

WOOD



ROCHDALE AFC

SAT 9 AUGUST 2025 // 15:00 KO



GRIGGS

EST. 1968

YOUR DREAM HOME

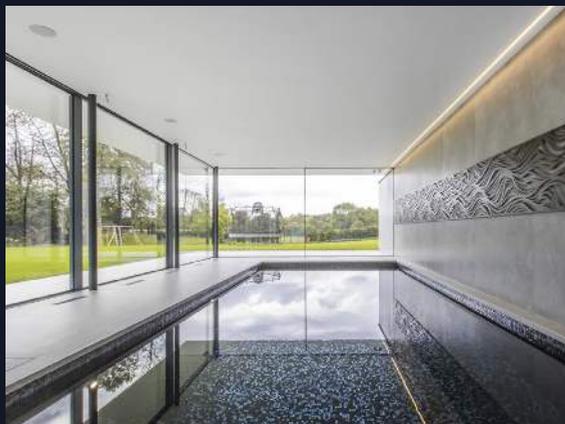
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CLUB HONOURS

NATIONAL LEAGUE PROMOTION FINAL RUNNERS-UP:
2017/18
CONFERENCE SOUTH PLAY-OFF WINNERS:
2014/15, 2024/25
ISTHMIAN PREMIER DIVISION PLAY-OFF WINNERS:
2009/10
SOUTHERN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE EAST CHAMPIONS:
2005/06
ISTHMIAN PREMIER DIVISION RUNNERS-UP:
1997/98
ISTHMIAN DIVISION ONE CHAMPIONS:
1994/95, 2000/01
ISTHMIAN DIVISION TWO CHAMPIONS:
1976/77
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE CUP WINNERS:
1996/97
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE CUP RUNNERS-UP:
1998/99
FULL MEMBERS CUP RUNNERS-UP:
1994/95, 1995/96
FA CHALLENGE CUP:
1ST ROUND:
1973/74, 1977/78, 1998/99, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018/19, 2023/24, 2024/25
2ND ROUND:
1996/97, 1997/98, 2017/18
3RD ROUND:
2020/21, 2022/23
5TH ROUND:
2021/22
FA CHALLENGE TROPHY SEMI-FINALISTS:
2005/06
HERTFORDSHIRE FA SENIOR CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS:
1971/72, 1998/99, 2001/02, 2007/08, 2013/14, 2017/18, 2018/19
HERTFORDSHIRE FA SENIOR CHARITY CUP WINNERS:
1980/81, 1983/84, 1985/86, 1988/89, 1989/90
LONDON FA CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS:
1997/98



BOREHAM WOOD FOOTBALL CLUB

FOUNDED: 1948
FULL MEMBERS: THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION 6
VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH
AFFILIATION: THE HERTFORDSHIRE FA
HOME COLOURS: ALL WHITE
AWAY COLOURS: ALL SKY BLUE
THIRD COLOURS: ALL BLACK

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MANAGER: LUKE GARRARD
ASSISTANT MANAGER: JACK PAYNE
FIRST TEAM COACH: ROSS WEARE
GOALKEEPER/COACH: DAN McATEER
FIRST TEAM PERFORMANCE COACH: BRANDON BEVANS
FIRST TEAM ANALYST: CAVILL COSTI
LEAD THERAPIST: CIARAN PACK
KIT MANAGER: LORETTA BROWNE

ACADEMY
ACADEMY MANAGER: BILLY HUNTER
LEAD ACADEMY COACH: ROSS WEARE
LEAD ACADEMY COACH: MICKY ENGWELL
ACADEMY COACHES: FEMMI ILESANMI, CAMERON COXE, BRANDON BEVANS, DAN McATEER, CAVIL COSTI
LEAD ACADEMY THERAPIST: ELLEN FENDER
KIT ASSISTANTS: MARK HUGHES & LISA CURRAN

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BOREHAM WOOD FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED (COMPANY NO.: 02533129) IS 100% OWNED BY ITS SHAREHOLDERS. THE COMPANY IS CONSIDERED TO BE CONTROLLED BY **MR D. HUNTER** BY REASON OF HIS MAJORITY SHAREHOLDING AND FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO THE COMPANY.

DANNY HUNTER

THOMAS

LEXIE



Today we welcome our good friends from Rochdale Football Club, can I wish their Directors, Manager, Players, Staff and Supporters a pleasant stay with us and a safe journey home.

Well, after last season's promotion we've reached the start of a new season in the blink of an eye and though the squad is not quite where we would perhaps want it, today is still a joyous occasion for our club after winning the final eight games of last season, which included play-off wins over Dorking Wanderers and Torquay United, then a promotion final win against Maidstone United.

