

RAG OF THE ROVERS



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF STANWAY ROVERS • ISSUE 8 • £2.00



versus
HARLOW TOWN FC

Tuesday 24th October 2023 | 19:45
BBC Essex Senior Cup

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WELCOME TO THE HAWTHORNS HOME OF STANWAY ROVERS

CLUB OFFICIALS

President Richard Degville
Vice President Dennis Clark
Patron Ivan Senter

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Richard Degville, Dennis Clark,
Steve Blake, David Jones

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Kevin Mather
Vice Chairman Steve Blake
General Manager Jerry Carter
Director of Football Andrew Partner
Head of Youth Kevin Lay
Head of Women's Football Leo King

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Joint Managers
Rick Andrews & Jamie Shaw
Head Coach
Jon Moody

NON-FOOTBALL STAFF

Club Secretary Mark Hayton
Groundsman Robert Ritchie
Media/Programme Editor Liam Winters
Commercial Manager Vacant

Good Evening.

Welcome to back to The Hawthorns for today's BBC Essex Senior Cup fixture, this evening we entertain Thurlow Nunn First Div South side, Harlow Town FC. We extend a very warm welcome to their Players, Staff and Supporters who have made the trip to be with us tonight.

I would like to thank Andreas Carter Sports, who have kindly sponsored today's matchday programme to ensure we can produce a printed edition for you all. If you would like to sponsor a programme please contact myself via the email below.

Harlow made the second round after a 3-1 win over Burnham Ramblers last month, the Rovers beat Cannons Wood 4-0 to secure their place in tonight's fixture. A win tonight could mean a tough challenge as in the third round teams competing in the Isthmian, Southern, National League and EFL will join the competition.

Both sides will be looking to keep to winning after good results at the weekend, it was a 3-0 for the Rovers over Buckhurst Hill and for Harlow they won 6-0, over Burnham Ramblers.

I hope you enjoy this programme. If you have an article or news for inclusion in the matchday programme please do get in contact via email at liam@lw-photo.co.uk

Enjoy the game and Up The Rovers!

Liam Winters



JAMIE SHAW'S

VIEWS FROM THE SIDELINES

Firstly a warm welcome to Harlow Town, a club that is currently at the wrong level of football, but I'm sure it won't be long before they make their way back up the levels.

Myself and Rick are really pleased to have been given the opportunity to manage Stanway Rovers football club, a club that has an abundance of good people involved and one that I have always had a really strong connection with, given my previous spells at the club.

What has been quite clear in our first week is how strong the structure is throughout the youth set up, and credit to the young boys that have stepped up into the first team over the last few weeks and shown they can be competitive.

We are delighted to welcome Jon on board as first team coach, Jon is a very good coach and we're lucky have this resource at this level of football.

Saturdays win against Buckhurst was extremely pleasing given the short amount of time we have had to bring players in and have a look at what we are working with in terms of the current squad.

I have to give credit to Andy Partner, Jon Moody and the guys who have taken the team in the short term as despite being low on numbers, we could not fault the players attitude, desire and work rate, it was faultless.

In terms of performance Saturday, I think we out ran them, we wanted it more, and we gave nothing away from start to finish. With a little bit of luck in front of goal we'd have come away with 4 or 5. A real solid performance.

Next Saturday we hope to have added another one or two to the squad and we go into a game that will be a completely different challenge against a side that have some really good players, but one we are most definitely looking forward to.

We hope to see as many faces come and support the boys in the coming weeks as we continue to work hard on and off the pitch to build on recent results.

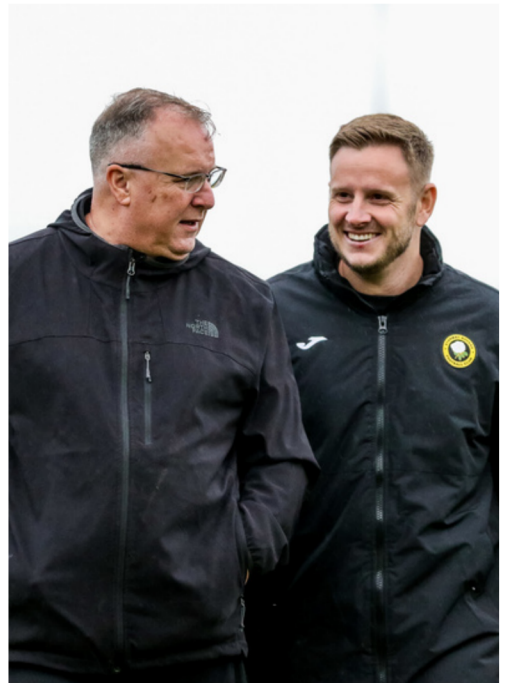
Jamie Shaw





ON THE SIDELINES...

