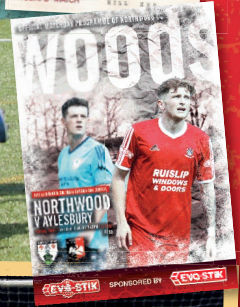


Up The Woods

THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF
NORTHWOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

#01 | £2.50

WOODS



NORTHWOOD vs HOLYPORT
01.08.26 • 3PM • SKYLINE STADIUM
COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION NORTH



Match Ball
Sponsor

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PIMM**



"THE CENTENARY SEASON"



WOODS



Northwood v Holyport,
Saturday 1st August 2026 - 3pm
Combined Counties League Premier Division North

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Northwood Football Club

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www.northwoodfc.com

Northwood Football Club is a
 Members' Club

Directory

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Assistant Manager	Liam Enver-Marum
First Team Coaches	Tom Nyama Abdul Osman
Physiotherapist	Gus Payne
Website Editor	Ken Green
Programme Editor	Terry Brumpton
Official Photographer	Vacant

Club Honours

**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:**

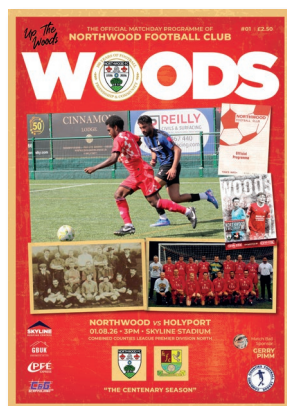
1977, 1977

Middlesex League Challenge Cup Winners:

1975, 1977, 1978

**Harrow, Wembley & District League
 Champions:**

1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1948, 1949



WOODS

The Woods, the official matchday
 programme of Northwood FC has been
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For further information, please contact

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Ian Barry

Woods Chairman, **Ian Barry**, welcomes you all back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium as we embark on our Centenary season...

Good afternoon and welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and our C & G Scaffolding Ltd sponsored clubhouse for today's Combined Counties League fixture. We extend our welcome to our visitors today from Holyport FC and trust they enjoy their short stay here.

Well, here we go again! Another season gets underway and it's a new league for us this time around. I'm probably still getting to grips with what happened last season, but with yet another extended and busy closed season here, there is barely time to catch your breath before we are back underway!

We welcome our new Manager, Manny Williams and his staff to the club and I'm sure you will make him feel at home. Whilst I think it's fair to say that pre-season hasn't gone as well as planned for various reasons, all of that is forgotten about today as we look to make a positive start in our quest to return back to where I believe we belong.

Many thanks to our esteemed Club Photographer, James Brown, as he hangs up the lenses after twenty long years and returns to simply watching games again. James has done a magnificent job over the decades and he retires from that role with our sincerest gratitude for all his hard work. Well done, James! We would love someone to volunteer to take his place so if there is anyone out there with an interest in photography and football and can make games

regularly, then please give it a go as it plays a huge part in our social media output – website, programmes, X and Facebook.

In addition to new LED floodlights and fencing that were installed last year, last week we were able to show off our fantastic new Team shelters and what a magnificent addition they are to our already impressive ground. Many thanks to Derek Green RIP and Ken Green, a wonderful donation from one of our long-term supporters and also Graham Janes for his extremely generous contribution which all made this happen. Graham has come on board with us now and he has already showed his commitment to the club in many ways. Welcome Graham!

Tomorrow, we welcome England Vets over 50's here against a Woods Legends XI and we hope as many of you can come as possible for a 2pm KO. Entry is by donation to Mount Vernon Cancer Charity.

More from me next week as I will know some more about our planned Centenary events so watch this space!

Enjoy the game today!

Thanks as always to all our volunteers and sponsors for making this club what it is. Let's hope we get it right on the pitch this season.

Up The Woods!

Ian



“...whilst I think it's fair to say that pre-season hasn't gone as well as planned for various reasons, all of that is forgotten about today as we look to make a positive start in our quest to return back to where I believe we belong.”



Woods Outlook

Club Secretary, **Alan Evans**, brings us all the latest news from around the club.



Welcome to the Port

It's a warm welcome back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium this afternoon as we open our new season with a home fixture in the Combined Counties League against our visitors from Holyport FC. It's a new league for the Woods and we will play our opponents for the first-ever time so it's very much a case of into the unknown from our point of view. We welcome everyone connected with the Port and hope that they enjoy their stay with us.

Holyport is a village around two miles south of Maidenhead and they have been playing football there since 1897 but it is only in the current century that they have developed into a senior club, originally joining the Hellenic League in 2002. Gradual improvement saw them promoted from Step 6 to the Premier Division in 2011 but they were relegated back four years later. It was the Covid years that produced a couple of good, though unfinished, seasons and that brought them promotion in 2021; this time to the Combined Counties League Premier and

this is their sixth season back at Step 5. Their best year was in 2024 when they finished in fifth place, qualifying for the play-off semi-finals, though were then beaten 2-0 at Rayners Lane.

Last season was a bit of a struggle for the Port, never higher than tenth place early on but then spending two thirds of the season battling against relegation. That ultimately proved successful thanks to two wins from their final two matches, a 1-0 success over Kidlington and then a 2-1 victory away at rivals Amersham Town. They finished seventeenth



though ultimately, only one team – Edgware & Kingsbury – were actually relegated, with a record of nine wins, three draws and twenty-six defeats from their 38 games played. Holyport will face two fellow Combined Counties Premier North sides in FA Competitions this season with a visit from Wallingford & Crowmarsh in the FA Cup next week and then a home game against Amersham Town in the FA Vase the week after.

We don't have a Match Sponsor for this afternoon's fixture but are delighted to say that Gerry Pimm has kindly donated the opening-day Match Ball so thanks to him for that. As you will see from the grid on these pages, there are lots of slots to fill for sponsorship this season so please come forward if you can help.

New Manager

It was all change once again in the summer here at the Woods when manager Tommy Cooney declared that he didn't feel able to carry on his role due to the travelling involved playing in the Combined Counties League. It meant that the pre-season campaign that he had planned pretty much vanished overnight and we had to turn our attention to recruitment once more.

Thankfully, after a short process, we managed to bring in Manny Williams who had just brought an end to his long and significant playing career with a retirement match that was held at one of his former clubs – Slough Town. Manny has been working hard on recruiting what is pretty much a completely new squad that we have today after a series of warm-up games and no doubt he and his management team will be looking to learn from early fixtures and change things if and when necessary. Liam Enver-Marum, another player with plenty of experience, has joined as assistant manager while the coaching team is Tom Nyama and Abdul Osman. Profiles of all these are included elsewhere in the programme.

We wish them all a long and successful spell here at Northwood

FC so please give them your full support, especially in these early days.

Player News

As already mentioned, it is almost a completely new squad of players that we have had to recruit during the summer and most of them have profiles later in the programme on the sponsorship pages. All these players are available to sponsor so get in soon for your favourites! We issue a warm welcome to the club to all of these new players.

The only players registered at present who were with us last season are two of the successful Under-18s – Josh Havard and Riley Loveday – plus Kieran Lake-Bryan who played a few times under Cooney at the end of last season. We hope they can all progress well during this campaign.

League News

No sooner did the Combined Counties League fixtures get released then we quickly faced an early postponement and we can confirm that our scheduled away game against Hilltop this Wednesday, 5th August, does not take place as their venue (Silver

Jubilee Park) is not available to them in midweek during August. No new date has been set for the fixture as yet.

Cup News

The Emirates FA Cup competition starts next weekend and we have been drawn at home against Hutton FC in the Extra Preliminary round on Saturday, 8th August. Our opponents have grown in the last few years, taking up a groundshare arrangement at Step 3 side Billericay Town. Three years at Step 6 in the Eastern Counties League Division One South culminated in winning the title in May having been beaten in play-off semi-finals in each of the other two previous years. They now take their place in the Essex Senior League Premier League and will be looking for further progress this season so expect a real test. The winners of this tie will play at home to either Hilltop or Step 4 side Grays Athletic in the Preliminary round two weeks later.

