

#WeAreAscot



ASCOT UNITED vs. HANWORTH VILLA

Sat 14 Oct 2023

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division



**Matchday
Programme**

Respect



**Season
2023/24**



THE YELLAMEN



Yellow and Blue

Alex Sykes (GK)
 Hugo Sobte (GK)
 Sam Hayes (GK)
 Adam Everiss
 Brendan Matthew
 Charlie Morgan
 Dan Bailey
 Dan Brown
 Duarte Surpanu
 George Lock
 Harry Grant
 Harry Laffin
 Harry Tucker
 Harvey Killeen
 Jay Welch
 Joe Gater
 Jordan Ajanlekoko
 Josh Edwards
 Luke Phillips
 Ollie Harris
 Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi
 Ryan Case
 Sean McCormack
 Sammy Balogun
 Usman Lalustani

Jamie Tompkins
 Dean Greenwood
 Alex Sykes
 Steve Quelch
 Stuart Britton
 Nathan Riley

Manager
Asst. Manager
GK Coach
Coach
Coach
Physio

THE VILLAINS



Red and Black

Gary Ross (GK)
 Terry Buss (GK)
 Guy Ansah-Palmer
 Olajubu Oladimeji
 Theo Crawford
 Jordan Ellis
 Matthew Gbio
 Anthony Folkes
 Ben Geraghty
 Charlie George
 Louis Collins
 Sam Merson
 Kyen Nicholas
 Aston Nunn
 Kyron Richards
 Gagandeep Samra
 Rayan Djouadj
 Louis Taylor
 Bruno Tingle
 George Wells
 Jay Hines
 Seanan McKillop
 Sam Mead
 Seth Owens
 Leon Solomon
 Ben Merson
 Steve Gody
 Baboucarr Jarra

Simon Haughney
 Paul Thomas, Leon Solomon
 Ben Wilkins
 Chris Balchin
 Sophie Waldron

Match Officials

Ethan Stacey	Neil Fyfield	Christopher Binney
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Last Match: Whitehawk A Sat 7 Oct 0-2 FAT 3Q
 Next Match: Ashford Town (Middx) A Tue 17 Oct ISTN SC

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ASCOT UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



Racecourse Ground, Winkfield Road, Ascot, SL5 7LJ

Chairman: Simon Negus

Club Secretary and Football Operations Manager: Ricky Simons

Director of Football: Neil Richards

Director of Football - Women and Girls: Donna Graham

General Manager: Jo Gavin

1st Team Manager: Jamie Tompkins

Assistant Manager: Dean Greenwood

Coach: Steve Quelch

Strength and Conditioning Coach: Stuart Britton

Goalkeeping Coach: Alex Sykes

Allied U18s Team Manager: Adam Clark

Veterans Team Manager: Dave Good

Veterans Reserve Team Manager: Dan Hough

Women's First Team Manager: Darrel Evans / Will Blithing

Women's Phoenix Team Managers: Lisa Phillips / Kelly Rideout

Physio: Nathan Riley

Private Events Manager: Sam Knight

Administration Manager: Emma Paton

Child Welfare Officer / Club Director: Rob Jones

Match Reporting and Programme: Neal Jeffs / William Powell

Other Directors:

Doug Page

Mark Cooper

Phil Wray

Melanie Greaves

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IN THE CHAIR



Simon Negus
Chairman

A warm welcome to Hanworth Villa for today's Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division fixture.



A warm welcome to today's Isthmian League Fixture here at The Racecourse Ground... a special welcome to our visitors today from Villa!

After our promotion to Step 4 for the first time, we were aware that we would need to make some investment at The Racecourse to bring our ground up to the required standards. The process started over the summer and we had our formal review visit a couple of weeks ago which identified the need for an additional stand, new turnstiles and some changes to our toilet facilities. We have already identified the solutions and contractors, but now need to wait for planning approval and funding from the Football Foundation... we are confident that all the required upgrades will be in place for the deadline in March and will further enhance The Racecourse as a fantastic place to watch football.

We are all aware of the general shortage of referees especially at grassroots level, and I see a disappointing trend across junior football of parents thinking it's ok to criticise referees - who are often children themselves. The fact that they make mistakes is no excuse, and as a club we will come down hard on parents or managers who abuse refs. If random strangers came up to their kids and pointed out all the mistakes that they had made in the game, I'm sure they would see it differently. Please respect the officials...

A reminder that our fabulous clubhouse is available to hire for private events and business meetings... this generates really valuable revenue for the club, so please get in touch with our Events Manager Sam Knight if you would like to discuss what we can do for you.

Hope you all enjoy today's game! ~Simon.

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FROM THE DUGOUT



Jamie Tompkins
First Team Manager

**Welcome to the players, officials
and supporters of Hanworth Villa.
Enjoy the game!**



Welcome to the Racecourse Ground for today's game against Hanworth Villa in the Isthmian League on this Saturday afternoon.

Today we come up against last season's play-off finalists so again it is another tough test in what is a very competitive league. It is strange to think that this is just our sixth league game of the season and we are very much focussing on this fixture being our league second season starter as we are now without distraction from FA competitions.

