

THE WHITE PAPER #41

KNOW YOUR ENEMY



REAL BEDFORD VS DUNSTABLE TOWN

SPARTAN PREMIER DIVISION

SAT 23RD MARCH '24 - 3.00 PM



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CHAIRMAN: PETER MCCORMACK
CEO: EMMA FIRMAN
SECRETARY: NEIL MCCORMACK
MEDIA: WILL ROBERTS

BACKROOM STAFF:

MANAGER: ROB SINCLAIR
ASSISTANT MANAGER: MARK DUCKET
COACH: PETE THORNES
GOALKEEPING COACH: IAN BROWN
PHYSIO: LOTTIE BURTON
KITMAN: GERRY MCCORMACK
GROUNDSKEEPER: JACK MUDGE
CLUB HISTORIAN: GEOFF SEAGRAVE

REAL BEDFORD LADIES:

CHAIR: JILL UPTON
INTERIM MANAGER: GEORGIA CLARKE
COACH: KYLE HELLINA
GOALKEEPING COACH: JOHN FROST
PHYSIO: TREVOR FROST

BEDFORD PARK RANGERS:

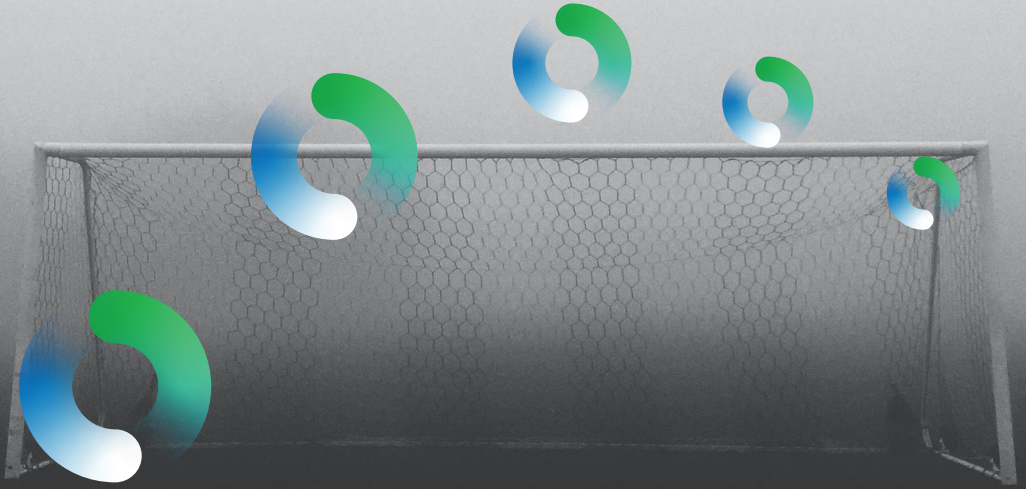
CHAIR: JAY ALLISON

CLUB HONOURS:

22/23 SPARTAN DIVISION ONE WINNERS
22/23 BEDS COUNTY CUP WINNERS

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FROM THE DUGOUT

I want to give a warm welcome to the manager, staff, players and directors of Dunstable Town.

With the way the fixture list has panned out, this is our third meeting with Dunstable Town this calendar year, although the first time we have been able to welcome them to McMullen Park.

Reflecting on our last week of football, we achieved a pleasing result against a strong Leverstock Green side last Saturday. As we head towards the business end of the season, momentum becomes a massive asset to clubs on the hunt for promotion. Last week's win was a big boost, allowing us to take that momentum into the week.

On Tuesday, we progressed in the League Cup after a win on penalties against Shefford away from home. Credit must go to Tyler McGregor, who made two excellent saves in the shootout, and to Eddie Corbit, who scored the decisive penalty. Those moments need character, and both

players showed great levels of maturity and composure despite their age. We now face Tring Athletic at McMullen Park in the semi-final in a fortnight.