In terms of our present squad depth we always felt throughout pre-season that we must remain patient to bring in one or two quality players to balance what was already a competitive squad. Of course, in an ideal world we would have wanted to have done our business slightly earlier but in today's market that has not been possible.

Recent events have also changed things somewhat, as only last week we were invited into the National League Cup due to the off field issues at Morecambe. That meant we would need to improve the budget slightly to facilitate a bigger squad and as such Luke and Charlie Hunter have looked further afield to bolster our ranks and it proved productive as we have signed the highly rated midfielder Tom White from Morecambe.

It was a big decision for our football club to accept the late invitation into

the National League Cup, especially after Jack Payne's injury, operation and expected 14 week layoff off. That said, all these things are financially led and I will of course support Luke and the dressing room in what they feel they now need going forward to be competitive.

Club Information:

On Friday our South Stand and away fan zone planning application will finally be submitted to HBC after six years of hard graft. In truth I'm really excited about this project and by my objective, collaboration and partnership with HBC regarding Meadow Park, Brook Road Car Park as it goes back not just the last 6 years but for more than two decades.

This application alone has taken 6 years of behind closed door meetings, it has included architects, consultants in places like Huddersfield, it has included councillors and officers, aborted plans, skewed drawings, crazy submissions, further crazy submissions, more planning and officer madness, me arguing our residents' case, arguing the park users and the local schools case, and of course me arguing the football clubs' future case.

So to finally get the chance to submit what would be an amazing local project is hugely exciting and very satisfying. In truth, the execution of a three phased build over the next two years will no doubt be complicated, problematic and should be ambitious as it is imperative for me, my partners, my sponsors, the council, our residents, our town and our community to not only move things forward but to get cross party agreement and be ready to push this project on from a position of both unity and strength.

I'm happy in the knowledge that our fans through year on year investment now enjoy not only the improvements on and off the pitch, which include our bars, when sitting in the stands, when standing on the terracing and all around our facility, that will I hope soon include the away end, whilst also enjoying a level of football that for years was not in reach when I first arrived here.

It's now time to finish the Park, deal with the walkways, finish Brook Road Car Park and get our Stadium ready for the EFL, and get our High Street ready to deal with additional visitors and their third party spend.

After our promotion, I hope a new era will begin here starting today with the visit of Rochdale and after another summer of off the field improvements and investment here, we must be ready to push on. Promotion from the division below was always going to be the vehicle to get us to where I want us to be and when you align that with

our latest planning application, it does show longevity, incredible ambition, a future vision and year on year progress.

In truth if I can pull it off I'm just so pleased to begin this next stage of what will be the biggest club development seen here during my time as Club Chairman, which is made even better by being back and competing in the National League once again.

Only through my local collaborations and long term partnerships have I, along with our two Councils, AFC, AWFC, Sponsors and support from a quietly growing Fan Base, could I have ever hoped to create the long term legacy we need locally for our children and our grandchildren. I hope actions speak louder than words and our wider community now believe in this football clubs' ambitions to get us to the EFL and I know I'm the right local person to lead that.

Anyway, that project is for another day, as today is about our first game back in the National League, where we go up against ex-Football League club Rochdale who finished fourth last season and are one of the league title favourites this season. Rochdale have made some great signings in pre-season especially in the forward areas, as such no doubt they will give us a good indication of where we are as a club and our squad presently sit.

Luke and his staff will obviously know much more about our visitors and what perhaps is needed to get

ourselves a result today and what is still needed within the dressing room. That said, no matter what today's result brings, this day is a celebration to this clubs' resilience, its never say die attitude, its hard work and its togetherness, as today marks our more than deserved return back to the very top table of non-league football.

I say deservedly back in the National League because the division below was so hard, it was so difficult and was a steep and unforgiving learning curve and reminder to me about never switching off for a moment. So it's great to say thank you for the lessons but goodbye, as I hope never to be in the National South again and so I say hello once again to so many ex-Football League clubs like Rochdale who we must use as our benchmark.

After Rochdale this afternoon, we then play Notts Forrest on Tuesday in the National League Cup - please note all entrance fees will be reduced by 50%, with home season ticket holders going free as we don't have to share the gate revenue.

We will then make the long journey north next Saturday to play another ex-Football league club Carlisle United. I must say win, lose or draw, I'm really looking forward to our first week back in the National League. It is of course a huge challenge but it's where I feel we now belong and it is time for us to man up and meet the challenge head on and whatever happens in the next week, we must learn quickly from the experience, good or bad.

