Bromsgrove Sporting Football Club
The UK Electrical Stadium
BROMSGROVE
Worcs B61 0DR

Incorporated 2009

Official Matchday Programme

Season 2026 - 2027

Volume 17, Issue 1

Tuesday 11th August 2026

7:45 pm kick-off

The UK Electrical Stadium

The Southern League Premier Division Central

Bromsgrove Sporting

vs

Rushall Olympic

PITCHING IN

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PITCHING IN

TRIDENT LEAGUES VOLUNTEER HUB
POWERED BY ENTAIN

SOUTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Club Honours and Achievements

Season 2010/11	*Promoted to The Midland Combination Division One*
Season 2011/12	*Promoted to The Midland Combination Premier Division*
Season 2011/12	*Finalists - The Evesham Hospital Junior Cup*
Season 2012/13	*Champions - The Midland Combination Reserves Division Two*
Season 2012/13	*Winners - The Worcestershire Football Association Youth Cup*
Season 2013/14	*Runners-up - The Midland Combination Premier Division*
Season 2013/14	*Winners - The Smedley Crooke Memorial Challenge Cup*
Season 2014/15	*Runners-up - The Midland Football League Division One*
Season 2014/15	*Winners - The Les James Challenge Cup*
Season 2015/16	*Finalists - The Worcestershire Senior Invitation Urn*
Season 2015/16	*Finalists - The Smedley Crooke Memorial Challenge Cup*
Season 2015/16	*Runners-up - The Midland Football League Division One*
Season 2016/17	*Semi-Finalists - The FA Vase*
Season 2016/17	*Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Urn*
Season 2016/17	*Winners - The Worcs Football Association Saturday Under 18s Cup*
Season 2016/17	*Champions - The Midland Football League Division One*
Season 2017/18	*Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Urn*
Season 2017/18	*Champions - The Midland Football League Premier Division*
Season 2018/19	*Runners-up - The Southern League Division One Central*
Season 2018/19	*Winners - The Southern League Division One Central Play-off Final*
Season 2019/20	*Joint Winners - The Worcs Football Association Senior Invitation Cup*
Season 2019/20	*Joint Winners - The Worcestershire Football Association Youth Cup*

Bromsgrove Sporting Managers

Myles Day	*2010*
Stewart Brighton	*2010 - 12*
Keith Draper Snr	*2012-13*
Graham Scott	*2013*
Adrian Mander	*2013 - 14*
Les Palmer	*2014*
Paul Smith	*2014 - 18*
Brendan Kelly	*2018 - 21*
Gavin Hurren	*2021 - 22*
Thomas Baillie	*2022*
Mike McGrath	*2022 -2024*
Tim Flowers	*2024*
Paul Smith	*2024*
Scott Adey-Linforth	*2024 - 2025*
Tim Flowers	*2025 -*

Bromsgrove Sporting Chairmen

John Teece	*2009 - 15*
Jon Prescott	*2015 - 16*
Jeff Rea	*2016*
Mike Burke	*2016 - 2023*
Brian Seymour-Smith	*2023*
Graham Scott	*2023*
Rod Brown	*2023 -*

From the Boardroom - Rod Brown, Chairman

Apologies but Rod has been unable to pen any notes for his column this evening.

Rod

Manager - Tim Flowers

Good evening everybody and firstly may I welcome the directors, management team, players and fans of our opponents Rushall Olympic to the UK Electrical Stadium for our first home league match of the season?

Last Saturday saw us travel to Needham Market for a tricky opening match against a useful outfit who were playing in the National League North a couple of seasons ago.

They got off to a good start scoring in the third minute and moved the ball around well. However, we got a couple back to take a lead into the half-time interval, then gave ourselves a bit of breathing space with a third in the second half coming from a well-worked corner.

We now have a couple of home matches both of which will be difficult games against good sides. We start tonight against a very useful Rushall Olympic side who have a good squad and have a manager, Ian Long, who knows this league inside-out.

We have a number of new faces in our own ranks who are now coming together having had several training sessions and pre-season friendlies over the last five weeks. They are now getting to know each other well and I am confident that we will improve as the campaign progresses.

Between us, we have had to put in a lot of hard work since the end of last season and I am hopeful that effort will makes us a more competitive team and avoid the relegation scraps of the last few seasons.

The new owners have gone out of their way to attract both new and returning fans with a successful summer around the World Cup and the fan zones. They have improved facilities along with the look and feel of the ground and if I am successful in improving the team on the pitch playing attractive and exciting football then there is every reason for old and new fans to support the team and get behind the lads.

I hope that you enjoy the game tonight.

