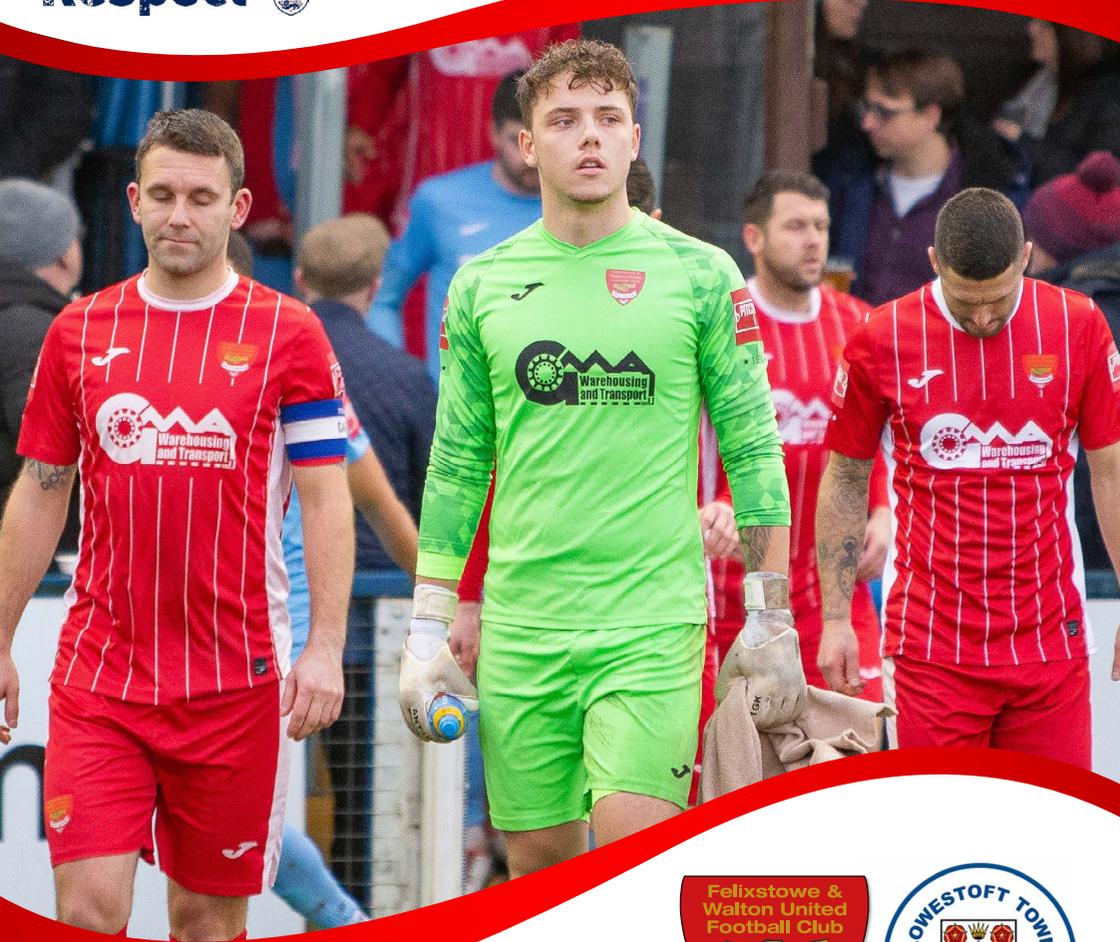


the Seaside

THE OFFICIAL 2023/2024 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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v Lowestoft Town



SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024, 3PM
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH

CHAIRMAN: **TONY BARNES**



**Good afternoon,
Belated Happy New Year to you
all and welcome to the AGL
arena for what promises to be
one of our toughest and one of
our most important games of
the season as we entertain
table toppers Lowestoft Town.**

A very warm welcome to the trawlermen, their staff and their supporters as well as today's match officials, I hope you enjoy the afternoon, and all have a safe journey home later.

It is fair to say that recent results and performances haven't quite been at the levels we would have hoped, a hard-fought narrow victory over struggling Stowmarket on New Year's Day followed by a very tough encounter last weekend at Brentwood when the lads really had to dig deep under constant second half pressure, defending a very boggy penalty area to come away with a very good point thanks to a 74th minute equalizer from Josh Mayhew that came against the run of play and seemed to take the wind out of

Brentwood's sails, enabling us to see the game out.

Last Saturday saw an impressive debut for new goalkeeper Josh Blunkell, welcome to the club Josh, and best wishes for a long and successful time with us. May I also say a huge thank you to Callum Robinson for all his time and service to the club, Callum leaves with our very best wishes and will always be welcome back to the AGL. Thanks also to Ipswich Town and to young Charlie Binns for helping us out in recent weeks - I am sure Charlie has a great future ahead of him and wish him well with his development as he sets out on his professional footballing career.



It has become very apparent of late that as our first team reach higher levels it becomes more difficult to attract young players of the required ability as they are few and far between. The majority are already attached to other senior clubs who are a step ahead of us due to an established pathway taking the elite players through EJA football and thus better prepared for under

18 and academy levels before hopefully progressing to senior football.

As a club we have to emulate this and ensure we are in a position in future to offer similar pathways for our youngsters and give Felixstowe lads in particular the opportunities at their local club that otherwise they could only find by moving to the likes of Needham, Sudbury, Leiston etc.

As I have said to the management, this club can never sustain a large transfer kitty for new summer signings, so we have to get things in place to help develop our own stars of the future and help them progress from junior, community football all the way through if their ability allows. That has to be this club's focus, and aspirations for an all-weather playing facility, improved clubhouse, additional teaching areas for academy etc. are all part

of what we are striving to achieve over the coming years.

Sponsors, volunteers, coaches, catering assistants are all vital to help us achieve our dreams – do you have a spare hour or two each week to give us? Would your boss or company like to help the club? We would love to hear from anyone that might be interested. Trust me, the satisfaction gained from seeing youngsters develop from our own juniors, through to semi-professional football and knowing “I helped it happen” is really rewarding.

Enjoy the game, get behind the super Seasiders – you can be the difference as we strive for promotion!

Best Wishes
Tony

PUBLICATION OF OWNERSHIP:

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FROM THE DUGOUT:
**STUART
BOARDLEY**



Good afternoon to you all and a warm welcome to the AGL Arena where we host the in form and current league leaders Lowestoft Town. Jamie's side have been magnificent all season and will prove no doubt to be a huge test for us. Each time they have lost a game and the rest of us in the league have hoped for a blip in form they have responded and fully deserve to be top of the pile at the halfway stage of the season.