Lastly, can I say to my incredibly loyal staff, to the dressing room and of course to you our very loyal supporters, thank you for staying with me and the club over the last 12 months - I know it wasn't easy at times but thank you again for allowing me the chance to turn certain things around and get things back on track. I hope we have made even more memories together as the play-off experience was pretty damn special. As I often say "God loves a trier" and eight straight wins last season when everyone had written us off was our reward for sticking together.

So today I ask you to turn out in your numbers, bring the drum, bring the noise, make our first game back in this division an occasion and whatever happens please stick with us once again when the going gets tough. We know the road will be long and at times football at this level can be brutal. So let's stick to the fight when we're hardest hit, travel away in your numbers when you can as you do make a difference, and I know if you do that, if we can park our feet and come out swinging, then trust me as an underdog club who knows itself then we'll be just fine.

Let's hope for an open, attacking game this afternoon and may the best team win.

Take care

Danny

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

SOUTH STAND





LIKE GARD



Good Afternoon, firstly I would like to welcome Jim McNulty his Staff and Players to Mangata Developments Stadium for this afternoons National League fixture.

Jim has done a fantastic job since taking the role, with a top half finish in his first Season and then finishing 4th last year unfortunately losing to Southend in the play-off eliminator.

I genuinely believe they will have ambitions to compete for the title and with their summer recruitment, they have in my opinion improved from last year's squad.

We have had a good week's prep and are fully aware of the strengths and weaknesses we feel Rochdale will present, it's for us to implement our game and take the positivity and energy from the last two fixtures of pre-season and also the momentum from last year.

We need to continue to ride the wave of our Play Off success and take all the belief and confidence into this League campaign, having that togetherness and the memories will play a huge part in our progression.

Pre-season was a great exercise for myself and the staff as it showed the areas we needed to improve and we still feel we have even more opportunity to build and refine this group.

Whether that's with continued recruitment or the work that is paying off throughout the week, as we have really seen a marked improvement of what we are asking the group to do and their application to deliver on this has been evident.

The newest additions have really made an impact within the group, I feel our recruitment was measured and we identified individuals we felt would complement the squad.

We know how important having a competitive changing room is going to be, especially now we will be playing in the National League Cup. It will be huge having these extra games to allow for minutes for the lads not getting regular match time, this will aid us and them when called upon.

I have spoken openly and honestly with the group about expectations and what they will bring to the team whether they are starting or on the bench.

This is important for me as they have to bring positivity around the club as everyone will most definitely play their part if we are to be a success.

Lastly, I want to welcome Tom White to the Club, he is someone I have admired for some time and with the unfortunate situation at Morecambe, myself and Charlie moved swiftly along with the backing of the Chairman to get him signed.

He will bring much needed cover in the midfield area, he has great ability and a game understanding which will be so important to our new system and style of play.

Now to the match, I hope you enjoy the game, bring the energy and the noise and get right behind the boys.

Luke

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P
Ciaran
PACK

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Loretta
BROWNE

Available



01
Nathan
ASHMORE

**Jason, Cruz &
Mason Jacobs**



02
Cameron
COXE

**The Haffner &
Weinberg Families**



03
Femi
ILESANMI

**Jack Danzig &
Jack Trimmer**



04 / AM
Jack
PAYNE

**Paul & Wendy
McCarthy**



05
Chris
BUSH

**HARRINGTONS
CAR SALES LTD**



06
Charlie
O'CONNELL

Sandra Parnell



07
Erico
SOUSA

**rise
LEGAL**



2025/26



08
Tom
WHELAN

Graham
The Plumbers' Merchant



9
Junior
DIXON
Gary Davis
GD Images



10
Abdul
ABDULMALIK



11
Jon
BENTON
Leonie Citron



12
Joe
NEWTON
GREENE KING



14
Aaron
HENRY
 Beech Tree
PRIVATE EQUITY



15
Jeff
KING
Chris Hudson Decorators



16
Callum
REYNOLDS
Available



17
Charles
CLAYDEN
 Beech Tree
PRIVATE EQUITY



18
Luke
NORRIS
Available



19
Tom
WHITE
Available



32
Matt
RUSH
Brody Weinberg



25/26 FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	H/A	KD	OPPOSITION	COMP.	F-A	ATT.	STARTING XI
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AUGUST

SAT 9	HOME	15:00	ROCHDALE	NL			
TUE 12	HOME	19:00	NOTTINGHAM FOREST U21	NLC			
SAT 16	AWAY	15:00	CARLISLE UNITED	NL			
WED 20	HOME	19:45	BRAINTREE TOWN	NL			
MON 25	HOME	15:00	TRURO CITY	NL			
SAT 30	AWAY	15:00	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	NL			