A look at a few photos of the new management in action during their first game in charge of the Rovers - Focused on the task at hand. It was certainly all smiles in the dugout at full time after the 3-0 win over Buckhurst Hill at Myrak Park.



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TODAY'S GUESTS

HARLOW TOWN FC



The club was originally formed in 1879, playing its first match in October of that year against Saffron Walden Town. It is one of the oldest clubs in the County of Essex. In those early days the club, just known as Harlow, played friendly matches against local opposition until the formation of East Herts League in 1896. As with most clubs around this time Harlow had their fair share of amalgamations with other local clubs, and was known as Harlow & Burnt Mill before later becoming Harlow Town.

Over the years Harlow, which became a New Town in the early 1950's, expanded beyond recognition, and the Club grew with the town. The club moved into the Spartan League in 1932 and were granted Senior Status in 1937, competing in the FA Cup and Essex Senior Cups for the first time. At this time Harlow had one of the smallest populations for clubs competing at this level, a far cry from today where the population is around 85,000.

After the Second World War, Harlow continued to compete in the Spartan League until moving into the London League in 1953. Six seasons were spent in the London League before a move into the Delphian League. In 1960 the club moved away from its roots in Old Harlow, moving into the Sportcentre ground in the new town, which was the clubs home for the next 46 years before moving to The Harlow Arena in September 2006.

With the reorganisation of the amateur game in the early 1960's Harlow found themselves playing in the newly formed Athenian League Division Two for the start of the 1963-64 season, winning promotion at the first attempt after finishing in third place. After eight seasons in Division One, Harlow finally won their first senior championship by winning the Athenian League Division One title. The following season saw the club finish fourth in the Premier Division before joining the Isthmian League for the start of the 1973-74 Season.

After joining the Isthmian League Harlow had more than their fair share of ups and downs. Promotion was achieved six times, including lifting the Division One and Division Two (North) titles, whilst the club

suffered five relegations and had to sit season 1992-93 out after severe financial problems threatened the club's very existence.

The Club made a name for itself in season 1979-80 with a terrific FA Cup run, which saw the club progress to the fourth round proper, having started out in the preliminary round. Wins against Lowestoft, Hornchurch, Bury Town, Harwich & Parkeston, Margate, Leytonstone-Ilford, Southend United and finally Leicester City, gave the club a fourth round tie away to Watford. The BBC "Match of the Day" cameras were at Vicarage Road as Harlow eventually bowed out of the competition, although they went down fighting, losing 4-3 to Graham Taylor's side.

Since that time Harlow have appeared in the Competition proper on four further occasions, the last of which was in season 2007-08.

In recent times the Club have got back on their feet following the problems of the early 1990's. Having been relegated two divisions by the League for the season that the Club could not compete; the Club worked their way back to where they were before the enforced break. After a few near misses the "Hawks", as they are now known, won back-to-back promotions from Division Three and Division Two of the Ryman League and after a poor first season back in Division One, managed to establish itself in the Division until the end of the 2003/2004 Season when the re-structuring of the non-league game saw the club switch to the Southern League. The Hawks finished 15th in the Southern League Division 1 East League table in Season 2004/2005 and 9th in Season 2005/2006.

The Hawks haven't had much success in recent years in the FA Trophy or League Cup Competitions but lifted the prestigious East Anglian Cup in Seasons 1989/90, 2001/02 and in season 2005/2006 when Spalding United were beaten 1-0 in the Final.

The Club moved in September 2006 to a new ground at Barrows Farm, a mile and a half to the west of their old Sportcentre location, and after

awaiting clearance from the Ryman League to start playing at the new Stadium played their first senior match in a Division 1 North fixture versus Ware on 18th October. A highly successful first term at Barrows Farm was complete when the Hawks gained promotion to the Premier Division of the Ryman Football League at the end of the season by clinching runners-up spot and then beating AFC Sudbury on penalties in the Division 1 North "Play-off" Final.

