

The

WOODS

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF NORTHWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

2025/26 SEASON | ISSUE 08 | £2



V



**LEIGHTON
TOWN**

SATURDAY
11TH OCTOBER 2025
3PM KICK-OFF

PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE,
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

MATCH SPONSOR

SEAN MOORE

**MATCH BALL
SPONSOR**

PETER REYNOLDS



PARTNERS WITH
SOUTHERN
FOOTBALL LEAGUE



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Northwood Football Club
is a Members' Club

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CLUB HONOURS

Founded 1926

Isthmian League South Central Division play-off semi-finalists	2023
Isthmian League Division One North champions	2003
Isthmian League Division Two runners-up	2000
Isthmian League Division Three promotion	1997
Isthmian League Cup winners	2002
Isthmian Charity Shield winners	2002
Isthmian Associate Members Trophy winners	1993, 2000
Middlesex Senior Cup Winners:	2007, 2016
Middlesex Senior Cup finalists:	2000, 2002
Middlesex Senior Cup semi-finalists:	1992, 1997, 1999, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2022
Middlesex Senior Charity Cup finalists:	1994, 2003, 2005, 2012, 2023
Middlesex Intermediate Cup winners:	1979
Middlesex Junior Cup winners:	1938
Middlesex Junior Cup finalists	1935, 1936
London Spartan League Premier Division champions:	1992
London Spartan League Premier Division runners-up:	1990
London Spartan League Cup winners:	1990, 1992
Hellenic League Division One champions:	1979
Hellenic League Premier Division Cup finalist:	1982
Hellenic League Division One Cup winners:	1979
Middlesex League Premier Division champions:	1978
Middlesex League Premier Division runners-up:	1972, 1977
Middlesex League Challenge Cup winners:	1975, 1977, 1978
Harrow, Wembley & District League champions:	1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1948, 1949

THE WOODS is the official Matchday Programme of Northwood Football Club and is printed and designed by JJ Sports Promotions Ltd. For further information, please contact Terry Brumpton, Tel **07771 802 048** or email terrybrumpton@yahoo.co.uk

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IAN'S INSIGHT

**WOODS CHAIRMAN, IAN BARRY, WELCOMES YOU
ALL TO THE SKYLINE ROOFING STADIUM.**

Welcome to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and our C & G Scaffolding Ltd sponsored Clubhouse for our game this afternoon against our friends from Leighton Town FC and we trust they will enjoy their short stay here.

I can't hide my disappointment following the defeats in our last two games here against Marlow and Enfield. I felt that before these games they would be winnable and nothing has since changed my mind! They were both in and around us in the table and at this moment, winning these games, especially here at home, was for me an absolute minimum. So, we have now made our lives much harder for ourselves again and we have to start picking up points immediately.

It's hard to pen notes in this way when you are feeling so low about what goes on, on the pitch. We have worked so very hard to get this club to this point and remain at this level of the game, but we have got to see more coming back from on the pitch. The Manager's are fully aware of what we expect and giving 100% is a minimum and should be a 'given'. I didn't see that last Saturday. We move on.

Our Under 18s won an exciting penalty shoot-out at Kings Langley last Thursday week in a fairly even game, even though we weren't at our best. The reward; an away trip next Friday to.....Eastbourne Borough! Crazy draw for a youth team midweek (or end of week).

We welcome our mascots today from our Woods Under-11 (black) youth team headed up by their Manager, Ash, and I'm sure they will all have a great day! It is always great to see our young Woods attend games in the hope that they can one day turn out on the pitch for our Senior Teams.

We also welcome the Byrne Family back here for the first time since John's passing, where they will pick up some of the shirts they ordered, which of course pay tribute to John on the reverse.

It'll be great to see them in their new attire! I've always had a great relationship with this wonderful family and what they have given us over the years has been absolutely incredible. We hope they also have a wonderful day.

Today, an important day as we seek league points, so please get behind the team and show them plenty of support from the sidelines. We get through this together.

Up The Woods!

ian



WOODS OUTLOOK

**CLUB SECRETARY,
ALAN EVANS,
BRINGS US ALL
THE LATEST NEWS
FROM AROUND
THE CLUB.**

WELCOME TO THE REDS

A warm welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium for another Pitching In Southern League fixture, this time against unbeaten Leighton Town who arrive here in excellent form having won five and drawn one of their opening six league fixtures. We hope everyone connected with the Reds enjoys their afternoon here and we wish you a safe journey home later this evening.

Leighton enjoyed a very good second half to last season, climbing to finish in seventh place in the table and they have continued that form into the new campaign. They had an easy time of things in the FA Cup with wins over Benfleet (though only in a replay) and Biggleswade United before being narrowly defeated 2-1 at Brentwood Town. In the FA Trophy, they notched a good 2-0 home win over Corlestone and also returned from Brightlingsea Regent with a 3-0 success but then fell to a surprise 5-3 defeat at Walthamstow – all three of those sides play in the Isthmian North Division.

Due to those cup runs; they have fallen slightly behind on league games but they started with an impressive 4-1 win over Ware before winning by the same scoreline at Thame United. They squeezed past Milton Keynes Irish 1-0 on Bank Holiday Monday but then didn't play in the league for a month before being held 2-2 by an improved Leverstock Green. That's the only points the Reds have dropped to date as since then they have won 1-0 at Aylesbury United and then notched an emphatic 4-0 success against Beaconsfield Town last weekend.

It was only in April that Leighton Town last visited the Skyline and it saw the Woods record three vital points in our fight against relegation at that time with a solid 3-0 victory with goals from Troy Perez-Duah, Sam Folarin and Josh Williams. It was the last away defeat that the Reds have suffered in the League but just three players that appeared for Northwood on that day remain in the squad this afternoon while our visitors are likely to have seven. We had lost 2-0 at Bell Close earlier in the season with goals from Louie Barrett and Charlie Pattison.

Former Woods skipper Luke Tingey played in those two games but has since left to join Thame United but the Reds do include four ex-Woods players in their squad this season. Kyal Williams and Godlove Oppong both moved to Bell Close last season but they were joined in the summer by goalkeeper Dan Hosier and striker Sydney Ibie, both former Northwood favourites. Dan has been missing with injury for the last couple of weeks though while Sydney limped off early in last Saturday's match having scored his eleventh of the season. As usual, we welcome all our former Woods.

We are ever-grateful to our sponsors and this afternoon's fixture has been kindly sponsored by Sean

Moore as part of his 1926 Membership package and we hope both he and his guests enjoy the Boardroom hospitality on offer. We do also have a Match Ball donor with Dennis Goulding kindly stepping up to the plate. As last year, we'd love to fill in all the spaces for Match Ball sponsors throughout the year so if you can help, please take a look at the grid elsewhere in today's programme and let me know which game you would like.

LEAGUE NEWS

Having been well-beaten by Biggleswade Town two weeks ago and then lost narrowly at home to Marlow a few days later in a much-tighter game, hopes were high for further improvement at home to Enfield last Saturday but it was not to be. It was difficult windy conditions with leaves constantly falling from the trees around the ground but, in a game of stop-start, full of niggly unpunished fouls from both sides, we never really got into any consistent flow. Enfield grabbed the lead midway through the second-half despite a handball on the six-yard line and then gratefully accepted a penalty award four minutes later to record a bloodless 2-0 victory. This allowed the E's to climb out of the bottom four and leave the Woods third from bottom with much to do if we are not to be involved in another difficult relegation battle. It was our fifth home league game of the season and every one had ended in defeat now; something that we have to put right soon. The last time we suffered such a poor run was in 2021 under firstly Ben Murray's management and then into the new regime of Steve Ringrose and Head Coach Ben Bukowski when eight successive home matches ended in a loss. It is early days though and just five points currently separate the bottom ten clubs so there is plenty of opportunity to turn things around over the next few weeks and we do remain unbeaten away from home!

CUP NEWS

It's only County Cup action that we have to concentrate on this season after our early exits from the FA competitions and after our narrow 2-1 win at Edgware & Kingsbury a couple of weeks ago, we were given an away game at Hanworth Villa which takes place this Tuesday, 14th October at 7.45pm. Having beaten the Villa in the FA Trophy earlier this season, it's not the greatest draw for sure but we do get to play on our opponents new 3G surface and experience their new facilities. A four-match winning streak by the Villains ended when they went down 0-1 at home to Egham Town and followed that with a 1-1 draw at Bedford Sports but they remain third in our old Isthmian South-Central division table and were scheduled to play Littlehampton Town at home today. Try to get along and show your support on Tuesday night if you are able to. The rest of the draw is as follows:

PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL



#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Biggleswade Town	8	2	2	0	8	5	3	1	0	14	5	12	12
2	Biggleswade	8	1	1	0	3	1	4	1	1	10	5	7	17
3	Leighton Town	6	3	0	0	9	1	2	1	0	7	3	12	16
4	Ware	7	2	0	1	8	6	3	0	1	12	7	7	15
5	Barton Rovers	8	3	1	0	9	2	1	2	1	4	5	6	15
6	Hadley	7	2	0	1	8	7	2	2	0	7	4	4	14
7	Beaconsfield Town	8	2	1	1	7	4	2	1	1	7	7	3	14
8	Welwyn Garden City	8	1	1	2	2	4	3	1	0	8	4	2	14
9	Hitchin Town	7	1	1	2	3	5	3	0	0	8	1	5	13
10	Flackwell Heath	6	2	2	0	9	3	1	1	0	3	1	8	12
11	Hertford Town	7	2	0	2	6	5	2	0	1	5	3	3	12
12	Leverstock Green	9	1	2	1	6	6	1	3	1	8	9	-1	11
13	Aylesbury United	7	0	2	2	2	5	2	0	1	7	4	0	8
14	Thame United	7	2	1	1	8	6	0	0	3	4	8	-2	7
15	AFC Dunstable	8	0	3	1	5	6	1	1	2	5	8	-4	7
16	Enfield	7	1	0	2	5	9	1	1	2	4	5	-5	7
17	Stotfold	8	2	0	2	7	7	0	0	4	7	13	-6	6
18	London Lions	8	2	0	2	9	11	0	0	4	1	8	-9	6
19	Marlow	8	1	0	3	8	10	1	0	3	2	9	-9	6
20	Milton Keynes Irish	9	1	0	4	9	15	1	0	3	4	9	-11	6
21	Northwood	8	0	0	5	4	14	1	2	0	6	5	-9	5
22	Rayners Lane	7	0	0	3	2	6	1	0	3	5	14	-13	3

North Greenford United v Hayes & Yeading United;
British Airways or Brentford B v Broadfields United;
Rayners Lane v Hampton & Richmond Borough;
Barnet v Southall; QPR U21 v Hendon; Bedfont Sports v
Hanwell Town; Enfield Town v Uxbridge.