SEPTEMBER

WED 3	AWAY	19:45	SUTTON UNITED	NL			
SAT 6	HOME	15:00	MORECOMBE	NL			
TUE 9	HOME	19:00	WEST BROMWICH ALBION U21	NLC			
SAT 13	HOME	15:00	ALTRINCHAM	NL			
SAT 20	AWAY	15:00	BOSTON UNITED	NL			
WED 24	AWAY	19:45	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	NL			
SAT 27	HOME	15:00	WOKING	NL			
TUE 30	HOME	19:45	SOUTHEND UNITED	NL			

OCTOBER

SAT 4	AWAY	15:00	YEOVIL TOWN	NL			
SAT 11	TBC	TBC	FA CUP 4Q	FAC			
SAT 18	HOME	15:00	EASTLEIGH	NL			
TUE 21	AWAY	19:45	YORK CITY	NL			
SAT 25	AWAY	15:00	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	NL			

NOVEMBER

TUE 4	HOME	19:45	ALDERSHOT TOWN	NL			
SAT 8	AWAY	15:00	BRACKLEY TOWN	NL			
SAT 15	HOME	15:00	TAMWORTH	NL			
SAT 22	AWAY	15:00	GATESHEAD	NL			
TUE 25	HOME	19:00	LEICESTER CITY U21	NLC			
SAT 29	HOME	15:00	FC HALIFAX TOWN	NL			

DECEMBER

TUE 2	HOME	19:00	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS U21	NLC			
SAT 6	AWAY	15:00	ROCHDALE	NL			
SAT 13	TBC	TBC	FA TROPHY 3	FAT			
SAT 20	HOME	15:00	CARLISLE UNITED	NL			
FRI 26	AWAY	15:00	WEALDSTONE	NL			
TUE 30	HOME	19:45	SOLIHULL MOORS	NL			

JANUARY

SAT 3	HOME	15:00	YORK CITY	NL			
SAT 17	AWAY	15:00	BRAINTREE TOWN	NL			
WED 21	HOME	19:45	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	NL			
SAT 24	AWAY	15:00	ALTRINCHAM	NL			
SAT 31	HOME	15:00	BOSTON UNITED	NL			

FEBRUARY

SAT 7	AWAY	15:00	WOKING	NL			
WED 11	HOME	19:45	YEOVIL TOWN	NL			
SAT 14	AWAY	15:00	EASTLEIGH	NL			
SAT 21	HOME	15:00	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	NL			
TUE 24	AWAY	19:45	SOUTHEND UNITED	NL			
WED 28	AWAY	19:45	TAMWORTH	NL			

MARCH

SAT 7	HOME	15:00	BRACKLEY TOWN	NL			
SAT 14	AWAY	15:00	FC HALIFAX TOWN	NL			
SAT 21	HOME	15:00	GATESHEAD	NL			
TUE 24	AWAY	19:45	ALDERSHOT TOWN	NL			
SAT 28	HOME	15:00	TRURO CITY	NL			

APRIL

SAT 3	HOME	15:00	WEALDSTONE	NL			
MON 6	AWAY	15:00	SOLIHULL MOORS	NL			
SAT 11	HOME	15:00	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	NL			
SAT 18	AWAY	15:00	MORECOMBE	NL			
SAT 25	HOME	15:00	SUTTON UNITED	NL			

SUBSTITUTES

TODAYS

MASCOTS



FINLEY CARUANA

Age:

7 Years Old

Favourite Team(s):

Arsenal

Favourite Player(s):

Declan Rice, Nathan Ashmore

Score Prediction:

2-1 to The Wood



JUDE NORRIS

Age:

4 Years Old

Favourite Team(s):

Arsenal

Favourite Player(s):

Daddy

Score Prediction:

2-0 to The Wood

MASCOT PACKAGES AVAILABLE



Want to have a real day to remember at Boreham Wood? Then why not become a matchday mascot and lead the team out at a home match at Meadow Park?

Our matchday mascot package in partnership with the National League Trust receives nothing but positive feedback, so why not book a mascot package and experience a fantastic day with us.