The Club's first season back in the Premier Division since 1984 was a struggle with an epic win at AFC Wimbledon securing a second season in the top division. Unfortunately the club failed to maintain their Premier Division place the following season, returning to Division One North for the start of the 2009-10 season.

The build up to the 2009-10 season was severely disrupted when on 21st July the Chairman resigned due to a change of ownership of the club. The manager followed along with the vast majority of the playing staff and various members of the backroom staff.

After a very difficult start to the season new owners took control of the club in January 2010, with former manager Tommy Cunningham returning to the club with his business partner John Barnett. With so much turmoil the club finished bottom of the table but were reprieved from relegation due to another club having issues with their ground grading.

There has been steady progress since the new owners took control. In the first full season the club reached the play-offs, only to lose 2-4 at Wingate Finchley in the semi-finals. During this season former player Danny Chapman was appointed manager and has since gone on to become the club's longest serving manager.

In 2013 the club invested in a new 3G pitch that was laid during the summer ready for the start of the 2013/14 season. The new pitch provided top of the range facilities for the whole community, so the ground was re-branded as the Harlow Arena. Along with the 3G pitch the Hawks also set up youth teams to play at the club, the first steps towards the Harlow Town Academy.

The season finished with another place in the play-offs. This time the club reached the final

after a 3-0 win away to Heybridge Swifts. However, Witham Town were victorious, with a 3-0 win at Spa Road.

At the start of the 2014/15 Harlow Town launched The Harlow Academy, a youth set-up which incorporated 21 youth teams playing at The Harlow Arena. After a tightly contested league campaign, Harlow missed out the league title and automatic promotion by just 1 point, finishing behind Needham Market. Another appearance in the playoffs beckoned, but this time the Hawks fell down in the semi-final with a 3-4 defeat to Thurrock after extra time.

The 2015/16 season saw Harlow Town promoted for the first time since 2007. Again, the club missed out on the top spot but secured wins against Gray Wanderers and then AFC Hornchurch to finally become winners of the play-offs.

The Hawks return to the Premier Division had a touch of déjà vu as, after a successful first season back, the club struggled the following two seasons, before returning to Step 4 football at the end of the 2018-19.




















The club were placed into the Isthmian League South Central League for the start of the 2019-20 season, however, both the 2019-20 and 20-21 seasons were cut short as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. There was another change of leagues for the start of the 2021-22 season when the club were moved sideways into the Southern League Central Division.



ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

LEAGUE STANDINGS



POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	 WOODFORD TOWN FC	14	9	4	1	19	31
2	 WEST ESSEX FC	14	8	4	2	17	28
3	 SPORTING BENGAL UNITED FIRST	14	8	4	2	8	28
4	 TILBURY FC	14	8	3	3	19	27
5	 ROMFORD FIRST	15	7	4	4	7	25
6	 HULLBRIDGE SPORTS FC	13	7	3	3	9	24
7	 ATHLETIC NEWHAM FC	14	8	0	6	8	24
8	 FC CLACTON FIRST	13	6	3	4	5	21
9	 GREAT WAKERING ROVERS FC	14	5	5	4	14	20
10	 HALSTEAD TOWN FC	14	5	4	5	0	19
11	 SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN FIRST	13	6	1	6	-3	19
12	 BARKING FC	14	5	3	6	-5	18
13	 WHITE ENSIGN FC	14	4	5	5	-3	17
14	 BUCKHURST HILL FC	14	5	2	7	-11	17
15	 LITTLE OAKLEY FIRST	13	3	5	5	0	14
16	 TAKELEY FC	13	3	3	7	-14	12
17	 STANWAY ROVERS FIRST	14	3	2	9	-9	11
18	 ILFORD FC	14	2	3	9	-24	9
19	 FRENFORD FC	13	2	2	9	-18	8
20	 COGGESHALL TOWN FC	13	2	2	9	-19	8

LATEST TEAM NEWS



NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM

In a real coup for Stanway as Jamie Shaw and Rick Andrews, have committed to join the 'Rovers Revolution' and have accepted the role as First team Managers, they will be joined by a familiar face, Jon Moody, who steps up after a very successful spell as the Under 23's Head Coach.