Just a week later after the Hutton game, we then start our first FA Challenge Vase since the 1999-2000 season, with an away game at Rothwell Corinthians. Our hosts play at Step 6 in the Spartan South Midlands League Division

Match & Match Ball Sponsors - Season 2026/27

Date	Opponents	Match Sponsor	Match Ball Sponsor
Sat 1st August	Holyport		Gerry Pimm
Sat 8th August	Hutton (FA Cup)		Sean Moore
Tue 11th August	Burnham		
Sat 29th August	Broadfields United		
Mon 31st August	Harefield United		
Sat 12th September	Wallingford & Crowmarsh		
Tue 15th September	Rayners Lane		
Sat 3rd October	Abingdon United		
Sat 17th October	Redhill (League Cup)		
Tue 20th October	Penn & Tylers Green		
Sat 31st October	Kidlington		
Sat 14th November	Easington Sports		
Sat 28th November	Hilltop		
Sat 12th December	North Greenford United		
Sat 19th December	Reading City		
Sat 9th January	Wokingham Town		
Sat 16th January	North Leigh		
Sat 6th February	Ardley United		
Sat 13th February	Bedfont		
Sat 6th March	Thatcham Town		
Tue 23rd March	Amersham Town		



One and struggled last season, finishing in 18th place behind our near-neighbours Everett Rovers who we met in pre-season. We have previously played in Rothwell against the now defunct Rothwell Town, meeting them in successive FA Cup seasons in 1999 and 2000 so it will be interesting to return to the town. The winners of this tie will play at home to Maidenhead Town, another side newly promoted to Step 6 (Combined Counties Division One), in the second qualifying round.

For the first time in a while, we will also compete in a League Cup this season and we have been drawn at home in this against Premier South side Redhill. This is scheduled for a Saturday in mid-October and the winners will be away to Tadley Calleva in the second round.

The Middlesex Senior Cup draw has not been made at this stage.

Woods Legends v England Over-50s tomorrow

The next event in our centenary calendar is here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium tomorrow when many former Woods favourites take to the pitch once again against an England Veterans Over-50s representative side. Full details are included elsewhere in today's programme but Northwood's record appearance maker Chris Gell leads a legends side that includes former Watford striker Scott Fitzgerald while the star of the England side is non-League goalscorer Mark Bellingham, better known nowadays as father of England star Jude (and brother Jobe). It should be a great contest with kick-off at 2pm and entry by donation to Mount Vernon Cancer Charity. A small programme available while stocks last.

Under 18's

The new season for the Under-18s doesn't begin until the end of the month so it's pre-season and training for them at present under the new management of Matt Kaye who has stepped up from his assistant's role last season. Jamie Barry achieved great success with

the side over the last couple of years and matching that would be a tall order but it will be interesting to see how they get on when they do get going. Around eight of the new squad did make appearances last season and the recruitment of new faces looks promising so we shall look on with interest. The fixture list is out and we start at home to Hayes & Yeading on Wednesday 27th August before the FA Youth Cup kicks off with a visit to Everett Rovers the following week. New clubs in our division this season include Ling Trips to Sutton United and Tooting & Mitcham while we are also up against Woking.

James Brown

As you will see from elsewhere in today's programme, our long-serving club photographer James Brown has decided to step down prior to our new life in the Combined Counties League so if we are to maintain the standard of our website, programme and social media, we will need a regular replacement that can get to matches. If you are an enthusiastic amateur with a love of photography and football and can assist, then please let us know.

New(ish) Groundshare

After one year of Rising Ballers using our facilities last season, we now have the return of Hayes & Hillingdon FC as our groundshare partners for the next two years. They were previously here for 2024/25 before spending a year at Uxbridge but with Southall now moving into share at Uxbridge, they have asked to come back. We look forward to working with them as they make another attempt to reach Step 6 football having just missed out on promotion in each of the last few years of Middlesex League competition. Their opening fixtures have been released and they start with three home matches, the first of which is in two weeks' time, on Saturday 15th August, against Camden & Islington United so if you can't make it to Rothwell for our FA Vase game, then you do have an alternative.

Next up at The Skyline

We have the centenary charity fixture here at the club tomorrow but there's nothing else on here during midweek though we are of course back here next Saturday with a big Emirates FA Cup fixture at home to Hutton FC. We hope to see you back here at the Skyline.

Sunday 2nd August 2026

Woods Legends v England Veterans Over-50s 2pm

Saturday 8th August 2026

Woods v Hutton Emirates FA Cup 3pm Southern League Division One Central 3pm

Merchandise

There is plenty of new stock available at the merchandise stall inside the ground already including the new shirts, both home and away, in most sizes so please give them a visit. There is also a new range of caps and bucket hats with the club's centenary logo on them. More will be added as the season goes along.

Thanks for your support this afternoon and see you all again next weekend.

Alan



Manny Williams

Woods new manager, **Manny Williams**, welcomes you all back to the Skyline Roofing Stadium and gives his latest thoughts...

Hello everyone,

It is a real privilege to be appointed manager of Northwood Football Club. From the very beginning, it was a role that genuinely appealed to me. This is a respected club with a proud history, an excellent structure both on and off the pitch, and a strong community focus. It is also a well-managed club behind the scenes, and being involved with a successful local club was an opportunity I was keen to take.

My first impressions have been extremely positive. I have been impressed by the clubhouse and facilities, while the work that has gone into improving the pitch shows the ambition that exists throughout the club. There is a clear desire to return to Step 4, and that ambition matches my own.

There is no doubt the task ahead is a challenging one, but it is also an exciting opportunity. We know this will be a tough and competitive league, but I have every confidence that we will compete and represent the club in the right way.

One of my first priorities when my appointment was made was appointing my management team. It was carefully considered and a process that took a while because I needed to be sure I had the right team by my side. My management team are people I trust fully, who share the same footballing philosophy and vision for how we want to play. They have all performed at a good standard and been successful, possess excellent knowledge of the game, and will be positive role models

and mentors for our younger players.

Although my appointment came later than is normally ideal, I have been delighted with the progress my team have made in a short space of time. The players are beginning to understand the structure of how we would like to play, and our expectations and standards on and off the pitch that we demand. At the same time, we are also learning more about them every day, whilst ensuring that our standards remain high and professional.

Pre-season has provided some tough tests, exactly what we needed. Results have been secondary to performances, and I have been encouraged by some of what I've seen. Some players have adapted quickly, whilst others are still adjusting to the level and tempo. I have been impressed by some of the exciting young players that have emerged alongside some experienced members of the squad.

Looking ahead, our aim is simple: We will compete and establish a clear identity and a style of playing. We will also show discipline and be difficult to beat, whilst playing exciting football. Above all, we want to help bring the good times back for our supporters and everyone connected with this fantastic football club. I look forward to putting the smiles back on our supporter's faces.

Up The Woods!



“

There is no doubt the task ahead is a challenging one, but it is also an exciting opportunity. We know this will be a tough and competitive league, but I have every confidence that we will compete and represent the club in the right way.

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Combined Counties League Premier Division North

The Woods compete in the Combined Counties League for the first-ever time today and we start with a home game against a Holyport side who avoided a possible relegation at the end of the last campaign thanks to winning their final two games.

The final table shown on this page indicates how important that was to our visitors, though there was of course also a reprieve for Amersham Town after the end of the season with just Edgware & Kingsbury, who we met in the County Cup, actually relegated.

We meet several old opponents from our Hellenic League days and several old local rivals too from both Isthmian and London Spartan League years.

We will be meeting Holyport for the first time today and that will be the same when we play Ardley United, Hilltop, Penn & Tylers Green and Reading City (though we did play a friendly there).