Whilst we approach the game as "the underdogs", which of course isn't too often nowadays, especially at home, we are off the back of a very resolute and dogged point at an impressive and ambitious Brentwood Town. The nucleus of that squad is derived from the Aveley team that won our league a few seasons ago with many of the group plying their trade at higher levels until recently. Although we didn't play our best football (the pitch did not lend itself to free flowing football from either side), it was as good as we have been for a long while "out of possession" so that was really pleasing and to go there and come away with a point was something we would have taken before the game - a feat I don't think too many teams will achieve.

This week my time has been filled with meetings and discussions about next season and beyond. Planning is already in place for the playing squad and decisions surrounding new contracts and targets for next year are ongoing, which is really positive news. Another positive is that it looks likely that EJA football will be returning to Felixstowe next season. This will increase our junior provision and undoubtedly provide the next generation with more opportunities to develop and progress their footballing journeys into adult football. The progression at senior level over the last ten years has seen us knocking on the door of Step 3 of the football pyramid but it's so important that the foundations are in place to ensure that those steps are sustainable and that we can provide a tangible pathway to our young players through our youth age groups, our academy, U18's and hopefully one day into our first team. I am passionate about being able to give local young players opportunities here and this latest step will only help with that pathway and development.

Back to today.... It will without doubt be our sternest examination of the season but one we know, if we prepare correctly and we are at our best, its one we know we are capable of passing.

Enjoy the game and back the lads!
Boards

SEASIDERS CAPTURE KEEPER!

Felixstowe & Walton United have secured the signature of goalkeeper Josh Blunkell.

The former AFC Sudbury shot stopper signed a professional contract with Wycombe Wanderers FC after impressing in Sudbury's televised FA Cup exploits in 2021. This season Josh has been dual registered with Braintree Town and Kettering Town FC.

Welcome to the seaside Josh!





TODAY'S MASCOTS

We welcome Felixstowe and Walton's Under 7's as mascots for today's game against league leaders Lowestoft Town. We hope you enjoy the experience boys!

Thanks to sponsors, Inkspirations Tattoo Studio, R Bugg Trading and Emirates Logistics Services.





SEASIDER PHIL GRIFFITHS



Not many people know this...

If you have a quiet ten minutes, go to google, and look up Lowestoft – fishing – industry, then be prepared for an hour's fascinating read. It's an industry that is pretty much gone now, but it was once a thriving way of life that provided the bulk of our visitors' supporters down the years. The club history as provided by Lowestoft can be found elsewhere in this programme and this is not an alternative view, just some thoughts about one of the clubs who I believe are the very epitome of non-league football.

They pull in 700+ for the bigger games and average just over 400 for normal games and other than Bury Town, they have the rest of the North Division looking at their attendance figures with envy – I include ourselves amongst those envious ones but take some satisfaction

from the fact we are getting there! We are up to the mid 350 average for home games and it's not so long ago we thought treble figures was a real good crowd and over 200 – well, that was brilliant!

It's been and continues to be hard work for Chris Daynes and his small band of volunteers, but the sight of former players and spectators coming back to watch what is now a decent team, playing decent football at a good level must bring a great swell of satisfaction to that group who work so hard behind the scenes.

A good indication of how far we have come is that the TV cameras will be here tomorrow to record the Ipswich Town Ladies fixture, as the AGL arena is considered good enough to be considered their home ground. Yes, we are definitely getting there!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

"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."



NEXT UP AT THE AGL ARENA...

Saturday 27th January
3pm Kick Off

Felixstowe & Walton United
v's **Basildon United**

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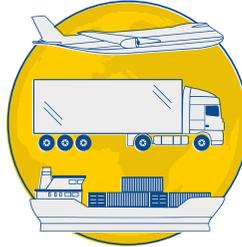
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ISTHMIAN NORTH DIVISION TABLE 2023/24

POS		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Lowestoft Town	18	14	1	3	55	21	+34	43
2	Felixstowe & Walton United	20	11	5	4	49	28	+21	38
3	Bowers & Pitsea	19	12	1	6	36	26	+10	37
4	Heybridge Swifts	18	10	4	4	30	20	+10	34
5	Maldon & Tiptree	19	10	3	6	39	29	+10	33
6	Basildon United	18	10	3	5	37	29	+8	33
7	Brentwood Town	18	9	5	4	32	17	+15	32
8	Bury Town	18	9	4	5	43	29	+14	31
9	Brightlingsea Regent	19	10	1	8	37	30	+7	31
10	Walthamstow	16	7	4	5	24	25	-1	25
11	Witham Town	19	5	6	8	26	33	-7	21
12	Gorleston	17	5	5	7	22	24	-2	20
13	New Salamis	18	4	6	8	26	41	-15	18
14	Wroxham	16	4	5	7	25	25	0	17
15	Redbridge	13	4	4	5	24	28	-4	16
16	Enfield	17	4	2	11	21	45	-24	14
17	Ipswich Wanderers	18	4	1	13	16	35	-19	13
18	Grays Athletic	17	2	5	10	19	33	-14	11
19	Stowmarket Town	18	0	3	15	14	57	-43	3

LAST UPDATED: SUNDAY 7TH JANUARY 2024 AT 17:00:18



ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH FIXTURES

SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY

Basildon United	v	Ipswich Wanderers
Brightlingsea Regent	v	Walthamstow
Bury Town	v	Bowers & Pitsea
Felixstowe & Walton Utd	v	Lowestoft Town
Grays Athletic	v	Heybridge Swifts
Maldon & Tiptree	v	Brentwood Town
Stowmarket Town	v	New Salamis
Wroxham	v	Redbridge



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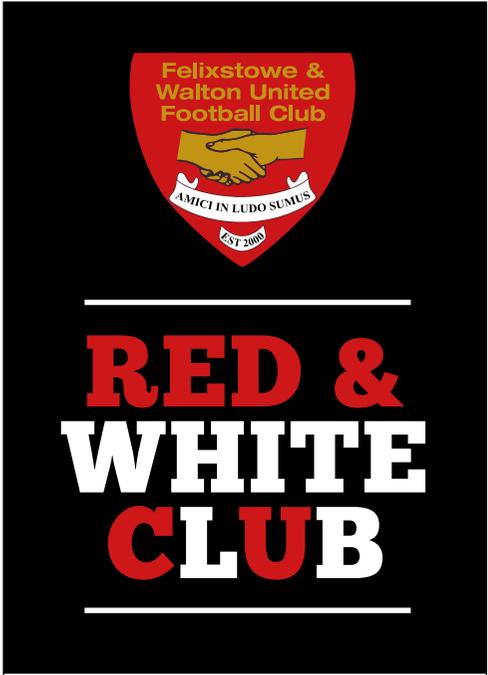