Tim

Meet the Rouslers (1)

Tim Flowers

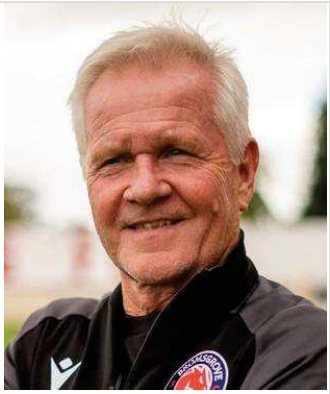
Manager

Available for sponsorship

Leon Broadhurst

Assistant Manager

Sponsored by Bromsgrove Dog Walking & Pet Services



Gary Whild

Coach

Available for sponsorship

Jordan Lyden

Coach/Midfielder

Sponsored by Colmers School & Sixth Form College

Dan Price

Goalkeeping Coach

Available for sponsorship

Kevin Bunting

Analyst

Sponsored HSG UK

Auz Shah

Sports Therapist

Available for sponsorship

Dean Ashford

Club Kit Man

Sponsored by Phil & Jane Baker

Meet The Rouslers (2)

Tony Breeden
Goalkeeper
Sponsored by MKM Building Supplies

Lamine Barrow
Midfielder
Sponsored by Kevin Young, Lynn Harris, Jeff Rea, David Sheppard and Iain Queen

Brad Bood
Defender
Midfielder
Sponsored by NextGen IT

Jaden Charles
Defender
Available for sponsorship

Joe Doyle-Charles
Midfielder
Sponsored by Rich Holliday in awareness of

ANDYSMANCLUB charity

Josh Dugmore
Defender
Sponsored by Kevin Baggott

Kieron Freeman
Defender
Sponsored by Morrison Nash Limited

Ollie Harrison
Defender
Sponsored by A-Z Skips Ltd

Jak Hickman
Defender
Available for sponsorship

Meet The Rouslers (3)

Chris Hussey
Defender
Sponsored by the Sidewinders

Adam Jasper
Forward
Available for sponsorship

Jake Jervis
Forward
Sponsored by Tim Reeb, who lives in New Jersey, USA

Jamille Matt
Forward
Sponsored by Daniel Blythe and Kelly Downing

Simeon Maye
Midfielder
Sponsored by our webmaster, Chris Curtis

Hayden Reeves
Defender
Sponsored by Steve Hart

Billy Shaw
Midfielder
Sponsored by The Fox family (Margaret, Christopher and Adrian)

Dan Trickett-Smith
Midfielder
Sponsored by NextGen IT

Profile:

Lamin Barrow

Midfielder

Birthplace and Date of Birth?	The Gambia, 30/9/04 (age 21)
Height?	5' 8"
Left or right footed?	Right
Previous clubs?	Boldmere Falcons, Fairfield Villa
Football honours?	Unfortunately, none for myself or team
Best moment playing football?	Don’t have any so far
Biggest influence on your career?	My brother
Which team do you support?	Barcelona
Favourite all-time player?	Lionel Messi
Best player you have played against?	Khadim Fall, my mate
Favourite position on the pitch:	Left wing
What boots do you wear?	Nike Phantoms
What football law would you change?	The 5 second rule on the throws after picking up the ball
Nickname in the changing room?	Laka
Do you play any other sports?	No
Married, single?	Single
Where do you live?	Birmingham
Job outside football?	Valeting
What car do you drive?	Don't drive yet
Favourite food?	Homemade rice and stew
Favourite drink?	Pineapple juice
Favourite biscuit?	Oreos
Favourite TV programme?	Netflix
Favourite Film?	The Odessey
Favourite actor/actress?	Tom Holland and Zendeya
Favourite band or singer?	J Hus (British rapper, Afroswing genre)
Favourite Single/Album?	J Hus - Gold
Guilty Pleasure?	Don’t think I have any
Favourite Holiday destination?	Back home to The Gambia
Bucket list?	Playing higher every season

From The Archives, 9 Years Ago

The Midland Football League Premier Division - Saturday 12th August 2017, 3:00 p.m. kick-off

Quorn 0 (0) Bromsgrove Sporting 4 (2) at The Farley Way Stadium

A perfect start to the season in their new league saw Sporting get an impressive win against a useful Quorn side.

As with the match against Rocester last Tuesday, Sporting gave themselves an enormous boost with an early goal on the 6th minute. After forcing a corner, Robbie Bunn floated over the kick into a crowded box. Quorn 'keeper, Ryan Thacker only managed a week parry that went just a short distance to Liam Spink who with an open goal to aim at, had no trouble smashing home.

Sporting continued to push forward with neat build-ups and four minutes later it could have been a second as Wade Malley's effort hit the post. Shortly afterwards, Bunn chipped a pass over both the Quorn midfield and defence that was picked up by Malley, who was then clattered by Thacker just outside the penalty area but referee Mr Ricardo deemed he was not the last man and the stopper got away with a yellow card.