Combined Counties League Premier Division North Final League Table 2025/26

* points deducted

	P	Home					Away					GD	Pts
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
C Ashford Town (Middx)	38	12	3	4	51	29	13	3	3	38	11	49	81
2 Windsor & Eton	38	14	3	2	45	16	9	8	2	36	14	51	80
3 Ardley United	38	14	2	3	45	14	9	4	6	29	20	40	75
4 Broadfields United	38	12	4	3	42	17	10	5	4	33	21	37	75
5 Burnham	38	13	4	2	41	14	8	4	7	27	25	29	71
6 Reading City	38	12	2	5	39	27	8	5	6	29	23	18	67
7 North Greenford United	38	10	5	4	41	30	10	2	7	33	33	11	67
8 Wallingford & Crowmarsh	38	12	4	3	31	21	7	4	8	30	32	8	65
9 Kidlington	38	7	9	3	28	22	6	6	7	24	26	4	54
10 Virginia Water	38	6	6	7	27	35	8	3	8	38	33	-3	51
11 Wokingham Town	38	5	3	11	21	30	9	5	5	42	30	3	50
12 Abingdon United	38	9	3	7	33	30	4	6	9	30	40	-7	48
13 Milton United	38	7	3	9	30	34	7	3	9	34	39	-9	48
14 British Airways	38	7	3	9	35	26	6	5	8	22	29	2	44*
15 Harefield United	38	7	5	7	35	34	4	3	12	28	41	-12	41
16 Hilltop	38	8	2	9	37	34	4	3	12	34	60	-23	41
17 Holyport	38	5	2	12	17	42	4	1	14	16	47	-56	30
18 North Leigh	38	5	4	10	22	37	2	2	15	21	47	-41	27
R Amersham Town	38	4	5	10	18	41	2	3	14	17	41	-47	26
R Edgware & Kingsbury	38	4	3	12	24	47	2	0	17	19	50	-54	21

Opening Fixtures

Today

Abingdon United vs Burnham
Amersham Town vs Easington Sports
Bedfont vs Ardley United
Harefield United vs Reading City
Kidlington vs Broadfields United
North Leigh vs North Greenford United
Northwood vs Holyport
Penn & Tylers Green vs Thatcham Town
Rayners Lane vs Wallingford & Crowmarsh

Tuesday 4th August 2026

Ardley United vs Abingdon United
Broadfields United vs Rayners Lane
Holyport vs Penn & Tylers Green
North Greenford United vs Harefield United
Reading City vs Wokingham Town
Thatcham Town vs Bedfont
Wallingford & Crowmarsh vs Kidlington

Wednesday 5th August 2026

Burnham vs Amersham Town
Easington Sports vs North Leigh

A Century of FOOTBALL HISTORY

Researched and written by **Ken Green**



We are now celebrating the Centenary of Northwood FC, which was founded in 1926 as Northwood United. As we enter the club's 101st season – although no activity took place during World War II between 1940 and 1946 – in this season's matchday programmes over the coming weeks and months, we will bring you a whole host of stories covering the past century, telling of games, players, club officials, league titles, cup wins, and yes, the odd relegation. Though actually last season's demotion was the first relegation for Northwood since 2007, and only the fourth time it has happened in 100 years!

Firstly though, what of the earlier football clubs which represented the town in their day? There have been football clubs in Northwood right back to 1899 – these have included: Northwood (1), Trinity Northwood, Northwood Endeavour, Holy Trinity Northwood, Northwood Rovers, Northwood (2), Northwood United (1), Oaklands Gate Northwood, Emmanuel Northwood and Northwood Rangers. Then there was Northwood United (2), renamed Northwood (3) in 1946 – our club now!

So, the first **Northwood FC** was formed in 1899 – still Victorian England – and played their initial match on 23 September 1899, but lost 0-4 at home to Amersham.

The team was: E. Price, W.H. Brownbill, H. Green, A. Marks, R. Price-Williams, E. Nichols, A. Price, Partridge, Hadd, Castle, Brown. The population of the village of Northwood at the time was just 711!

After playing just friendlies initially, Northwood joined the Willesden & District League for the 1900-01 season, which wasn't terribly successful as they finished ninth of ten teams with only three wins – Wealdstone were placed fifth. The population had risen to 2,500 in two years. Northwood's best season in the Willesden League was in 1903-04 when they were promoted to the first division. The team photo here is from 1905.

In October 1906, a crowd of over 350 watched Northwood – whose home ground was a private field



Maxwell Road, Northwood around 1908



in Dene Road – play a second round Middlesex Junior Cup tie in which Breakspear Institute from Harefield were the visitors. Breakspear took a two-goal lead within ten minutes, but Northwood levelled before half-time through W. Nichols and F. Elms, and although Breakspear scored a penalty, Elms scored again to level the tie “amidst great excitement”. Unfortunately, Northwood lost 0-4 in the replay when there were three more penalties!

Northwood's biggest victory came in October 1907, when they won a League game 13-1 against Paddington Technical Institute, J. Thomson 3, M. Aris 5, W. Park, F. Nicholls 2 and S. Aris 2 all scoring. An estimated 1,000 people saw Northwood lose 0-2 to Pinner in the final of the Rickmansworth Charity Cup on Easter Monday at Rickmansworth in April 1908. But the final season for Northwood was 1908-09, when they were placed second last in the top division of the Willesden League, and the club had disappeared when the next season arrived.

In the same time-frame as the first Northwood existed, **Northwood Endeavour** took over in mid-season the Willesden & District League division two fixtures of

Willesden & District League Division One Final League Table 1908/09

* points deducted

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Hyde & Kingsbury	20	15	2	3	54	28	30*
2 Old Lyonians	20	12	5	3	56	23	29
3 Kilburn	20	13	0	7	40	23	26
4 Mayfield Rovers	20	12	2	6	38	39	26
5 Wealdstone	20	9	4	7	25	28	22
6 Pinner	20	5	5	10	24	30	15
7 Harrow Association	20	6	3	11	24	46	15
8 MHC United	20	6	2	12	17	22	14
9 St Gabriels	20	5	4	11	15	34	14
10 Northwood	20	4	6	10	37	41	14
11 Hampstead Corporation	20	2	3	12	29	41	7

Kilburn Springfield during the 1903-04 season, and they then entered the Wembley & Harrow District League division two in 1906-07, taking a win and a draw from their first two games before losing 1-7 to Breakspear Institute in the Middlesex Junior Cup. W.S. Park scored for Endeavour, whose team was: E. Foster, H. Hilton, G. Milton, E. Ford, W.S. Park, T.E. Shaw, J.B. Fulford, A.S. Park, W. Moon, W. Smith, T. White. Endeavour played on a pitch in Pinner Road, and were Wembley & Harrow District League division two runners-up behind Wembley in 1907-08, but

seem to have folded by the start of the following season.

The town's third club at this time was **Trinity Northwood**, who played on a pitch at Park Farm in Ducks Hill Road, and in 1908-09 competed in the Willesden & District League division two, one below Northwood. A year later, Northwood had gone, whilst Trinity struggled near the foot of the Willesden League, and also failed to re-start after that season. What next for football in Northwood, you ask? Very soon, another new outfit would come along....

The Northwood FC team of 1905





A CENTENARY TO REMEMBER



Liz Joyce brings us up to date all our Centenary fundraising events so far.

As we look forward to another exciting season, we can reflect with enormous pride on a remarkable centenary year that brought the entire Northwood FC family together.

Through a series of memorable fundraising events, the club has so far raised more than £10,000 (including Gift Aid) for Mount Vernon Cancer Charity. Supporting Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Charity was a natural choice, allowing the club to give something back to a charity that has touched the lives of so many within our local community.



Our celebrations began over the May Bank Holiday weekend with a fitting tribute to the club's rich history. The Northwood Legends Match saw former players spanning more than 40 years pull on the famous red shirt once again as two Legends teams took to the field. It was a wonderful afternoon of memories, laughter and friendship, giving players and supporters the chance to celebrate the people who have helped shape the club over the decades.

The following day built on that momentum with a packed programme of football celebrating Northwood's past, present and future. Proceedings opened with a competitive Northwood All Stars match featuring players from the last five seasons, with former Woods managers returning to the dugouts to lead each side. The spotlight then turned to the future as teams from Northwood Youth FC proudly took to the

pitch for a series of mini matches in front of a fantastic crowd.

The day culminated in the Celebrity Charity Match, where two celebrity teams entertained the club's highest attendance this century. Olympic sprinter Dwain Chambers, former England cricketer Monty Panesar and Steps star Lee Latchford-Evans were among the high-profile names who helped attract a record crowd and raise valuable funds for Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Charity.

The football celebrations continued a few weeks later with another enjoyable fundraising fixture as the Youth Under-18s took on the club's managers and coaches in a light-hearted but fiercely contested match that perfectly captured the fun and family spirit of Northwood FC.

The centenary events continued in July with WoodsFest100, a free community festival at Northwood Recreation Ground. With live music throughout the



Fun for all at the Celebrity Soccer match



afternoon, football inflatables, 34 community and artisan stalls, classic cars, food and drink, a hugely popular charity dog show, children's entertainment and the "What's It Worth?" valuation feature, WoodsFest100 showcased everything Northwood FC stands for. The event brought together local businesses, volunteers, community groups and families for a wonderful summer's day, and the fantastic feedback received afterwards highlighted just how much it meant to the local community.

WoodsFest100 would not have been possible without the generous support of Darwin Wellness, 8Build, the Northwood Residents' Association and the Northwood Hills Residents' Association, whose backing helped make the event possible. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who gave their time, energy and enthusiasm to ensure the day was such a success.