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MATCH PHOTOS

MONDAY 1ST JANUARY ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH Felixstowe & Walton Utd 2 Stowmarket Town 1

PHOTOS
BY THOMAS
BRADFORD



Felixstowe & Walton United remain in second place after a keenly fought local derby against a Stowmarket side whose performance belied their position in the table. **Billy Holland** opened the scoring for the Seasiders with a cool finish on 15 minutes and Josh Mayhew could have doubled the advantage but his vicious strike struck the underneath of the crossbar and down onto the goal line. Charlie Binns in the Felixstowe goal pulled off two spectacular saves to deny the visitors a way back into the game before the break. Felixstowe were struggling to put an end product to their build up play and the speed and enthusiasm of the lowly visitors was causing constant problems in the home final third. Elliott Ballard took advantage of those jitters on 60 minutes, finishing well when left in acres of space. **Joe Whight** was the match winner on 75 minutes, taking the ball down 30 yards from goal and unleashing a curling effort that flew over the keeper and into the net. There were still some nervy moments for the home supporters in the 561 crowd but they held firm and delivered three points despite being far from their fluent best on the day.

HOW WE LINED UP

1. Charlie Binns
2. Callum Bennett
3. Stuart Ainsley
4. Billy Holland
5. Joe Whight
6. Tom Bullard
7. Zak Brown
8. Jack Ainsley
9. Josh Mayhew
10. Sam Ford
11. Henry Barley

SUBS

12. Charlie Warren
14. Leon Ottley-Gooch
15. Callum Harrison
16. Lamell Howell
17. Josh Hitter











OUR SQUAD

Introducing the Felixstowe & Walton United playing squad and management team of 2023/2024.



STUART BOARDLEY MANAGER

Stuart started his footballing career at Ipswich Town leaving in 2004 after 10 years. He went on to play for Torquay United, Sudbury, Leiston and Felixstowe. In 2018 he was appointed as Manager of Leiston but left in 2019 to become Manager of Felixstowe & Walton United.



ANDY CRUMP ASSISTANT MANAGER

Andy returned to Felixstowe & Walton United as Assistant Manager following the appointment of Stuart Boardley in 2019. Having enjoyed success in previous spells at the club as both player and First Team Coach.



DANNY POTTER GOALKEEPER COACH

A former pro footballer/TV star, Danny was cast into the Sky TV programme 'Dream Team' where he played for the fictional team Harchester United. Danny boasts clubs such as Torquay, Colchester and Cambridge as former employers. Recently appointed as Goalkeeper Coach, Danny brings a wealth of experience, knowledge and professionalism to Stuart's management team.



STUART STEVENSON COACH

After hanging up his boots Stuart joined Felixstowe Utd as a fitness coach/physio, then on to Trimley to help coach his son's team from the U8s-U16s. Stuart rejoined the Seaside's to coach the U18s which lead him on to being part of the first team staff. Stuart is an FA level 2 coach and an FA level 1 mentor.



CHARLOTTE LONG SPORTS THERAPIST

Charlotte graduated from the University of Worcester in 2014 with a BSc (Hons) in Sports Therapy. She had previously worked with Leiston FC before joining the Seaside's in 2019. Her main focus is overseeing the recovery programmes of injured players through her private practice.



DOUG FRENCH **KIT MAN**

Doug started his career in 1986 and played for East Anglian Customs, Walton United, Felixstowe United and Tattingsstone, breaking his leg four times in the process. Whilst playing for Ipswich Wanderers vets, Doug finally hung up his boots. Having found his vocation in washing players dirty pants, Doug is excited for a new challenge with the Seaside.



JOSHUA BLUNKELL **GOALKEEPER**

Josh joined the club in January 2024. The former AFC Sudbury keeper signed a professional contract with Wycombe Wanderers after impressing in Sudbury's televised FA Cup in 2021. Previous clubs also include AFC Sudbury, Bowers & Pitsea, Braintree Town and Kettering Town.



STUART AINSLEY **LEFT BACK**

Stuart joined the club for his second spell in 2014 from Lowestoft Town. Previous clubs include Chelmsford City and AFC Sudbury. Stuart spent 10 years at Ipswich Town, winning the FA Youth Cup in 2005. Stuart has a sweet left foot and a great work ethic.



JOE WHIGHT **DEFENDER**

Joe came through the ITFC Youth system before playing for the likes of Needham, Bury and most recently AFC Sudbury where he captained their side. A left sided defender, Joe offers composure, a wonderful left foot and a toughness and desire to defend to the back line.



CALLUM BENNETT **RIGHT BACK**

Callum is in his second spell at the club having re-joined in late 2018. An attacking full back with one of the best ball deliveries in non-league football. Callum has plenty of experience from his time at Ipswich U18s, Stoke City U21s and Notts County.



JACK AINSLEY **DEFENDER**

Rejoins from Stowmarket. Jack played professionally for ITFC after coming through their academy and went on to make 4 appearances playing under Roy Keane. Jack went on to have spells at Step 3 Lowestoft and Leiston but finds himself back at the Seaside where many describe him as a "Rolls Royce" type of player who can play in any position for the team.



TOM BULLARD **DEFENDER**

Another who joins us from Stowmarket. 'Bully' has experience across Step 3 and 4 with long and successful spells as captain at both Leiston and Bury Town. Tom is a serial winner who's experience, defensive qualities and leadership skills will add to an already impressive back line.



HARRY BLACKBURN **RIGHT BACK/MIDFIELDER**

Like Charlie Warren, Harry graduated through the Needham Market academy and joins the Seaside as predominantly as an attacking fullback. Harry plays with confidence in possession and supporters will enjoy seeing him create chances for our forward players.



BILLY HOLLAND **MIDFIELDER**

Billy started life at Ipswich Wanderers and has had spells at Needham, Leiston and AFC Sudbury. He's established himself as a mainstay in the centre of midfield. Players player and Supporters player of the year last season has led to him being appointed captain for the forthcoming year.