Performances from the team has been positive and we have to be mindful that we have played higher opposition in the FA Cup and FA Trophy, although not winning we know that we have competed with top teams so if we continue in this manner we will certainly begin to get the right results to match.

Hanworth Villa are a team that have some top talents in their squad and with the experience of last season, I know they will be a hardworking and resilient team. We need to ensure that everyone is showing togetherness, that is players, management, staff, volunteers and supporters. No matter who is wearing the yella shirt, I expect everyone to be supportive and encouraging the team which makes a huge difference to our atmosphere and environment.

Enjoy the match, and thank you for your continued support ~JT.



Dean Greenwood
Assistant Manager



Stuart Britton
Strength/Con. Coach



Steve Quelch
Coach



Nathan Riley
Physio

ON COURSE!

With Programme Editor Neal Jeffs

Welcome to the players, officials and supporters of Hanworth Villa for this Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division match.



Welcome back to The Racecourse as we rekindle old rivalries with Hanworth Villa – who beat us to step 4 when they went up 2 seasons ago – and almost went up again last season!!! It's only 15 years or so since Villa were playing at step 6, so to think they almost got to step 3 (losing the play off final last season) is pretty amazing. As for us, its also amazing to think that, despite performances, we've only won 1 in 6. In particular, Leatherhead, Lewes and Whitehawk all provided tough opposition and we came away with nothing when on another day we might have done. Sadly, it is results that counts, and Lewes went on to hammer a step 2 side to earn a trip to Aldershot Town today. What might have been! Away from the men's first team, I've now seen all of our Women's team's matches – crazy fixture scheduling means they've played all five games at home – but last weekend was an absolute belter when they fought back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 wit 2nd-placed Bournemouth.

50 up (soon). Harry Tucker's next outing will be his 50th for the Yellamen. Perhaps one of the most memorable was THAT last minute winner at Wembley FC last season! Congratulations Tucks!



Tomorrow promises to be a special encounter when Reading FC visit for a county cup match. OK, they are also in Championship action this weekend so will 'only bring their U23's, but they will be strong, fit and technically gifted so it promises to be an interesting affair.

At the other end of the age spectrum is a certain club director Doug Page, who celebrates his 70th birthday this weekend. Happy birthday to him and if you see him he said all drinks are on him today, which is a really nice gesture. This applies to all home, away and neutral supporters, players and basically anyone here. Bless him, he doesn't look a day over 90 either. On a serious note he puts in so many hours around here, opening up, locking up, tidying, directing, you name it – and all that alongside grandparenting duties and having to put up with Mike Harrison on various road trips. You're a legend Doug. Anyway, enjoy the game ~Neal.

WELCOME TO THE VILLAINS

WELCOME TO THE VILLAINS



Ever thought of volunteering to help your local football club?

There are many different volunteer roles in non-league football and Isthmian League football clubs need your help with them.

The Trident Leagues and Pitching In's online Volunteer Hub is the place where you can find opportunities and contact your local football club.

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ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Ascot United endorses the zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination. We are equally proud to embrace football at all levels. Football is for all, and we help facilitate that desire.



The Isthmian Football League strongly supports the Football Association's statement that there should be a zero-tolerance approach against all forms of discrimination.

Any inappropriate conduct toward others, including but not limited to that based on an individual's sex, race, colour, weight, size, religion and belief, national origin, age, marital or domestic-partnership status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, will not be tolerated and will be reported to the relevant authorities.

The Isthmian League and our Member Clubs are committed to promoting equity and equality by treating all people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and providing access and opportunities for all members of our communities.

With our focus on positivity, The Isthmian League aims to ensure that all our footballers are able to play in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment and all supporters can enjoy the game in surroundings free from discrimination and hate.



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DOUG PAGE TURNS 70!



Happy Birthday to club legend Doug Page! In tribute to Doug, we've included his piece on his own love affair with Ascot United. The article first appeared in our souvenir FA Vase brochure, *To Wembley and Beyond*, back in May. Pictured below are the Ascot United Veterans team on tour in Spain a few years ago.

When my journey with Ascot United started back in 1992, like many, I was recruited by the then Chairman Keith Wicks as a willing parent volunteer to coach my five and seven year olds. Little did I know that some 30 years later our club would be on the verge of a Wembley appearance! The club has been committed to ongoing development of not only its facilities, but also the way it sees football played. The most prominent development came way back in 1992 when we helped to form the East Berkshire Football League to provide 'small-sided' games for junior players when 11-a-side was otherwise the norm.

Following that, the next development was the commitment to establishing women's and girls' football in the early 2000's, before the new ground and clubhouse development under subsequent chairman Mike Harrison in 2010 helped us make a big step forward in our journey through the pyramid. Wembley FC was a footballing first; the first-ever game sponsored by Budweiser, and the first-ever game streamed live on Facebook. That was a memorable evening when we set our long-standing attendance record, only narrowly beaten last season when we hosted Wycombe Wanderers in the Berks and County Cup semi final in front of 1,267 spectators. Other memorable games included our runs to the quarter finals of the FA Vase in both 2013 and 2015 against Shildon and St. Austell respectively.