Not to be outdone, the home side had a few useful moves themselves with their best effort on the 22nd minute but Nathan Dale's skilful bicycle kick dropped into the arms of Reece Francis.

Chances for the home side continued at a rapid rate with Bunn, Malley and Reece Hewitt all coming close but they had to wait until 3 minutes before half-time for the second goal which came courtesy of John Jordan whose glanced header went in from Sam Wills' chip into the box.

After the break Quorn ratcheted up the pressure forcing a number of corners and making the Sporting back line work hard but despite the pressure, chances were few. Meanwhile at the other end Sporting were relying on quick breaks and on the 71st minute Reece Hewitt had a fierce drive that went goalwards but came off James Jepson's arm leaving Mr Ricardo no choice but to award a penalty. Fortunately for Quorn though, Thacker guessed correctly and made a dive to keep out Jason Cowley's spot kick giving his side a lifeline.

However, Cowley redeemed himself on the 80th minute when he drove home Sporting's third goal with an angled shot 15 yards out giving Thacker no chance.

Quorn might have got one back from a couple of late chances had their finishing been better but it was the Rouslers who had the final cheer in added time after Thacker made a good one-handed save from Bunn only for the ball to drop to Cowley for an easy tap in.

So, Sporting's run of undefeated league matches continues with accurate passing and at a fast pace on the artificial surface at Quorn giving a new meaning to burning rubber. Also, a mention for Robbie Bunn's making his 50th appearance in a Sporting shirt.

Quorn: Ryan Thacker, Leavi Oshungbure, Jake Dodds, Niall Mather (Capt), Jimmy Brooks, James Jepson, Rob Mulonga (Callum Thompson 68 mins), Nathan Dale, Dominic Brennan (Sam Moore 81 mins), James Hicks (Nick Gould 59 mins), Amanvir Sandhu.

Subs unused: Simon Alcott, Danny Chapman.

Sporting: Reece Francis, John Jordan, Jack Wilson (Craig Jones 81 mins), Max Loveridge (Chris Lloyd 72 mins), Duane Courtney (Capt), Danny Morris, Liam Spink (Jason Cowley 51 mins), Robbie Bunn, Sam Wills, Wade Malley, Reece Hewitt.

Subs unused: Josh Quaynor, Marshall Willock.

Goals: Liam Spink (6 mins), Jordan Jones (42 mins), Jason Cowley (80, 90+2 mins)

Referee: Mr R Ricardo (Leicester), Assistants Mr P Kiely, Mr J Prescott (both Stoke-on-Trent)

Crowd: 171 Weather: Warm, sunny Sporting Man of the Match: Danny Morris

We are delighted to have the teams at A - Z Skips Ltd and Total Metal Recovery Ltd sponsoring our game versus Rushall Olympic.

If you're looking for a quality skip hire and waste recycling service in the local area, get in touch with the A - Z Skips Ltd team today!

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Total Metal Recovery Ltd: 01527 368080

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER
ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME
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The Non-League Paper provides a column for club programmes each week. Here is this week's contribution is from the editor-at-large, Matt Badock.

REFRESHED, recharged and ready to go - the full 2026-27 season is, at last, officially set for kick-off.

Of course, Step 5&6 clubs are already on the go - some have even played three or four games - ahead of the, slightly later than usual, FA Cup start this weekend.

But as well as the extra preliminary round beginning - and keep an eye out for Step 4 clubs starting cold against lower tiered opponents whose engines are fully running - the new campaign for Steps 1-4 are also under starter's orders.

At last. The World Cup was good in patches but there's nothing quite like a full fixture list.

All the pre-season talk, the hopes and expectations are about to be fully tested when the first ball gets banged into your penalty area with the sun, no doubt, beating down.

Who will get off to a flyer? Who will thrive in the early months but fall away when the weather gets ugly? Who will stumble out of the blocks but regain their composure?

Whatever league you are most interested in, you will have your favourites and dark horses. But the beauty of Non-League football is, despite the annual budget talk, the unexpected always happens.

Can Boreham Wood, minutes away from promotion last term, shake-off any potential hangover and start fast? How will the new Step 4 teams get on? Who will make the most of a reprieve?

This year brings another level of interest with the expansion of the play-offs at Steps 3&4 from four teams to six.

It will mirror the format used by the National League and Steps 1 and 2 that has been largely deemed a success.

The champions will go up as usual with second and third receiving byes into the semi-finals where they will face victors from the fourth v seventh game and fifth v sixth eliminator games.

Is it fair? Well, no play-off system is. But they do keep more seasons alive for longer. When clubs are fighting for every pound note they can get, having plenty at stake at the back end of the season can only be a good thing to draw in the punters.