Rick, who left Stowmarket Town in November 2020 after seven successful seasons, including promotion in 2017. When Andrews departed Stowmarket, they runaway leaders of the Thurlow Nunn Premier Division and 39 games unbeaten in the league.

He then moved onto AFC Sudbury in the 21/22 season, when with Angelo Harrop they enjoyed a great season including a memorable FA Cup Run reaching the and a seventh place finish. Jamie Shaw combined playing duties with team affairs, last season they achieved promotion to step three via the play-offs.

Jamie a former player made over 100 appearances for Rovers, and is still playing now, though will hang up his boots to concentrate on the challenge in hand. He's a local lad who's knowledgeable and experienced at Step 4 level, as they strive to take Rovers to the next level.



NEW SIGNINGS

Reece Conway, the first signing under the Rovers' new management team, led former Essex Senior League team, Enfield, to promotion into the Isthmian League Premier Division last season as Captain.

Former clubs for Reece also include Heybridge Swifts, Walthamstow and Great Wakering Rovers. An exciting signing for the Rovers, Welcome Reece.

Another new addition includes 23 year old defender, Jack Madley. On loan from, Isthmian League North side - Ipswich Wanderers FC.

Welcome to Rovers, Jack.



FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	V	COMP	ATT	SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
SAT 29 JUL	HULLBRIDGE SPORTS	H	ESL	130	0-1	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON
TUE 8 AUG	HARPENDEN TOWN	H	FAC	128	3-1	MARIGLIANI	AKINODE	N'DAW	BARNETT	TANDON
SAT 12 AUG	BARKING	A	ESL	53	4-2	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	AKINODE	BARNETT	HUGHES
TUE 15 AUG	LITTLE OAKLEY	H	ESL	58	1-1	MARIGLIANI	N'DAW	TAYLOR	BARNETT	HUGHES
SAT 19 AUG	WITHAM TOWN	A	FAC	153	3-0	MARIGLIANI	N'DAW	TAYLOR	BARNETT	HUGHES
MON 28 AUG	TAKELEY	A	ESL	146	3-1	MARIGLIANI	N'DAW	TAYLOR	KAYEMBE	TANDON
TUE 5 SEPT	FC CLACTON	A	ESL	212	5-2	MARIGLIANI	N'DAW	TAYLOR	COOPER	TANDON
SAT 9 SEPT	SPORTING BENGAL	H	ESL	87	1-1	MARIGLIANI	BARTLETT	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON (1
TUE 12 SEPT	ILFORD	H	ESL	102	4-0	MARIGLIANI	BARTLETT	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON
SAT 16 SEPT	FRENFORD	A	ESL	68	3-2	MARIGLIANI	BARTLETT	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON
TUE 19 SEPT	CANNONS WOOD	H	ESC	87	4-0	MARIGLIANI	BARTLETT	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON
SAT 23 SEPT	SAFFRON WALDEN	A	FAV	231	2-0	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	TAYLOR	BARNETT	TANDON
TUE 26 SEPT	HALSTEAD TOWN	H	ESL	102	1-3	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	TAYLOR	KING	TANDON
SAT 30 SEPT	ATHLETIC NEWHAM	A	ESL	21	3-0	MARIGLIANI	BARTLETT	TARBARD	TANSEY	TANDON
TUE 3 OCT	WHITE ENSIGN	H	ESL	103	0-1	MARIGLIANI	TANSEY	BARTLETT	BARNETT	HUGHES
SAT 7 OCT	TILBURY	A	ESL	192	3-0	MARIGLIANI	SAVAGE	BARTLETT	GRAY	TANDON
SAT 14 OCT	ROMFORD	H	ESL	143	3-1	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	BARTLETT	HUGHES	GRAY
SAT 21 OCT	BUCKHURST HILL	A	ESL	39	0-3	MARIGLIANI	TARBARD	BARTLETT	BARNETT	MADLEY
TUE 24 OCT	HARLOW TOWN	H	BESC							
SAT 28 OCT	GT WAKERING ROVERS	A	ESL							
SAT 4 NOV	WEST ESSEX	H	ESL							
SAT 11 NOV	COGGESHALL TOWN	A	ESL							
SAT 18 NOV	HULLBRIDGE SPORTS	A	ESL							
SAT 25 NOV	BARKING	H	ESL							
SAT 2 DEC	FC CLACTON	H	ESL							
SAT 9 DEC	HALSTEAD TOWN	A	ESL							
SAT 16 DEC	SPORTING BENGAL	A	ESL							
SAT 23 DEC	FRENFORD	H	ESL							
SAT 6 JAN	SAFFRON WALDEN	H	ESL							
SAT 13 JAN	HALSTEAD TOWN	H	CUP							
SAT 20 JAN	TAKELEY	H	ESL							
SAT 27 JAN	ILFORD	A	ESL							
SAT 3 FEB	ILFORD	H	CUP							
SAT 10 FEB	LITTLE OAKLEY	A	ESL							
SAT 17 FEB	BUCKHURST HILL	H	ESL							
SAT 24 FEB	WHITE ENSIGN	A	ESL							
SAT 9 MAR	COGGESHALL TOWN	H	ESL							
SAT 16 MAR	WEST ESSEX	A	ESL							
SAT 23 MAR	GT WAKERING ROVERS	H	ESL							
FRI 29 MAR	WOODFORD TOWN	A	ESL							
SAT 6 APR	ROMFORD	A	ESL							
SAT 13 APR	TILBURY	H	ESL							
SAT 20 APR	ATHLETIC NEWHAM	H	ESL							