Together, we have raised over £10,000 for Mount Vernon Cancer Centre Charity, but perhaps just as importantly, we have celebrated 100 years of football, friendship and community. With more centenary events still to come, we look forward to continuing those celebrations throughout the season and building on this incredible legacy as Northwood FC begins its second century.

Dwain Chambers was popular



Donovan Blackwood at the WoodsFest100



Dog Show at the WoodsFest100



Yesterday TODAY



Throughout Northwood's history – which dates back one hundred years to 1926 – the club have played 14 fixtures on 1st August – but today's is the first-ever league game on this day. All previous matches are listed below, and I take a look at three of them in more detail. By Ken Green.

1981 Finchley 5 Northwood 1

Northwood FC realised that they had a lot of hard work to do before the start of the Hellenic League programme four weeks after this Middlesex Charity Cup game. This was a group fixture, with the Woods due to play Kingsbury Town at home a fortnight later in their second fixture in the competition. The extent of manager Pat Coburn's challenge was put over to him loud and clear at Finchley, as the Isthmian League Division



Two hosts recorded a handsome 5-1 win.

Gary Cooper and Derek Hobbs cried off because of injury and Martin Ellis made a brave attempt at a comeback much too soon, and Woods failed to raise a flicker of a smile.

As early as the eighth minute John Toogood was picking the ball out of the net from Doran and two more – from Rowley and Odell – followed before half time.

Only Alan Clarke, a close season signing from Southall, gave Northwood hope and he provided the cross for Barry Gould to head a consolation goal.

By then, though, Finchley had taken their total to five through Rowley and Hall, which left Northwood with nothing to shout about.

Northwood: Dohn Toogood, Colin Glenister, Kevin Walton, Steve Revell, Barry Gould, Phil Boyle, John Powell, Peter Carter, Alan Clarke, Chris Ball, Martin Ellis.

Subs: Peter Davies, Andy McKenzie.

2006 Northwood 3 Boreham Wood 4

The Woods were disappointed to have lost this friendly, having led three times in the match.

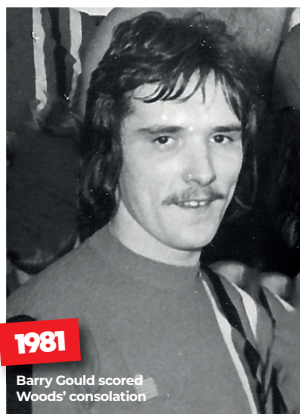
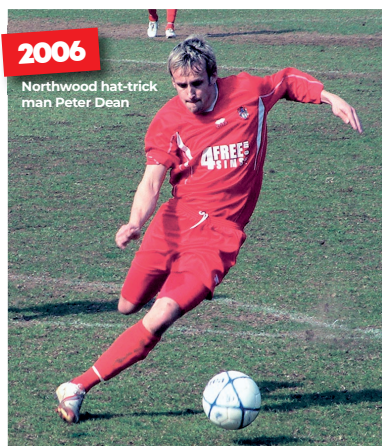
An excellent move between Shane O'Neill and Elliott Buchanan

led to the latter's cross being converted by Peter Dean after just eight minutes but a Michael Black free-kick brought the Ryman Premier visitors level on 19 minutes.

Just before the break a similar move saw Buchanan again set up Dean for a second goal but four minutes into the secondhalf Wood were level again when top striker Leon Archer broke through.

The action continued, and after 63 minutes the impressive Shane O'Neill was fouled, having burst into the area, and Peter Dean took the opportunity to complete his first-ever hat-trick for the club by converting the spot-kick.

Still Boreham Wood continued to press and former Woods player Andre Delisser levelled the scores on 70 minutes.



1981

Barry Gould scored Woods' consolation

2006

Northwood hat-trick man Peter Dean



The winner came with five minutes to go after an uncharacteristic error from Mark Dennison gifted a goal to Jamie Hazell.

Northwood: Rob Bullivant, Dave Nolan, Ricky Alexander, Mark Dennison, James Shipperley (Jason O'Connor), Shane O'Neill, Danny Julienne (Dean Powles), Dean Clark, Lee Tunnell (Carl Hunt), Peter Dean, Elliott Buchanan (James Hamsher)

2023 Northwood 3 Dagenham & Redbridge 0

The Woods stepped up their pre-season preparations with an impressive win over their National League opponents in the first game back on home turf.

And Northwood opened the scoring on four minutes as Harry Gallagher latched onto Jack Smith's floated free-kick to send a stooping header beyond goalkeeper Josh Strizovic. And Woods struck again a minute later as Kofi Anokye-Boadi surged towards the Daggers' box before squaring to Osaretin Otote who swept the ball home.

Dagenham responded, with Woods keeper Andrew McCorkell palming away an effort from Ibie after Frankie Franz had created the opening. And the visitors kept up the pressure as Franz lifted a shot wide of the upright, before the lively Aaron Blair tested McCorkell with

a curling shot which was pushed away for a corner.

Having held firm, Northwood finished an entertaining opening half on the front foot; a slick move involving Teddy Stacey and Dan Williams culminating in Strizovic keeping out an Otote snapshot before Woods were awarded a penalty for handball on the cusp of halftime – but Williams' under-hit spot-kick was easily dealt with by Strizovic.

Dagenham came out strongly after the break, with Blair firing in a succession of shots – McCorkell saving well either side of a shot which was deflected wide and a dipping effort which narrow cleared the crossbar.

Both sides made a number of changes as the contest progressed, but Woods maintained a good tempo and their slick, incisive play continued to ask questions of the Daggers' defence. And the hosts

went close to increasing their lead as Deago Dunbar-Bonnie's pinpoint freekick into the box found the head of Stacey whose low header was gathered by Strizovic.

Following another raft of substitutions, Northwood deservedly added a third goal on 77 minutes – as a triallist striker applied the finish after great work from the Anokye-Boadi. The Daggers continued to offer a threat mainly through Blair who had another opportunity as he dragged a shot wide when well placed. But Woods threatened to increase their lead as another strong run and cross from Anokye-Boadi lead to Otote chesting the ball into the arms of Strizovic.

Northwood: Andrew McCorkell (Matt Messer), Teddy Stacey, Luke Brophy (Deago Dunbar Bonnie 58m), Carl Stewart (Riccardo Alexander-Greenaway), Luke Tingey (Romario Jonas), Harry Gallagher, Osaretin Otote, Kofi Anokye Boadi, Dan Williams (Triallist A), Jack Smith (Harry McCorkell 58m), Godlove Oppong (Triallist B).



2015
Dan Williams literally beats the linesman's flag!

Games The Woods have played on 1st August

Date	Competition	Opponents	F-A	Scorers
Sat 1 Aug 1980	A Friendly	Ruislip Manor	4-1	Heslop, Tidd, Thomas, Yates
Sat 1 Aug 1981	A Middx Charity Cup	Finchley	1-5	Gould
Sat 1 Aug 1987	H Friendly	Harrow Borough	3-4	Jones, Baldwin, Bragg
Tue 1 Aug 1989	A Friendly	Rayners Lane	4-1	Pacquette 4
Sat 1 Aug 1992	H Friendly	Farnborough Town	1-1	Kelman
Tue 1 Aug 1995	A Friendly	Thame United	0-3	
Thur 1 Aug 1996	A Friendly	Harrow Borough	1-1	Whitfield
Sat 1 Aug 1998	H Friendly	Walton & Hersham	3-3	Cooper, Campbell, Holmes
Tue 1 Aug 2000	H Friendly	Farnborough Town	2-3	Gell, Fitzgerald
Tue 1 Aug 2006	H Friendly	Boreham Wood	3-4	Dean 3
Sat 1 Aug 2009	A Friendly	Hillingdon Borough	7-0	Matthews, Ofori, Senior, Burrell, Walters, Ursell 2
Thur 1 Aug 2013	A Friendly	Harefield United	4-2	M Burgess, Grant, McCluskey, Senior
Sat 1 Aug 2015	A Friendly	Chipstead	2-0	Munday, Baker
Tue 1 Aug 2023	H Friendly	Dagenham & Redbridge	3-0	Gallagher, Otote, Newman



Visiting The Skyline...

Holyport

Formed
1897

Nickname
THE PORT

Ground
SUMMERLEAZE VILLAGE



Holyport Football Club was formed on 1 September 1897, the outcome of a meeting in The George pub in Holyport where twenty founding members each paid a shilling to join. The village side, known then as the Villagers, joined the Maidenhead and District League and played its early football at Windsor Road, Bray. Like many clubs of its era, Holyport disbanded during the Second World War before being reformed in 1956 and rejoining the Maidenhead and District League.