Doug also wrote ahead of the final - Incredibly we are now two rounds further on and looking forward to the biggest day in our history, playing under the famous arch and under the new stewardship of Simon Negus and Neil Richards. Let's all enjoy the day, take it all in, and look forward to the next chapter in our journey.



BRING ON THE DING!



SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

RACECOURSE GROUND, 2PM

ASCOT UNITED WOMEN V READING FC WOMEN

BERKS AND BUCKS COUNTY CUP

**BAR AND CAFÉ OPEN – COME AND SUPPORT THE
YELLAWOMEN!**

RESULTS AND FIXTURES

Date	Opposition	H/A	Comp	Result	Att	Scorers
05-Aug	Ardlev United	A	FAC KP	1-1	96	Laffin
08-Aug	Ardlev United	H	FAC XPr	2-1	141	Killeen, Matthew
12-Aug	Ravnes Park Vale	A	ISTH SC	2-3	220	Matthew, Killeen
19-Aug	Mangotsfield United	H	FAC P	5-1	137	Matthew 3, Ajaniekoko, H. Grant
26-Aug	Guernsey	H	ISTH SC	4-0	189	Matthew 2, H. Grant, McCoy
28-Aug	Badshot Lea	A	ISTH SC	1-0	178	McCormack
02-Sep	Westfield	H	FAC 10	1-0	206	McCoy
09-Sep	Horndean	A	FAT 10	3-2	110	Matthew 2, Balogun
12-Sep	Leatherhead	H	ISTH SC	0-1	246	
15-Sep	Lewes	H	FAC 20	1-2	451	OG
23-Sep	Lancing	H	FAT 20	6-2	162	Matthew 4, Killeen, McCormack
26-Sep	Badshot Lea	A	LG 2	0-1	78	
30-Sep	Sutton Common Rovers	H	ISTH SC	1-1	136	H. Grant
07-Oct	Whitehawk	A	FAT 30	0-2	357	
14-Oct	Hanworth Villa	H	ISTH SC			
17-Oct	Ashford Town (Middx)	A	ISTH SC			
21-Oct	Chinstead	A	ISTH SC			
24-Oct	Binfield	H	ISTH SC			
31-Oct	Thatcham Town	A	ISTH SC			
04-Nov	Corinthian-Casuals	A	ISTH SC			
11-Nov	Southall	H	ISTH SC			
18-Nov	South Park (Reigate)	A	ISTH SC			
25-Nov	Marlow	H	ISTH SC			
02-Dec	Westfield	A	ISTH SC			
09-Dec	Northwood	H	ISTH SC			
16-Dec	Metronolitan Police	A	ISTH SC			
23-Dec	Chertsey Town	H	ISTH SC			
26-Dec	Uxbridge	A	ISTH SC			
30-Dec	Leatherhead	H	ISTH SC			
01-Jan	Badshot Lea	H	ISTH SC			
06-Jan	Thatcham Town	H	ISTH SC			
13-Jan	Binfield	A	ISTH SC			
20-Jan	Hartley Wintnev	H	ISTH SC			
27-Jan	Sutton Common Rovers	A	ISTH SC			
30-Jan	Ashford Town (Middx)	H	ISTH SC			
03-Feb	Hanworth Villa	A	ISTH SC			
10-Feb	Chipstead	H	ISTH SC			
24-Feb	Corinthian-Casuals	H	ISTH SC			
02-Mar	South Park (Reigate)	H	ISTH SC			
09-Mar	Southall	A	ISTH SC			
16-Mar	Westfield	H	ISTH SC			
23-Mar	Marlow	A	ISTH SC			
30-Mar	Guernsey	A	ISTH SC			
01-Apr	Uxbridge	H	ISTH SC			
06-Apr	Ravnes Park Vale	H	ISTH SC			
13-Apr	Chertsev Town	A	ISTH SC			
20-Apr	Metronolitan Police	H	ISTH SC			
27-Apr	Northwood	A	ISTH SC			
TBA	Hartley Wintnev	A	ISTH SC			

ISTH SC - Pitching In Isthmian League South Central, FAT - Isuzu FA Trophy, FAC - The Emirates FA Cup, BB - Berks&Bucks Cup, LG - Velocity League Trophy

MATCH REPORT ROUNDUP

HAWKS SWOOP LATE TO BLOW YELLAS AWAY ON THE COAST

Badshot Lea get revenge for earlier league defeat

Saturday 7th October 2023, Isuzu FA Trophy 3QR, Whitehawk 2 - 0 Ascot United



The game started off positively for Ascot; a few decent chances were created, none of which were converted writes editor William Powell. Brendan Matthew came close midway through the half when he found himself alone in the centre of the box but to the disappointment of the huge Yella following, his weak header floated into the goalkeeper's hands. Towards the latter stages of the half, Whitehawk created some fantastic chances but thanks to some resolute defending from the Yellas back line, the score remained level.

HALF TIME 0-0

The Yellas started the second half strongly and looked certain to open the scoring but some fantastic goalkeeping managed to keep them at bay. Hugo Sobte also made some unbelievable saves throughout the early exchanges of the half as both teams battered each other with chance after chance.