That's for down the line after the long winter months. For now, we'll enjoy watching game with the sun on our necks.

Once again, we're relishing covering every kick along the way in The NLP every Sunday. Along with the usual in-depth coverage our readers have come to expect, we've got some new features up our sleeve to. Make sure you grab a copy each week - even better, subscribe!

So here we go! Have fun and enjoy the season.

Season 2026/27

The Pitching In Southern League - Premier Division Central Table

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Real Bedford	1	1	0	0	4	2	+2	3
2	**Bromsgrove Sporting**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**1**	**+2**	**3**
3	Stourbridge	1	1	0	0	2	0	+2	3
4	**Rushall Olympic**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**+1**	**3**
5	Bury Town	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	3
6	Kettering Town	1	1	0	0	1	0	+1	3
7	Anstey Nomads	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
8	Leighton Town	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
9	Leiston	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
10	Peterborough Sports	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
11	Racing Club Warwick	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
12	Redditch United	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
13	Stratford Town	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
14	Worcester City	1	0	1	0	1	1	-	1
15	Banbury United	1	0	1	0	0	0	-	1
16	Bishop's Stortford	1	0	1	0	0	0	-	1
17	Hitchin Town	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
18	Alvechurch	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
19	Halesowen Town	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
20	Leamington	1	0	0	1	2	4	-2	0
21	Needham Market	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0
22	Stamford	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0

Table as at Saturday 8th August 2026

Bromsgrove Sporting - Fixtures and Results - Season 2026/27

Day	Date	K/O	V	Opponents	Competition	Result		Att	Pts	Lgue Pos	MoM
Sat	11-Jul	3:00 PM	A	Stourport Swifts	Friendly	W	5 - 0	~130	-	-	-
Tue	14-Jul	7:45 PM	A	Sporting Khalsa	Friendly	W	4 - 2	-	-	-	-
Sat	18-Jul	3:00 PM	A	Rugby Town	Friendly	W	2 - 1	-	-	-	-
Tue	21-Jul	7:45 PM	A	Bedworth United	Friendly	W	2 - 0	~150	-	-	-
Sat	25-Jul	3:00 PM	H	Trefelin BGC	Friendly	W	8 - 0	223	-	-	-
Tue	28-Jul	7:45 PM	H	Malvern Town	Friendly	W	3 - 0	322	-	-	-
Sat	1-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Hereford	Friendly	L	0 - 1	593	-	-	-
Sat	8-Aug	3:00 PM	A	Needham Market	Southern League	W	3 - 1	345	3	2nd	Dan Trickett-Smith
Tue	11-Aug	7:45 PM	H	Rushall Olympic	Southern League						
Sat	15-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Anstey Nomads	Southern League						
Sat	22-Aug	3:00 PM	A	Redditch United	Southern League						
Sat	29-Aug	3:00 PM	H	Bishop's Stortford	Southern League						
Mon	31-Aug	3:00 PM	A	Worcester City	Southern League						
Sat	5-Sep	3:00 PM			FA Cup Q1 Round						
Sat	12-Sep	3:00 PM	H	Bury Town	Southern League						
Sat	19-Sep	3:00 PM			FA Cup Q2 Round						
Tue	22-Sep	7:45 PM	A	Stratford Town	Southern League						
Sat	26-Sep	3:00 PM			FA Trophy Q3 Round						
Tue	29-Sep	7:45 PM	H	Leamington	Southern League						
Sat	3-Oct	3:00 PM	A	Stamford	Southern League						
Sat	10-Oct	3:00 PM	A	Real Bedford	Southern League						
Tue	13-Oct	7:45 PM	H	Kettering Town	Southern League						
Sat	17-Oct	3:00 PM	H	Banbury United	Southern League						
Tue	20-Oct	7:45 PM	A	Alvechurch	Southern League						
Sat	24-Oct	3:00 PM			FA Trophy 1st Round						
Tue	27-Oct	7:45 PM	H	Stratford Town	Southern League						
Sat	31-Oct	3:00 PM	A	Leighton Town	Southern League						
Sat	07-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Leiston	Southern League						
Tue	10-Nov	7:45 PM	A	Leamington	Southern League						
Sat	14-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Racing Club Warwick	Southern League						
Sat	21-Nov	3:00 PM	A	Peterborough Sports	Southern League						
Sat	28-Nov	3:00 PM	H	Hitchin Town	Southern League						
Sat	5-Dec	3:00 PM	A	Halesowen Town	Southern League						
Sat	12-Dec	3:00 PM	A	Bury Town	Southern League						
Sat	19-Dec	3:00 PM	H	Stamford	Southern League						
Sat	26-Dec	3:00 PM	A	Stourbridge	Southern League						
Sat	2-Jan	3:00 PM	H	Worcester City	Southern League						
Sat	09-Jan	3:00 PM	A	Kettering Town	Southern League						
Sat	16-Jan	3:00 PM	H	Real Bedford	Southern League						
Sat	23-Jan	3:00 PM	A	Banbury United	Southern League						
Sat	30-Jan	3:00 PM	H	Alvechurch	Southern League						
Sat	6-Feb	3:00 PM	A	Racing Club Warwick	Southern League						
Sat	13-Feb	3:00 PM	H	Peterborough Sports	Southern League						
Sat	20-Feb	3:00 PM	A	Leiston	Southern League						
Sat	27-Feb	3:00 PM	H	Leighton Town	Southern League						
Sat	6-Mar	3:00 PM	H	Needham Market	Southern League						
Sat	13-Mar	3:00 PM	A	Anstey Nomads	Southern League						
Sat	20-Mar	3:00 PM	H	Redditch United	Southern League						
Fri	26-Mar	3:00 PM	A	Rushall Olympic	Southern League						
Mon	29-Mar	3:00 PM	H	Stourbridge	Southern League						
Sat	3-Apr	3:00 PM	A	Bishop's Stortford	Southern League						
Sat	10-Apr	3:00 PM	A	Hitchin Town	Southern League						
Sat	17-Apr	3:00 PM	H	Halesowen Town	Southern League						