THROUGH THE LENS

BUCKHURST HILL 0 - 3 ROVERS





THE HISTORY OF STANWAY ROVERS FC



Records show that the current Stanway Rovers reformed on Tuesday 10th July 1956. However local newspaper cuttings tell us that there was a football club operating in the Stanway area in the early 1900's.

We were accepted into Division 2 of the Colchester & East Essex League, and by 1960 we had gained promotions to the Premier Division.

In 1967/68 the Rovers won the Colchester & East Essex League, and the 1973-74 season saw Stanway Rovers enjoying their most successful season to date when they won the League title and all the other competitions trophies.

1975-76 season saw the first team join the Essex & Suffolk Border League playing in Division 1.

In 1979, the 'home' of the Rovers was subject of discussion with the Local Authority, who agreed to lease the Club 4.6 acres of land in New Farm Road for a 99 year period. Stanway Rovers finally had its own home – and the first wooden Clubhouse was opened on 18th November 1982, carrying the name of The Hawthorns after the shrub which grew prolifically in the area at the time.



Despite failing to receive a grant from the National Lottery, the Club finished the rebuilding of its current Headquarters at the Hawthorns – the Members Bar, Committee/Board Room and the Hawthorn suite of function rooms being officially opened on 28th March 2001 by Colchester MP Bob Russell.

In November 2003 Jim McIntyre was appointed Manager with Ian 'Dan' Daly joining him assistant a few months later They set about assembling a good squad of players and after 14 seasons in Division One, in 2006 the Rovers were crowned Division 1 Champions and promoted to Step 5 for the first time in our history where we have remained ever since



The 2017-18 season saw major changes take place with the departure of the Chairman and the FA decision to move the club to the Essex Senior League.

A new management team of Fisher and Jones took charge of the team but following the appointment of a new Chairman, in the form of Dave Jones, Angelo Harrop returned to the club as Director of Football and he and Jones appointed a new manager; Terry Spillane. Spillane guided Rovers to safety before leaving the club.

The 19-20 season heralded a new era under Danny Slatter and a return to the Eastern Counties league but unfortunately both the 19/20 and 20/21 were aborted due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

The 21/22 season saw the club move sideways back into the Essex Senior League under the continued leadership of Chairman Dave Jones and Manager Danny Slatter. At the beginning of the 2022/23 season Dave Jones stepped down and remained as Trustee, Kev Mather took the role as Chairman moving forwards.

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IS the 'new' season already two months in? The FA Cup first round draw has been made, the Isuzu FA Trophy and FA Vase are through a few rounds and the weather is taking a turn.

It feels like another Non-League season is flying by. Here are a few things that have caught our eye over the last week

CUP KINGS

The FA Cup fourth round qualifying served up some big shocks last Saturday, with eight National League teams tumbling out and more facing midweek replays.

Bracknell Town started the day off with a 1-0 lunchtime win over Dagenham & Redbridge. The Step 3 Robins took on Ipswich Town last season in front of the live TV cameras. For the first round this year they're off to League One Cambridge United.