The Woods have also entered the Middlesex Charity
Cup this season, which is scheduled to start in
November or early December, but the draw hasn't
been made as yet at the time of writing.

PLAYER UPDATES

Hicham Bouchareb returned to the squad last Saturday
but we were still missing Osa Otote, Jon-Jo Bates and
Jamie Kennedy along with long-term absentees Harry
McCorkell, Romario Jonas and Kush Lewis-Thomas.
Watford goalkeeper Sam Morris, who made a couple
of appearances in Hafed Al-Droubi's absence on loan
from the Hornets, will return to his club after today as
his spell comes to an end. Also elsewhere now is former
Under-18 Brian McGovern who has started University
at Loughborough and will be playing for the University
side on dual-registration, though he is expected to start
on their Development squad. Loughborough Students
currently play at Step 4 in the Northern Premier League
Midlands Division and we wish him well.

SEASON TICKETS & 1926 MEMBERSHIPS

This is our eleventh year of offering a super saver Season
Ticket and they have been available for purchase since
early June. The cost this year is just £75.00 to cover
our remaining 19 Southern League home fixtures
(just £3.95 per game) so make sure you get your
order in soon. You can pay today and get access to all
future league matches. See the clubs' website www.northwoodfc.com.

northwoodfc.com for the link to pay online or provide
me with cash. Note that the Season Ticket also includes
access to all of our remaining Under-18s Isthmian Youth
League fixtures so even better value for money.

Also available, and very popular, is the Club's 1926
Membership that not only brings you a Season Ticket
as above but also includes one Player Sponsorship
(usually £60) and a VIP Match Day in the Boardroom for
4 people. A real bargain at only £179.00 and again there
is a link from the website.

UNDER-18S

TAn exciting cup-tie at Kings Langley saw the Woods
move into the third and final qualifying round of the FA
Youth Cup. After a 1-1 draw at 90 minutes, Northwood
squeezed through 3-2 on penalties after six kicks apiece
with goalkeeper Matt Burrows the hero with two great
saves in that shoot-out as well as a series of stops
during the match.

The reward is a long trip coming up this week – on
Friday night, 17th October – to Eastbourne Borough. We
are running a coach to the South Coast – it's a 3.15pm
meet here at the clubhouse and if anyone fancies
joining us and giving the U18s some much-needed
support, a seat can be yours (unless it's already sold out
by the time of reading this) for the payment of £20.00.
So, please come and see me if you want to book.

This fixture has replaced our scheduled home game
against Farnham Town in the Isthmian Youth League
Cup and that needs to be rearranged but probably
can't be played the following week as we have
also been drawn away to Broadfields United in the
Middlesex Senior Youth Cup and that, at the time of





WOODS OUTLOOK

writing, is expected to be staged as Tithe Farm on Tuesday 21st October.

We are down to play at home to league leaders Maidenhead United the following week (which would be cancelled if we were to be successful in the game at Eastbourne) but could also be replaced by the Farnham game if the League insist on the cup match being played by the deadline of the end of October! So, watch the website for any changes.

We have reintroduced the Player Sponsor page for the Under-18s, you can find that elsewhere in today's programme and it's just £30.00 for the season and there are plenty still available so if you are a regular at their matches, perhaps you'd like to sponsor your favourite Woods U18 player?

6 RISING BALLERS NEWS

Our tenants were scheduled to play Clapton Community in the London Senior Trophy on Tuesday night as these notes were going to print. It's the start of a sequence of midweek fixtures for the Rising Ballers and they are back here this Monday night for the visit of Bedford who currently sit in third place in the Combined Counties Division One table, so a tough contest ahead. Kick-Off is at 7.45pm.

MERCHANDISE

In partnership with one of our new sponsors, Flame, we are delighted to be able to offer lots of new items in our range of merchandise which have been on sale at all of our home games this season. The range includes caps, hoodies, replica shirts (restocked last week but a limited number available), bobble hats, scarves and pens at present, bucket hats were added with dog bowls also making an appearance! More items will be added shortly. Wear your colours – the colder weather is definitely with us!

If anyone would like to order a replica shirt for Christmas – all sizes available including youth and junior ones – then we need to place an order this week to get them back in good time, so please let me know.

VOLUNTEERING

We have a great working group of volunteers here at the club who all work very hard to keep the club functioning and the ground spick and span throughout the season. But we could always do with a bit of extra help, both on

matchdays or during the week around the stadium or the clubhouse. If you have a few hours to spare and would like to get involved, then please let us know. We have been delighted to welcome Ross Jones to the club as a volunteer videographer in the last couple of weeks and he has already improved our socials with regular updates on YouTube, Instagram and Tik-Tok during that time. The aim is to build the number of followers and subscribers on those accounts and channels so please ensure you take a look, like and subscribe where you can. If interested in helping us out in any way, please speak to either Chairman Ian Barry or Commercial Manager John Joyce and get onboard if you can.

NEXT UP AT THE SKYLINE

The last of the sequence of home games (and programmes) comes next Saturday when we welcome Leverstock Green to the Skyline Roofing Stadium.

Monday 13th October

Rising Ballers v Bedford

Combined Counties League - 7.45pm

Saturday 18th October

Woods v. Leverstock Green

Southern League Division One Central - 3pm

Thank you for your support today and we look forward to seeing you all again next weekend.

Alan

MATCH & MATCH BALL SPONSORS

Opponents	Date	Match Sponsor	Match Ball Sponsor
Egham Town	Saturday 2nd Aug	Shamira Hamirani	Gerry Pimm
Hadley	Tuesday 12th Aug	-	Dennis Goulding
Hanworth Villa	Saturday 23rd Aug	Shamira Hamirani	Peter Reynolds
Rayners Lane	Monday 25th Aug	Colin Seal	Alan Evans
Beckenham Town	Saturday 6th Sep	Shamira Hamirani	Graham Mann
Biggleswade Town	Saturday 27th Sep	-	Ian Barry
Marlow	Tuesday 30th Sep	-	Dennis Goulding
Enfield	Saturday 4th Oct	-	Gerry Pimm
Leighton Town	Saturday 11th Oct	Sean Moore	Peter Reynolds
Leverstock Green	Saturday 18th Oct	Gerry Pimm	Michael & Peter Gant
Ware	Saturday 1st Nov	-	Michael & Peter Gant
London Lions	Tuesday 11th Nov		
AFC Dunstable	Saturday 15th Nov		
Aylesbury United	Saturday 29th Nov	Shamira/Byrne Family	
Stotfold	Saturday 13th Dec	Graham Mann	
Hertford Town	Saturday 20th Dec		
Beaconsfield Town	Saturday 3rd Jan		
Flackwell Heath	Saturday 31st Jan		
Milton Keynes Irish	Saturday 14th Feb	Peter Reynolds	
Welwyn Garden City	Saturday 28th Feb		
Barton Rovers	Saturday 21st Mar		
Thame United	Friday 3rd Apr		
Biggleswade	Saturday 11th Apr	Dennis Goulding	
Hitchin Town	Saturday 18th Apr		



FROM THE DUGOUT

WITH JOINT MANAGER
JON-JO BATES



Good afternoon, Woods fans!

Welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and a special welcome to the management from our opponents this week, Leighton Town FC, led by Paul Reed.

Things didn't go to plan last Saturday when we slipped to another home defeat but I can assure everyone that the boys are definitely up for the battle ahead and as a management team, we back them all the way. We know that there is quality in the changing-room and looking ahead it's about dusting ourselves off, rolling up our sleeves and getting back to basics.

Changes have been forced upon us virtually every week this season due to injuries and holidays so we haven't been able to field the same side once at any time and that doesn't lend itself towards finding the consistency we need but hopefully, we can get everyone back, fit and ready for action soon.

Jack hadn't planned on playing but with injuries and a departure in defence, he's had to step in to help the team. Though he hasn't played that role much in the past, he knows what the role requires so he's been able to step in. He's also still coaching players, though this time from on the pitch rather than from the side. It's different though as you see a much bigger picture from the sidelines rather than being solely focused on maintaining good positioning on the pitch.

Leighton arrive today having started the season very well. They are a good side and I'm sure that they will probably be up there challenging for promotion at

the end of the season but I still believe that if everyone shows up, we can beat anyone in this division so let's hope that today is the first of those days.