Whitehawk continued to bombard the Yellas back line heading into the last 15 minutes of the half and finally their persistent pressure was rewarded. In the 89th minute, Louis Collins managed to get on the end of a great cross and his header rifled into the bottom corner past the helpless Sobte.

Two minutes later Whitehawk doubled their lead. Sobte came out to clear confidently but he was beaten to the ball leaving Ryan Worrall one on one with an open goal and he slotted home easily to the delight of the home fans.

FULL TIME- Whitehawk 2-0 Ascot United

A valiant effort from the Yellas on the road against a very tough opposition sees them fall short of progressing into the next round. Our attention now turns to next Saturday where we play Hanworth Villa at the Racecourse Ground. #UpTheYellas

Entertainment 5/5

Star Player- Sam Balogun

PHOTOZONE



Action from our 1-1 draw with Sutton Common Rovers 2 weeks ago. **Clockwise from top left:** Brenan Matthew shoots, Hugo Sobte with a tremendous save in the 2nd half, Ryan Case crosses, midfield general Sammy Balogun, Usman Lalustani beats two men on the left wing.





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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - 23/24

Sponsorship Opportunities	Cost excluding VAT	Benefits	Electronic
Pitch-side board at Racecourse	£1400 per season, renewal price £1000 per season	Pitch side presence viewable to an average weekly footfall of over 1500 people, plus visibility in match photos on social media	Logo in club sponsor area on AUFU website with link to sponsors website with contact details.
5 a side Teams	£500 per season	Set of 8 shirts with sponsor logo	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
7 a side Teams	£600 per season	Set of 10 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
9 a side Teams	£800 per season	Set of 12 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
11 a side teams (ex. adult teams)	£950 per season	Set of 16 shirts with sponsor logo on	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details.
Men's First Team – next available 25/26 season	EPOA per season	Set of Home & Away shirts with sponsor logo on Front. Warm up shirts with logo on Front. Free advertising in programme with option for sponsor's message. Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details. Promotion via social media channels.
Women's First Team – next available 25/26 season	EPOA per season	Set of Home & Away shirts with sponsor logo on Front. Warm up shirts with logo on Front. Free advertising in programme with option for sponsor's message. Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Promotion via social media channels.
Vets Team – next available 24/25 season	£2,000 per season	Set of shirts with sponsor logo on Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Social media support
Allied Counties Youth Team – next available 25/26 Season	£2,000 per season	Set of shirts with sponsor logo on Pitch-side board to sponsor's design	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details Social media support
First Team Programme	£300 per season	Sponsors name on full page advert.	Logo on AUFU team home page and AUFU club sponsor area with link to sponsors website with contact details
Multiple New projects looking for sponsorship ranging from Stands to benches, box goals to footballs and many more.	POA	Dependant on project, ranges from visible branding on site, pitch side presence, social media engagement, membership and community support	Logo on AUFU website and social media support. Package can be tailored to requirements
Match Day Sponsorship	£500 per game	Advert in match day programme Free entrance for up to 6 people at sponsored games Reserved table in the bar Complimentary lunch for six with a beer or glass of wine Pre and post-game social media shout outs Vote and present the award for player of the match Photo opportunity with players	Pre and post match social media support Advert in the online programme

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division

Ascot United vs Hanworth Villa

Badshot Lea vs Chipstead

Binfield vs Hartley Wintney

Chertsey Town vs Metropolitan Police

Guernsey vs Ashford Town (Middx)

Raynes Park Vale vs Northwood

Southall vs South Park (Reigate)

Sutton Common Rovers vs Westfield

Thatcham Town vs Corinthian-Casuals

Uxbridge vs Leatherhead



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LEAGUE TABLES

Pitching In Isthmian League South Central Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Raynes Park Vale	8	6	0	2	20	13	7	18
2 Chertsey Town	8	5	2	1	13	7	6	17
3 Leatherhead	7	5	1	1	11	3	8	16
4 Marlow	7	5	0	2	17	9	8	15
5 Southall	7	4	2	1	21	8	13	14
6 Chipstead	8	4	2	2	18	14	4	14
7 Uxbridge	7	4	1	2	16	8	8	13
8 South Park (Reigate)	7	4	0	3	11	9	2	12
9 Badshot Lea	7	4	0	3	10	10	0	12
10 Sutton Common Rovers	9	3	1	5	16	15	1	10
11 Hartley Wintney	6	3	0	3	12	11	1	9
12 Thatcham Town	6	3	0	3	8	10	-2	9
13 Ashford Town (Middx)	7	2	2	3	10	8	2	8
14 Hanworth Villa	6	2	2	2	11	10	1	8
15 Westfield	6	2	2	2	10	11	-1	8
16 Ascot United	5	2	1	2	8	5	3	7
17 Northwood	7	2	0	5	13	14	-1	6
18 Metropolitan Police	7	1	3	3	9	13	-4	6
19 Guernsey	8	1	0	7	7	20	-13	3
20 Corinthian-Casuals	7	1	0	6	5	23	-18	3
21 Binfield	8	0	3	5	6	31	-25	3

Non League Pyramid (Extract)