Bromsgrove Sporting FC - Appearances / Goalscorers

Season 2026-2027

	League								Cups								Season Total					Sporting Career			
Name	App	Sub	Bench	Capt.	Yellow	Reds	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Bench	Capt.	Yellow	Reds	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Tot	Assts	Goals	App	Sub	Tot	Goals
Lamine Barrow		1																1	1				1	1	
Brad Bood																									
Tony Breeden	1																1		1			18		18	
Jaden Charles																						7		7	1
Joe Doyle-Charles																									
Josh Dugmore	1																1		1			47	1	48	
Kieron Freeman	1																1		1			1		1	
Ollie Harrison	1			1				1									1		1		1	1		1	1
Jak Hickman	1				1		1										1		1	1		13	1	14	
Chris Hussey																									
Adam Jasper		1			1													1	1				1	1	
Jake Jervis	1							1									1		1		1	1		1	1
Jordan Lyden		1																1	1			19	22	41	1
Jamille Matt	1						1	1									1		1	1	1	1		1	1
Simeon Maye	1																1		1			1		1	
Hayden Reeves	1																1		1			1		1	
Billy Shaw	1																1		1			88	14	102	11
Daniel Trickett-Smith	1						1										1		1	1		1		1	
Own Goal																									

Up to and including Saturday 8th August 2026

Bromsgrove Sporting - Player Profiles

Tim Flowers DoB: 3/2/67 Kenilworth

Position: Manager

Previous clubs: Wolves, Southampton, Swindon Town, Blackburn Rovers, Leicester City, Stockport County, Coventry City.

Enjoyed a stellar career as a goalkeeper picking up 11 England caps. Has been goalkeeping coach and manager at a number of clubs. Recently re-joined Sporting after a short spell at the end of the 2023-24 season.

Leon Broadhurst DoB: 10/04/84 Bromsgrove

Position: Assistant Manager

Previous clubs: Bromsgrove Rovers, Leamington, Stourbridge

Local lad who joined Sporting in 2019 following 16 years at Stourbridge where he became a club legend with a record number of appearances. Returned to Stourbridge for a brief spell as joint manager. Recently re-joined Sporting in new position.

Gary Whild 30/11/60

Position: Coach

High experienced coach and having worked as the assistant to Tim Flowers managed at a number of local clubs including Kidderminster Harriers and Solihull Moors.

Dan Price

Position: Goalkeeping Coach

Second season at the UK Electrical Stadium as part of the management team.

Kevin Bunting

Position: Analyst

Auz Shah

Position: Sports therapist

Former Redditch United physio, joined Sporting this summer

Name: Dean Ashford Squad Number: n/a DoB: 22/2/67

Position: Kitman Height: 5' 7" Weight:

Previous Clubs: Austin Ex-apprentices

An invaluable member of the backroom staff ‘Deano’ joined the club at the start of the 2024/25 season and is a popular member of the squad.

Tony Breeden DoB: 31/1/88 Birmingham

Position: Goalkeeper

Previous clubs: Hednesford Town, Spalding United, Nuneaton Borough, Leamington, Solihull Moors, Tamworth, Kidderminster Harriers.

Popular keeper who is regarded as one of the most well known in non-league locally. Most recognisable for a successful stint at Leamington, with other previous clubs including Hednesford Town, Nuneaton Borough and Spalding United, as well as a previous spell with Sporting in 2019. Joined Sporting from Hednesford in the summer.