The visitors come with a squad that includes plenty of players that have seen service here at Northwood previously and that certainly makes the contest a bit more personal than usual but given our own situation there will be no "mates" during the period of the game; only afterwards in the bar.

We've had a bit of a rest this week giving those boys that have just come back from little niggles a rest while others had work out plans to do on Tuesday. Thursday night we would have been back on the training field at Tithe Farm and I'm expecting to train, along with Osa Otote in order to be available for selection this afternoon. Both Harry McCorkell and Kush Lewis-Thomas remain a couple of weeks away from their possible returns unfortunately but it's important to ensure they are fully clear of their injuries before any risk is taken.

On Tuesday night we are due at Hanworth Villa who will probably be looking for blood after their FA Trophy defeat here at the Skyline earlier in the season. But we expect to field a strong side as we look to keep our cup run alive and reach the quarter-finals.

Plenty of support from the terraces today would be much appreciated. It does make a difference and please join us in the bar for a chat afterwards.

Up The Woods!

JJ

MATCH ACTION

WOODS FALL TO ANOTHER HOME DEFEAT

NORTHWOOD VS ENFIELD
SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2025
KICK-OFF 3.00PM
PITCHING IN SOUTHERN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE CENTRAL



McClenaghan 65, Vukaj 69 (pen)

Three successive home defeats in just an eight-day period will set alarm bells ringing at the Woods as they dropped to third from bottom in the table with a shaky start to the month of October.

A very blustery wind and a carpet of freshly fallen leaves greeted visitors Enfield to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and the visitors needed some valuable points themselves after some recent losses had left them just one place off the foot if the table.

It was likely to be a real battle and the Woods made just one change to their starting line-up with Nasir Sharifi coming in for youngster Henry Atkinson who had played for the Under-18s in their FA Youth Cup win at Kings Langley on the Thursday night. Hicham Bouchareb took a place on the subs bench after injury, replacing Jordan Ellis.

Northwood started with the wind behind them but both sides took time to settle and adapt to conditions. It was Enfield who notched the first effort on goal after nine minutes as Hafed Al-Droubi palmed away a low shot from Jack Taylor.

Joni Vukaj tried his luck from long-range but it flew over but the E's should have been ahead on nineteen minutes.

George Sykes did well to get a cross in from inside the box on the right and it fell to an unmarked James Bone who had almost the whole goal in front of him but somehow miskicked it straight to a grateful Al-Droubi.

It was on twenty seven minutes that the Woods were presented with their opportunity to take the lead when a tackle from Brad McClenaghan around the halfway line set Dan Williams away down the left. He did well, racing into the box, cutting it back and shooting for goal but the ball deflected off a defender across the face of the six-yard box but just behind an unmarked Dylan Kearney who would have had a tap-in.



Woods keeper Hafed Al-Droubi made some good saves throughout the afternoon

Sykes headed a Jack Taylor cross wide for the visitors when in acres of space after thirty three minutes as Enfield continued to edge a half that was full of tackles, free-kicks and stoppages with the Woods limited to one set-piece as Manny Folarin headed on a Jack Smith corner but Kearney picked up the first yellow card of the game for a foul when challenging goalkeeper George Edgeworth.

HT: NORTHWOOD 0-0 ENFIELD FC

It seemed like a half where Northwood had failed to take advantage of the wind being behind them and the visitors started the second-half better too with McClenaghan missing out with a free header which he directed straight at Al-Droubi.

Williams had a shot blocked soon after but then it was back at the other end with Al-Droubi making a fine save after Braithwaite had broken through the defence.

Sharifi, who was quickly replaced by Atkinson soon after, and Folarin picked up further yellow cards for shirt pulls as Enfield continued to threaten.

The only bright spark up front for the Woods was Williams who was enjoying some success on the left, sending over a couple of fizzing crosses but there was no-one to apply the finishing touch.

There was a possible penalty shout at the other end when an attempted clearance from Bryan Mankumbani saw him catch Vukaj on the lower shin which needed lengthy treatment but it was a corner that awarded by the Referee.

65 MINUTES: 0-1 BRAD MCCLENAGHAN

From that came a contentious opening goal. Jack Taylor centred, an attempt at a headed clearance fell to an unmarked Matt Hurley, the ball hitting his left arm, before firing a shot on the turn from a few yards. That was blocked on the line but McClenaghan stabbed home the loose ball.

69 MINUTES: 0-1 JONI VUKAJ (PENALTY)

Just four minutes later, the lead was doubled. Folarin rushed across to challenge a high ball with the E's Sykes who just got the first touch before going to ground and picking up a penalty decision. Vukaj slotted home the spot-kick with an accurate strike.

Northwood made a couple more changes to attempt to rescue something with Bouchareb and Devonte Totesaut replacing Kearney and Smith but there was never any sign of a comeback as Enfield finished well.

Sykes fired over from a good position while substitute Umaru Kabia impressed but was also off-target with two efforts in quick succession but the visitors were home and dry while the Woods had fallen to their fifth successive home defeat in the league. It's the worst run of home league form since the 2021-22 season when they slumped to eight home losses on the trot.

It doesn't get any easier for Northwood though as they now play hosts to unbeaten second-placed side Leighton Town next Saturday with a squad that includes four former Woods players in goalkeeper Dan Hosier and a strike force of Kyal Williams, Godlove Oppong and Sydney Ibie.

FT: NORTHWOOD 0-2 ENFIELD FC

NORTHWOOD LINE-UP

Hafed Al-Droubi, Nasir Sharifi ■ (Henry Atkinson 56m), Mack Miskin, Manny Folarin ■, Bryan Mankumbani, Jack Smith (Devonte Totesaut 77m), Reece Price-Placid, Carl Stewart, Dylan Kearney ■ (Hicham Bouchareb 71m), Ademide Barua, Dan Williams (Freddie Ford 90+2m).

Attendance: 109

Words: Alan Evans



Manny Folarin adjudged to have conceded the penalty



Forward Dan Williams was a bright spark up front for the home side

3 OF A KIND

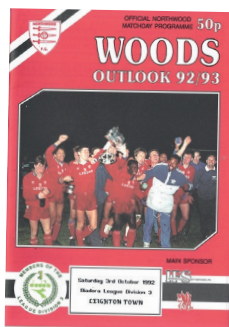
**MEMORABLE PAST MEETINGS WITH TODAY'S OPPONENTS
LEIGHTON TOWN. BY KEN GREEN**

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 1992 DIADORA LEAGUE DIVISION THREE NORTHWOOD 1 LEIGHTON TOWN 1

The first visit by Leighton to Northwood was an exciting match, full of action with both sides enjoying spells of domination and chances being created throughout. Leighton enjoyed the better of early exchanges and Ken Lavender saved well from a Steve Kirkby header after just four minutes.

The Woods began to find their stride and a quick break saw Dave Nolan and Paul Rogan combine to play a ball in for Micky Devane who set up Paul Curran for a shot which was wide of the target. Then Holland fed Devane on the left and his cross found Tim Vincent but his shot was well saved by keeper Mark Townson.

On 37 minutes, Woods had their best chance to take the lead, when Vincent held the ball up well before releasing Curran who sped into the area and sent over a low cross but Vic Schwartz shot over the bar. Just after the interval Tim Ventnour gave away a free-kick just outside the area and this was floated



to the far-post, where Streete headed the ball back across the goal and Steve Drewe pounced to put Leighton ahead.

Northwood hit back and Devane forced Townson into another superb save just two minutes later. On the hour, Nolan finally managed to get a cross in and a Vincent header at the far post was just kept out by Townson. Phillips missed a golden opportunity after 76 minutes, shooting over from a few yards after Curran set him up, and then Martin, Vincent and Curran all went close with shots.

It was late but it was deserved when Northwood finally netted the equalising goal after 89 minutes. Tim Ventnour sent a finely weighted ball over the top of the defence, and Tim Vincent took the ball down skilfully before hitting a shot which finally beat the gallant Leighton keeper.

Northwood: Ken Lavender, Dave Nolan, Paul Curran, Tim Ventnour, Rob Holland, Moran Dodds (Andy Martin), Paul Rogan, Mick Devane, Tim Vincent, Greg Phillips, Vic Schwartz.

Leighton: Townson, Hutchinson, Streete, Cavanagh, Edwards, Kirkby, Norman, Lambert (McGuinness), Spencer, Downey, Drewe.

MONDAY 3RD JANUARY 2000 RYMAN LEAGUE DIVISION TWO LEIGHTON TOWN 0 NORTHWOOD 5

Northwood moved into second place with their second win over the Christmas holiday period, scoring an incredible 12 goals in the process.

Paul Watkins opened the scoring from a Dave Nolan corner after just four minutes with an excellent header.

Steve Newing then also nearly made it two, but for a fine save from home keeper Matt Timberlake.

Danny Yeoman then had an excellent run from midfield and combined with Chris Gell before shooting just wide.

The home side, on the break, went close to equalising through Jason Huntly, but Woods were playing at a sizzling pace and went further ahead



1992 Paul Rogan in midfield action



2000 - Paul Watkins opened the scoring for Woods

on 27 minutes. A crisp ball from Newing found Gell, who then fed Dave Sargent, whose low cross into the box was put through his own goal by Ken Hollis. Danny Butler had an excellent game in defence and was well supported by Gary Williams, Watkins, Sargent and Paul Riordan in goal.

It was three on 37 minutes, Scott Fitzgerald firing home from Newing's cross. And when Fitzgerald was pulled down in the box just before half-time, Sargent crashed home the spot-kick to make it four. Lawrence Yaku replaced Newing at the start of the second half, and scored with an excellent header in the closing stages, though all the damage had been done in the first 45 minutes.