Matchday mascot packages include: –

- Welcomed and looked after by a Boreham Wood Community Trust staff member
- A full Boreham Wood kit inclusive of shirt, shorts and socks (option to purchase, subject to availability)
- One complimentary adult match ticket
- Meet Wood Manager and players in the home dressing room pre-match
- Lead the Wood team out onto the pitch at Meadow Park with captain or selected player
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OUR VISITORS

ROCHDALE AFC

1907



NICKNAME
The Dale

STADIUM
Crown Oil Arena

CAPACITY
10,249

2024/25 FINISH
4th - National League

IN THE DUGOUT



Manager: Jimmy McNULTY

After spells with Everton's academy and Wrexham, McNulty went on to play for clubs including Macclesfield, Stockport, Brighton, Barnsley, and the Dale, overcoming serious injuries including the loss of a kidney. A commanding central defender and respected leader, McNulty transitioned into coaching at the Crown Oil Arena, where he served as caretaker manager twice. Following relegation in 2023, he was appointed permanent manager. With a strong reputation for resilience and leadership, McNulty now leads Rochdale's efforts to return to the Football League.

ONES TO WATCH



Oliver WHATMUFF

Born: 6 November 2007

Position: Goalkeeper

A talented young shot stopper, Whatmuff joins the Dale on a season-long loan from Manchester City. A regular in England's youth squads, he featured for the Under-18s in a win over Morocco in May. Having risen through City's academy since Under-8s, Whatmuff impressed in Premier League 2 and the UEFA Youth League. Seeking first-team experience in men's football, Whatmuff aims to develop further under manager Jimmy McNulty's guidance.



Ethan EBANKS-LANDELL

Born: 16 December 1992

Position: Defender

The Rochdale skipper is a product of Wolverhampton Wanderers' academy, which he joined at age nine. After making his senior debut for Wolves in 2013, he gained valuable experience through loan spells at Bury, Sheffield United, and MK Dons. He joined Rochdale in 2019 and later returned permanently in 2022 after a stint at Shrewsbury Town. A commanding central defender, Ebanks-Landell signed a new two-year deal last year and continues to lead Rochdale with experience and authority.



Devante RODNEY

Born: 19 May 1998

Position: Forward

Rodney is a powerful, pacey forward who joined the Dale in June of 2022. Another product of the Manchester City academy, alongside that of Sheffield Wednesday, Rodney began his senior career with Hartlepool United in 2017 before spells at Salford City, Port Vale, and Walsall. Rodney quickly became a key player at the Crown Oil Arena, finishing as the club's top scorer in both the 2022/23 and 2024/25 seasons. Known for his energy and work rate, the forward signed a new two-year contract with the club in July.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

ROCHDALE AFC



1

Marsh (48')



1

Mitchell (47')

19 September 2023 // 15:00 // National League

Last time at home against the Dale, Wood were held to a 1-1 draw in an entertaining encounter, with both sides seeing spells of dominance.

Luke Garrard's men started brightly, with early chances for Lee Ndlovu and Chris Bush, but it was Rochdale who controlled much of the first half through the lively Tyrese Sinclair, who went close on multiple occasions. Kairo Mitchell and Jesurun Uchegbulam also threatened as the visitors pushed for a breakthrough.

Rochdale were rewarded two minutes after the restart when Mitchell capitalised on a spilled effort from Cameron John's shot to open the scoring. However, Wood hit back immediately as Regan Griffith's cross was met by a bullet header from Tyrone Marsh. Buoyed by the equaliser, Wood dominated the second half and created several chances, with Marsh, Bush, and Cameron Coxe all going close. However, despite their pressure, they couldn't find a winner.





Mitre
DIFFERENT LEAGUE

SHOOTING STARS

ROCHDALE AFC

Football historian LEIGH EDWARDS profiles ten post-war Rochdale goalscoring favourites

FRANK LORD

Young centre-forward Frank Lord topped Rochdale's goalscoring charts in 1956-57. Signing professional for Rochdale in October 1953, he netted 54 goals in 122 League games before moving to Crewe Alexandra in July 1961. He was leading marksman in their 1962-63 promotion success and joined Plymouth Argyle in November 1963. Top scorer in 1963-64, he starred as they reached the League Cup semi-finals in 1964-65. Joining Stockport County in February 1966, he had spells with Blackburn Rovers and Chesterfield before returning to Plymouth in October 1967. He held many coaching posts and died in Cape Town in June 2005.

RONNIE CAIRNS

Inside-forward Ronnie Cairns was leading marksman as Rochdale reached the League Cup final in 1961-62. Initially with Consett, he joined Blackburn Rovers in September 1953 and helped them regain top-flight status in 1957-58. He moved to Spotland for a record £2,500 in June 1959 and was Rochdale's top scorer in three consecutive seasons, becoming the first Dale player to score 20 goals in a campaign for 14 years in 1960-61. Netting 66 goals in 195 League games, he joined Southport with Stan Hepton in July 1964, then played for Wigan Athletic and Darwen. He later became a sales rep for Trebor and died in August 2016.