Josh Dugmore DoB: 26/11/02 Birmingham

Position: Defender

Previous clubs: Walsall, Everton, Birmingham City.

An energetic full back who was previously on the books of the Birmingham City Academy. Joined Bromsgrove from local rivals Alvechurch in the summer, where he previously played under Sporting manager Tim Flowers. Enjoyed a successful stint with Sporting a few years ago, during which he wore the captain's armband on a handful of occasions.

Brad Bood DoB: 24/8/03 Wolverhampton

Position: Defender

Previous clubs: Stourbridge, Rushall Olympic, Telford United.

Despite his age, the lively full back has a wealth of non-league experience already, having played at the likes of AFC Telford United, Rushall Olympic and Stourbridge. He had a successful 2025/26 campaign with Stourbridge, which saw him win the Directors' Player of the Year.

Jaden Charles DoB: 25/1/02 Harlow

Position: Defender

Previous clubs: Rushall Olympic, Stamford, Nuneaton Borough, Mansfield Town, Hereford, York City, Derby County U18.

The talented full back joined Sporting in November last season. He hit the ground running immediately with a sensational Man of the Match display in a home win over Kettering Town.

Jak Hickman 11/09/98 West Bromwich

Position: Defender Ht: 5' 9"

Previous clubs: Coventry City, Mickleover, Ashton United, Hereford, Redditch United, Bolton Wanderers, Kings Lynn Town, St Patricks Athletic, Stourbridge, Banbury United, Halesowen Town.

No stranger to Sporting fans, having excelled throughout his first spell in a Bromsgrove shirt in the 2019/20 season. Became a favourite amongst Halesowen fans amassing

over 100 appearances.

Chris Hussey DoB: 2/1/89 Hammersmith

Position: Defender

Previous Clubs: Hednesford Town, Stratford Town, Stockport County, Walsall Town, Port Vale, Cheltenham Town, Sheffield United, Swindon Town, Bury Town, Burton Albion, AFC Wimbledon, Crewe Alexandra, Coventry City.

A classy centre back and Sporting's captain, he has Southern League Premier Central experience following his time with Stratford Town, and he also brings a wealth of experience to the club, through spending 13 years in the EFL with the likes of Coventry City, Sheffield United and Walsall to name just three sides. Joined Sporting from Hednesford in the summer.

Ollie Harrison DoB: 11/11/99 Newcastle-under-Lyme

Position: Defender

Previous clubs: Hednesford Town, Leek Town.

Imposing centre back who was an integral part of Hednesford Town's back-to-back promotion winning side, picking up multiple Player of the Month awards last season. He joined them from Leek Town, where he amassed 195 appearances, enjoying another promotion in the process too.

Kieron Freeman DoB: 21/3/92 Nottingham

Position: Defender

Previous Clubs: Alfreton Town, Hednesford Town, Spalding United, Hartlepool United, Oldham Athletic, Swansea City, Portsmouth, Swindon Town, Sheffield United, Derby County, Mansfield Town, Notts County, Nottingham Forest.

The versatile defender has enjoyed a glittering professional career, having played 20 games in Sheffield United’s Premier League-promotion winning side in the 2018/19 season. He also played for the Blades in the Premier League during the 2019/20 season and has one Wales cap to his name. In non-league, he has plied his trade with Alfreton Town, Hednesford Town and Spalding United.

Hayden Reeves DoB: 15/5/01 Sandwell

Position: Defender

Previous Clubs: Stourbridge, Worcester City.

Combative centre back who captained Stourbridge during the 2025/26 season, having joined them from Worcester City. At Worcester, he tasted promotion, when they won the 2024/25 play-offs at Step Four to secure their Southern League Premier Central status.

Billy Shaw DoB: 17/12/01 Stourbridge

Position: Midfielder

Previous Clubs: Halesowen Town, Worcester City, Redditch United.

An energetic and versatile midfielder who celebrated his 100th Sporting appearance in a win at Stratford Town in April 2026. Last season, the fans favourite enjoyed yet another impressive campaign in a Bromsgrove shirt - full of important goals and tireless performances.

Jordan Lyden DoB: 30/1/96 Perth, Australia

Position: Centre Midfielder

Previous clubs: Aston Villa, Oldham Athletic, Swindon Town, Leyton Orient, Hereford.

Former Australia U20 international, A classy midfielder who joined Sporting during the 2024/25 season, who is also part of the club's management staff in a coaching role. The former Premier League player - with Aston Villa - is already involved in Sporting's youth pathway coaching system, at a local school and sixth form college.

Simeon Maye DoB: 21/7/94 Birmingham

Position: Midfielder

Previous Clubs: Hednesford Town, Rushall Olympic, Banbury United, Brackley Town, Leamington, Hereford, Solihull Moors, Redditch United.