Leighton had some chances to get on the scoresheet, but two excellent saves from Riordan left them goalless.

Northwood: Paul Riordan, Danny Yeoman, Paul Watkins, Danny Butler, Rene Street, Dave Sargent, Dave Nolan, Chris Gell, Steve Newing, Scott Fitzgerald, Gary Williams. Subs. Lawrence Yaku, Gavin Hart, James Burgess.

SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2013 SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE CENTRAL

NORTHWOOD 4 LEIGHTON TOWN 2

The Woods took the points but were made to battle through to the end by a spirited second half fight back from the visitors. Northwood soon settled and after 10 minutes, good work from Niko Muir saw him find George Nicholas on the edge of the box, and he swept the ball just inside the post to put Northwood in front.

Northwood notched a second goal on 39 minutes when Karl Oliyiye received the ball on the left and sped past his marker before cutting in and firing

home across the keeper to open his Woods account. There was still time for things to get worse for Leighton before the break, and it was Oliyiye who caused the damage again when he was upended by Chapman and a penalty was awarded. Niko Muir

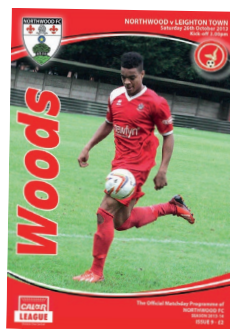
stepped up to tuck away his spot-kick and make the half-time score a comfortable 3-0.

Lawrence had a low shot that fizzed goalwards and was well-saved by Kirkwood, then he set up Muir for an effort which was fired over. However, on 76 minutes Leighton had a lifeline as a long ball saw Jake Knight hesitate as he came out to clear and Shane Bush poked the ball under him to reduce the arrears.

The visitors continued to dominate the closing stages and when Nicholas was caught in possession, Leighton countered quickly and racing down the middle, Gallant showed his prowess in front of goal to slot home a second. But in the fourth minute of stoppage-time, Jon-Jo Bates received a throw-on some thirty-five yards from goal and struck a sweet half-volley that arrowed into the top corner to give Kirkwood no chance and secure all three points.

Northwood: Jake Knight, Ramil Sheriff, Oliver Sprague, Mark Burgess, Steve Brown, George Nicholas, Joakim Ehui, Craig White (Jon-Jo Bates), Niko Muir, Dave Lawrence (Aaron McLeish), Karl Oliyiye

Leighton: Bradley Kirkwood, Grant Fryer (Craig Maisiri), Jake Bewley, Charlie Cunningham, Sam Chapman, Ryan Plowright, Keiron Doughty, Jamie O'Grady, Ben Gallant, Shane Bush, Jerry Lyons (Enzo Silvestri)



2013 - Ramil Sheriff goes on the attack

YESTERDAY TODAY 11.10

THROUGHOUT NORTHWOOD'S HISTORY - WHICH GOES BACK 99 YEARS TO 1926 - THE CLUB HAVE PLAYED 15 FIXTURES ON 11TH OCTOBER; ALL PREVIOUS GAMES ARE LISTED BELOW, AND I REVIEW THREE OF THEM HERE.

BY KEN GREEN



1980

BICESTER TOWN 5 WOODS 2

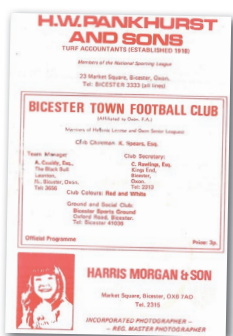
Northwood's reshuffled side was hammered by Hellenic League champions Bicester; the Oxfordshire side had had a poor season by their standards, but they still proved too good for the depleted visitors. Without the experience of John Toogood and Kevin Walton at the back, and with Norman Heslop still on the sidelines, it was imperative that the defence made their authority felt early on.

It was the hosts who made the move, and within a minute stand-in keeper Peter Randall was forced into a brave save and suffered a severe injury. The youngster never recovered from the knock and in the minute his confidence was rocked further when Pratt headed home.

The Woods were rarely in the game from this moment. In the 28th minute Bevin cracked home a free-kick and it was 2-0. Had the opportunist lob

from Martin Ellis gone in rather than hit the crossbar soon after this setback it may have recharged the Woods battery. Unfortunately the ball was cleared, and a 2-0 deficit at half-time looked unlikely to be pulled back.

Bicester soon stretched



HARRIS MORGAN & SON

INCORPORATED PHOTOGRAPHERS - 4000 BUCKINGHAM PALACE



1980 - Robin Tidd pulled score back to 1-5

their lead after the interval after a defensive mix up allowed Crosier to net from close in. The 77th minute brought a crescendo to the match as Bevin netted from way out for Bicester, followed three minutes later by one from Scarrott to make it 5-0. Within five minutes Northwood had scored twice, as Robin Tidd netted from close in, after Roger Livingstone's shot was parried, and then Paul Davis swept home a neat goal.

Northwood: Peter Randall, Peter Davies, Peter Carter, Graham Griffin, Steve Revell, Robin Tidd, Ian Harvey, Martin Ellis, Phil Castella, Paul Davis, Roger Livingstone. Sub: Mark Thomas.

1986

WOODS 3 ULYSSES 1

Woods came back from a goal down to take full points from their London Spartan League match with Ulysses.

Ulysses FC, now long gone, was founded for graduates from the University of London, and first competed in senior football in the London League in 1962-63 season. In 1971, Ulysses joined the newly founded Metropolitan-London League, which then merged with the Spartan League in 1975, becoming the London Spartan League. The Woods joined that league from the Hellenic League in 1984, though Ulysses were at that time in a lower division.

Anyway, to the game, and the visitors broke the deadlock after a goalless first-half when Caddick fired home, and that finally woke Northwood up.

Nigel Pompilis cracked home a fine 25 yarder for the equaliser, and Junior Jones ended a good move with Mark Thomas by slotting in Wood's second.

John Powell had a penalty saved by Ulysses keeper Power after a trip on Billy Stagg, before Northwood sealed the game with 10 minutes remaining, Jones





1986 - Nigel Pompilis equalised with a 25-yard carcker

finding the net again after a Staggy shot had been parried.

Northwood: Barlow, Nigel Pompilis, Steve Revell, Tony Shankster, Richard Mount, Mark Burridge, Brooks, Kevin McPherson, Billy Staggy, Junior Jones, Mark Thomas.

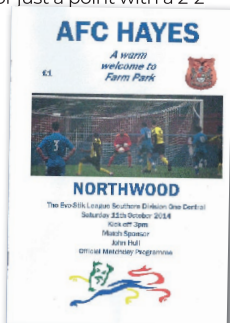
2014

AFC HAYES 2 WOODS 2

The Woods had to settle for just a point with a 2-2 draw after losing a two-goal lead as they looked for a second-successive away win up against their Middlesex neighbours, and they took time to get to grips with the game.

And it was pretty much Northwood's first attack that saw them take the lead against the run of play with Michael Murray finding Ismael Ehui on the left edge of the box and his strike for goal took a deflection that left goalkeeper Sam Mazurek unable to keep the ball out at the near post.

The home side continued to cause problems with



their pace going forward but they were restricted to long-range efforts with Akinjirin, Ehui and former Wood Reece Grant all unable to beat Berkley Laurencin in goal. But on 55 minutes Ismael Ehui flicked on a Murray corner and then Mark Burgess did well to knock the ball back across where Ismael Ehui skilfully volley his shot past Mazurek for his second of the match.

Two goals ahead without really dominating, the Woods needed to continue to hold off the home side's attacking but seven minutes later they conceded a corner and then allowed Charlie Goode to attack the near post and head home to bring his side back into the game.

A good ball saw Dicker through on goal but his shot was well saved by the keeper who pushed the ball up and then recovered quickest to gather it safely. Then with just five minutes left, a ball was knocked into the box and when Turner climbed higher than Goode to head the ball away from danger, the referee decided it was a foul and pointed to the spot. It was hotly disputed but the decision wasn't going to be changed and Akinjirin kept his composure during the delay to slot home the penalty and level.

Northwood: Berkley Laurencin, Omar Vassell, Andy Lomas, Nick Turner, Mark Burgess, Jordan Lawal, Joakim Ehui, Nana Asamoah (Perry Dicker), Michael Murray, Ismael Ehui, Sam Byfield (Rob Hastings).