I'm pleased to report positive updates from those currently out injured in the squad. Ollie Swain and Mo Ahmed, in particular, have been working hard with Lottie Burton, our lead sports therapist and are expected to return to training in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing them both back in a Real Bedford shirt soon.

We now boast a long stint of home matches, heading into the season's final few games. We hope to use this to our advantage, as Real Bedford fans bring the noise on match day, pushing the team on. Thank you to those who continue to make McMullen Park an exciting yet respectful atmosphere.

Thank you to everyone in attendance this afternoon, and enjoy the game.

Rob Sinclair,
Manager



FROM THE BOARDROOM

Hello Pirates,

I've just touched down from another busy trip in America, recording podcast episodes in Los Angeles and Las Vegas. It is 1.30 AM, and I have jetlag, so it feels like a good time to write my programme notes.

I have been fortunate with my podcast to travel the world, but leaving Bedford is getting harder and harder. There is so much to do with the football club and my ideas for developing the town that I feel a strong urge to be here more. Also, there is nothing quite like match days, and on this last trip, I missed three games: one I watched on the stream with my producer Danny, the second I followed on Twitter, and the third I listened to Benji's commentary.

Our teams did not let their guard down. The men avenged their defeat to Leverstock Green with a solid 2-0 victory at McMullen Park.

They carried the momentum into the cup, securing a win against Shefford on Tuesday on Penalties. I want to give a big shoutout to Tyler McGregor for his two saves. Not to be outdone, our ladies continued their dominance, edging out St Albans in a 2-1 league win, making that 14 games played and 14 wins.

As we enter the final stretch of the season, I'm excited by the prospects of both teams. Our men's and ladies' teams are in good positions in their respective leagues. The men have also progressed to the League Cup semi-final, while the ladies have a County Cup semi-final this weekend against Wootton Blue Cross and have made the final of the League Cup, where they will face Wroxham.

Bedford will be the centre of the Bitcoin universe in a few weeks as we host CheatCode '24 at The Corn Exchange. It's cool to bring



some of the brightest minds in Bitcoin to our little town, a sharp contrast to the usual glamorous locations around the world. This conference isn't just about Bitcoin; it also spotlights Bedford, its good and bad, and my plans to help grow the town.

For all its charm and character, Bedford faces its share of challenges. From the cost of living crisis affecting our families to the struggle of our high street against the growth of online retail, it's a town of contrasts. It's in this context that I'm announcing the Bedford Development Fund. This initiative will offer grants to the people of Bedford, supporting everything from new business ventures and sports sponsorships to artistic endeavours. My aim is to make this an annual contribution, aiding our community in whatever dreams they wish to pursue.

Looking ahead, even as this sea-

son reaches its climax, planning for the next is well underway. Our focus on enhancing the club's infrastructure continues, with promising developments regarding our lease renewal and the upcoming work on our training centre. In partnership with Jay Allison from BPR and Jill Upton, we're also bolstering the support for our youth teams, ensuring they're equipped to thrive next season.

Today's match against Dunstable Town is another crucial step in our promotion chase. Having faced them twice recently, with a win in the cup and a draw in the league, I'm eager for us to clinch another three points and keep the pressure on our rivals.

Enjoy the game, cheer on the team, and remember - your support is the lifeblood of the Pirates.

Peter McCormack,
Chairman



LEVERSTOCK GREEN MATCH REPORT

The Pirates produced a second-half victory against 10-man Leverstock.

Real Bedford gained all three points at McMullen Park after a strong performance against promotion-pushing Leverstock Green. Goals from Josh Setchell and Joey Evans came in between a second yellow for Radu Stefanoaica, leaving Leverstock a man down for the final stages of the game.

Like the reverse fixture just a few weeks prior, the game started with high intensity as both sides fashioned chances in the first half. The best opportunity for the visitors came through a mistake by The Pirates. Dan Petts' lofted ball was met by Eniola Agemoh-Davies, who attempted to knock the ball back to McGregor. However, a miscommunication between the two

meant the ball trickled just wide of the empty net, saving Bedford's blushes early on.