REG JENKINS

Record goalscorer Reg Jenkins was an influential figure in Rochdale's 1968-69 promotion success. Initially with Millbrook, then Truro City, he joined Plymouth Argyle in October 1957 and featured in their 1958-59 Third Division title campaign. He also played for Exeter City and Torquay United before moving to Spotland

in June 1964. Rochdale's leading marksman six times including the 1970-71 FA Cup run, he netted a record 119 goals in 305 League outings prior to joining Falmouth Town in July 1973. He served Millbrook as a player and manager for 20 years and was shipwright in Plymouth. He died in January 2013.

GRANT HOLT

Striker Grant Holt was Rochdale's top scorer in 2004-05. He began with Workington and had spells with Halifax Town, Barrow and Sheffield Wednesday before joining Rochdale in January 2004. Scoring 35 goals in 75 League games, he moved to Nottingham Forest for £300,000 in January 2006. He helped reach the League One play-offs in 2006-07 and win promotion in 2007-08. Sold to Shrewsbury for £170,000 in July 2008, he was leading scorer in 2008-09, moving to Norwich City in August 2009. He was top scorer as they twice won promotion, then appeared for Wigan Athletic, Rochdale again, Hibernian and Barrow.



Boreham Wood v Rochdale AFC

DAVID CROSS

Young striker David Cross scored in Rochdale's 1970-71 FA Cup third round victory over top-flight Coventry City. Signing professional at Spotland in August 1969, he netted 20 goals in 59 League outings for Rochdale before moving to Norwich City in October 1971. He inspired promotion and Cup success prior to joining Coventry in November 1973, then moved via West Brom to West Ham in December 1977 where he spearheaded further promotion and Cup glory. Later with Manchester City, Oldham Athletic, Bolton Wanderers and Bury, he became a financial broker as well as Oldham Athletic's youth team boss.

STEVE TAYLOR

Much-travelled striker Steve Taylor was the Fourth Division's leading marksman in 1985-86. Signing professional for Bolton Wanderers in October 1973, he joined Oldham Athletic in October 1977 and topped their goalscoring charts in 1977-78. He had spells with Luton Town and Mansfield Town, joining Burnley in July 1980. Helping win the Third Division title in 1981-82, he played for Wigan Athletic and Stockport County before moving to Rochdale in November 1984. He netted 42 goals in 84 League games prior to joining Preston in October 1986, then had further spells with Burnley and Rochdale. Now living in Shaw.

STEVE WHITEHALL

Striker Steve Whitehall was Rochdale's top scorer in four successive seasons. He impressed with Southport before moving to Spotland for £25,000 in July 1991. Helping Rochdale reach the Associate Members Cup northern final in 1994-95, he played at Liverpool in the 1995-96 FA Cup third round and netted 75 goals in 238 League games prior to joining Mansfield Town in August 1997. Leading marksman in 1997-98, he moved to Oldham Athletic for £50,000 in July 1998 and joined Chester City in September 2000. He then played for Nuneaton Borough and Southport, since becoming a chartered physiotherapist in Warrington.

ADAM LE FONDRE

Striker Adam Le Fondre was top scorer and 'Player of the Year' as Rochdale qualified for the League Two play-offs in 2008-09. Starting at Stockport, he joined Rochdale in July 2007 after a loan spell. He was top scorer as they reached

the League Two play-off final in 2007-08 and netted 37 goals in 98 League games, joining Rotherham in August 2009. Leading marksman as they were League Two play-off finalists in 2009-10, he joined Reading in August 2011 and was top scorer as they won the Championship title in 2011-12. He has since played for Cardiff City, Wolves, Bolton, Sydney, Hibernian and FC United of Manchester.

CHRIS DAGNALL

Striker Chris Dagnall starred in Rochdale's 2009-10 promotion success. Signing professional for Tranmere Rovers in July 2003, he helped reach the League One play-offs in 2004-05 and joined Rochdale initially on loan in January 2006. He featured as Dale twice qualified for the League Two play-offs, netting 54 goals in 157 League games prior to joining Scunthorpe in July 2010. Reuniting with Keith Hill at Barnsley in January 2012, he then had spells with Leyton Orient, Kerala Blasters and Hibernian, helping to win the Scottish Cup in 2016. He has since played for Crewe, Bury, Yeovil, Hanley, Stalybridge and Lancaster.