The reformed club took shape through the Hayes and Giles League, where Holyport were Premier Division champions in 1998/99, 1999/2000 and a third title followed in 2001/02, earning a step up to Division One East

of the Hellenic League. Off the pitch the club was on the move too, relocating to Braywick Park in 1998 and then, in 2005, to its current home at Summerleaze Park in Maidenhead. Floodlights were installed during the 2007/08 season and two stands were later erected, giving the club a proper senior ground at Step 5.

The 2010/11 season stands out as one of the finest in the club's history. Holyport were crowned Division One East champions and won 4 trophies in total under Derek Sweetman & Kevin Carvell. They lifted the Floodlight Cup, Challenge Cup, plus the shared Hungerford Cup to win promotion to the Hellenic Premier Division. Circumstances changed in 2014/15 when, despite finishing clear of the relegation places, the club

accepted a voluntary demotion after its manager departed and no replacement could be found in time. Holyport rebuilt, and in 2021 stepped up to the Combined Counties League Premier Division North, promoted on the strength of their results across the abandoned 2019/20 and 2020/21 campaigns.

The summer of 2022 brought change and celebration in equal measure. Derek Sweetman became the club's first Ambassador in recognition of his 336 games in charge, and his assistant Sam Lock stepped up to manage the first team as Holyport marked its 125th anniversary. It proved a memorable campaign. The Firsts secured their Step 5 status and enjoyed historic runs in both the FA Cup and FA Vase,



including a win over Ascot United, who went on to lift the Vase at Wembley, with several younger players earning trials at QPR and Maidenhead United. The momentum carried into 2023/24, the finest league season in the club's history: a highest ever finish of fifth, a record 61 points and ten wins from the last fourteen games to reach the play-offs, where Holyport went out to eventual winners Rayners Lane.

Settled at Step 5, Holyport enjoyed a strong 2023/24, finishing fifth in the Premier Division North to reach the promotion play-offs before a semi-final defeat to Rayners Lane. The 2025/26 campaign proved demanding under the management of Dan Rapley and Lee Ovens, having to rebuild the squad from scratch. But the first team dug in to retain its place in the division, after a tense final match of the season in a relegation battle. Port came out on top 1-2 away to Amersham, with a superb Kingsley goal in the 95th minute.

The duo stepped up after a fantastic end to the 2024/25 season with the Reserves, which saw them ending their campaign

with an impressive 15 wins from 16 league games. Just as telling was the growth around it: a new Allied Counties Youth League under-18s side, a reserve team in the Thames Valley Premier League, a Vets side, and a thriving junior and girls' section now give players a pathway from the Soccer School through to Saturday men's football.

Since moving to Summerleaze Park in North Maidenhead, Holyport have steadily built a ground to match their ambitions, backed by planning permission and Football Foundation funding. The site was fenced and floodlit in 2007/08, and has since gained hard standing on three sides, three spectator grandstands, a hospitality room and upgraded changing facilities, meeting the FA and League requirements for Step 5 football. Momentum has continued off the pitch: planning permission for a new tearbar and turnstile came in March 2022, and 2024/25 brought upgraded changing rooms, new spectator toilets and showers, a 6ft perimeter fence and a brand new tearbar and ticket booth. A spectator path, added for pre-season 2025/26, rounds off a decade and more of continuous improvement.

AT THE HELM



Lee Ovens & Dan Rapley

Holyport appointed former players Lee Ovens and Dan Rapley as joint managers in May 2025 – promoting them from reserve team managers.

A veteran of 350 Port appearances, Ovens, known as "Worzel", is celebrated for his robust defending and leadership qualities, as captain and assistant manager under Derek Sweetman.

Rapley scored 105 goals in 300 appearances as a wide midfielder. Rapley's career included a successful stint with Thatcham Town, where he won the FA Vase and the Hellenic League Premier Division.



Summerleaze Village



Follow the Woods throughout the season

Match by Match 2026/27

AUGUST

	F-A	Att	1	2	3	4	5
SAT 1	HOLYPORT	LGE					
SAT 8	HUTTON	FACEPR					
TUE 11	BURNHAM	LGE					
SAT 15	ROTHWELL CORINTHIANS	FAVIQR					
TUE 18	NORTH GREENFORD UNITED	LGE					
SAT 22	BEDFONT	LGE					
SAT 29	BROADFIELDS UNITED	LGE					
MON 31	HAREFIELD UNITED	LGE					

SEPTEMBER

SAT 5	ARDLEY UNITED	LGE					
SAT 12	WALLINGFORD & CROWMARSH	LGE					
TUE 15	RAYNERS LANE	LGE					
SAT 19	NORTH LEIGH	LGE					
SAT 26	WOKINGHAM TOWN	LGE					

OCTOBER

SAT 3	ABINGDON UNITED	LGE					
SAT 10	READING CITY	LGE					
SAT 17	REDHILL	LC					
TUE 20	PENN & TYLERS GREEN	LGE					
SAT 24	THATCHAM TOWN	LGE					
SAT 31	KIDLINGTON	LGE					

NOVEMBER

SAT 7	AMERSHAM TOWN	LGE					
SAT 14	EASINGTON SPORTS	LGE					
SAT 28	HILLTOP	LGE					

DECEMBER

SAT 5	WALLINGFORD & CROWMARSH	LGE					
SAT 12	NORTH GREENFORD UNITED	LGE					
SAT 19	READING CITY	LGE					
MON 28	HAREFIELD UNITED	LGE					

JANUARY

SAT 2	BROADFIELDS UNITED	LGE					
SAT 9	WOKINGHAM TOWN	LGE					
SAT 16	NORTH LEIGH	LGE					
SAT 23	ABINGDON UNITED	LGE					
SAT 30	RAYNERS LANE	LGE					

FEBRUARY

SAT 6	ARDLEY UNITED	LGE					
SAT 13	BEDFONT	LGE					
SAT 20	PENN & TYLERS GREEN	LGE					
SAT 27	BURNHAM	LGE					

MARCH

SAT 6	THATCHAM TOWN	LGE					
SAT 13	HOLYPORT	LGE					
TUE 23	AMERSHAM TOWN	LGE					
SAT 27	KIDLINGTON	LGE					

APRIL

SAT 3	EASINGTON SPORTS	LGE					
TBC	HILLTOP	LGE					

HOME GAMES IN BOLD; GOAL SCORER (1);

FIRST SUB; SECOND SUB; THIRD SUB; FOURTH SUB; FIFTH SUB;

YELLOW CARD; RED CARD



Emirates
FA CUP



6

7

8

9

10

11

Used Substitutes

OG



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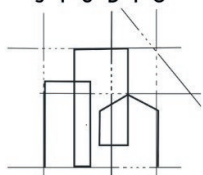
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Commercial Corner

John Joyce
Northwood FC
Commercial Manager

nfc.commercial1926@gmail.com
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Welcome back to Commercial Corner where we look forward to a new season. Hopefully we are competitive on the field and can give the fans more to cheer about this time around!

The off-season has been very busy with all the Centenary events which took a lot of organising. The two big ones were the Celebrity football match in May and WoodsFest100 in July. Both were fantastic days for the club and we've raised over £10,000 for Mount Vernon Cancer Charity which is brilliant news. We still have a few events coming up over the rest of the year too.

On the sponsorship front, things have been a bit slow but many of our existing sponsors have renewed including the big four with GoughBuild UK and PFE Express again sponsoring the home and away shirts, Skyline Roofing continue as Stadium sponsors and C&G Scaffolding as Clubhouse and Media board sponsors. There's a few smaller ones still to secure but hopefully they do come back. All renewals will be announced on social media over the next couple of weeks.

Attracting new sponsors has proven more difficult this time round with the current financial climate being problematic for businesses but it is also difficult when you have a busy full time job alongside the Commercial Manager role at NFC so any

help with this would be much appreciated. If anyone is willing to lend a hand with the sponsorship work please drop me a line - 07766 135243.

Our merchandise range has been expanded with our new home & away shirts now for sale, Centenary caps and bucket hats range (supplied by Flame Corporate Clothing) and also fridge magnets & badges (supplied by Victoria Joy Creates) added.