Just before the break, Ben Stevens got two shots on goal, forcing a good save out of Liam Gauthier before smashing the follow-up into the side netting.

Second Half

Real Bedford kept a lot of the ball but failed to find that finishing touch—until the hour mark. Under pressure from the Leverstock attack, an excellent pass from McGregor found Joey Evans, who flicked the ball in behind for Josh Setchell to chase. One-on-one, the winger made no mistake, tucking the ball into the bottom left to give The Pirates the lead.

Things would soon turn from bad



to worse for the visitors as their top goal scorer, Radu Stefanogica, saw two quick yellows inside 10 minutes, forcing him off the pitch for an early shower.

With the numbers advantage now at play, Bedford doubled their lead. Charlie Smith found Ben Stevens in a vacant midfield, giving him ample time to find a through ball to Joey Evans, who slotted home the chance for his 37th goal of the campaign.

Two minutes later, Bedford thought they had found a third. A looped ball over the Leverstock defence found Ben Stevens, who controlled it and met it on the half volley, forcing an acrobatic save out of Gauthier to keep the score at 2-0.

The Pirates then hit the post twice. Firstly, Charlie Smith rattled the

woodwork with a 25-yard free-kick before Claston Gordon came close to his first campaign goal after a slaloming run down the wing saw his cross rattle the post late in the half.

However, the damage was done, and The Pirates walked away with the spoils. Real Bedford now travel to Shefford Town & Campton on Tuesday in the League Cup before facing Dunstable Town at McMullen Park on Saturday. Tickets are available [here](#).

RBFC: McGregor, Corbit, Agemoh-Davies, Wood, Richardson, Smith, Setchell (Hitchcock 90'), Knight (Gordon 81'), Evans, Stevens, Jones

Unused Subs: Duckett, Bozward, Burgess

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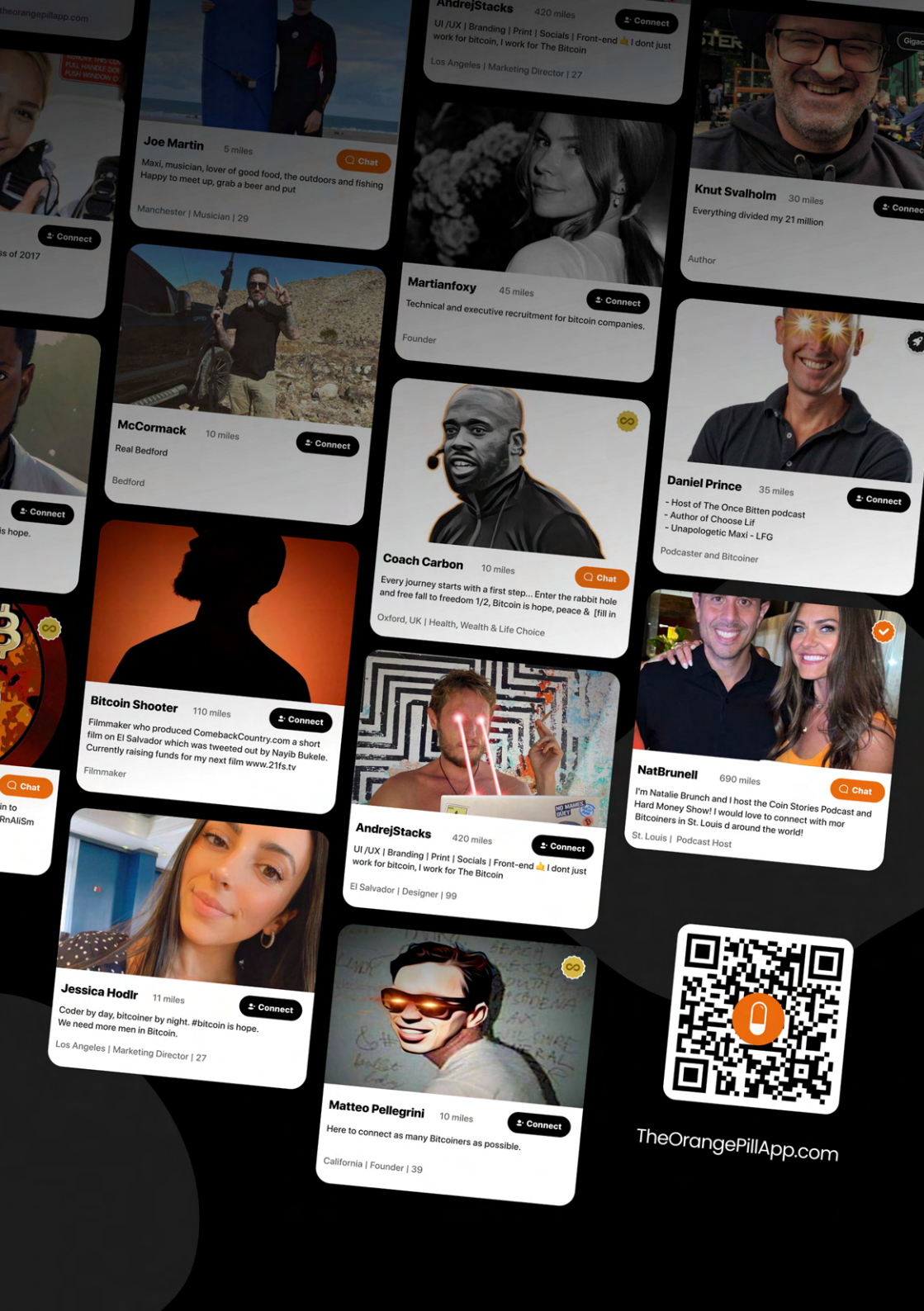
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Real Bedford