RICKIE LAMBERT

Striker Rickie Lambert gained seven England caps after leaving Rochdale. He began with Blackpool and had spells with Macclesfield Town and Stockport County before moving to Rochdale in February 2005. Leading marksman in 2005-06, he netted 28 goals in 64 League games before sold to Bristol Rovers for £200,000 in August 2006. He was top scorer as they won promotion in 2006-07, then reached the FA Cup sixth round in 2007-08. Moving to Southampton in August 2009, he starred in two consecutive promotion campaigns and joined Liverpool for £4,000,000 in June 2014, then played for West Brom and Cardiff City.



MATCH ACTION



1

Wilson [67']



3

Norris [32'], Abdulmalik [53'], Rush [83']

2 August 2025 // 15:00 // Pre-Season Friendly

Wood ended their pre-season on a high with an impressive 3–1 win away at Dagenham & Redbridge.

After a bright start that saw chances for Charles Clayden and Femi Ilesanmi, Wood took the lead on 32 minutes when Tom Whelan's precise pass found Luke Norris, who calmly finished past Sam Howes. Abdul Abdulmalik twice teed up Whelan before the break, but the midfielder couldn't find the net.

Wood continued to impress in the second half and doubled their lead through Abdulmalik's sharp turn and finish. The lively forward remained a threat throughout, and Clayden went close again shortly after. Dagenham pulled one back through Donovan Wilson, but Wood sealed the win late on when substitute Matt Rush converted from an Erico Sousa cross.





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MATCH ACTION



0



2

Whelan [49], Dixon [75]

29 July 2025 // 19:30 // Pre-Season Friendly

Wood picked up their first pre-season win and clean sheet with a 2–0 victory over Wingate & Finchley, thanks to second-half goals from Tom Whelan and Junior Dixon.

Despite dominating possession in the first half, Luke Garrard's side struggled to break down the hosts, with chances for Charlie O'Connell, Tom Whelan, and Luke Norris going begging. The home side nearly punished them on 20 minutes, but Nathan Ashmore produced a superb save to keep things level at the break.

Wood returned with more urgency after the interval and were rewarded when Erico Sousa and Luke Norris combined to set up Whelan, who fired home clinically. They almost doubled their lead moments later, but O'Connell's header was cleared off the line, and Sousa then struck both posts with a penalty. The pressure told on 75 minutes when Dixon capitalised on a defensive error to seal the win, rounding up a much-improved second-half showing from Luke Garrard's side.





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MATCH ACTION



1

Sousa (30')



2

Antonio (3', 22')

1 August 2025 // 19:30 // Pre-Season Friendly

Wood fell to a narrow 2-1 defeat against a youthful West Ham United side in their sixth pre-season outing.

The Hammers struck early, with Michail Antonio taking advantage of a defensive error to open the scoring inside three minutes. The Jamaican international then doubled the Hammers' lead on 22 minutes, heading home from an Elisha Sowunmi cross. Despite the early setback, Wood responded well and pulled one back through Erico Sousa's composed finish on the half-hour mark. Luke Garrard's side would then grow into the game, creating several chances either side of the break.

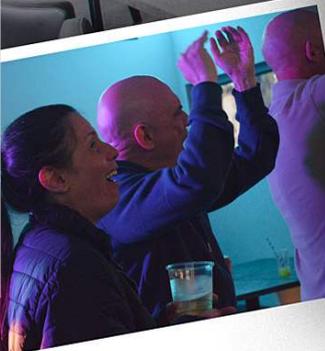
Femi Ilesanmi and Callum Reynolds both went close with headers, while Junior Dixon and Joe Newton threatened late on. Abdul Abdulmalik impressed off the bench, causing problems for the West Ham back line, and Wood almost snatched a draw when Reynolds' header rattled the bar in the dying moments. It was a spirited second-half display, but the Luke Garrard's men couldn't quite find the leveller.





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LATEST ENTERPRISE NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS



SAVE MORECAMBE: STARMER URGES ACTION

Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer has expressed deep concern over Morecambe FC's financial crisis, urging all parties to "do the right thing" to save the club.

The Shrimps, recently relegated from League Two, face closure and have been suspended by the National League amid a stalled takeover involving owner Jason Whittingham and Panjab Warriors.

Starmer stressed the club's importance to the local community, saying it "really matters" and must be allowed to thrive. Although a bill for an independent football regulator has passed, it is unlikely to take effect in time to intervene in Morecambe's situation.



SAVAGE SWOOPS IN

Forest Green Rovers have completed the signing of Nick Haughton from AFC Fylde, in what is seen as one of the standout moves of the summer.

The 30-year-old attacking midfielder, who netted on 118 occasions in 281 games for Fylde, joins Robbie Savage's side ahead of their season opener at Solihull Moors. Despite Fylde's relegation last season, Haughton registered 31 goal contributions and had attracted EFL interest.