2014 - Battling Jordan Lawal in midfield

GAMES THE WOODS HAVE PLAYED ON THE 11TH OCTOBER

Date	Competition	Opponents	F-A	Scorers	Att
Sat 11 Oct 1930	A Harrow & District League Division One	Harrow Belmont	4-1	King, Smith, Wooster, Bunce	
Sat 11 Oct 1947	A Middlesex Junior Cup round 1	Hillingdon Hospital	5-1	?	
Sat 11 Oct 1952	A Harrow & Wembley League Premier Division	South Harrow	3-2	?	
Sat 11 Oct 1958	H Harrow & Wembley League Premier Division	Harrow St Mary's	1-1	o.g.	
Sat 11 Oct 1969	A Harrow & Wembley League Premier Division	Giovanota	4-1	Byrne, Millward 2, Sanders	
Sat 11 Oct 1975	H Middlesex League	Ham	2-1	Cooper 2	
Sat 11 Oct 1980	A Cold Shield Hellenic League Premier Division	Bicester Town	2-5	Devis, Tidd	
Sat 11 Oct 1986	H Spartan League Premier Division	Ulysses	3-1	Jones 2, Pompilis	
Fri 11 Oct 1996	H Friendly	Enfield	0-1		
Sat 11 Oct 1997	A Ryman League Division 2	Egham Town	0-2		87
Tue 11 Oct 2005	H Southern League Premier Division	Hitchin Town	0-0		209
Sat 11 Oct 2008	A Ryman League Division 1 North	Maldon Town	0-1		76
Tue 11 Oct 2011	H FA Trophy prelim round replay	Sittingbourne	3-4*	Senior, Constant, Walker	109
Sat 11 Oct 2014	A Evo Stik Southern League Division 1 C	Afc Hayes	2-2	1 Ehui 2	62
Tue 11 Oct 2022	H Middlesex Senior Cup round 1	Ashford Town	1-0	Akintunde	77



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WOODS MATCH BY MATCH

AUGUST				F-A	Att	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sat 2	EGHAM TOWN	H	FACEPR	0-1	204	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sat 9	AFC DUNSTABLE	A	LGE	2-2	108	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin 1	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Tue 12	HADLEY	H	LGE	0-2	147	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sat 23	HANWORTH VILLA	H	FATPR	3-1	110	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	McGovern	M. Folarin	Empson	Baruwa
Mon 25	RAYNERS LANE	H	LGE	2-4	173	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Sharifi	Miskin	Empson 1	Stewart
SEPTEMBER											
Sat 6	BECKENHAM TOWN	H	1QR	0-1	138	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Miskin	M. Folarin	Empson	Stewart
Sun 14	AYLESBURY UNITED	A	LGE	2-2	203	Morris	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin 1	Empson	Stewart
Sat 20	HERTFORD TOWN	A	LGE	2-1	218	Morris	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Torsiello	Baruwa
Tue 23	EDGWARE & KINGSBURY	A	MSC1	2-1	43	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	McKenna	Torsiello	Empson	Smith
Sat 27	BIGGLESWADE TOWN	H	LGE	1-4	122	Al-Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	Torsiello	Mankumbani	Baruwa
Tue 30	MARLOW	H	LGE	1-2	102	Al-Droubi	Atkinson	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Smith
OCTOBER											
Sat 4	ENFIELD FC	H	LGE	0-2	109	Al Droubi	Sharifi	Miskin	M. Folarin	Mankumbani	Smith
Sat 11	LEIGHTON TOWN	H	LGE								
Tue 14	HANWORTH VILLA	A	MSC2								
Sat 18	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	H	LGE								
Sat 25	HITCHIN TOWN	A	LGE								
Tue 28	MILTON KEYNES IRISH	A	LGE								
NOVEMBER											
Sat 1	WARE	H	LGE								
Sat 8	WELWYN GARDEN CITY	A	LGE								
Tue 11	LONDON LIONS	H	LGE								
Sat 15	AFC DUNSTABLE	H	LGE								
Tue 18	FLACKWELL HEATH	A	LGE								
Sat 22	BARTON ROVERS	A	LGE								
Tue 25	HADLEY	A	LGE								
Sat 29	AYLESBURY UNITED	H	LGE								
DECEMBER											
Sat 6	THAME UNITED	A	LGE								
Sat 13	STOTFOLD	H	LGE								
Sat 20	HERTFORD TOWN	H	LGE								
Sat 27	RAYNERS LANE	A	LGE								
JANUARY											
Sat 3	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	H	LGE								
Sat 10	BIGGLESWADE	A	LGE								
Sat 17	ENFIELD FC	A	LGE								
Sat 24	MARLOW	A	LGE								
Sat 31	FLACKWELL HEATH	H	LGE								
FEBRUARY											
Sat 7	LEIGHTON TOWN	A	LGE								
Sat 14	MILTON KEYNES IRISH	H	LGE								
Sat 21	Ware	A	LGE								
Sat 28	WELWYN GARDEN CITY	H	LGE								
MARCH											
Sat 7	LONDON LIONS	A	LGE								
Sat 14	BIGGLESWADE TOWN	A	LGE								
Sat 21	BARTON ROVERS	H	LGE								
Sat 28	STOTFOLD	A	LGE								
APRIL											
Fri 3	THAME UNITED	H	LGE								
Mon 6	BEACONSFIELD TOWN	A	LGE								
Sat 11	BIGGLESWADE	H	LGE								
Sat 18	HITCHIN TOWN	H	LGE								
Sat 25	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	A	LGE								





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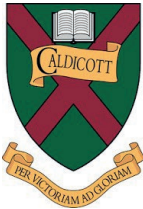


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Welcome again to Commercial Corner where the home games are coming thick and fast.

Unfortunately the poor run continues so let's hope we can get something out of the next two including today's clash against high flying Leighton Town FC. It will be nice to see the return of fans favourite Sydney Ibie.

It was great to find the home and away shirts back on sale at the last game and we managed to sell a few of them. We are now building up to the winter season so our scarves and bobble hats should be in demand then and I'm currently looking for gloves which would be a nice addition too. The merchandise stand takes a fair amount of work on a matchday but it's now a regular feature and sales have been pretty consistent throughout. Many thanks to Graham Mann who has done a sterling job manning the stand at most games and I'm sure you've all got into conversation with him on the way into the ground!

You may have noticed the improvement in some of our social media activity recently especially on Instagram and TikTok which is a big thanks to Ross Jones who recently moved to the area and has been keen to get involved. An excellent highlights episode is now posted on YouTube and there's been some humorous additions on the other platforms. Engagement with fans and subscribers/followers will hopefully increase throughout the season. We'd all like to welcome Ross to the Woods.

On the sponsorship front we posted out an October half term camp flyer from STEM Den on socials, showcasing lots of Diwali and Halloween activities for children aged 5-13.



This week we feature **R. Duffy & Daughters Ltd** who have been Premium Tier sponsors for four seasons now. Owned by Rob Duffy, they are a family run company based in Pinner specialising in plastering, dry lining and waste management. For over 35 years they have been providing quality workmanship and total commitment to their clients with a team of reliable tradesman who complete each job to the highest of standards.

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Our Instagram Matchday sponsors today are Lamertons Opticians who I forgot to announce at the Enfield game. I was so busy selling shirts on the merch stand and doing match updates on X it completely slipped my mind!

Until next time. Up the Woods! John

21



VISITING THE SKYLINE STADIUM

LEIGHTON TOWN



22

Leighton Town, who were known as Leighton United between 1922 and 1963, were formed in 1885. They were mainly involved in local leagues until the outbreak of the Great War and were winners of the Leighton and District League on several occasions.

Leighton were one of the original members of the South Midland League in 1922 – which at the time was known as the Bedfordshire County League. They were also members of the Spartan League between 1922/23 and 1951/52, but their only successes being the Spartan League Division 2 title in 1923/24 and 1927/28. They were Bedfordshire Senior Cup winners in 1926/27. League

In 1952, they became a founder member of the Hellenic League, but after two disappointing seasons, moved to the South Midlands League. In 1965/66 season however, the Premier Championship sat in the Leighton Town Boardroom. The club then rejoined the Spartan League in 1967/68.

Leighton proceeded to consolidate

their League success by winning the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for three successive seasons in 1968, 1969 and 1970. Unfortunately, some of the successful players moved on to other clubs, and Leighton's fortunes again declined. A move to the United Counties League proved disastrous and after just two seasons, the club rejoined the South Midlands League. During the '70's and '80's, Leighton were unable to capture the success of the '60's.

In 1990-91 the First Team won the South Midlands League Challenge Trophy and the O'Brien's Premier Division Cup, both for the first time in the club's history.

The 1991-92 season was one of the club's best. The South Midlands Premier Division title, which had eluded the club for so long, was won, and with it a place in the Isthmian League.

1992-93 saw the Club's success continue when they won the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1970. The Club missed out on promotion in their first Isthmian League season by just a single point

but the Youth Team retained the County Cup.

1995-96 saw the First Team win promotion to Division 2 of the Isthmian League, whilst at the same time retaining the Buckingham Charity Cup.

In the 1996-97 season, Leighton won the Isthmian League Associated Members Trophy for the first time. 1998-99 saw the return of the Associated Members Trophy and the Buckingham Charity Cup.

Leighton won the Ryman Isthmian Second Division title in Season 2003-04. They were also named Ryman Division Two Team of the Year, and Paul Burgess was awarded Manager of the Year. They also reached the Fifth round of the FA Vase, and the final of the Beds Senior Cup, before losing to Andover and Arlesey Town respectively.

The 2004-05 season saw the club placed in The Southern League East Division and finished in a creditable tenth place. They also won the Buckinghamshire Charity Cup.

The 2005-06 Season saw the Club

progress again, improving on the year before, as they finished 8th in The Southern League Western Division. After a poor start, League results improved and the side only suffered four defeats from the start of November until the end of March, a play-off place just eluding them.

After three excellent victories interest in the FA Trophy competition ended with a single goal defeat to eventual semi-finalists, Borehamwood. The Club also reached the Beds Senior Cup Final, but sadly they again finished as Runners Up.

The Club were relocated to the Southern League Midland Division for 2006-07 season but only one League win in the first six games and early exits in the two FA Competitions cost Paul Burgess his job in September. He was replaced by former Wycombe professional Keith Scott, results did improve but it was a disappointing season, although Town did win the Bucks Senior Charity Cup.