The club shop stall will be open for the majority of our home games so please have a look and treat

yourself to some Woods merch! Some of the products are now also available on our eBay site

The social media sites have been packed with Centenary events news over the past few weeks but there will once again be matchday footage put up from Saturday and our first Instagram Matchday Sponsor is Skyline Roofing Stadium.

In future programmes I will be highlighting a different sponsor each edition.

Until next time, Up The Woods!

John





Woods Under 18's



New Season Approaching

The 2025-26 season was one of great success for the Under-18s, winning the West Division of the Isthmian Youth League for the first-ever time and doubling up by taking the Middlesex Senior Youth Cup. Hampton & Richmond Borough proved great adversaries throughout the campaign, finishing runners-up in both competitions.

We almost reached the first-round proper of the FA Youth Cup, only missing out by way of a defeat on penalties down at Eastbourne Borough, following a 0-0 draw. The team also enjoyed long runs in both the Isthmian Youth League Cup and went close in the Champion of Champions Cup semi-final, losing narrowly away at Kingstonian.

Many of the squad did well to play senior football at levels from Step 4 to Step 6 with Freddie Ford winning the first-team Player of the Year award and manager Jamie Barry can be rightly proud of his side's achievements, following two previous successful Allied Counties League title wins.

It is now a summer of change with Jamie's assistant, Matt Kaye taking over the reins for the new season and their opening friendly, away to Edgware & Kingsbury, ended in a 5-0 success. Several of the younger players from the squad last season will be back to step up responsibility and Matt and his management team have also brought in some excellent new recruits. It will be a tough task to match last season. Matt is assisted by Karl Scott while Tom Lewis has joined as Coach.

The fixtures are our and are totally weird as we play four of our first five league games at home but then face seven successive away games before finishing with four more at home. No doubt the weather will play a part in changing some of



this though and the draws for the League and County Cups are yet to be made.

In the FA Youth Cup, the Woods are away to Everett Rovers, though we haven't heard from them as yet to fix the actual night for the game so watch this space.

It is good to see two members of last year's youth squad have been featuring in the first-team for pre-season friendlies, in Riley Loveday and Josh Havard. The quality of

some of the players though has proved difficult to keep hold of some of them with Freddie Ford, Aidan Tarrant and Chase Matthew all finding new clubs for themselves at Step 4 for the new season.

We shall have all the youth squad up for being sponsored once again this season so look out for that towards the end of this month. Remember that all NFC Season Ticket holders get free admission to the Isthmian Youth games here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium.



U18's Fixtures 2026/27

AUGUST

Wed 26 Hayes & Yeading United

w/c 31 Everett Rovers (FAY)

SEPTEMBER

Wed 9 Tooting & Mitcham United

OCTOBER

Wed 7 Aldershot Town

Wed 28 Sutton United

NOVEMBER

Wed 4 Camberley Town

Mon 9 Hayes & Yeading United

Tue 17 Ascot United

Mon 23 Tooting & Mitcham United

Mon 30 Walton & Hersham

DECEMBER

Mon 14 Aldershot Town

JANUARY

Thu 7 Woking

Thu 14 Camberley Town

Wed 20 Woking

Wed 27 Walton & Hersham

FEBRUARY

Wed 3 Ascot United

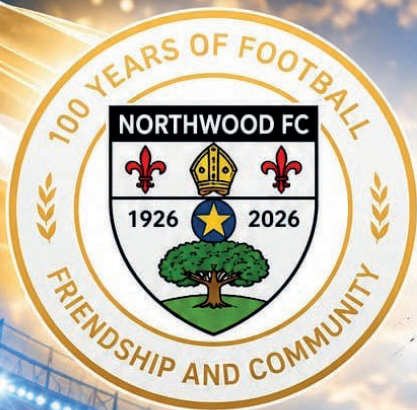
Wed 17 Sutton United

Isthmian Youth League Final Table 2025/26

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Northwood	18	15	0	3	55	25	30	45
2 Hampton & RB	18	13	2	3	58	31	27	41
3 Camberley Town	18	10	4	4	38	27	11	34
4 Badshot Lea	18	9	2	7	53	30	23	29
5 Maidenhead United	18	8	2	8	37	42	-5	26
6 Farnham Town	18	8	0	10	28	41	-13	24
7 Bracknell Town	18	7	2	9	41	39	2	23
8 Aldershot Town	18	5	4	9	46	39	7	19
9 Ascot United	18	5	3	10	33	56	-23	18
10 Fleet Town	18	0	1	17	14	73	-59	1

FAY = FA Youth Cup; IYC = Isthmian Youth League Cup; MXY = Middlesex Youth Cup





VS



ENGLISH VETERANS FOOTBALL

WOODS LEGENDS V ENGLAND VETERANS *OVER-50s*



SUNDAY
2ND AUGUST



KICK OFF
2.00PM



VENUE
SKYLINE ROOFING
STADIUM



ADMISSION BY DONATION TO

Mount Vernon
Cancer Centre

FOOTBALL • COMMUNITY • RESPECT

Centenary Event Preview Legends Match

Our next event in our calendar for Northwood FC's Centenary year sees a Northwood old-boys squad – the Woods Legends – take on an England Over-50s representative side here at the Skyline Roofing Stadium.



Most of our Woods Legends team had a warm-up for this fixture back in early May when over 40 players came together in a game between two fairly equally matched sides. The contest ended all-square at 4-4 with the Legends winning the penalty shoot-out 4-3!

Our opponents today, who are kindly visiting as part of our celebrations, were set up with several goals. They provide football for age groups from Over-50s through to Over-75s with most age groups playing around ten games per season. The Over-50s first fixture was back in 2009.

It gives players the opportunity to play competitive football. Some are ex-professionals, most are ex-semi-professionals, though it's not a prerequisite. The set-up gives the opportunity to represent their country with games and tournaments held both at home and abroad. Caps are awarded to players who make a certain number of appearances for each age group.

We applaud the targets of our visitors and thanks them for coming along to the Skyline to help raise funds for our chosen charity, Mount Vernon Cancer Charity.

Meet the Players

Northwood Legends

Kevin Beckles

Kevin kept goal for the Woods back between 1993 and 1995 and also played locally for Southall, Hayes and Wembley having started out at Watford. His son Frankie is also a goalkeeper and currently on Colchester United's books.

Gavin Hart

Gavin played for Northwood between 1999 and 2006, making over 250 appearances and playing a big part in the club's progress through the Isthmian League. He also played at Edgware, Southall Town, Ruislip Manor and Tring Town amongst others.

Dave Nolan

Dave made his first-team debut for the Woods back in 1989 and his last in 2007, over three separate spells, amassing 450 appearances. Other clubs include, Enfield, Purfleet, Marlow, Chesham United, Chertsey Town, Southall, Hendon and Uxbridge. His son Alex has also played here at the Woods.

Dave Sargent

Another long-serving stalwart of Northwood FC, Dave was at Wycombe and Watford as a youth but he joined the Woods in 1997.

He was Supporters' Player of the Year twice, and clocked up over 350 appearances in two spells, also playing for St Albans City, AFC Wimbledon and Staines Town. His penalty expertise helped towards 44 goals for the club.

Gary Williams

Willo was a real fans favourite after arriving from Uxbridge in December 1997. Between then and 2003, he clocked up exactly 299 appearances for the Woods before moving to Harefield United just after being part of the side that won promotion to the Isthmian Premier.

Fergus Moore

Fergie is a bit of a legend around the Middlesex area, having a non-League career that lasted into his fifties and he is currently manager of Leverstock Green FC. He joined the Woods in Step 3 days in 2004 from Boreham Wood and, over two seasons, he clocked up 78 appearances.

Steve Newing

Steve made his name at Edgware Town where he was constantly top scorer and went on to manage the side on two separate occasions and also took charge at Enfield Town. His stint with the Woods

between 1999 and 2001 included a promotion from Isthmian Division Two.

John Walsh

Evergreen John is celebrating his 64th birthday this week. He arrived at Northwood in 1994 as Player-Manager of the club, having been recruited from a similar role at Hertford Town. He made 45 appearances during his stint before moving on to Wembley FC.

Kevin Dobson

Dobbo came up through the Woods youth set-up, making his first-team debut in 1993, playing anywhere on the left-hand side (in the days when left-footed players played on that side!). Over five seasons, he totalled just over 200 games for the club before a move to Hanwell Town.

Tony Ponnou

A competitive midfielder player, Tony arrived at Northwood in 1994 alongside manager John Walsh and played exactly 50 games for the club before moving on to Wembley. Was a regular on the competitive North London Sunday circuit for many years.