Bedford

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Oxford, UK | Health, Wealth & Life Choice

Daniel Prince 35 miles Connect

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Podcaster and Bitcoiner

Bitcoin Shooter 110 miles Connect

Filmmaker who produced ComebackCountry.com a short film on El Salvador which was tweeted out by Nayib Bukele. Currently raising funds for my next film www.21fs.tv

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SHEFFORD TOWN CAMPTON & MATCH REPORT

Pirates progress in League Cup after penalty shootout win over Shefford

A late goal for the hosts forced the game to penalties, where Tyler McGregor became Bedford's hero, saving two attempts from 12 yards to secure Real Bedford a place in the Semi-Final.

The visitors got on the scoresheet first. Some clever play from Archie Jones released Ben Stevens, who wrapped a shot towards goal. His chance smashed against the woodwork, bouncing up in front of an awaiting Tom Hitchcock, who managed to head the ball into a vacant net for an early lead.

The Pirates maintained possession, but Shefford limited the number of clear-cut

chances for the remainder of the half. A blocked shot from Tom Hitchcock and a free-kick attempt from Ben Stevens were not enough to double their lead.

Second Half

Real Bedford continued their dominance into the second half, with more opportunities at goal. Claston Gordon was put through one-on-one with the keeper, who he managed to evade but failed to find the back of the net after a heroic goal-line clearance from Charlie Milton.

Joey Evans was introduced to the game at the hour mark, immediately firing off a warning shot, which Jack Galatis saved in the Shefford net. Eddie Corbit managed to get off a similar chance with the



same outcome, as Galatis smothered the substitute's effort.

In the dying minutes of the game, Shefford produced a late equaliser. Despite having few attacks throughout the 90, they proved clinical in the box. Returning captain Charlie Milton was on hand to bundle the ball into the back of the net as The Pirates failed to clear their lines and maintain their lead, sending the match to penalties.


Luke Knight and Ben Stevens slotted the first two penalties for The Pirates before McGregor made his first save, denying Scott Metcalfe. Joey Evans then hit the post with his effort, but McGregor was on hand to save the following Shefford attempt, maintaining Bedford's advan-

tage.

Lee Watkins dispatched his attempt before Eddie Corbit stepped up to score the decisive penalty, smashing the ball into the bottom left to send Real Bedford into the league cup semi-final.

The Pirates will face Tring Athletic in April in the semi-final but host Dunstable town this weekend at McMullen Park in crucial league action. Tickets are available [here](#).

RBFC: McGregor, Agemoh-Davies, Longden (Wood 45'), J.Ducket, Burgess, Knight, Gordon (Corbit 68'), Richardson (Watkins 60'), Hitchcock (Walsh 79'), Stevens, Jones (Evans 60')



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TEAMMATES

CHARLIE SMITH



Most likely to nutmeg a player during training?

Luke Knight loves a megs in training!

Best haircut in the squad?

Josh Setchell, strong parting and lots of VO5 gel...

Most likely to start their own podcast?

Eddie Corbit loves football so much, so we could discuss it there.

Worst parking in the player's car park?

Brett Longden needs a lot of room to get out of the car.

You're stranded on a desert island; which player would you like to be stuck with?

It has to be Tom Wood. It would keep you entertained for weeks! Never a dull moment.

Who's most likely to forget their boots on a match day?

Archie Jones.

Best mate in the squad?

It has to be Hitch (Tom Hitchcock), everyone's favourite. He gets very excited.

YOU'VE GOT THE

HASH

WE'VE GOT THE

CASH

NOT THAT KIND OF HASH...

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Tunnel Tunes

Eniola Agemoh-Davies



Dreams & Nightmares by Meek Mill

Common Person by Burna Boy

Timing by A Jah

Do Better by Gunna

What Happened To Virgil by Lil Durk

TO SEE THE FULL PLAYLIST SCAN THE CODE BELOW IN SPOTIFY





Dunstable Town FC are now in their 140th year. A former home to George Best, Jeff Astle, Kerry Dixon, and more recently, Peter Kioso, the Club can boast a rich heritage, a proud past and nowadays the honour of being only the 46th club in the UK to be a completely fan owned club run by its fans as a Community Benefit Society (CBS)

The purpose of the Club is no longer just to play football but to be a force for good in our local communities.

The Club is a legal entity & is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and supported as a CBS by the Football Supporters' Association.

The Club now operates as a social enterprise. Between Monday and Friday we run seven different groups for people in our local community who want to improve their levels of fitness, increase their social

support networks and enjoy a safe space while in recovery from mental ill-health. All our groups are free to join and participate in.

The Club is now in its sixth year of supporting the work of Mind BLMK (Beds, Luton & Milton Keynes) as well as becoming part of the CALM Collective (Campaign Against Living Miserably)

The Club has a specialist Mental Health Advocate who works with local mental health services and charities.

The move to become a CBS was necessary to ensure the Club survived. The financial effects of Covid saw the Club's income halved and the difficult decision taken to fold the U23's Development Team at the end of the 2019 - 20 season.

With no matchday income from the bar or



food sales and no clubhouse to hire out, the Club relies almost totally on gate receipts, sponsorship, fundraising and prize money for its income.

The running of the Club was passed to the fans in 2017 after the wholesale departure of the Board, coaching staff and all but two of the players. A consortium of three local businessmen offered to save the Club, but on condition they would seek voluntary relegation from the Premier Division of the Southern League.

A group of 15 fans took over the running of the Club in order to keep it in the Premier Division of the Southern League and despite successive relegations the model of being a members' run Club proved sufficiently popular for the decision to become a CBS to be backed unanimously by the fans.

Fans now have the opportunity to become owners of the Club & buy a single share in the Club and receive exclusive discounts with local traders under the Blue Card scheme.

This model of Fan Ownership ensures that the Club will always stay in the hands of its supporters and cannot be taken over by one single investor determined to ride the non-league financial rollercoaster.