Horsham also face League One opposition following their 2-0 upset of Dorking Wanderers — the Isthmian Premier side have been drawn against Barnsley.

Step 4 Cray Valley PM have got a great draw away at Charlton Athletic. Kyrell Lisbie scored twice in their 5-2 win over Enfield Town last week — he's the son of former Addicks striker Kevin, who also played for the Millers when they reached the FA Vase final at Wembley in 2019.

Other interesting first round ties include Chesterfield at home to Portsmouth — former club of Spireites boss Paul Cook — while Bromley host Blackpool. Step 4 Ramsgate host the winners of Woking's replay with Hemel Hempstead Town.

END OF AN ERA

It seems keeping a manager's job for five years is a long time these days. How about more than 25? That's how long Dave Diaper has been at the helm

of Sholing. In that time he's overseen their rise — both on and off the pitch — from the Hampshire League to Step 3 via an FA Vase win at Wembley.

This weekend is his last game, however, as he takes on a new head of football role at the south-coast club with former Sutton United boss Paul Doswell set to take over in the dug-out.

"It's a great fit," Diaper said. "We're on the same page moving forward and it's quite exciting. We've got some big plans for the club. This year is about consolidation more than anything, but it's about working together and seeing what we can bring to the club in the future."

OLDHAM TWIST FOR MELLON

When Oldham Athletic announced they were parting ways with manager David Unsworth, you can be sure a lot of managers quickly brushed up their CV. The chance to manage the Latics is a huge draw for many.

We so often talk about the importance of National League experience when it comes to steadying a recently relegated EFL club after they have crash landed in Non-League.

When someone like Micky Mellon is available it becomes a much easier decision. The former Shrewsbury and Northampton boss has won promotion into the Football League twice — first as a champion with Fleetwood Town in 2012. He later returned to Non-League with the task of taking Tranmere Rovers back into the EFL — which he duly did in 2018 through the play-offs. That feat was immediately followed by promotion to League One.

Mellon knows the division inside out and understands what it takes to be in the mix. He also had a certain James Norwood leading his Tranmere attack — their reunion at Oldham will excite fans too.



WITH THE UNDER-23s

Our under-23s side travelled to Lawford at the weekend. The young squad was made up of 6 of our u18s players.

After a 6 goal thriller the game against Lawford it ended a 3 -3 draw. After going 2 - 0 up, inside 20 minutes playing some excellent football we found ourselves level 2 - 2 at half time. Second half our young 23s continued to play some excellent attacking football and scored a really good team goal. Approaching the last few minutes we conceded a goal completely against the run of play. Goals from Teddy, Sam and Harry Smith. Massive credit to the club, another day we win comfortably.

-Anthony White

FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	COMP
23/09/23 15:00	GREAT BENTLEY FIRST	1 - 3	STANWAY ROVERS U23	C
30/09/23 15:00	COLNE ATHLETIC FIRST	4 - 2	STANWAY ROVERS U23	L
07/10/23 14:00	MANFORD WAY	4 - 1	STANWAY ROVERS U23	C
14/10/23 15:00	TIPTREE HEATH	0 - 0	STANWAY ROVERS U23	L
21/10/23 15:00	LAWFORD LADS	3 - 3	STANWAY ROVERS U23	L
24/10/23 20:00	SUDBURY SPORTS	VS	STANWAY ROVERS U23	L
28/10/23 15:00	ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS	VS	STANWAY ROVERS U23	L



LEAGUE TABLE

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	COLNE ATHLETIC	13	12	0	1	38	10	28	36
2	TIPTREE HEATH	13	7	2	4	41	18	23	23
3	HATFIELD PEVEREL FIRST	13	7	2	4	26	16	10	23
4	STANWAY ROVERS COMMUNITY RESERVES	11	6	3	2	32	16	16	21
5	DEDHAM OLD BOYS FIRST	11	6	2	3	26	13	13	20
6	STANWAY PEGASUS RESERVES	12	6	2	4	28	21	7	20
7	WHITE NOTLEY SATURDAY FIRST	12	6	2	4	28	35	-7	20
8	BRIGHTLINGSEA TOWN FIRST	10	6	1	3	35	22	13	19
9	SILVER END UNITED FIRST	9	6	0	3	32	19	13	18
10	BARNSTON	14	5	1	8	26	30	-4	16
11	EARLS COLNE FIRST	13	3	3	7	13	26	-13	12
12	SUDBURY SPORTS F.C. FIRST	10	3	0	7	17	22	-5	9
13	BELLE VUE SOCIAL CLUB FIRST	11	3	0	8	16	32	-16	9
14	LAWFORD LADS FIRST	13	1	2	10	15	49	-34	5
15	ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FIRST	9	0	0	9	6	50	-44	0
16	ALRESFORD COLNE RANGERS FIRST	9	1	0	8	7	45	-38	3