The 2007-08 started brightly with the first League defeat not coming until mid-October. Three wins in the FA Cup saw the Club reach the 4th Qualifying Round for the first time in its history. A 3-0 defeat to Conference South, Havant and Waterlooville finally ended the run. Keith Scott then left in December to join Windsor and Eton. In January 2008, Assistant Manager Sean Downey was appointed as First Team Manager and did a splendid job as the Club ended their League season in 9th place, winning the Bucks Charity Cup and reaching the final of the Beds Senior Cup once more.

The 2008-09 Season the First Team finished 8th in the Southern League, Midland Division, achieving their highest points total to date at that level. The 2009-10 season saw Leighton once again finish in the top half of the table, when they finished in 9th place and they also lost the Bedfordshire Senior Cup Final to Southern League rivals, Arlesey Town after penalties.

Season 2010/2011, saw Town finish in 7th place in the League, gaining 69 points, their best performance since joining the Southern Football League.

But after three disappointing seasons, Leighton finished the season in the bottom two of the Southern League Central Division in 2015-16 and were relegated to the Spartan South Midlands League where they had last played in the 1991/92 season.

After a 16th place finish in 2016/2017, the club then finished 4th under manager, Scott Reynolds and reached the Quarter Finals of the FA Vase.

In the 2018-19 close season, Scott Reynolds resigned and Danny Nicholls was appointed as Manager but left in October due to work commitments. The Club then appointed Joe Sweeney and Paul Copson, who had previously won the Premier division title with London Colney. They steadied the ship and it was town's best season for many years as they finished in mid-table.

2019-20 was a good season for the Club as they again reached the Quarter Final of the FA Vase and after a slow start in the League the team started to find some good form as they slowly climbed up the table.

In 2020-21, Town reached the Quarter Final of the FA Vase for the third time in four seasons but sadly lost out to two late penalties. An indifferent start in the League meant they could not quite gain the points needed to gain promotion in a Covid affected season.

In 2021-22 Leighton eventually finished 4th in the table after a mid-season Management change when Lee Bircham was appointed Manager and he led them to the Beds Senior Cup Final which they won after beating Southern League Div 1 Champions, Bedford Town on penalties.

2022-2023 season was thier best for many years with the First Team winning the Spartan South Midlands Premiership Title and completing a double by winning the Premier Division League Cup.

After winning the Premier Division Cup, Manager, Lee Bircham announced that he was leaving the club to join Bedford Town along with his assistant Tony Joyce and coach Sam Pateman. Gary Flinn and



Gary Chance were appointed, after steering Newport Pagnell to two consecutive FA Vase Finals in 2022 and 2023.

Last season ended with Leighton just above the relegation places after some disappointing results in the last couple of months saw them drop from mid table to the lower end of the table.

After six games without a win this campaign, it was decided a change of management was needed and Guy Kefford took over at the helm on an interim basis before Paul Reed was appointed in November. This season has shown a much improved campaign and at the time of writing the Reds sat in seventh position in the table but look like just missing out on qualifying for the play-off places.

Last season, after six games without a win, it was decided a change of management was needed and Guy Kefford took overboard as Interim Manager. Three games were won and things looked up. Guy then stepped down as Paul Reed took over as first team Manager assisted by Kyle Durcan and Ryan Young.

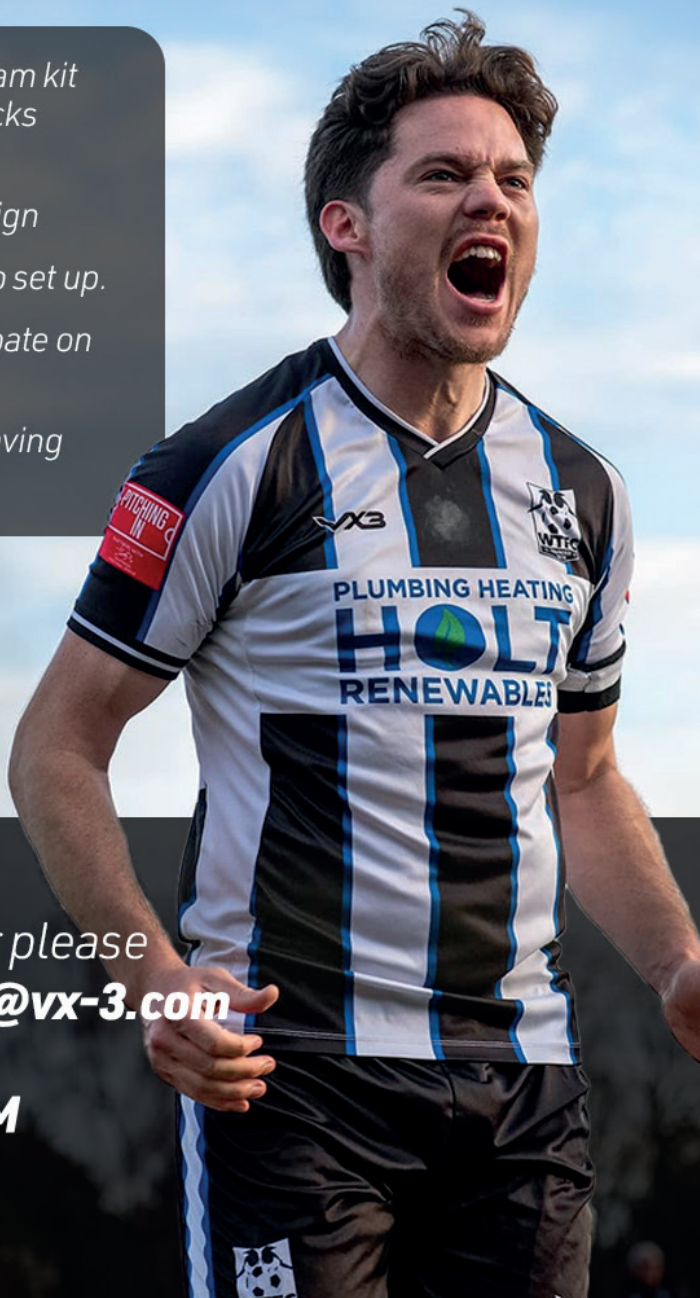
From January, Town only lost one of their next sixteen games as they started to climb the table but lost three of their last five games and finished in seventh place which was a very creditable performance after the poor start to the season.



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MEET THE REDS



Dan Hosier

DAN HOSIER – Goalkeeper.

A Northwood favourite returns as after making the switch to the Reds in the summer. He had two spells with the Woods, 18 games as a teenager before playing in the US and then again last season. A bad injury ruled him out for a long period but he eventually returned for the last month of the season to help Nthe Woods avoid relegation.

HENRY BLACKLEDGE – Goalkeeper.

Brought in on loan from Luton Town to cover an injury to Hosier over the past few weeks. The 19-year-old Australian-born keeper has impressed with two clean sheets in recent games.

ANTHONY BALL – Full back.

A typical modern full back, great energy and equally at home defending or attacking. Previously with Kings Langley.

LEWIS THORPE – Centre Back.

Club captain now in his second season with Leighton, Lewis Thorpe has been a great signing for Town.



Godlove Oppong

SAM MCCLELLAND – Centre Back.

In his second season at Leighton, Sam is an experienced defender who has added strength to the Town back-line.

CHARLIE PATTISON – Midfield.

Charlie now in his third season at Leighton and is an athletic midfielder with good all-round skills.

SAM KING – Midfield.

Sam is now in his third season at Leighton. A skilful and energetic player

BEN FARRELL – Midfield.

Ben is a very experienced midfielder player who previously spent several seasons with Rushden & Diamonds. Now in his third season with Leighton.

MAGLOIRE MUYEMBE – Midfield.

Another new signing in the close season previously played for Cheshunt.

JACK SAYELL – Midfield.

An energetic midfield player who has progressed through the youth and reserve teams.

ELLIOT KEFFORD – Central Back.

Another young player who performed well in the Reserves last season before suffering a serious knee injury.

TOLU IKUYINMINU – Defender.

Signed last year from Biggleswade Town, Tolu is a strong defender who is also impressive when attacking.

LUKE PYMAN – Defender/Midfield.

A former Luke Team player with Leighton, Luke is versatile player who looks comfortable in defence or midfield. Also scores his share of goals.



Kyal Williams

GODLOVE OPPONG – Striker.

Another player who joined Leighton from Northwood part way through last season after a second spell at the Woods. He had previously enjoyed a couple of seasons with Tring Athletic.

KYAL WILLIAMS – Striker.

Kyal joined Leighton Town from Southall where he was a regular scorer. A former Watford Academy player, Kyal played 19 games for the Woods back in 2021–22, scoring two goals. Has since played at Gosport Borough and Berkhamsted.

LEO FARRUCH – Midfield.

Another new signing for Leighton, Leo was previously with Quorn FC in Leicestershire.

DANIEL TAGOE – Defender.

Now in his second season at Leighton, Daniel was a regular for the Reserves last year and it is hoped will make a successful transition to the first team.

PAP JAWARA – Midfield.

Joined the Reds in July 2025. A creative and busy player who was previously with Hayes and Yeading.

SYDNEY IBIE – Striker.

Signing over the summer, Sydney made his name at Northwood with an explosive start to the 2022/23 season, with 12 goals in 21 games to earn a move to National League Dagenham & Redbridge. Things didn't work out there or back at Hemel Hempstead and he played at both Bedford Town and Haringey Borough last season before joining Leighton where he has already notched double-figures for goals.



Sydney Ibie



UNDER 18'S

FA YOUTH CUP RUN CONTINUES...

The Woods travelled to play Kings Langley in the Second Qualifying round of the FA Youth Cup last Thursday week expecting a tough battle against a side that we had beaten a year earlier in the same competition after a draw and a penalty shoot-out.