The Club now has over 330 individual owners who elect the Club's Directors and vote on important Club policy decisions.

The Club now has individual owners in many different countries and welcomes supporters of many different clubs who just want to support our community improvement programme, Improving the Lives of Others.

FIXTURE LIST

AUGUST '23

1	MK IRISH	1 - 0 (W)
5	FC CLACTON *	2 - 2 (D)
12	COCKFOSTERS	1 - 1 (D)
15	FC CLACTON *	4 - 1 (W)
19	MK IRISH *	3 - 4 (L)
26	ROTHWELL CORINTHIANS **	9 - 1 (W)
29	ARLESEY TOWN	0 - 3 (W)

SEPTEMBER '23

2	TRING ATHLETIC	0 - 4 (W)
9	SAWBRIDGEMOUTH TOWN	7 - 0 (W)
12	AYLESBURY VALE DYNAMOS	1 - 4 (W)
16	ST PANTELEIMON	1 - 4 (L)
23	FLACKWELL HEATH **	2 - 0 (W)
30	LONDON LIONS	0 - 3 (W)

OCTOBER '23

7	COLNEY HEATH	8 - 1 (W)
10	BIGGLESWADE UNITED	1 - 5 (W)
14	STANSTED	2 - 0 (W)
21	MK IRISH **	0 - 5 (W)
24	LEIGHTON TOWN FIRST ***	3 - 1 (L)
28	CRAWLEY GREEN	1 - 4 (W)
31	STANSTED	A - A

NOVEMBER '23

4	ARLESEY TOWN	5 - 0 (W)
7	POTTON UNITED	0 - 3 (W)
11	BIGGLESWADE UNITED **	2 - 2 (L) (PENS 6-7)
14	WELLINGBOROUGH W'WORTH ****	5 - 1 (W)
18	AYLESBURY VALE DYNAMOS	5 - 2 (W)
25	BALDOCK TOWN	2 - 0 (W)
28	POTTON UNITED	3 - 1 (W)

* FA CUP MATCH

** FA VASE MATCH

*** BEDS SENIOR COUNTY CUP

**** GLADWISH CHALLENGE CUP

***** PREMIER DIVISION CUP

DECEMBER '23

2	HARPENDEN TOWN	0 - 5 (W)
16	FC ROMANIA	1 - 3 (W)
23	CRAWLEY GREEN	6 - 0 (W)
27	SHEFFORD TOWN & CAMPTON	0 - 7 (W)
30	COCKFOSTERS	3 - 2 (W)

JANUARY '24

9	COCKFOSTERS ****	2 - 1 (W)
13	ST PANTELEIMON	0 - 4 (W)
27	BALDOCK TOWN	2 - 2 (D)
30	STANSTED	0 - 1 (W)

FEBRUARY '24

3	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	2 - 1 (L)
10	DUNSTABLE TOWN *****	1 - 6 (W)
17	BIGGLESWADE UNITED	3 - 3 (D)
20	CODICOTE ****	4 - 3 (L)
27	HARPENDEN TOWN	2 - 1 (W)

MARCH '24

5	DUNSTABLE TOWN	2 - 2 (D)
9	MK IRISH	0 - 0 (D)
16	LEVERSTOCK GREEN	2 - 0 (W)
19	SHEFFORD & CAMPTON *****	1 - 1 (W) (PENS 6-7)
23	DUNSTABLE TOWN	H
26	COLNEY HEATH	A
30	SHEFFORD & CAMPTON	H