Step 1 **National League**

Step 2 **National League South**

Step 3 **Isthmian League Premier**

Step 4 **Isthmian League South Central**

Step 5 **Combined Counties League**

APPEARANCES AND GOALS

	Season 2023/24		All-time	
	App	Goals	App	Goals
A Sykes	-	-	4	-
H Sobte	14	-	14	-
S Hayes	-	-	2	-
A Everiss	-	-	26	1
A Grant	3	-	34	6
B Matthew	14	13	68	60
C Morgan	2	-	7	1
D Bailey	9	-	119	15
D Brown	5	-	5	-
D Surpanu	-	-	57	10
G Lock	12	-	226	10
H Grant	12	3	64	10
H Laffin	5	1	157	85
H Tucker	9	-	49	3
H Killeen	9	3	9	3
J Welch	11	-	52	2
J Gater	3	-	3	-
J Ajanlekoko	12	1	67	5
K Allsopp	4	-	4	-
J Edwards	9	-	9	-
L Phillips	-	-	2	1
L Kassim	5	-	52	13
O Harris	-	-	20	12
O Lahtinen-Kalsi	14	-	14	-
R Gerrard	-	-	34	4
S McCormack	14	2	108	20
S Balogun	10	1	25	1
T Thompson	-	-	11	-
U Lalustani	10	-	85	22
O McCoy	7	2	7	2
R Case	4	-	-	-
IOwn Goals	-	1	n/a	n/a
	197	27	1334	286



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THE **NON-LEAGUE** PAPER



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AFTER months of uncertainty, angst and sheer agony at times, the long-suffering supporters of Southend United and Scunthorpe United were finally given some reason to cheer last week. Two proud, but horribly mistreated, football clubs in the throes of crisis and teetering perilously on the brink of non-existence, while generations of fans lined the streets in a desperate attempt to force the boardroom change necessary to keep their clubs alive. In Southend United's case, it was about as serious as it could get.

A winding-up petition to the High Court over a £275,000 tax debt threatened to bring an end to the Shrimpers' 116-year history with much maligned owner Ron Martin at the centre of the protests for his refusal to sell up.

But at 4.40pm last Tuesday afternoon, the loyal faithful finally got the news they had waited so long for after a three-man consortium of supporters, led by Australian businessman Justin Rees, announced they had finally got the deal over the line.

"We can confirm that an agreement for the sale of the club has been reached with a consortium led by Justin Rees," a club statement read.

"We recognise that this has been a stressful time for all associated with the club. We would like to thank our staff for their incredible loyalty and also thank all our stakeholders for their patience."

Stressful is one way of putting it. Indeed, as Judge Sebastian Prentis said when concluding at a previously adjourned winding up hearing "if this were not a football club, with the particular attachment to its fans, I would be winding them up today,"

Martin, who took over the club in 1998, has been the target for all the fans' ire for how the situation has spiralled to the brink of abyss.

Protests have been held outside his house, marches through the coastal town before matches and games even held up when toy rats were thrown on the pitch in a desperate bid to get him to sell-up.

Fan power also won the day 230 miles further up the east coast when a bumper crowd of 5,063 attended Scunthorpe United game with Brackley Town last Saturday to celebrate the dawn of a new era for the Iron.

A takeover deal with former commercial director Michelle Harness finally brought an end to David Hilton's turbulent nine-month tenure in charge.

Hilton had replaced Peter Swann in the Glanford Park hotseat in January amid an FA investigation. Last week, he confirmed that he had withdrawn his funding from the club and was actively trying to sell the club (continued).

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(Continued). On Wednesday, however, it was announced that, despite a looming eviction from Glanford Park, winding up petitions, county court judgements and players and staff not being paid, Harness had agreed to take over a 75 per cent share of the club, while fans did their bit by clubbing together to raise more than £68,000 to help pay the staff in their hour of need.

Saturday's game with Brackley Town was emotional for another reason as Scunthorpe's last at their famous Glanford Park home "for the foreseeable future" with a groundshare in place at Gainsborough Trinity 17 miles away.

But Simon Elliott, who was on the cusp of taking over from then-chairman Swann in December 2022 only for the deal to collapse prior to Hilton's arrival, says talks were underway with landowner Swann.

"Negotiations have already started," Elliott said. "The sustainability of Scunthorpe United is dependent on this support that we have seen throughout the past few weeks continuing for many months and years to come, through high times and hopefully not so many low times."

Sadly, not all clubs are as blessed as Southend and Scunthorpe when it comes to powerful fanbases and this week it wasn't such great news for Step 4 Hamworthy United.

The Hammers have been hamstrung since the closure of the only seated stand at their County Ground home, the headquarters the club leases from the Dorset FA, following a structural report in February this year.

An on-off deal to replace it was eventually struck and with a short-term groundshare at Weymouth secured at the 11th hour, United got the green light to remain at Step 4 this season.

However, with demolition work now paused following the discovery of unexpected asbestos, officials felt they had no choice than to quit the Southern League and pull the plug on the first team to safeguard the club's long-term future.

"We didn't want the club to go bankrupt," chairman Steve Mitchener told us with the reserves now taking on first-team responsibilities in the Step 7 Dorset Premier League.

"I have been associated with the club for 51 years and despite our recent success, it is just so disappointing that we won't have the opportunity to continue with a team that I felt was capable of not only playing at this level but achieving more.