Chris Gell

After a youth career at Chelsea and Wycombe, Gelly arrived at the Woods in 1994 and became the club's record appearance holder (as a senior club) by racking up close to 500 competitive games over eleven seasons. He enjoyed a testimonial year with Northwood but also had spells with AFC Wimbledon and the Metropolitan Police.

Danny Yeoman

Danny joined Northwood in 1999 from Southall and was an

important part in the Woods progress through the layers of the Isthmian League. Over three spells at the club, he clocked up 184 appearances while also playing for Farnborough Town, Brook House and Uxbridge.

Alistair Heselton

Alistair had three separate spells with the Woods between 2003 and 2005 alongside stints at Bishop's Stortford, Cheshunt and Wingate & Finchley. A horrific car crash in 2006, when good friend Simon Patterson was tragically killed, Ali suffered a fractured skull and was in a coma for two months. Though unable to play regular football again, he represented Team GB in the 2012 Paralympics. He is an inspirational speaker and the headguard he wore in 2012 is on display at the National Football Museum. Game day is also his birthday!

Nigel Franklin

One of the older members of our squad, Nigel first played for the Woods back in 1974 and played just over 100 games between then and 1982, scoring 60 goals. He played for the Veterans side later on but also saw services at Aylesbury United and Wealdstone in the Southern League.

Garry Senior

Garry first signed for Northwood in 2009, joining from North Greenford United. He made three spells with the club over a four-year period, making 64 appearances. His dad Steve also made appearances for the Woods back in the 1970s. Garry bagged a hat-trick in May's Centenary game for the Stars side.

Bryan Hammatt

Well-travelled non-League striker who had two short spells here at Northwood during the management spell of John Walsh. He played for Hertford Town, Wembley, Ware, Aveley, Enfield, Wealdstone, Slough Town, Hayes and Hemel Hempstead amongst others and has also made several appearances for our opponents today, winning his five-match appearance England cap earlier this year. Transfer fee has not been paid!

Scott Fitzgerald

Scotty came through the youth ranks here at Northwood, making his first-team debut in 1998/99 and had already clocked up just over 200 appearances with nearly 100 goals behind him when Watford came calling in 2003. He was the Hornets top scorer in his first full season and enjoyed a professional career that also saw him play for Brentford alongside loan spells at four other Football League clubs. He returned to non-League with spells at Basingstoke Town, Hayes & Yeading, Wealdstone and Chalfont St Peter.

Kieran Knight

Kieran arrived at Northwood in 2002 and enjoyed a couple of very good seasons, making over 100 appearances before moving to Hayes/Hayes & Yeading. He enjoyed other spells with Maidenhead United, Wealdstone, Burnham, Uxbridge and Windsor & Eton.

Glyn Jones

Another of our super veterans included in the squad today, Glyn was local in the RAF when he





appeared for the Woods between 1975 and 1977. A flying, Welsh winger, Glyn is coming down from Swansea especially to take part in the game and meet up with some ex-teammates.

England Veterans

A selection of our England opponents.....

Mark Ormerod

Experienced goalkeeper who played for Brighton & Hove Albion in the Football League (85 appearances), then a long non-League career with Woking, Dorchester Town and Worthing.

Brenton Amedee

Or, simply, "B". Started football late as his school didn't play football. Currently a centre-back, but started as a midfielder and was then put up front by John Fashanu on the reality football TV show, Fash FC. Previous clubs include Bishop's Stortford and Chertsey Town.

Dave Bastian

Vastly-experienced defender who saw service with several Isthmian League clubs over the years including Horsham, Leyton Pennant, Wivenhoe Town, Waltham Forest, Enfield Town, where he stayed for five seasons, and Ware.

Ian Daniell

aka Grandad. Rapid Defender. Previous clubs include Loughborough University, Woking, Bracknell Town, Wokingham, Eversley, Hartley Wintney and Aldermaston FC. Formerly an International Triathlete and National Swimmer.

Adam Higgins

Adam was an associated schoolboy and Youth player for Aston Villa before a non-League career with Worcester City, Malvern Town and Pershore Town. He represented England Over-50s in the 2023 Masters Tournament in Thailand.

Richard Vercesi

One that is well-known to Woods fans as he was part of the Banstead Athletic side that knocked Northwood out of the 1996/97 FA Vase at the quarter-final stage! He went on to be forgiven when he took over as Northwood Reserves player-manager for the 2008-09 season, scoring once here at Northwood Park in a 3-1 victory over Cove! Also played for Carshalton Athletic and Hampton & Richmond

Borough, amongst others.

Jason Mannion

P.E. teacher from Cambridge. Played most of his club football for the same manager around the Bedford area for teams such as Stotfold and St. Neots Town. Defensive player who is happy to play in defence or central midfield.

Kieran Robinson

Central midfielder, who played for both the Combined Services and the British Army teams. He also played abroad professionally for 3 years for Birkirkara in the Malta Premier League, playing in the preliminary rounds of the UEFA/Europa League.

Matt Smart

Midfielder, Matt began his career at Gillingham and played for Crawley Town, Horsham, Shoreham, Wick, Met. Police and Leatherhead. He was then signed by Eastbourne Borough in 2001 and spent 11 seasons there clocking up 465 appearances! Famously scored the non-league goal of the season in 2011 for an incredible strike v Fleetwood Town.

Steve Edkins

Player/Manager of England over-50s, Steve has achieved the most veterans' appearances for England Over-50s/55s/60s and now 65s with 98 international appearances to date. Previous clubs include Aveley, Fareham Town, Waterlooville, Colchester United, Dagenham, Leytonstone, Billericay Town, Chelmsford and Hornchurch. Now 66 and still providing a regular cameo performance with the occasional goal too!

Mark Bellingham

Mark enjoyed a 25-year non-League football career alongside being a West Midlands Police Sergeant. Only recently qualified for the England Over-50s, he will no doubt be adding to his record of scoring over 700 goals at clubs including Leamington, Stourbridge, Halesowen Town, Chelmsford City, Daventry Town and Bromsgrove Sporting. He is also the father of two sons named Jude and Joby, both professional footballers who you may have heard something about!

SQUADS

WOODS LEGENDS



Manager:
MICK HARVEY

KEVIN BECKLES GK
GAVIN HART
DAVE NOLAN
DAVE SARGENT
GARY WILLIAMS
FERGUS MOORE
STEVE NEWING
JOHN WALSH
KEVIN DOBSON
TONY PONNOU
CHRIS GELL
DANNY YEOMAN
ALISTAIR HESELTON
NIGEL FRANKLIN
GARRY SENIOR
BRYAN HAMMATT
SCOTT FITZGERALD
KIERAN KNIGHT
GLYN JONES

ENGLAND VETERANS



Manager:
STEVE ADKINS

MARK ORMEROD GK
BRENTON AMEDEE
DAVE BASTIAN
IAN DANIELL
TOM HEGARTY
ADAM HIGGINS
RICHARD VERCESI
RON JEFFERY
JASON MANNION
KIERAN ROBINSON
MATT SMART
DAVE SMITH
MARK BELLINGHAM
STEVE EDKINS
RICKI FINNING
KERRY GIDDINGS
NIKKI HUNTE
STEVE ROBINSON

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ANDY TOOLEY
ASSISTANTS:
STEVE CONWAY
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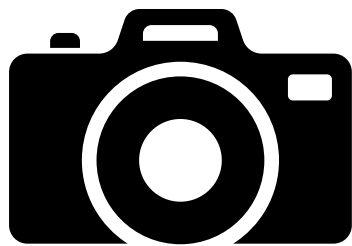
Contact Eoghan Carroll

EoghanCarroll@PSTsport.com | +44 7482 805786

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Thank you **James Brown**



After over twenty years of capturing Northwood matches and events for posterity and being a huge part of our recent history, Club Photographer James Brown has decided to hang up his cameras and lenses before we commence life in the Combined Counties League.

James took over capturing the action at the Woods when Paul Evans stepped down from the role after a similarly long spell in 2005 so between them, they have been able to document close to half of Northwood FC's 100-year footballing history!

The Club take this opportunity to thank James for his outstanding service to the club during this period and for the great photos he has shared with us on the website, social media and our award-winning programmes over such a long time. We share just a few of his photos from past years.

James remains a staunch Northwood FC supporter and valued part of our volunteer group.

It does mean that we are now looking for a new volunteer that thinks they may be able to replace James for the new season and no, that commitment doesn't have to be for the full twenty or so years; though it would be nice!