APRIL '24

6	TRING ATHLETIC *****	H
9	FC ROMANIA	H
13	TRING ATHLETIC	H
16	LONDON LIONS	H
20	SAWBRIDGEMOUTH TOWN	A

LADIES FIXTURE LIST

AUGUST '23

13	STEVENAGE	4 - 1 (W)
24	AFC DUNSTABLE	0 - 7 (W)

SEPTEMBER '23

3	BARKING	5 - 0 (W)
10	WROXHAM FC	2 - 4 (W)
17	BOWERS & PITSEA	0 - 1 (W)
24	ST ALBANS CITY	4 - 0 (W)

OCTOBER '23

1	HACKNEY WOMENS *	2 - 9 (W)
8	ROYSTON TOWN	4 - 1 (W)
15	KINGS LYNN	13 - 0 (W)
22	STEVENAGE FC *	4 - 0 (W)
29	NEEDHAM MARKET	3 - 1 (W)

NOVEMBER '23

12	BILLERICAY TOWN *	0 - 5 (L)
26	WOOTTON BLUE CROSS **	6 - 1 (W)

DECEMBER '23

3	BARKING	3 - 9 (W)
10	AFC DUNSTABLE **	0 - 2 (W)

JANUARY '24

14	HARINGEY BOROUGH	2 - 3 (W)
21	KINGS LYNN TOWN	0 - 9 (W)
28	WATFORD DEVELOPMENT **	11 - 2 (W)

FEBRUARY '24

4	NEEDHAM MARKET	1 - 3 (W)
25	WOOTTON BC RESERVES ***	17 - 1 (W)

MARCH '24

10	LUTON TOWN **	1 - 2 (W)
17	ST ALBANS CITY	1 - 2 (W)
24	WOOTTON BLUE CROSS ***	H
31	WROXHAM FC	H

APRIL '24

7	HARINGEY BOROUGH	H
14	BOWERS & PITSEA	A
24	ROYSTON TOWN	A
28	LUTON TOWN	H

MAY '24

1	LUTON TOWN	A
5	STEVENAGE FC	A
12	AFC DUNSTABLE WOMEN	H
19	WROXHAM FC **	H

* FA CUP MATCH

** LEAGUE CUP

*** COUNTY CUP

MATCHDAY SQUAD



V



PIRATES

TYLER MCGREGOR (GK)

ALFIE BOZWARD (GK)

LEWIS BURGESS

JOE STEELE

TOM WOOD

MATT CLIFFORD

JAMES DUCKET

BRETT LONGDEN

OLLIE SWAIN

BEN WALSH

DREW RICHARDSON

LUKE KNIGHT ©

LEE WATKINS

CHARLIE SMITH

ARCHIE JONES

BEN STEVENS

EDDIE CORBIT

BEN FITZJOHN

ENIOLA AGEMOH-DAVIES

ALIE BANGURA

JOSH SETCHELL

MO AHMED

CLASTON GORDON

TOM HITCHCOCK

JOEY EVANS

MANAGER - ROB SINCLAIR

ASST. MANAGER - MARK DUCKET

COACH - PETER THORNES

GOALKEEPER COACH - IAN BROWN

PHYSIO - LOTTIE BURTON

KITMAN - GERRY MCCORMACK

DUNSTABLE

CONNOR COULSON

CARL KNOX

ALEX DESMOND

SEAN LOCKE-HART

KYLE DAVISON-GORDON

DYLAN BAKER

ETHAN CREARY

ISAAC OLALEYE

RUAIRI MILLS

LUKE DUNSTAN

HARRY BEAUMONT

ALFIE OSBORNE

BENJI CRILLEY

JOE SELLERS-WEST

KELVIN OSEI-ADDO

TOLU IKUYINMINU

SEAN EMMANUEL

DANNY WEBB

NIMI AJI

JOE REYNOLDS

LUKE WILLIAMS

SAM SCOTT

JAMES LAUDER

KEYARN COPE-CHASE

JESSE ARMOO

ROMEO OJO

EZRA FORDE

WILL MCCLELLAND

HEAD COACH - JOE DEENEY

ASST. HEAD COACH - KYLE DURCAN

COACH - ANTHONY CHRISTOPHI

PHYSIO - ADAM ASHTON

REFEREE - ROBERT POOLE

ASSISTANT - THOMAS FOGDEN

ASSISTANT - ADAM MARSH