NOEL AITKENS **MIDFIELDER**

Noel's signing for the club in 2020 caused a stir amongst the non-league world, joining from step 3 Leiston and being described by manager Boardley as "the best midfield player in this area". Noel is quick, strong, can tackle, is athletic and can really play football!



LEON OTTLEY-GOOCH **MIDFIELDER**

Leon signed for the club in 2020 and is another vastly experienced player at step 3 and 4 level. Previous clubs include Leiston, Bury Town, Hadleigh Utd and Stowmarket Town. Leon is very versatile but is predominantly a dynamic midfield player.



JOSH HITTER **MIDFIELDER**

Josh signed for us in 2021 having played his football at Step 3 side Leiston for the previous three seasons and gained a vast amount of experience at that level. Josh is a dynamic attack minded player who likes to arrive in the box late and score goals.



CALLUM HARRISON **MIDFIELDER**

Former Colchester United, Needham, Sudbury and more recently Chelmsford midfielder joined the Seasiders for the 22/23 campaign. A highly sought after creative and technically gifted midfielder player that loves to get forward and provide the team with both goals and assists.



IVAN COSTA **MIDFIELDER**

Promoted into the first team squad from our Academy after a strong pre-season. Ivan is an industrious central midfielder player whose work ethic and attitude is second to none.



KUBI KUSSAN **MIDFIELDER**

Another young player promoted to the first team squad from our Academy. Kubi is a technically gifted midfielder player who enjoys moving with the ball. He has an edge to his game that has impressed the management throughout pre-season.



HENRY BARLEY **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Henry signed for the club in 2019 following his contract expiring at Ipswich Town. Another popular young player who had also been on loan from the then EFL Championship club the previous season.



LAMELL HOWELL **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Lamell signed from Brightlingsea Regent in 2020. He can play on both wings or in the number 10 position and brings pace and trickery to the side. He has previously played for Stowmarket Town, Debenham FC and Brantham Athletic.



CHARLIE WARREN **MIDFIELDER/FORWARD**

Having initially joined on loan from Needham Market, Charlie made an instant impact on his debut in the FA Trophy win at Hastings. Following a number of impressive performances, manager Boardley moved quickly to secure the permanent services of one of Suffolk's brightest young players.



ZAK BROWN FORWARD

A sought after and highly rated young striker with blistering pace and a great goal scoring record. At just 17, Zak penned a two year pro contract with ITFC where he was a regular marksman in the U23's. Zak started life in the Seaside's Youth sections and has returned to lead the forward line as the club's No. 9.



SAM FORD FORWARD

Having spent a successful period with Arbroath last season that saw them just miss out on promotion to the Scottish Premiership, Sam spent the Summer with Hume City FC in Australia before returning to Felixstowe. Coming through ITFC and later West Ham's academy, Sam is a local talent who will provide real firepower in front of goal.



JOSH MAYHEW FORWARD

Josh joins us from promotion winners AFC Sudbury. An experienced front man who has been prolific at Step 4 and 5 with an impressive spell at Stowmarket yielding 136 goals in 173 games. Josh's physical presence will bring a focal point to our attack as well as a being natural finisher who is a proven goalscorer at this level.

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MATCH PHOTOS

PHOTOS
BY STEFAN
PECK

SATURDAY 6TH JANUARY ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH **Brentwood Town 2 Felixstowe & Walton Utd 2**

Felixstowe and Walton travelled to in-form play off rivals Brentwood Town, the away supporters looking forward to the first appearance of new goalkeeper Josh Blunkell.

The match started with Felixstowe in the ascendancy and they earned a free kick just outside the penalty area in the second minute and two corners in the first 12 minutes. From the second corner on the left, Josh Mayhew headed the ball on from the near post and **Noel Aitkens** fired high into the net at the far post. Despite Brentwood being a very tall team, corners and long throws from Josh Hitter were causing panic in the Brentwood defence every time.

1-0 at half time with Felixstowe having looked to be the more accomplished side on a very heavy pitch. Brentwood looked like a different side after the break and were putting the Felixstowe



HOW WE LINED UP

1. Joshua Blunkell
2. Lamell Howell
3. Stuart Ainsley
4. Jack Ainsley
5. Tom Bullard
6. Leon Ottley-Gooch
7. Henry Barley
8. Noel Aitkens
9. Josh Mayhew
10. Josh Hitter
11. Charlie Warren

SUBS

12. Callum Bennett
14. Sam Ford
15. Callum Harrison
16. Zak Brown
17. Harry Blackburn





defence under a lot of pressure with Felixstowe struggling to play any football on the pitch that was now cutting up badly. Brentwood pressure paid off when they equalised in the 63rd minute, Reid heading home. Just 7 minutes later they went ahead 2 - 1 through McKenzie after a melee in the six yard box following a corner, in which Leon Ottley-Gooch sustained what looked like serious injury and had to leave the field. Felixstowe had to dig deep and to their credit started to look a little more dangerous. In the 74th minute **Josh Mayhew** latched onto a through ball, rounded the keeper and scored from a tight angle to equalise. The game became very open and both sides had further chances. The closest either side came was a drive from Sam Ford that was pushed out by the keeper and a defender just got to the ball before Mayhew to put it out for a corner. The match finished 2 - 2 and at the end of the day Felixstowe were happy to come away with a point which their second half defensive display deserved.









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PARTNERS WITH ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

THE OTHER SIDE LOWESTOFT TOWN FC

Lowestoft Town have a fine history stretching back well over 100 years. The club is first recorded as East Suffolk F C with games, all friendlies in those days, recorded back in 1884. On merging with the original Kirkley club the title of Lowestoft was adopted in 1887 with 'Town' added in 1890.

When the Norfolk & Suffolk League was formed in 1897, providing the first inter-county competitive matches, Lowestoft dominated, winning the title 6 times in the first 7 years. The 'odd' season out 1899-1900 saw Lowestoft's attentions turn to the F Amateur Cup with victories over such famous names as Leytonstone (9-0), and Gt Marlow (1-0) on the way to the final which brought a 1-5 defeat by Bishop Auckland at Leicester.

In 1904 Lowestoft had to appear before a FA Commission to answer charges of professionalism after a testimonial had raised just under £5 for player Fred Timoney who was about to emigrate. Norwich City who had 'poached' 4 of Lowestoft's successful side amongst others were also called before the commission. Whilst City accepted the ruling and formally adopted professionalism to start on the road that has seen them up amongst the top clubs in the country, Lowestoft paid a restitution of 2 guineas to regain amateur status. In 1925 came the decision to adopt the blue and white colours that have served them so well since.