It would suit someone local with a love of football who can make most games, home and away, between August and the end of April. Perhaps a current supporter who loves photography or just someone who would like to practice sports photography?

Please let us know by either calling John Joyce on 07766 135243 or email nfc.commercial@gmail.com





Woods Squad & Sponsorship

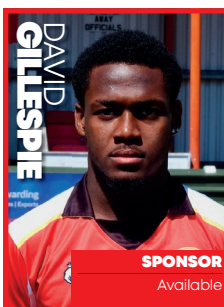
Full Season Sponsorship £60 For more details please email info@northwoodfc.com



Skilful 19-year-old winger who arrives at the Skyline having previously had spells with Crawley Green, Colney Heath and AFC Welwyn.



Ivorian, Amara is a 23-year-old central midfielder who has been playing in France for AS Ararat Issy in the French League De Paris.



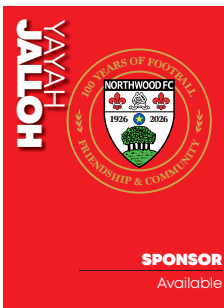
Jamaican-born 23-year-old midfielder, David has been amongst the goals in pre-season and arrives here having previously played for Lymore Gardens and Athletic Newman FC.



19-year-old defender who has been with Hampton & Richmond Borough and Woking Academies and had short loan spells with Corinthian Casuals and Molesey last season.



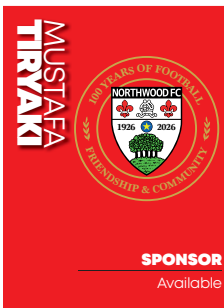
Josh comes into first-team contention having made 30 appearances in midfield for the successful Under-18s. Only just turned 18, further progress would be great to see.



Experienced 28-year-old central midfielder, Yayah lists St Margaretsbury, Sporting Hackney, Barking, Alexandra Knights and Anatolians as his former clubs.



Craig joins from Amersham Town. The 26-year-old central defender spent two seasons at Oxhey Jets after returning from playing in Sweden for GIF Sundsvall. He has also played for Harefield United, Staines Lammas and Enfield Town U23s. He represented Grenada U20s as a youngster.



Experienced 39-year-old former pro with Tranmere Rovers who he joined after spells at Maidenhead United and Havant & Waterlooville. The striker played in Turkey for 1461 Trabzon before returning to National League side Boreham Wood. He also played at Wealdstone and Bedfont Sports.

LOUIS JAMES



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Imposing striker, now 26, who arrives at the Woods having previously played at Egham Town, Cockfosters, Burnham, Belstone and Welwyn Garden City.

TOLU JAMES



SPONSOR
Available

Experienced midfielder, age 28, who has most recently seen service at Chalfont St Peter, Spartans Youth, Risborough Rangers, Oxhey Jets and North Greenford amongst others.

VICTOR JARRETT



SPONSOR
Available

21-year-old left-sided defender who started out at the Pro-Direct Academy but has since played for Hilltop, Rayners Lane, Oxhey Jets and Leverstock Green.

HARVEY JOHNSON



SPONSOR
Available

18-year-old midfielder who joined from QPR Community College football where he was a regular starter in the National Football Youth League.

KIERON LAKE-BRYAN



SPONSOR
Available

22-year-old defender who has represented Anguilla as an International, joined Northwood from Dorking Wanderers in March 2026 having previously played for Edgware & Kingsbury.

RILEY LOVEDEY



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Riley made his first-team debut as a sub in the final game of last season having made 42 appearances for the U18s side over the last two years. Further progress at a senior level is hoped for.

HARRY PHILLIPS



SPONSOR
Available

18-year-old, attacking midfielder who arrives having had a youth career playing for Harrow Borough, Wealdstone and Ruislip Rangers. Has impressed in pre-season.

NEIL SANNEH



SPONSOR
Available

Experienced goalkeeper, 28-year-old Neil has joined from Frimley Green where he has played over 30 games over two seasons. He has also played for Fleet Town and Harefield United.

ALEX SETHI



SPONSOR
Available

Experienced 37-year-old centre-back, a former QPR trainee, who has spent much of recent seasons with Risborough Rangers, Marlow, Penn & Tylers Green and Marlow United.

BRANDON TRUJILLO



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23-year-old midfielder. His former clubs include British Airways, Risborough Rangers, Edgware & Kingsbury, Uxbridge, Harrow Borough, Sutton Common Rovers and Herne Bay.

KEVIN ZIE

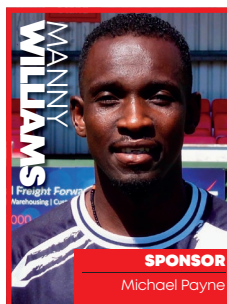


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22-year-old winger who has played for Harrow Borough and Belstone, Hutton, Hackney Wick, Barkingaside, Soul Tower Hamlets, Crawley Down Gatwick and Kings Park Rangers.



Woods Management



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Michael Payne

Manny steps into his first full role as first-team manager here at the Woods after calling time on his long non-League playing career in April. Over more than two decades, the 45-year-old made most appearances in spells for Maidenhead United, Havant & Waterlooville and Slough Town and he made one appearance for the country of his birth, Sierra Leone, back in 2012 in an African Nations Cup qualifier.



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38-year-old Liam joins the Woods as Assistant Manager and is a vastly-experienced striker who started out at Reading and Cambridge United, enjoying a long and successful career which included spells at National League side Woking, Eastbourne Borough, Forest Green Rovers, Ebbsfleet United, Braintree Town and Maidstone United. An appearance in a pre-season game may suggest his playing career is not yet finished!



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Tom arrives as first-team coach at the Woods after a similar spell with Metropolitan Police. The 41-year-old enjoyed a long career as an attacking midfielder playing in Sierra Leone and Sweden (for Akropolis and Arameisk Syrianska) as well as here in the UK for Met. Police, Merstham, Kings Langley and Hendon. He also has his own coaching academy – TK Born and Raised – which operates both here and in Sierra Leone.



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The well-travelled 39-year-old's career has seen him play for Maidenhead United and then for Gretna, Partick Thistle, Queen of the South and Brechin City in Scotland. He then moved south of the border to make over 100 appearances for Northampton Town and then played 69 games for Crewe Alexandra. He also played for Kerkyra and Lamia in Greece and more recently at Dartford, Walton Casuals, Sittingbourne and Hanwell Town.



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Gus is starting his third season as our Sports Therapist and Physio here at the Woods and will once again play a huge part in keeping the players as injury-free as possible throughout the long campaign.

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THE SQUADS



NORTHWOOD

Manager:
MANNY WILLIAMS
Colours: Red:

NEIL SANNAH ^{CK} ●
FREDDIE GREENSTREET ●
VICTOR JARRETT ●
KIERON LAKE-BRYAN ●
ALEX SETHI ●
CRAIG STEPHEN-LETT ●
AMARA FOFANA ●
DAVID GILLESPIE ●
JOSH HAVARD ●
YAYAH JALLOH ●
TOLU JAMES ●
HARVEY JOHNSON ●
RILEY LOVEDAY ●
HARRY PHILLIPS ●
BRANDON TRUJILLO ●
NATHANIEL AKANDI ●
LOUIS JAMES ●
MUSTAFA TIRYAKI ●
KEVIN ZIE ●
DESTINY EDEMA ^{CK} ●
GABRIEL GEAGEA ●
MEDHI YONE ●
LIAM ENVER-MARUM ●
CHRIS RANGEL ●



HOLYPORT

Joint-Managers:
LEE OVENS & DAN RAPLEY
Colours: Yellow

● WILL CULLUM ^{CK}
● TOM MOULDER ^{CK}
● MATTEO CEDROLA
● CALLUM CHILDRESS
● SAM THURSTON
● AUSTEN EDWARDS
● DAN WILSON
● ERIC MAFUTA
● MURPHY CAMP-OVERY
● SAM JONES
● DANION TSEGA
● SAM CLARK
● FREDDIE LEWENDON
● JOE BRINDEN
● AMARI DUMONT
● ZAK ZAQUI
● MANNY KINGSLEY
● LUCAS SURPANU
● OLLIE UNGER
● KAI ERRINGTON
● BARNEY JOHNSON
● ELIAS HAMZIE
● LUKE STEVENS
● JAYVON BROWN
● KYLE OVENS

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: WEGAHTA MEKONNEN | ASSISTANTS: DENIS HASANAJ & DANIEL BARRON

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