Savage praised the signing, calling Haughton "a superb addition." He becomes Forest Green's 11th summer signing, the latest in a busy window that's also seen the arrivals of Aidan Dausch, Kane Wilson, and three ex-Macclesfield players, Laurent Mendy, Neil Kengni, and Tre Pemberton.

GLOVERS AIM TO RECLAIM HUISH PARK



Yeovil Town have made it a key priority to buy back Huish Park, their home stadium, which was sold to South Somerset District Council in 2022 for £2.8m to cover Covid-related costs.

Executive chairman Stuart Robins said returning the ground to club ownership is vital for long-term sustainability, removing rental costs and restoring a sense of identity for supporters. Talks with the council are ongoing and described as "progressing nicely."

The club, now under the ownership of entrepreneur Prabhu Srinivasan, hopes the buyback will happen soon. Yeovil kick off the new National League season at home to Hartlepool United on 9 August.

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Approved by The Openwork Partnership on 08/07/2025

CLUB NEWS

WOOD ENTER 2025/26 NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP!

Boreham Wood Football Club are delighted to announce our participation in the 2025/26 National League Cup, a competition involving National League teams as well as U21 teams participating in the Premier League's PL2 competition.

National League Cup Format

The National League Cup is a 32-team midweek competition, comprising of sixteen teams participating in the National League, and 16 teams participating in PL2.

The competition, entering its second edition, will consist of a group stage (four groups of eight), with the two best-placed teams in each group advancing to a knock-out stage to determine the winner.

All National League teams will play matches at home, with PL2 teams always playing away.

Who will we face?

The Wood have been assigned to Group B alongside PL2 sides Leicester City, Nottingham Forest, West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers, a group also consisting of fellow National League outfits Braintree Town, Forest Green Rovers and Wealdstone.

When will games be played?

Nottingham Forest (H)

Tuesday 12 August, 19:00 K/O

West Bromwich Albion (H)

Tuesday 9 September, 19:00 K/O

Leicester City (H)

Tuesday 25 November, 19:00 K/O

Wolverhampton Wanderers (H)

Tuesday 2nd December, 19:00 K/O

Quarter-final

27/28 January

Semi-final

17/18 February

Final

17/18 March

Tickets

Confirmation of ticket details for our upcoming National League Cup fixtures will follow in due course.



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Luke **GARRARD**

- 1 Nathan **ASHMORE** ^{GK}
- 2 Cameron **COXE**
- 3 Femi **ILESANMI**
- 4 Jack **PAYNE**
- 5 Chris **BUSH**
- 6 Charlie **O'CONNELL**
- 7 Erico **SOUSA**
- 8 Tom **WHELAN**
- 9 Junior **DIXON**
- 10 Abdul **ABDULMALIK**
- 11 Jon **BENTON**
- 12 Joe **NEWTON**
- 14 Aaron **HENRY**
- 15 Jeff **KING**
- 16 Callum **REYNOLDS**
- 17 Charles **CLAYDEN**
- 18 Luke **NORRIS**
- 19 Tom **WHITE**
- 32 Matt **RUSH**



Manager

Jimmy **McNULTY**

- 1 Oliver **WHATMUFF** ^{GK}
- 2 Kyron **GORDON**
- 3 David **TUTONDA**
- 4 Ryan **EAST**
- 5 Liam **HOGAN**
- 6 Ethan **EBANKS-LANDELL**
- 7 Tarryn **ALLARAKHIA**
- 8 Harvey **GILMOUR**
- 9 Emmanuel **DIESERUVWE**
- 10 Devante **RODNEY**
- 11 Anthony **GOMEZ-MANCINI**
- 12 Levi **AMANTCHI**
- 14 Tobi **ADEBAYO-ROWLING**
- 16 Casey **PETTIT**
- 17 Joe **PRITCHARD**
- 18 Aidan **BARLOW**
- 19 Jake **BURGER**
- 20 Tom **MYLES** ^{GK}
- 21 Connor **McBRIDE**
- 22 Dan **MOSS**
- 23 Bryce **HOSANNAH**
- 24 Corey **EDWARDS**
- 33 Sam **BECKWITH**
- 40 Ian **HENDERSON**
- 47 Liam **HUMBLES**

Match Officials



Wayne **CARTMEL**



Nick **BLOGG**



Daniel **COOK**



Joseph **DANN-PYE**

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AT MEADOW PARK



v



TUE 12 AUGUST 2025 // 19:00 KO
NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP