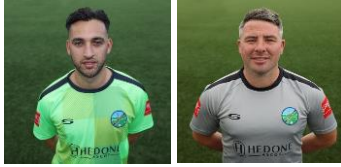
"The decision was not taken lightly but we had to do this to preserve the club and the business."

At the end of the day, fan power played a massive part in rescuing Southend and Scunthorpe from oblivion, while Hamworthy weren't quite so fortunate.

As drastic and as sad as it was for Mitchener to pull the plug on the Hammers' season, it's a prime example of responsible club ownership, something that the higher-profile pair would have given anything for. ~Jon Couch

MEET THE YELLAMEN

Hugo Sobte – goalkeeper. Signed for the 23/24 campaign having previously played for Windsor FC and most recently Step 4 football with Hanwell Town. A strong all-round keeper with good distribution and is particularly comfortable with the ball at his feet.



Alex Sykes – goalkeeper. Goalkeeping coach and reliable backup. Has international experience having played for the England Futsal team. Part of the successful double-winning squad of 22/23.

Josh Edwards – defence. Signed for the 23/24 season from Thatcham Town where he was player of the season in 22/23. A strong, powerful defender and excellent in 1 v 1 scenarios. Previously with Basingstoke Town.



Oliver Lahtinen-Kalsi – defence. Exciting addition for the 23/24 campaign having joined us on a season-long loan from National League neighbours Aldershot Town.

Dan Bailey – defence. Experienced centre back and club captain. Previously played at a higher level with Marlow and has a FA level 2 coaching qualification. A great communicator who shows incredible commitment and leadership on the pitch. Pivotal member of our double-winning campaign in 22/23, leading the team to victory at Wembley.



George Lock – defence. A fearless right back previously with Binfield and Bracknell. Technically strong and a consistently high performer who likes to get forward and has weighed in with important goals. Has made over 200 appearances heading into the 23/24 campaign. Another FA Vase winner.

Toby Thompson – defence. A product of the Ascot United junior ranks having also captained the Allied Under 18 side. Spent part of last season at Step 5 outfit Sheerwater, helping them escape relegation.



Harry Tucker – defence. Strong, commanding defender who oozes confidence on the ball and has excellent distribution. Previously with Kings Langley and Thame United. FA Vase winner.

Joe Gater – defence. Highly respected defender on the local scene having previously played Step 4 football with Bracknell Town and Binfield. Tall and physical with a strong aerial presence.



Charlie Morgan – midfield. Exciting young talent who first featured in 22/23 and will continue to improve.

Jay Welch – midfield. Signed in 22/23, a versatile player who can play in defence or midfield. Bundles of energy and tenacity alongside great technical ability. Massive performance in winning the FA Vase and only denied a Wembley goal by the woodwork.



Harvey Killeen – midfield. A fantastic addition for 23/24 having signed from North Greenford United, for whom he starred against us in 22/23. Works incredibly hard, pops up all over the pitch and scores bags of goals despite not being an outright attacker.

MEET THE YELLAMEN

Ollie Harris – midfield. Signed from near neighbours Binfield in 22/23 where he was a huge part of The Moles' run to the FA Vase final in 20/21. A true clubman, he was a huge part of Ascot's double-winning campaign in 22/23 despite long-term injury and will bounce back in 23/24. Exceptionally quick and talented forward with bags of tricks.



Harry Grant – midfield. A Rolls Royce of a player and an excellent addition to the club in 22/23. Ex-professional at Gillingham, winning EFL League 2 and the FA Vase with Thatcham Town in 2017/18 before repeating the feat with Ascot United in 22/23.

Jordan Ajanlekoko – midfield. Cultured midfielder who signed in 22/23 after Step 3 experience with Beaconsfield. Previously featured for the Yellamen on loan with 2 appearances in 17/18 and became a permanent addition for the 22/23 season. Unavailable for the FA Vase final but a huge part of the cup run.



Sammy Balogun – midfield. Signed midway through the 22/23 season and proved invaluable in midfield with some big performances, especially in the 22/23 FA Vase Semi Final. Reads the game exceptionally well. Unused substitute at Wembley.

Sean McCormack – forward. Skilful forward signed from Walton and Hershham in 21/22 and previously with Maidenhead United and Bracknell Town. Was the players' and supporters' POY in his first campaign after dazzling on the right wing. Incredible workrate and vision and tracks back to cover the defence. Another FA Vase winner.



Harry Laffin – forward. Needs little introduction. 'Laffers' is a goal-machine who returned late in the 22/23 season to add more attacking options having scored 29 goals in 30 appearances for Ascot in 21/22. Has netted over 80 goals for the club heading into 23/24 in just over 150 games.

Brendan Matthew – forward. Exceptionally quick and a proven goalscorer. Signed for the 22/23 season from Egham Town and smashed Ascot' goalscoring record with 47 goals in his first season. Subsequently won just about every award at the end-of-season presentation evening. On his day he is simply irrepressible. Another FA Vase winner.



Dan Brown – forward. Experienced striker who joins for 23/24 from Ashford Town having also featured for Wingate & Finchley.

Usman Lalustani – forward. Rejoined The Yellamen in 22/23 after featuring in 18/19 and 19/20 when he netted 11 goals from 38 appearances. Maintains high fitness levels and on his day will cause problems for any defence. An ice-cool character, he scored the winning penalty in the FA Vase Quarter Final in but was suspended for the final.



MEET THE YELLAMEN

Jamie Tompkins – manager. Highly respected throughout the club who won the league cup in his first season (18/19) and almost won the league in 20/21 only for COVID to strike. However, overseeing a league and FA Vase double in 22/23 eclipsed all that went before and he now gets the chance to have a crack at Step 4 in 23/24. Jamie is also Senior Director of Football Development at Brentford FC.



Dean Greenwood – assistant manager. Joined the coaching team in November 2022 and also has first team management experience from his spells in charge at Ashford Town (Middx) and Camberley Town. Also helped mastermind the league and FA Vase double.

Steve Quelch – coach. Many years of experience in the local game with Chalvey Sports and is a UEFA B coach, joined the club ahead of the 2019/20 season. A big character, especially during our 22/23 double-winning campaign.



Stuart Britton – strength and conditioning coach. Joining in the summer of 2021, 'Stu' joined to focus on the fitness, recovery and injury prevention and rehabilitation of the squad which was invaluable during the gruelling 22/23 league and FA Vase campaign.

Nathan Riley – physio. Joined us in 22/23 and becomes the club's main physio for 23/24. Another important member of our double-winning team.



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CLUB HISTORY - ASCOT UNITED

Ascot United as we know it, was founded in 1965 by a men's team who played their games at Sunninghill with "after match meetings" in The Wells in Cheapside village (now Mikado's). Teams played as long ago as 1928 under the name "Ascot United" but nothing to link them directly to the current club. In 1965, the club had gained permission from the Ascot Racecourse Trustees to convert the land east of coach park 10 into a football pitch. A wooden clubhouse was built, and this team went on to win many prestigious trophies in the years that followed.

Various youth teams represented Ascot United over the years up to 1988, and in 1992 the East Berks 7-a-side Association was formed by our then Chairman Keith Wicks, introducing small-sided junior games and having disbanded in 1980 the men's team also reformed. The men's senior team enjoyed early success through the East Berks League gaining continued promotions to the Senior division and winning various Cups including the Fielden Charity Cup in 1996/7. In 2001, the First Team join the Reading Senior League, were awarded FA Charter Standard status in 2004, and won the Reading Evening Post Senior Cup at the Madejski Stadium in 2006. Promotion to the Hellenic League Division 1 soon followed in 2007, before promotion to the Premier Division in 2009.

"The Yellamen" made their debut in the FA Cup in 2011 with a home tie against Wembley FC. The game attracted 1,149 people to The Racecourse on a Friday evening where the famous trophy itself was on display, and the match was streamed live on Facebook. In 2012-13 and 2015-16 we reached the Quarter Final of the FA Vase twice, enjoyed two top-three finishes in the UHlsport Hellenic League Premier Division, and won both the Bluefin Sport Challenge Cup and Perpetua Press Floodlit Cup. In 2018-19, new manager Jamie Tompkins led his side to the top of the table for long spells, and although they couldn't hang on to their lead, they would taste league cup glory once again by defeating Windsor FC 3-1.

A lateral move to the Combined Counties Premier Division for the 2019-20 season, combined with the installation of a new 3G pitch provided a platform for further development both on and off the pitch. The Yellamen were clear at the top of the league before COVID curtailed their first crack at the title before the 2021-22 season saw them reach the Bucks Senior Cup Final after defeating three sides from higher divisions, including Wycombe Wanderers in the semi-final in front of a club-record crowd of 1,267.

However, it is the 2022-23 campaign that will surely remain the club's most successful for decades to come. Tompkins' side dominated the league, taking 102 points from 38 league matches to win the title with four matches to spare. And if that wasn't enough, they achieved an incredible double by lifting the Isuzu FA Vase at Wembley in front of over 4,400 travelling Ascot United supporters and the BT Sport cameras. Impressively, they entered in the very first qualifying round before winning ten matches in a mesmerizing run; Kai Walters heading home in the 79th minute to secure a 1-0 win over the then-holders Newport Pagnell Town.

The club has also enjoyed much success at all levels particularly in the Women's and Girls Section. Our Senior Women won promotion to the Premier Division of the Southern Region Women's Football League in 2017-18 and enjoyed their best season in 2022-23 when they were runners-up but ended on a high by winning the league cup. Our Women's Phoenix side achieved back-to-back promotions from the Thames Valley League to take their place just one level below the Senior side for 2023-24, and the newly-formed Junior Premier League (U18s) also won their league title at the first attempt in 2022-23.

Ascot United has grown to become one of the largest Community football clubs in the UK with over 1,000 registered players and over 90 teams playing every weekend embracing all ages and abilities from 5 year olds through to veterans. We are also extremely proud to have a mixed-ability team representing our club, the Ascot United Warriors, who are affiliated with Special Olympics GB. The future is bright.