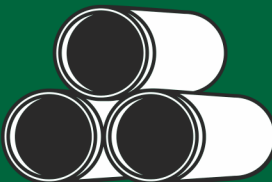
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#WeAreStanway



WITH THE UNDER-18s

We, the U18's, have been on an exciting journey in the FA Youth Cup, and we are more than ready to face a respectable opponent in the upcoming fixture against Barking. We understand it will be a tough challenge, but we couldn't be more eager to leave a further mark and create a new chapter in the club's history. Our strong run in the FA Youth Cup so far speaks volumes about the team's commitment and dedication to the game. Everyone has consistently delivered solid performances week after week, and their aim is to continue this streak of success together

In addition to our historical FA Youth Cup journey, we recognise the importance of the Thurlow Nunn games as well as the EJA. Winning these matches is crucial if we want to secure the league title for yet another year. Despite a less than ideal start in the Thurlow Nunn league, we are fully prepared to take on the challenge and strive for a fourth consecutive championship. Together we will come together as the family we are to become stronger each week and achieve all of our goals in all competitions this year!

Joe Breathy - Captain

LEAGUE TABLE

P	TEAM	W	D	L	GD	PTS	PTS
1	HALSTEAD TOWN YOUTH U18 MIDWEEK	8	7	1	0	35	22
2	FC CLACTON Y U18 WHITES	5	4	0	1	11	12
3	AFC SUDBURY U18	6	3	2	1	4	11
4	WITHAM TOWN YOUTH U18 ECYL	7	3	2	2	-3	11
5	CORNARD UNITED F.C. U18	7	3	1	3	1	10
6	STANWAY ROVERS YOUTH U18 TNL	5	2	2	1	7	8
7	HOLLAND Y U18 ECYFL	5	2	1	2	3	7
8	HARWICH & PARKESTON YOUTH U18	6	1	2	3	-8	5
9	LITTLE OAKLEY YOUTH U18 BLUES	8	1	1	6	-15	4
10	SPORTING 87 F.C. U18 (THURLOW NUNN)	7	0	0	7	-35	0

UPCOMING FIXTURES

DATE	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	COMP
14/09/23 19:45	STANWAY ROVERS U18	1 - 1	LITTLE OAKLEY U18 BLUES	L
20/09/23 19:45	SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN	1 - 6	STANWAY ROVERS U18	FAYC
28/09/23 19:45	STANWAY ROVERS U18	3 - 4	AFC SUDBURY U18	L
12/10/23 19:45	STANWAY ROVERS U18	5 - 1	CORNARD UNITED U18	L
27/10/23 19:45	STANWAY ROVERS U18	VS	BARKING FC U18	FAYC

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THE UNTOLD GAME

BETTER THAN CRUYFF

Johan Cruyff is a legend. Everybody knows that. He is revered in his home country and across the globe for both his ability on the pitch, and his genius off it.

The Dutchman is undoubtedly one of the greatest of all time, with a tiny handful of players that can claim to have played the game better. But Cruyff himself only ever conceded that one man was better than him, one man that most have never heard of. Willy Dullens.

Dullens was born in the final months of the Second World War, in the Dutch village of Broeksittard, surviving a conflict-induced famine in his early months. Rarely without a ball at his feet, Dullens trained for six hours each day, and spent every night reading Voetballen Doe Je Zo, 'This is How you Play Football'. He was quickly a master with the ball at his feet. Returning from the pit one day, his father asked young Willy how many keepie uppies he had managed that day. The answer - 3500 - was astonishing. When he reached 6000, he stopped. Nobody, he believed, would ever beat that.

