this image portraying a 1980's Fourth Division match with mid-table Hull City, and at Prenton Park on Saturday 13 February 1982.



The significance of the photo here is that it represents the eventual re-opening of the terraces at Prenton Park, including the Cowshed. For the first time since December 1980 – this when a section of the pitch advertising and surrounding fences in front of the Borough Road stand (now the Johnny King Stand) collapsed, injuring several young fans and temporarily bringing the FA Cup Second Round tie with Huddersfield Town to a complete standstill. With club finances infamously draining away, the club directors resulting investigation shortly after the game saw then instruct all the terraced areas of the stadium to be shut down until sufficient work could be carried out to repair and improve the facilities. This decision fell flat with most of Rovers support, which in turn left just the Main Stand suitable for all fans for well over a year.

In the midst of all this, an application was made by Rovers to sell the large car park area for a superstore to raise much needed funds, but was then turned down by the local planning authorities, as Rovers made every attempt to secure the club's future.

The eventual safety requirements were then met, through both donations and volunteer work, and enabled Prenton Park to be restored to almost fully working order.

On the day of the Hull fixture, just 1,735 spectators witnessed a 2-2 draw, as after a drab first half, a great second half performance from the hosts saw both John Kerr and Steve Craven scoring, only to see the Tigers grab a last minute and undeserved equaliser.

For the remainder of the season, home crowd figures never surpassed the 2,000 mark, bar one match however, where eventual champions Sheffield United, who were competing in the Fourth Division in their one and only season, visited Prenton Park. A pulsating 2-2 draw followed, with an 'official' final crowd total registered at 4,675.

The eventual plunge over the next few seasons – and this despite fund raising matches and a prestigious FA Cup Third round tie with Wolverhampton Wanderers – culminated in administration in 1987.

DANGEROUS & ILLEGAL BEHAVIOUR HAS NO PLACE IN OUR GAME.

**FOOTBALL HAS COME TOGETHER TO
TOUGHEN MEASURES ADDRESSING FAN
BEHAVIOUR AT MATCHES**

CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR:

- ✗ Entering the pitch without permission
- ✗ Smoke bombs and pyros
- ✗ Throwing objects
- ✗ Drug use
- ✗ Discriminatory behaviour
- ✗ Football Tragedy Abuse

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES:

-  Serious injury
-  Automatic club ban
-  Reported to the police
-  Criminal record
-  Education and employment at risk
-  Stadium ban and criminal prosecution

HELP US ENSURE MATCHES ARE SAFE AND ENJOYABLE FOR ALL



PROFESSIONAL GAME
MATCH OFFICIALS



LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME.

Tranmere Rovers



Manager: Ian Dawes
White Shirts
White Shorts & White Socks

- 1 Luke McGEE
- 2 Lee O'CONNOR
- 3 Jake LEAKE
- 4 Brad WALKER
- 5 Tom DAVIES
- 6 Jordan TURNBULL
- 7 Kieron MORRIS
- 8 Regan HENDRY
- 9 Luke NORRIS
- 10 Kane HEMMINGS
- 11 Josh HAWKES
- 12 Charlie JOLLEY
- 13 Joe MURPHY
- 14 Kristian DENNIS
- 15 Ben HOCKENHULL
- 16 Chris MERRIE
- 17 Rhys HUGHES
- 18 Connor JENNINGS
- 19 Harvey SAUNDERS
- 20 Sam TAYLOR
- 21 Joe YARNEY
- 22 Paul LEWIS
- 23 Reece McALEAR
- 28 Mikey DAVIES

Harrogate Town



Manager:
Yellow & Black Shirts
Black Shorts & Black Socks

- 1 Mark OXLEY
- 3 Joe MATTOCK
- 4 Josh FALKINGHAM
- 5 Will SMITH
- 6 Warren BURRELL
- 7 George THOMPSON
- 8 Dior ANGUS
- 9 Danny GRANT
- 10 Kazeem OLAIGBE
- 11 Max WRIGHT
- 12 Sam FOLARIN
- 14 Toby SIMS
- 15 Anthony O'CONNOR
- 16 Alex PATTISON
- 17 Levi SUTTON
- 18 Jack MULDOON
- 20 Kayne RAMSAY
- 21 Pete JAMESON
- 22 Stephen DOOLEY
- 23 Rory McARDLE
- 24 Kyle FERGUSON
- 25 George HORNBURY
- 27 Bradley WILLIAMS
- 28 Matty DALY
- 29 Luke ARMSTRONG
- 30 Benjamin TWEED
- 33 Matty FOULDS
- 34 Tom EASTMAN

Match Officials

Referee:
Lee Swabey

Assistant Referees
Matthew Sowerby
Bradley Hall

Fourth Official
Daniel Robinson

Fixtures



Tuesday 15 August 2023

Accrington Stanley
v Barrow
Colchester United
v AFC Wimbledon
Crawley Town
v Milton Keynes Dons
Crewe Alexandra
v Newport County
Doncaster Rovers
v Mansfield Town
Forest Green Rovers
v Swindon Town
Grimsby Town
v Salford City
Morecambe
v Notts County
Stockport County
v Bradford City
Sutton United
v Gillingham
Tranmere Rovers
v Harrogate Town
Wrexham
v Walsall

All games kick off 7.45pm
unless stated



Next Game at Prenton Park

Tranmere Rovers versus Salford City
Sky Bet League Two / Saturday 19 August 2023 / Kick-off 3.00pm