CLUB HISTORY - HANWORTH VILLA

Hanworth Villa, 'The Villains,' was formed in 1976. In the early years, the team struggled in Division one of the Hounslow & District League, scoring a goal was usually celebrated with a public holiday. During a close season, following hard work by Jimmy Connors, the team was completely rebuilt and this led to them finishing as Division 1 Champions.

The following Season saw the club start an incredible run in the league, which finished 68 matches later, with the 'Villains' winning the Hounslow Premier League and the West Middlesex Divisions one and two championships. The success continued with Hanworth being elected to the newly formed Middlesex County Football League in 1984/1985.

From 1980 the club had a nomadic existence but in 1997 moved to their current headquarters at Rectory Meadow. This move led to the formation of Hanworth Villa Sunday and a new reserve team, being an amalgamation of teams from The Sawyers Arms, The Queen Dowager and Feltham Railway Club. A Chiswick League double in 1992/1993 and a 19-0 Cup Final victory in the National Railways Cup cemented the successful amalgamation.

Following hard work by Dave Brown the club was granted a lease at Rectory Meadow. At last the team had a permanent home and could set about converting an existing pavilion into a clubhouse, which has become known as the 'Ranch'. With a permanent base, Villa were also able to concentrate on improving the level of football, and in 2002/2003 a notable performance by the Saturday first team was to win 'the treble' of the Middlesex County Premier Cup, the Open Cup and the Middlesex County League. After another Premier League title in 2004/2005, with a record number of points, it was decided to move on and the club were elected to Division 1 of the Combined Counties League in 2005/2006.

It took a while to adapt to the new level of football, but in the second season they managed to win the Challenge Cup. The following season, 2007/2008, the team managed to successfully defend the Challenge Cup and also narrowly miss out on the league title, finishing a credible second. However the lack of facilities at the 'Ranch' prevented promotion to the Premier Division.

The club were determined to ensure that the situation should not arise again and with typical determination the committee managed to raise the funds to ensure that floodlights and a spectator stand were installed in time for the 2008/2009 campaign. The effort was not in vain as once again the team finished second and following a successful ground inspection Hanworth Villa were promoted to the Combined Counties Premier League for the 2009/2010 season

The debut season was as expected difficult with points being few and far between and it was not until the second half of the campaign that the team came to terms with the standard of football required. By the end of the season the team had collected enough points to finish 17th, three points clear of relegation.

The first season taught the club a lot and changes were put in place to allow for a more comfortable second season, in which not only did the team finish in 5th position in the league, but also reached the finals of the Middlesex Senior Charity Cup and the Southern Combination Cup. Unfortunately they were to lose in both.

The 2011/2012 season will live long in the memory of all concerned at the club as being their most successful in national competition. In the FA Cup the team, after victories over Shrivenham, Bedfont Sports, Wembley, Aveley and Slough, lined up against AFC Totten for a place in the 1st Round proper, a rare achievement for a team competing at national level 9. In a very close encounter AFC won 3-2.

CLUB HISTORY - HANWORTH VILLA

In the FA Vase the team reached the 3rd round losing to Herne Bay, one of the beaten semi-finalists that year.

In 2013/2014 the team were successful in achieving a double, in winning both the Middlesex Premier League Cup and the Southern Combination Cup.

At the end of the 2015/16 season the club appointed former Queens Park Rangers and Fulham defender Rufus Brevett as their new manager. Rufus had previously managed at Arlesey Town and had coached at Banbury United.

Under the Management of Rufus and his team, Bobby Watson, Carl Cleaver and Cliff Angol the team won the Middlesex Senior Charity Cup with a 3 – 2 win over Spelthorne Sports. It was the second occasion in three years that the team have won this trophy.

In December 2018, by mutual agreement, Rufus Brevett stepped down as first team Manager with Louis Carder-Walcott, previously Assistant Manager at Westfield FC, being appointed shortly after.

Following a poor run of form at the start of the 2019/20 and with no positive signs of recovery it was, mutual agreement, decided that Louis would step down as Manager of the club. In November 2019 the position was filled by Simon Haughney and his management team of Paul Thomas and Leon Solomon.

The players responded well to this new team and with the addition of several new signings performed well, despite the distractions of the Covid pandemic. Not only did they remain unbeaten in the ten matches played during the suspended 2020-21 season, they also set a new club record by progressing to the last 16 of the FA Vase, narrowly losing to Long Eaton United on penalties.

Last season proved to be the greatest in the history of Hanworth Villa FC and, in winning the inaugural Combined Counties North Premier Division and with it promotion to the Isthmian League, the club achieved their highest position in senior football since the formation in 1976. The most remarkable record of all is, however, that the team remained unbeaten throughout the league season.

Honours

2002/03 Middlesex County League Champions

Middlesex Federation League Cup Winners

Alec Smith Middlesex County Premier Division Cup Winners

2004/05 Middlesex County League Champions

2006/07 Combined Counties League Division One Cup Winners

2007/08 Combined Counties League Division One Cup Winners

2011/12 Southern Combination Cup Winners

2013/14 Combined Counties Premier Challenge Cup Winners

Southern Combination Cup Winners

2015/16 Middlesex Senior Charity Cup Winners

2017/18 Middlesex Senior Charity Cup Winners

2021/22 Combined Counties League Premier Division North Champions