Lowestoft became founder members of the Eastern Counties League in 1935 but before starting out on this new challenge once again merged with local rivals Kirkley. The move proved a wise one with the first season seeing them sharing the title with Harwich & Parkston and then winning it outright 2 years later.

Lowestoft took the bold step of becoming semi-professional in 1962. & 7 ECL titles and twice runners up in the following 9 seasons is clear testimony to the manner in which

they dominated in those years.

The ECL title was again won in 1977/8. The 1980s saw a decline in the club's fortunes as crowds and income dropped. The unique club pavilion, originally the Yacht Club before being taken down and moved from the harbour to the Crown Meadow in 1902, was gradually falling into disrepair and the floodlighting system installed in 1964 was coming to the end of its lifespan. The floodlights were updated in 1986 and the new dressing room complex occupied in 1989 and at last attention could be paid to playing matters.

As playing fortunes declined a 19 year old local lad signed for the club in 1980 who was to figure prominently in the affairs of the club for the next 30 plus years. Micky Chapman soon became a favourite with his all action style, eye for the goal, long flowing hair and a genuine desire to bring success back to the club. 5 'Player of the Year' trophies adorn his display cabinet as testimony to the respect he has earned from supporters and players alike. The 1990s saw Micky progress from captain to assistant manager and finally manager in 1994.

A persistent back injury forced Mick to hang up his boots in 1997 allowing him to concentrate fully on the managerial side. With the unwavering support of successive chairmen Mick had been able to improve the side year by year. In February 2012 he took charge of his 1000th game as Lowestoft manager.

After several years in the doldrums the 21st century has seen Micky team up with Ady Gallagher to bring a return to trophy winning days with the Ridgeons League title won twice, the League Cup collected twice and the Suffolk Premier Cup brought back to the Meadow five times. The culmination of all that recent success came in May 2008 when joint managers Micky Chapman and Ady Gallagher proudly led their squad out onto the hallowed Wembley pitch in the FA Carlsberg

Vase final. On a blazing hot Sunday afternoon in front of over 14,000 Lowestoft supporters, the Blues were in the lead for three quarters of the game before conceding a last minute goal to lose out to Kirkham & Wesham by the odd goal of three.

Season 2008–2009 saw the first team win a League and County Cup double, as well as reach the semi final of the F A Carlsberg Vase and the season ended with promotion to the Ryman League Division One North. Success continued unabated in 2009/10 with back to back promotions seeing the Blues soar to the Ryman Premier Division at the first attempt achieving a century of points and goals for the second consecutive season. An excellent FA Cup run saw the first round proper reached with the run ended at Wrexham by a cruel deflected goal in the final minutes.

The first season in the Ryman Premier Division saw the Trawlerboys involved in the promotion race right to the end. There was just 9 minutes of the season left when Tonbridge Angels scored the goal that gave them a 3-4 victory and ended Lowestoft's hopes of a third successive promotion. It was a similar story in the following 2 seasons with late goals in the Play Off final denying them promotion before the dream of Step 2 football was realised in 2014 with a play off victory over AFC Hornchurch and a 3rd promotion in 6 seasons.

Season 2014–2015 was one of consolidation in the highest sphere the club has ever reached and despite several early morning departures and a mere 8500 plus miles of travelling a satisfactory season ended with them holding a 16th place finish suffering just a single defeat in their final 13 fixtures. On top of this the Blues closed their season out by winning the Suffolk Premier Cup for the twelfth time; beating Whitton United 2-1 after extra time. It was also a season that marked the farewell of a true Lowestoft Town legend with Micky Chapman retiring after the last league game of the season at home to Barrow, who sealed the league title that day with a 3-2 victory over the Blues. After 32 years, 480 first

team appearances, 193 goals, 1640 games and 147,600 plus minutes as a player, player/manager and then manager during that time, it was the end of an era for a figure who will forever be etched in the history of Lowestoft Town FC.

Season 2015–2016 saw Ady Gallagher in sole charge for the first time but a season plagued with injuries saw the Trawlerboys relegated on the last day of the season on goal difference bringing a return to the Ryman League Premier Division. Season 2016–2017 was to prove one of consolidation as they adjusted to life at step 3 in a season once again plagued with injuries.

Season 2017–2018 proved to be one of turmoil as firstly Ady Gallagher stepped down to be replaced by his assistant Dale Brooks. The club was then hit by financial problems which saw the departure of several leading players but Brooks achieved a minor miracle by avoiding relegation with the remnants of his squad aided by a bevy of youth loan signings and the clubs scholar's.

Brooks stepped down during the summer of 2018 to be replaced by two former players Jamie Godbold and Andy Reynolds who between themselves boast over 900 appearances for the Trawlerboys. Having to build a completely new side Godbold has had to cope with three season bedevilled with injuries and covid resulting in relegation back to Step 4 and a move back across to the Isthmian League.

So a dozen years of non stop incident that has seen three promotions, three losing play off finals, 2 relegations and a 1st round proper venture and saw us travel as far north as Barrow, south as far as Bristol, west as far as Wrexham and Colwyn Bay sees as back to where this modern day adventure all started in the Isthmian League Division One North.

Season 22/23 saw Lowestoft restart their quest to return to Step 3 but in a season when they were rarely out of the top 5 saw their efforts just fail as they lost out in the play off semi-finals to Heybridge Swifts after finishing in 3rd place.

PLAYER PROFILES

LOWESTOFT TOWN FC



SAM ALDOUS (dob 17 May 2007) Product of the Lowestoft Centre of excellence and impressed sufficiently to be included in the 1st team squad. Made scoring debut against Walsham Le Willows in the Suffolk Premier Cup 26th September 2023. 8 apps 1 goals

BEN ATKINSON (dob 21 Nov 2006) Product of the Lowestoft Centre of Excellence with an eye for a goal. Made his debut as substitute against New Salamis in the F A Trophy 9th September 2023. 2 apps 0 goals

WARREN BURWOOD. Local boy who was released by Cardiff City in the summer of 2020 and joined Lowestoft Town at the start of this season once international clearance had been obtained. Made his debut in Suffolk Premier Cup final against Needham Market on 20th October 2020. 46 apps 0 goals

TRAVIS COLE (dob 19 Nov 1997) Local boy who signed a permanent deal with Lowestoft having been released by Ipswich in November 2016. Originally joined Lowestoft on work experience before signing permanently when his contract was ended. Debut away to Billericay Town on 23rd August 2016. 241 apps 27 goals

ROBERT EAGLE (dob 23 Feb 1987) Re-signed for Lowestoft in the close season 2022 for his 4th spell with the Trawlerboys. Originally with Norwich City he first signed for Lowestoft from Grimsby in January 2012. Further short spells with Lowestoft came in 2017 and 2018. He made a scoring debut for Lowestoft in a Suffolk Premier Cup Quarter Final victory over Kirkley & Pakefield on 10th January 2012. 228 apps, 28 goals.