This time it was away and with a record that has only seen the Woods win four away games in the competition out of sixteen during the past twenty years, the side would need to turn round the statistics. And they needed to do it with without top scorer Royd Pullum who was ruled out with a shoulder injury, joining Chase Matthew on the sidelines. Rowan Daly was his replacement from the start and he was denied by the goalkeeper early on before the Kings took a 27th minute lead. Daly went close again soon after and then, just before the break, another Daly strike was pushed out to Tobi Faleye who saw his shot handled in the box. Freddie Ford took the spot-kick which was also saved by the keeper but it fell kindly back to Ford who slotted home the equaliser.

The second-half saw both sides create several chances but both goalkeepers were in excellent form with Matt Burrows making a string of saves for the Woods. The Kings also hit the bar while late in the game, Aidan Tarrant put a header just wide.

It remained 1-1 at full-time so it was once again down to penalties to decide the winner and the Woods started brilliantly with kicks from James King and Josh Havard, either side of a Burrows save, putting them 2-0 up. But the Kings then scored. Michael Kelly's effort was saved and Daly shot well over. The home side scored one of their two so it was 2-2 after four kick each. When Ford then put his shot over the bar, the Kings only needed to score to go through but Burrows saved again to make it sudden death. It was Jude Flemming who scored to make it 3-2 and then the final kick came back off a post to put Northwood through. The celebrations began and the Woods are now through to the final qualifying round for the first time in fifteen years. There are 70 non-League clubs left in the qualifying competition with the 35 winning clubs due to join 45 Football League sides (from Divisions One and Two) in the First Round proper.

Northwood: Matt Burrows, Riley Loveday, Caleb Wright, Luke Atkinson (Jude Flemming 80m), Aidan Tarrant, Josh Havard, Henry Atkinson (Calum Gardner 85m), Freddie Ford, Rowan Daly, Tobi Faleye (James King 70m), Michael Kelly. **Unused Subs:** Gabriel Osei, Ledion Latifi, Marek Myszozyński, Owen Miall-Smith.

The draw for the Third and final Qualifying round of the FA Youth Cup was made the following day and the Woods have been given one of the longest trips possible at this stage, away to Eastbourne Borough who's first-team currently play in the National League South. They've chosen to play the match next Friday 17th November with the kick-off being at 7.45pm and the club are running a coach to the game, leaving here at 3.15pm. If you would like to go (and we still have space by the time you read this), please let us know. The fare is £20.

SEASON STATS 2025/26

Top appearances: 5 – L Atkinson, Burrows, Daly, Faleye, Harvard, Kelly, King, Loveday, Wright.

Top Scorers: 4 – Pullum. 3 – H Atkinson, Daly.
2 – Ford, Wright. 1 – Faleye, Kelly.

FIXTURES & RESULTS 2025/26

Date	Opposition	F-A
August		
Wed 20	Fleet Town	IVL 4-1 H Atkinson 2, Wright, Daly
September		
Wed 3	Tring Athletic	FAY 4-0 Pullum 2, Ford, H Atkinson
Mon 8	Bedfont Sports	IVC 5-0 Faleye, Kelly, Pullum, Wright, Daly
Wed 17	Hayes & Yeading United	FAY 2-0 Pullum, Daly
October		
Thu 2	Kings Langley	FAY 1-1 Ford (Woods won 3-2 on pens)
Fri 17	Eastbourne Borough	FAY
Tue 21	Broadfields United	MXV
Wed 29	Maidenhead United	IVL
November		
Mon 3	Hampton & Richmond B	IVL
Wed 12	Ascot United	IVL
Wed 19	Camberley Town	IVL
Thu 27	Aldershot Town	IVL (At Badshot Lea FC)
December		
Wed 3	Farnham Town	IVL
Wed 10	Bracknell Town	IVL
Mon 15	Badshot Lea	IVL
Mon 22	Camberley Town	IVL
January		
Wed 7	Maidenhead United	IVL
Wed 14	Camberley Town	IVL
Tue 20	Bracknell Town	IVL
Wed 28	Farnham Town	IVL
February		
Wed 4	Hampton & Richmond B	IVL
Wed 18	Aldershot Town	IVL
Tues 24	Ascot United	IVL
March		
Wed 4	Fleet Town	IVL
Wed 11	Badshot Lea	IVL
TBA	Farnham Town	IVL

IVL = Isthmian Youth League; FAY = FA Youth Cup; IVC = Isthmian Youth League Cup
MXV = Middlesex Youth Cup

ISTHMIAN YOUTH LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Maidenhead United	3	3	0	0	10	5	5	9
2 Northwood	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3
3 Ascot United	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
4 Badshot Lea	2	0	1	2	4	5	-1	1
5 Aldershot Town	2	0	2	1	3	5	-2	1
6 Fleet Town	2	0	1	1	3	6	-3	1
7 Bracknell Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Camberley Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Farnham Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Hampton & RB	1	0	0	1	2	4	-2	0



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ROYD PULLEM  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	AIDAN TARRANT  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	JAMES KING  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	LUKE ATKINSON  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	ROWAN DALY  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	CALEB WRIGHT  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR
CALUM GARDNER  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	MATT BURROWS  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	OWEN MIAL-SMITH  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	CHARLIE SMITH  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	JUDE FLEMING  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	MAREK MYSCZYNSKI  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR
JOSH HAVARD  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	OSCAR GOULDING  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	STANLEY GERAGHTY  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	LEDION LATIFI  AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR		
JAMIE BARRY  MANAGER Dennis Goulding	MATT KAYE  ASSISTANT MANAGER AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	BILLY ALLEN  COACH AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR	KARL SCOTT  COACH AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR		

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**HAFED
AL-DROUBI**



Experienced goalkeeper who joined the Woods for a second spell in November 2024 on dual registration from Walthamstov. The 30-year-old Jordanian-born keeper played at Besiktas in Turkey and Luton Town as a youngster. He has played for Chesham United, Harrow Borough, Beaconsfield Town, Potters Bar Town and Hendon amongst others as well as for the England six-a-side international team. Left to help Berkhamsted to play-off promotion success but is now back for a third spell at the Woods.

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**ANDREW
MCCORKELL**



Experienced goalkeeper who first had a spell with the Woods in 2017 after release from MK Dons where he picked up representative honours for Northern Ireland U19s. He had already made appearances for Hendon and Chesham United. In more recent years he has had spells with Beaconsfield, Hayes & Yeading, Chalfont St Peter and Bedfont Sports before joining the Woods in 2022. Ever-present and voted in the League's team of the season, he then returned to Northwood after a brief spell at Uxbridge before joining Harrow Borough in 2024.

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**MANNY
FOLARIN**



Experienced, 33-year-old defender who switched from Rayners Lane to Northwood in November 2024. Previous clubs include Tilbury, Hemel Hempstead, Kings Langley, Hayes & Yeading, Berkhamsted, Braintree Town, Eastbourne Borough and Loughton Town. Had a great season with the Woods, winning the Managers' Player of the Year award and has been named Skipper for the new season.

Sponsored by Sean Moore

**ROMARIO
JONAS**



27-year-old defender who joined the Woods on dual registration with Harwell Town in July 2022. He made his name with some impressive performances at Ashford Town (Middx) and earned a move to Step 3 side Hendon where he made almost 50 appearances over two seasons. He has had short spells with Bracknell Town and Chalfont St Peter but was then part of the successful Hanwell side that won promotion through the play-offs in May 2022. Injuries plagued his next couple of seasons with just a few appearances here and at Harefield but he's back to play a big part.

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**CARL
STEWART**



Former Watford youth midfielder Carl Stewart signed on a dual-registration basis from Beaconsfield Town in November 2021. Carl is a 27-year-old who was also at Udinese as a youngster and then played in Poland for Zagłębie Sosnowiec. He has also had short spells at Oxford City, Banbury United, Bedfont Sports, Wingate & Finchley and Marlow. He won the coveted Players' Player of the Year award in 2022 and was virtually ever-present in the Woods midfield, with over 100 appearances before spending a season at Harrow Borough, returning in July 2025.

Sponsored by Robin Piper

**HARRY
MCCORKELL**



Harry returns to the Woods for a second spell in the summer of 2025 having had a year with Harrow Borough where he was named as Players' and Managers' Player of the Year. Now 26, Harry had previously had six seasons at Harefield United and a great year with North Greenford. He will now look to take a big role in the centre of midfield to add to his 32 appearances in 2023/24.

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ADEMIDE BARUWA



A new arrival at the Woods in the summer of 2025, Adz joins the club from Leverstock Green where he has been a mainstay of their midfield over the past couple of seasons, clocking up over 70 appearances. Prior to this the 25-year-old has played for CB Hounslow, North Greenford United and Belstone.

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RICCARDO CLARKE-ROWE



Rico joins the Woods in the summer of 2025 having been out of the game for a while since spells with Broadfields United and Amersham Town. Now 23, he will be working hard to establish his place in the new squad.

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JORDAN ELLIS



30-year-old wide player, Jordan has been out of the game for around 18 months having been badly injured in a play-off fixture at the end of several seasons with Hanworth Villa. He will be looking to get back to both fitness and sharpness in pre-season.

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JACK EMPSON



Jack is a 21-year-old defender who has joined the Woods in 2024 having played for AFC Rushden & Diamonds and Aylesbury United previously. He played in the US with South Bend Lions and then for Kettering Town as a youth. He also enjoyed a good spell with Aylesbury Vale three seasons ago and had a solid first season with the Woods, returning for a second year at the club.