He played for his local amateur side, using his brother's birth certificate to trick authorities when he was just 14. He shone against fully grown adults. It didn't take long for the professionals to take notice, and he was snapped up by local second tier side Sittardia, along with his two brothers.

Dullens could not have been more different to Cruyff. While the mercurial Total Footballer represented rebellious youth in the capital, the Sittardia midfielder embodied the working class and strict Christian values of Broeksittard. He never smoked, he never drank. After playing poorly in one game, he realised he had gone to bed too late and set himself a bedtime. He was quiet, and let his feet do the talking.

18 goals in his debut season saw Sittardia promoted. Although he wasn't able to keep the minnows in the top flight, his talent was noticed. He started to get called up to the national youth teams, where he first encountered Cruyff. They would eventually become friends, but Dullens couldn't believe how much the Ajax man smoked. To treat his body that way was inconceivable. He noted how talented Cruyff was though, but never felt inferior to him. He would later recall that they never lost a match they played together.

Despite relegation, a series of wonder goals ensured that he was not forgotten. Whilst playing in the second tier, he got his first Oranje senior call up, and mesmerised an experienced Belgian defence at De Kuip. The day after his debut, Dullens was the second coming, around whom Dutch football should be built. Two weeks later, he did the same to Scotland.

Despite playing in the second tier, Dullens was named Dutch player of the year. Ahead of Cruyff. This would be his greatest accolade, and his undoing. Feyenoord spent the summer trying to sign the young man that could have them challenging Ajax once again, but he lined up for Sittardia once more.

In a friendly before the season opener, with his side 4-1 up, his teammates relaxed. But not Dullens. He demanded nothing less than perfection, and there was a crowd to entertain. Dribble after mazy dribble frustrated the Vitesse defence, until finally one challenge came in too late, and snapped his knee. The referee didn't even stop the game, and it was barely reported. Nobody understood the seriousness of the incident, except Dullens himself.

The Sittardia doctor told him to go home and rest, despite his insistence that he should go to the hospital. He sat on the sidelines for four weeks, as his side started poorly. When he came back, he was in pain. Ice didn't help, and his manager had no sympathy, needing him for a relegation battle. He even received two more caps for the Netherlands, but it wasn't the same player.

Travelling to the best knee doctor in Europe didn't help, and after an eight hour surgery the worst was confirmed. Dullens retired in 1969, at the age of 22, but not before one final swansong. Cruyff and his former teammates arranged a friendly, as a way of supporting him. In front of 55,000 fans, the great Dutch hope limped out onto the pitch at the Amsterdam Arena. He knew, deep down, that this would be his last time in a stadium for a long time. The pain of not playing the game was too much. He is one of footballs great what ifs.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green, *The Untold Game*

Find more at TheUntoldGame.co.uk or on social media @TheUntoldGame

TODAY'S TEAMS



VS



STANWAY ROVERS

START SUB

HARLOW TOWN FC

START SUB

ALFIE MARIGLIANI (GK)

RICKY TARBARD

SEAN BARTLETT

JOSH HUGHES

FREDDY COOPER

JACK MADLEY

REECE CONWAY

HARRY SAVAGE

JORDAN BARNETT

HARRY MORTON

NAT MARDELL

MAX SHERLOCK

JOE DEBELL

HARRY THOMAS

TOM LEWIS

TOM NEWLAND

JOSH GRAY

SHEIKH ISHAQ

ARLEY BARKER

JACK COUSINS

JAMES FOLKES

RAHEEM GRAY

TOM JELLMAN

ALEXANDER MIGUEL LUQUE

JAMES PELLIN

RUBEN SANTOS

FABION ANTON D SIMMS

OLUWAKOREDE AKINTUNDE

LEON ANTOINE

BOBBY KIRBY

MANAGERS Rick Andrews & Jamie Shaw

MANAGER Danny Chapman

COLOURS Yellow & Black

COLOUR Red & White

STANWAY ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

The Hawthorns,
50 New Farm Road,
Stanway, Colchester,
Essex, CO3 0PG

CONTACT THE CLUB:

Email: StanwayRovers93@gmail.com
Telephone: 01206 578187
www.stanwayrovers.co.uk

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NEXT HOME GAME

West Essex

Saturday 4th November

Kick Off - 15:00

Essex Senior League

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE

Steve Tovey

ASSISTANT

Richard Evans

ASSISTANT

Robert Willcocks