TOM FITZGERALD (dob 15 Feb 2002) Promising young midfielder who came through the excellent Needham Market Academy making many appearances over 60 appearances for the Marketmen in the Southern League. Signed for Lowestoft in July 2023. Debut as substitute against Basildon United 12 August 2023. 19 apps, 1 goals

KYLE HAYLOCK (dob 21 Jan 2000). Attacking midfielder with an eye for goal. Developed through the youth system at Kirkley & Pakefield. After an excellent 2021-22 season he decided to take the step up and join the Trawlerboys in the summer of 2022. Debut as substitute against Stowmarket Town 16th August 2022. 65 apps, 19 goals.

JOSH HAZELL (dob 3 Feb 1999) Centre back or midfielder signed from Wroxham in November 2023. Made a goal scoring debut on 2nd December 2023 v New Salamis. 6 apps 1 goal

DAVID HINTON (dob 21 Jan 1990) Experienced central midfielder signed from Dereham Town in the summer of 2022. Formerly skipper of the Magpies he is a born leader on and off the pitch. Debut away to Gt Wakering Rovers 13 August 2022. 60 apps 3 goals.

GRAHAM HINTON (dob 23 Jan 1997) Younger brother of David. Joined Lowestoft from Sheringham on 10th November 2023 and made his debut the following day away to Wroxham. Centre back or midfielder. 5 apps 0 goals

ADAM HIPPERSON (dob 30 Dec 1992) Another player signed from Dereham Town in July 2022. Attacking midfield player with an excellent dead ball delivery and eye for goal. Formerly a youngster with Norwich City has also played for Norwich United. Debut as substitute away to Gt Wakering Rovers on 13 August 2022. 66 apps 37 goals.

LUKE HOLT (dob 21 Aug 1997) Goalkeeper signed from Falkirk in August 2022. Son of former Trawlerboy and Norwich City favourite Gary. Debut v Haverhill Rovers in F A Cup 30 August 2022. 49 apps 0 goals

SAM HOWELL (dob 27 Nov 2006) Another product of the Lowestoft Centre of Excellence promoted to the 1st team squad after impressing in pre-season. Made his debut as substitute against New Salamis in the F A Trophy on 9 September 2023. 2 apps 0 goals

SAM JOHNSON (dob 30 Sept 2002). Spent 8 years at Norwich City FC before being signed from Oxford United in the summer of 2021 at the end of his scholarship. Debut came on 14th August 2021 v Barwell. Signed as a left back but finished last season as an attacking midfielder. 78 apps, 15 goals.

LOUIS McINTOSH (dob 3 Nov 1998) Norwich lad who progressed through the Canaries youth system into their Under 23 squad. Released in June 2019 he signed for the Trawlerboys in August 2019. 145 apps 14 goals.



TRAVIS COLE



JOSH HAZELL



ADAM HIPPERSON

OWEN MURPHY (dob 8 Feb 2001) Promising teenage defender who joined Lowestoft from Dereham Town in September 2020. Debut v Bury Town in Suffolk Premier Cup semi final on 15 September 2020. 82 apps 2 goals

CHARLIE NORMAN (dob 23 Nov 1998). Attacking full back recently turned to this country after a number of years playing for Columbia College. Signed from Sheringham in July 2022. Came through the Norwich City youth programme prior to going to the States. Debut away to Gt Wakering Rovers on 13 August 2022. 65 apps 1 goal

JAKE REED (dob 13 May 1991) Despite being a local lad his early career was with Gt Yarmouth Town before joining Dagenham & Redbridge where he made 38 appearances scoring 1 goal. Joined Lowestoft in October 2013 becoming an instant fans favourite by hitting 4 goals in his home debut against Carshalton Athletic. Now in his 3rd spell with Lowestoft after 2 short spells at AFC Sudbury and Leiston. 339 apps 185 goals

DYLAN RUFFLES (dob 21 Oct 2001) Had a spell with Lowestoft on work experience from Ipswich Town in 2019/20 and after a short spell in Sweden signed for the Trawlerboys at the start of this season. 104 apps 1 goal.

HARVEY AYER (dob 6 Jan 2003) Signed for Lowestoft in August 2023 after being released by Colchester Unted. Fast and tricky equally at

home on the wing or at full back. Has also had experience at Billericay Town, Needham Market, Maldon and Stowmarket. Debut as substitute away to Basildon on 12th August 2023. 25 apps 21 goals

DAN WHITE (dob 2 Mar 2005). Signed from Dereham Town in July 2023 after impressing in trials. Still a teenager but displays a maturity far beyond his years. Versatile defender equally at home at full back or in the centre of defence and an excellent addition to the squad. Debut as substitute against Maldon & Tiptree on 26th August 2023. 14 apps 1 goal

JAMIE GODBOLD. (Manager) Former Lowestoft favourite who made exactly 500 appearances for the club as a player. He then started his managerial career which saw him learn the management ropes with Kirkley & Pakefield, AFC Sudbury and Wroxham before returning to his home town in the summer of 2018.

ADAM GUSTERSON. Joined Lowestoft as assistant manager to Jamie Godbold in the summer of 2022. After being with Norwich City as a youngster he was not offered a professional contract by the Canaries and gained most of his playing experience with Kings Lynn and Dereham Town. He then gained managerial experience with Harleston and Derham Town before moving over to the Trawlerboys.