Available to Sponsor

DYLAN KEARNEY



An experienced striker with an excellent goalscoring record, 27-year-old Dylan joined the Woods in summer 2025 having returned from serious injury with games at Flackwell Heath last season. He has had previous spells with the likes of Uxbridge, Wealdstone, Harrow Borough, Sutton United, Dulwich Hamlet, Hayes & Yeading, Hendon, Wingate & Finchley and Beaconsfield.

Sponsored by John Joyce

KUSHON LEWIS-THOMAS



A new signing for the Woods in the summer of 2025, Kush is a 21-year-old attacker who can play up front or on the left. He enjoyed an excellent season with Langley FC back in 2022/23 with over 20 goals for the Step 6 side but hasn't been playing in recent years. With plenty of pace and creativity, Kush will be looking to get back to enjoying his football with the Woods this season.

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DEVONTE TOTESAUT



Striker who returned to the Woods in February 2025 having had a previous spell in the Covid-hit 2020-21 season where he made 11 appearances and scored three goals. After a few years out of the game he returned to play for Yaxley and AFC Peterborough earlier last season. Now 30, previous clubs include Chesham United and Brunos Magpies in Gibraltar, amongst others.

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BRIAN MCGOVERN



Brian joins the first-team squad after a superb season in the Woods Under-18s and having made an impressive first-team debut at the end of that season at Barton Rovers. The 18-year-old also gained experience playing for Oxhey Jets and has a bright future ahead of him.

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HARRY MCKENNA



Woods Young Player of the Year in 2024, having impressed throughout since joining from Aldershot Town's Development side in October 2023. He returned to the Woods for a second season and had clocked up over 60 appearances before a dislocated shoulder ruled him out for the rest of the season in early March. Back for a third season, Harry can play anywhere on the right.

Sponsored by Gerry Pimm

MACK MISKIN



Left-back Mack originally joined the Woods back in 2019 having previously played for Staines Town. He made 14 appearances and the 24-year-old returns to the club in July 2025 from Harrow Borough having also played for Hanwell Town and Braintree Town while having loan spells at Saffron Walden Town, Brightlingsea Regent and Marlow.

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REECE PRICE-PLACID



Vastly experienced winger who started out at Woking and Carshalton Athletic. He had a few games with Lancing last season but has been missing for much of the last two years with injury issues. Previously he was part of a Whitehawk squad that won promotion from Step 4 in 2023 and the 29-year-old has also played for East Grinstead, Hayes & Yeading, Harlow Town and Basildon United.

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NASIR SHARIFI



Young 19-year-old who joins Northwood after several seasons at Harrow Borough in both the Under-18s and Under-23 side where he was captain. He made a few first-team appearances for Boro at the end of last season and the full-back looks to have plenty of potential for the Woods.

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HICHAM BOUCHAREB



Hicham is a 22-year-old tricky, wide player who started out with Hampton & Richmond Borough and then played in development sides at Basildon United, Beaconsfield Town and Rising Ballers. Joins the Woods after a couple of years out of the game.

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JAMIE KENNEDY



Young midfielder who arrived at the Woods in the summer of 2025 having played for Harrow Borough, both U23 and around a dozen first-team matches last season, winning the Young Player of the Year Award. Only 19, his previous youth experience was at Brentford.

Sponsored by Arthur Puckey

OSARETIN OTOTE



23-year-old pacy winger, Osa has returned for a second spell at the club having originally signed in February 2023. He hit the headlines with a hat-trick early the following season against Corinthian-Casuals but the former Huddersfield Town youth then left and has since travelled around with spells at Enfield Town, Sutton Common Rovers, Frenford, Met Police and Sevenoaks Town.

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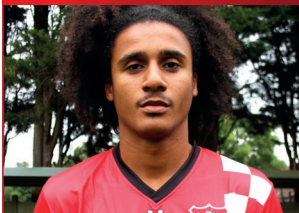
DAN WILLIAMS



Dan has returned to Northwood for a third spell at the club in September 2025. He was the Woods Golden Boot winner in 2023-24 but left to join Harrow Borough and then moved on in January to help Bedford Sports to promotion from the Combined Counties League. The 28-year-old striker has also played for Chalfont St Peter, Tooting & Mitcham United and Uxbridge.

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CHAMA TORSIELLO



Young, 20-year-old defender who has joined the Woods in July 2025 from Essex Senior League side Buckhurst Hill having previously played for Harrow Borough's Under-23 side and Spartans Youth when they played here at Northwood. He will be looking to make the step up to Step 4 football this season and has earned that chance with some solid performances in pre-season.

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MANAGEMENT TEAM

JON-JO BATES



Joint Manager

Experienced attacking midfielder, now 33, who came out of retirement in January 2025 for a second spell at Northwood, over a decade after the first. After playing as teenager at Bedford Town, he joined Dagenham & Redbridge on professional terms, then played at Harrow Borough and Hampton & Richmond Borough before his first spell with the Woods. Other clubs since then have included Maidenhead United, Chesham United, Uxbridge, Beaconsfield and Egham Town. Took over as Joint Manager in March 2025.

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JACK SMITH



Joint Manager

Experienced Midfielder who originally joined the Woods in March 2023 from St Panteleimon having also been registered with Chesham United. The 28-year-old came through the youth ranks at Wealdstone but then played for Corinthian-Casuals and Ashford Town (Middx) before returning in August 2024 from Risborough Rangers. Took over as Joint Manager of the club in March 2025.

**Sponsor by
Michael Payne**

DENNIS QUIGLEY



Assistant Manager

**Sponsored by
Tom Day**

MARK CHANDLER



First Team Coach

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STEVE RINGROSE



Director of Football

**Sponsored by
Dennis Goulding**

SAJ VIGNESWARAN



Goalkeeping Coach

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GUS PAYNE



Physiotherapist

**Sponsored by
Robin Piper**

WOODS ROLL CALL



* No longer at club

Player	2025/26 SEASON								WOODS CAREER					
	League				Cup				Total	League		Cups		Overall
	XI	Sub	Total	Goals	XI	Sub	Total	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
Ademide Baruwa	7	1	8	0	3	1	4	0	12	0	8	4	0	12
Reece Price-Placid	4	4	8	1	4	0	4	0	12	1	8	1	4	0
Devonte Totesaut	5	2	7	2	3	1	4	1	11	3	26	6	7	2
Mack Miskin	8	0	8	1	2	0	2	0	10	1	19	1	5	0
Carl Stewart	8	0	8	0	2	0	2	0	10	0	103	3	25	1
Hafed Al Droubi	6	0	6	0	4	0	4	0	10	0	25	0	10	1
Manny Folarin	6	0	6	1	3	0	3	0	9	1	32	2	4	0
Jack Empson*	4	1	5	1	4	0	4	0	9	1	38	1	7	0
Dylan Kearney	4	1	5	0	3	1	4	1	9	1	6	0	3	1
Nasir Sharifi	7	0	7	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	7	0	1	0
Osaretin Otote	4	1	5	1	0	3	3	0	8	1	15	4	12	1
Chama Torsiello	2	3	5	0	1	2	3	0	8	0	5	0	3	0
Freddie Ford	0	5	5	0	1	2	3	1	8	1	7	0	3	1
Henry Atkinson	2	2	4	0	3	0	3	0	7	0	4	0	3	0
Jamie Kennedy	1	2	3	0	2	2	4	1	7	1	3	0	4	1
Dan Williams	5	0	5	3	1	0	1	0	6	3	47	20	12	4
Jordan Ellis	2	3	5	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	5	0	1	0
Hicham Bouchareb	2	2	4	0	1	1	2	1	6	1	4	0	2	1
Jack Smith	2	2	4	0	1	1	2	0	6	0	33	2	12	0
Jon-Jo Bates	1	2	3	0	2	1	3	0	6	0	42	5	5	0
Bryan Mankumbani	3	0	3	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	3	0	1	0
Harry McKenna	2	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	58	0	8	0
Sam Morris	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
Rico Clarke-Rowe	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0
Brian McGovern	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	0
Kush Lewis-Thomas	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Romario Jonas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	2	10	0	38
Michael Kelly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	4
Andrew McCorkell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	18	0	82
Harry McCorkell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	2	6	0	31
Aidan Tarrant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2





NORTHWOOD



JOINT-MANAGERS

JACK SMITH
& JON-JO BATES

Hafed Al-Droubi
Andrew McCorkell
Sam Morris
Nasir Sharifi
Harry McKenna
Bryan Mankumbani
Mack Miskin
Manny Folarin
Chama Torsiello
Ademide Baruwaa
Carl Stewart
Jack Smith
Jon-Jo Bates
Rico Clarke-Rowe
Dan Williams
Jamie Kennedy
Harry McCorkell
Devonte Totesaut
Dylan Kearney
Kush Lewis-Thomas
Reece Price-Placid
Jordan Ellis
Hicham Bouchareb



LEIGHTON TOWN



MANAGER

PAUL REED

Dan Hosier
Henry Blackledge
Luke Pyman
Anthony Ball
Daniel Tagoe
Tolu Ikuyinminu
Charlie Pattison
Sam McClelland
Ben Farrell
Lewis Thorpe
Kyal Williams
Leo Farruch
Pap Jawara
Sydney Ibie
Godlove Oppong
Jack Sayell
BJ Christie
Sam King
Rio Da Silva
Owen McConnell
Magloire Muyembe
Will Horne

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: ALEX MOLLOY
ASSISTANTS: PHIL EVANS & JAMES SEDLEY

NEXT HOME GAME

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