The all-action midfielder has a wealth of non-league experience, having played at the likes of Solihull Moors, Hereford, Brackley Town, Banbury United and Rushall Olympic. He joined Hednesford for a second spell in 2024, where he was a vital part of the side that won back-to-back promotions, the most recent of which seeing the Pitmen reach the National League North.

Dan Trickett-Smith DoB: 8/9/95 Newcastle-under-Lyme

Position: Midfielder

Previous Clubs: Hednesford Town, Leek Town, Port Vale, FC United, Curzon Ashton, Sacramento.

Stylish attacking midfielder who was a key member of the Hednesford side that won back-to-back promotions during the last two seasons. Prior to joining the Pitmen, he was part of a title winning side at Leek Town. He started his career with Crewe Alexandra, when Liverpool paid a fee of £300,000 for him in 2012, from which he turned professional at the club the following year.

Joe Doyle-Charles DoB: 14/10/95 Leicester

Position: Midfielder

Previous Clubs: Hednesford Town, Leamington, Matlock Town, Alfreton Town, Ilkeston Town, Burton Albion.

The experienced midfielder joined Hednesford Town in November 2024, where he

enjoyed back-to-back promotions. A familiar face in the Southern League Central from his time at Coalville Town, where he was captain and played 214 games. From there, he played National League North football at Leamington, before moving to Hednesford in the autumn of 2024.

Lamin Barrow DoB: 30/9/04 Dyppakunda, Gambia

Position: Midfielder

Previous clubs: Fairfield Villa.

An exciting attacking midfielder who impressed in pre-season, recording several goals and assists. His final game as a trialist saw him come off the bench to score two goals against Welsh Premier side Trefelin BGC. Hailing from the Gambia, he was previously plying his trade at local Step Seven side Fairfield Villa, where Sporting scouted him after a string of impressive performances.

Jake Jervis DoB: 17/9/91 Wolverhampton

Position: Forward

Previous Clubs: Hednesford Town, Brackley Town, Kuopion Palloseura, East Bengal, Luton Town, SJK Seinäjoki, Salford City, AFC Wimbledon, Plymouth Argyle, Ross County, Portsmouth, Elazigspor, Birmingham City, Tranmere Rovers, Carlisle United, Preston North End, Swindon Town, Hereford United, Notts County.

Imposing attacker Jake joined Hednesford in February 2024, where he enjoyed back-to-back promotions. He started his career at Birmingham City and has amassed a wealth of experience, with both Football League and non-league teams in England, along with a spell in Scotland with Ross County and stints in Turkey, Finland and India. He's probably best known for his time in Devon, with Plymouth Argyle, where he made 108 appearances and scored 27 times.

Jamille Matt DoB: 20/10/89 St Andrew, Jamaica

Position: Forward

Previous Clubs: Walsall Town, Forest Green Rovers, Newport County, Blackpool, Grimsby Town, Fleetwood Town, Plymouth Argyle, Stevenage, Kidderminster Harriers, Sutton Coldfield Town.

The Jamaican joined Bromsgrove in the summer following his departure from League Two Walsall, after a successful three-and-a-half years with the Saddlers, where he made 140 appearances, wore the captain’s armband and became a firm fans favourite.

Adam Jasper DoB: 14/10/05 Stafford

Position: Forward

Previous Clubs: Tamworth, Darlaston Town, Whitchurch Alport.

On loan from Tamworth.

Thanks to Steve Richards for doing the quizzes again this season

Here is the first on the great Kevin Keegan

1 Which now National League club did Kevin Keegan make his debut for in 1968, playing 141 times before moving to Liverpool?

2 Keegan twice won the Ballon d'Or / European Footballer of the Year whilst playing for which German Bundesliga club?

3 What was the name of Keegan's 1979 top 40 hit single?

4 As a manager Keegan took which three clubs from the Championship to the Premier League, each at the first attempt?

5 Keegan shocked football in 1995 when agreeing to sell Andrew Cole from Newcastle United to Manchester United for a record fee. Which Manchester United player moved in the opposite direction as part of the £7m deal?

6 Who was interviewing Keegan in 1996 when he delivered his famous "I will love it if we beat them" quote?

Answers: 1) Scunthorpe United 2) Hamburg 3) Head Over Heels in Love
4) Newcastle United, Fulham, and Manchester City 5) Keith Gillespie
6) Richard Keys and Andy Gray

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Our Visitors This Evening - Rushall Olympic

Research has discovered that the original Rushall Olympic Football Club was founded at least three years earlier than had previously been thought - with editions of local newspapers found to contain match reports about the Olympic dating back to the 1893-94 season. At this time the club were a very useful junior team who played only friendly matches, but they did go on to join the Cannock & District Football League for the start of the 1895-96 season, finishing as runners-up - before later going on to become members of the Junior (winning the Championship in 1903-04), Amateur, Parks and Senior sections of the Walsall & District League.