(appearances up to and including 6th January 2024)



OWEN MURPHY



CHARLIE NORMAN



DAN WHITE



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FIXTURES 2023/24

AUGUST

SAT 12	MALDON & TIPTREE <i>Holland, Hitter</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 211
SAT 19	WELLINGBOROUGH <i>Ford, Harrison, Holland, Warren</i>	A	3PM	EMIRATES FA CUP	W 4-1	ATT 135
SAT 26	BURY TOWN <i>Ford, Harrison, Hitter</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 401
MON 28	STOWMARKET TOWN <i>OG, Ford</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 433

SEPTEMBER

SAT 2	WOODFORD TOWN <i>Holland, Brown, Hitter, Aitkens</i>	A	3PM	FA CUP FIRST QR	W 4-1	ATT 225
SAT 9	BRENTWOOD TOWN <i>Whight (P), Aitkens</i>	H	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	W 2-0	ATT 371
SAT 16	ENFIELD TOWN	A	3PM	FA CUP SECOND QR	L 3-0	
TUE 19	BOWERS & PITSEA <i>Warren, Harrison, Ford</i>	H	7.45PM	ISTHMIAN LEAGUE	W 3-2	ATT 263
SAT 23	HERTFORD TOWN <i>Harrison (2), Holland, J Ainsley, Barley, Mayhew</i>	H	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	W 6-3	ATT 225
WED 27	LAKENHEATH <i>Mayhew, Warren (2), Barley</i>	A	7.45PM	SUFFOLK PREM CUP	W 4-1	
SAT 30	BASILDON UNITED <i>Whight, Bullard, Warren, Brown</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 4-2	ATT 112

OCTOBER

SAT 7	BILLERICAY <i>Mayhew (2), Ford</i>	A	3PM	ISUZU FA TROPHY	L 4-3	ATT 527
TUE 10	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT <i>Mayhew (3), Otley-Gooch, Ford</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 5-3	ATT 402
SAT 14	WALTHAMSTOW <i>Mayhew</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 1-1	ATT 434
TUE 24	REDBRIDGE <i>Warren (2), Ford, Harrison</i>	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	W 4-0	ATT 313
SAT 28	GRAYS ATHLETIC <i>Aitkens, Brown, Hitter</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-0	ATT 226

NOVEMBER

SAT 4	ENFIELD <i>Harrison (3), Warren, Ford</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 5-1	ATT 360
WED 8	HADLEIGH UNITED <i>Hitter, Warren</i>	H	7.45PM	SP CUP QF	W2-1	ATT 208
SAT 11	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS <i>Warren, Harrison (2)</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 3-2	ATT 310

TUE 14	WROXHAM	H	7.45PM	LEAGUE	L 2-0	ATT 467
SAT 25	WITHAM TOWN <i>Harrison (2)</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	L 3-2	ATT 168

DECEMBER

SAT 2	GORLESTON <i>Ford, Hitter, Warren, Harrison</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 4-0	ATT 223
SAT 9	NEW SALAMIS <i>Harrison</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 1-1	ATT 78
SAT 16	MALDON & TIPTREE	H	3PM	LEAGUE	L 1-0	ATT 341
SAT 23	IPSWICH WANDERERS <i>Ford, Barley</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-1	ATT 232
SAT 30	BOWERS & PITSEA <i>Holland</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	L 2-1	ATT 302

JANUARY

MON 1	STOWMARKET TOWN <i>Holland, Whight</i>	H	3PM	LEAGUE	W 2-1	ATT 561
SAT 6	BRENTWOOD TOWN <i>Aitkens, Mayhew</i>	A	3PM	LEAGUE	D 2-2	ATT 246
SAT 13	LOWESTOFT TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 20	BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 27	BASILDON UNITED	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

FEBRUARY

SAT 3	REDBRIDGE	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 10	WALTHAMSTOW	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 17	WROXHAM	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 24	GRAYS ATHLETIC	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

MARCH

SAT 2	ENFIELD	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 9	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 16	BRENTWOOD TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 23	LOWESTOFT TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 30	BURY TOWN	A	3PM	LEAGUE		

APRIL

MON 1	IPSWICH WANDERERS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 13	WITHAM TOWN	H	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 20	GORLESTON	A	3PM	LEAGUE		
SAT 27	NEW SALAMIS	H	3PM	LEAGUE		

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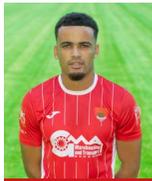
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PITCHING IN ISTHMIAN LEAGUE NORTH ROUND UP

BY IAN TOWNSEND, TAKEN FROM WWW.ISTHMIAN.CO.UK

It was a day of draws, but Lowestoft Town won't mind, as victory took them five clear. Bowers and Maldon kept up their fine runs, whilst Felixstowe drew at Brentwood

Lowestoft Town had seen their lead at the top cut to three points after losing two of their previous three - but the Trawler Boys have games in hand over the chasing pack, and hoped to get back to winning ways as **Brightlingsea Regent** came to call. With Jake Reed in your side you're always guaranteed goals, and the Town number nine scored for the sixth consecutive match - twenty fourth time this season - to give the hosts the lead after thirteen minutes. There were only fifteen minutes remaining when the hosts seemingly made the points secure, Adam Hipperson making it two, and that security was helped when Regent saw Kojo Apenteng sent off - but the ten men hit back with two minutes left, Bradley Russell getting a goal back. It wasn't enough- and the hosts lead at the top was five points.

Third place **Bowers and Pitsea** welcomed **Witham Town**. Bowers were on the march, with six wins from seven, whilst Town had delivered some fine results of late, victory at Brightlingsea on Monday the latest of those,

so this one looked difficult to call. The hosts went ahead on twenty six minutes, Ben Williamson keeping his cool from the spot, and the same player guaranteed three points late on, scoring a second. Bowers remain third, six points off the top.

Heybridge Swifts started the day with a seven match unbeaten run behind them, and were hot favourites against an **Enfield** side who had taken only four points from twenty seven on the road - and lost eight of their last nine fixtures. The first half was goalless, but they hosts went ahead eight minutes after the restart - although they needed the visitors to score it for them. Enfield then scored at the correct end, Callum Taylor making it one-one, and had a man advantage when Lee Noble saw red for the hosts with four minutes left - but they couldn't take advantage, a draw the final outcome.

Maldon & Tiptree headed to **Ipswich Wanderers**, the Jammers only three points away from the top five, and with only two defeats from their previous ten matches. Wanderers, in contrast, have been having a torrid time of late, and had lost their last seven matches, so it was perhaps no surprise when the visitors went ahead on the half hour, Jayden Gipson scoring his first of the season. The Jammers were two up nine minutes into the second half, Shane Temple provoking worship from the travelling faithful, and although the

hosts scored a minute from time, Zach Pedro with the consolation, a consolation was all it was. The Jammers go fifth.

Bury Town travel to **New Salamis** on Sunday, taking with them the warm glow of winning our Performance of the Month Award for their victory over Lowestoft last month. Town have been in fine form, six unbeaten, a run that includes five wins, whilst their Coles Park hosts are also on the up, with only one defeat from their last four. Both matches between the sides last season ended level.

Gorleston, who must be contenders for January's Performance of the Month Award after that victory over Lowestoft Town on New Years Day, were back in Great Yarmouth and welcomed bottom side **Stowmarket Town**. That New Years Day win was the Greens first in six matches, whilst Stow started the day nine points from safety and were still

looking for that first win of the season – but the visitors were quickly ahead in this one, Joel Simmons scoring after just three minutes. The Greens were level three minutes before the break, Ryan Curtis making it one–one, and we suspect that if Stow could make their own luck it would still be bad, as they were reduced to ten men on the stroke of half time, Will Wharton–Richardson seeing red. Perhaps things picked up for them, however, when the hosts joined them on ten men just before the hour mark, Luke Johnson seeing red, and with nine minutes left the Greens went down to nine, Connor Deeks, who had only been on the pitch for fifteen minutes, leaving it involuntarily. Could Stow take advantage and find that first win? They couldn't, and had to settle for a point.

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AS A PLAYER AND A MANAGER

BY MARTYN GREEN, THE UNTOLD GAME

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A pair of deaths at the beginning of this year remind us just how difficult it is to succeed at the highest pinnacle of the footballing world. Der Kaiser, Franz Beckenbauer, was the most successful European in World Cup history, winning as a player in 1974 (after heartbreak in 1966 spurred his career and introduced The Curse of Der Kaiser to break English hearts for nearly 60 years... so far). He added a second winner's medal as a manager in 1990, his first managerial role. More recently, Didier Deschamps has joined him in that rarified position, winning as a player in 1998, and a manager in 2018. But neither quite managed to reach the heights of Mario Zagallo, the Brazilian who won twice as a player, and then as a manager, and passed on 5th January.

Zagallo had a brush with the World Cup almost before his career had even began.

Joining America FC in Rio de Janeiro when he was 17, his early training was interrupted by the military service he was required to undertake. As a young, new soldier, he was deployed as part of the security force to the Maracana Stadium to witness Brazil's 1950 World Cup final defeat to Uruguay, a defeat that saw devastation across the nation, with the goalkeeper on the day burning the goalposts, and suicides recorded as being caused by the defeat. It certainly left a mark on Zagallo.

He rejoined America but was quickly snapped up by Brazilian giants Flamengo, where he would spend the first half of his career. A tough, tricky inside-left, he made his debut in 1951, and made over 200 appearances throughout the 1950s, culminating in a callup to the 1958 World Cup side. It was a chance for Brazil to put the ghosts of 1950 to rest, with an exciting team, the undisputed star of which was a 17 year old Pele. He and Garrincha were the driving force of the side, but Zagallo played his part. In the final, which Pele made his own, he added a goal to the 5-2 victory. Four years later, he played in every game as Brazil became the last team to retain the World Cup. But, unusually for a footballer, winning two World Cup medals as a player was only the beginning of his success.

Zagallo retired as a player in 1965, and became the manager of Botafogo where he had seen out his playing days. He saw immediate success, winning the Brazilian

championship, just as the national side were struggling in England. For all their talent, they were unable to cope with such a physical approach to their ability, and were kicked and pushed out of the World Cup in the Group Stage, only beating Bulgaria. Despite the injustice, there was a feeling in Brazil that the best team in the world shouldn't have been daunted by those kinds of tactics. They turned to Zagallo, who could combine the flair of yesteryear with the gritty determination required in the 1960s.

He had been part of the revolutionary introduction of a 4-2-4 as a player, but it was time for a revolution of his own. That formation, he decided, was too brittle, so he dropped a forward back into midfield. Rivellino, who had struggled to find a place in the side before, was the lucky player this opened a door for. He repaid Zagallo handsomely.

The presence of Rivellino allowed Pele to demonstrate his prodigious talents, but that didn't mean it was an easy route to the final. A close victory over holders England saw them into the semi-final, where their 1950 conquerors Uruguay were waiting. Another close game saw Brazil run out 3-1 winner, exorcising any lingering ghosts. Their two most difficult games out of the way, the final was one of the most

one-sided affairs in World Cup history, as Brazil ran riot. A pre-tournament bootcamp to get used to the altitude in Mexico City made them fitter and stronger than their opponents, and they won the game 4-1. Zagallo was the first person ever to win as both a player and a manager.

Relative malaise followed that success, despite Zagallo taking his World Champions to the semi-finals in 1974, and it would be a quarter of a century before Brazil sat at the summit of world football again. The man they turned was Mario Zagallo.

He had enjoyed a peripatetic career after 1974, splitting his time between jobs in his homeland and jobs in the middle-east. But as the 1994 World Cup closed in, Carlos Alberto Parreira realised he needed more experience. He called up Brazil's last World Cup winning coach, and asked him to join as his assistant. Zagallo agreed, and the rest is (more) history.

He remains the only man in history with four World Cup winner's medals, and when he passed on 5th January he was the last remaining of the 1958 World Cup squad. The most successful man in World Cup history.

Enjoy the game.





MATCHDAY SQUADS

Isthmian League North
Saturday 13th January 2024, 3pm



Felixstowe & Walton Utd FC

Manager: Stuart Boardley

Assistant Manager: Andy Crump



Jack **Ainsley**



Stuart **Ainsley**



Noel **Aitkens**



Henry **Barley**



Callum **Bennett**



Harry **Blackburn**



Joshua **Blunkell (GK)**



Zak **Brown**



Tom **Bullard**



Sam **Ford**



Callum **Harrison**



Josh **Hitter**



Billy **Holland (C)**



Lamel **Howell**



Josh **Mayhew**



Leon **Ottley-Gooch**



Charlie **Warren**



Joe **Whight**

red/yellow - goals - played

Lowestoft Town FC

Manager: Jamie Godbold

Assistant Manager: Adam Gusterston

Warren **Burwood**



Travis **Cole (C)**



Robert **Eagle**



Tom **Fitzgerald**



Kyle **Haylock**



Josh **Hazell**



Luke **Holt**



David **Hinton**



Graham **Hinton**



Adam **Hipperson**



Sam **Johnson**



Louis **Mcintosh**



Owen **Murphy**



Charlie **Norman**



Jake **Reed**



Harvey **Sayer**



Daniel **White**



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MATCH OFFICIALS:

Referee: Mr Daniel Baines **Assistant Referees:** Mr Steven Marr and Mr Benjamin Horne