However, even earlier records have indicated that football in the village of Rushall was already being played on a regular basis at least 20 years prior to that time and in fact the opening game for the newly formed Walsall Town team was against a Rushall side at the Chuckery Ground, Walsall on the 3rd October 1874. Indeed, so many players turned up that it was decided to field a 15-a-side format, with the surplus Walsall men being "loaned" out to make up the Rushall team. Rushall, with that extra slice of experience, won the game 3-1, although some argued that the game should have finished 2-2 as one of the Rushall goals was scored by a Walsall player!

As research continues, the early years of Rushall Olympic will slowly be uncovered, but it is known that a thriving club certainly existed just after the First World War, up until the mid-1930's. During this period the team (many of whom worked at the local Aldridge pit) played on the field behind the Miners Arms Public House in Rushall - changing in the pub and enjoying a pint after the game. The team, then playing in old gold and black stripes, was a "good 'un", and won various honours along the way, including: the 1919-20 Lichfield & District League Championship in the first full season following the Great War; the Walsall Charity Cup in 1920-21 (playing the semi-final in the morning and the final in the afternoon), 1921-22 and jointly in 1922-23; the Walsall & District Parks League Championship and Senior Cup double of 1924-25; and the Walsall Junior Cup of 1935-36 - all prior to the club disbanding sometime prior to the outbreak of the Second World War.

In 1951, a few local lads - John Edwards, Des Hyde and Graham Wiggin, decided it was high time that football made a return to the village. They approached George Hunt, the proprietor of a local fish and chip shop, for permission to use his premises as the ir headquarters - which was agreed to and Rowley Place was decided upon as the Pic's home ground. Other local players soon joined, including Don Griffiths, Eric Handley, Sid Yates, Wilf Trow and Ernie Lamb. Sid Whitehouse became their trainer and Jim Trow and Mr Evans joined as committee members. With the help of George Hunt, a playing strip of red and white striped shirts was purchased, and entry was gained into the Second Division of the Walsall & District Amateur League, where the team soon began winning trophies. In 1952, Ernie Lamb became the Club Secretary and Arthur Steed (later to become Chairman) joined as trainer; local bookmaker Jim Edge became President; and the headquarters were moved to Rushall Labour Club. Following suggestions from local people with memories of the pre-war club, it was finally decided to revert to an old gold and black strip - the clubs' original colours. The Olympic were back in business.

After winning the Walsall & District Amateur League 2nd Division Championship in 1952-53, and later the First Division Championship in 1955-56, the club eventually gained promotion into the strong Staffordshire County League (South) for the start of the 1956-57 season - and made an immediate impact by winning the 2nd Division title at the first attempt. Following promotion into the First Division, the club later won three back-to-back Championships between 1960 and 1963 - but Rushall Olympic's real glory season came in 1964-65 when the club clinched the Staffordshire County League (South) 1st Division Championship for the fourth time in five years and also won the Lichfield Charity Cup, the Sporting Star Cup and the Walsall Senior Cup.

The club continued to succeed in the Staffordshire County League (South), but failed to emulate its unrivalled success of the 1950's and 60's. However, in 1975, in order to take a giant step forward and gain a higher league status, the club decided to move three miles away to the Aston University Sports Ground, just off the main A34 Walsall to Birmingham road. Unfortunately, football, after many decades, had left the village - but it was soon to return thanks to Olympic's magnificent seven, namely: Brian Greenwood, Mick Clayton, Graham Wiggin, Ray Wiggin, Johnny Edwards, Brian Humphries and Trevor Westwood; who enlisted the help of Councillor Dick Arkell to obtain the lease of some land in Daw End, Rushall, where trees had to be moved, holes dug, and some filled in, until the new Dales Lane ground was officially opened on Sunday 14th August 1977. The club were then accepted into the West Midlands (Regional) League in 1978, and in their first season they finished in a very creditable fourth place in the First Division. The 1979-80 campaign then saw the club go on to win the First Division championship by a massive 16-point margin and gain richly deserved promotion to the Premier Division.

During the 1980's and 90's the club enjoyed fourteen seasons of moderate success in the West Midlands (Regional) League Premier Division, with a highest finish of fifth place achieved in season 1988-89 and a League Cup Final appearance in 1982. However, time moved on, and for the start of the 1994-95 season the club began a new era when it was named as one of the twenty founder members of the Midland Football Alliance. Unfortunately, the first four seasons of Alliance football proved to be somewhat traumatic for the club with final placings of 18th, 12th, 16th and 16th achieved under five different managerial regimes. However, despite these setbacks, in September 1997 the Olympic were delighted to be able to persuade John Allen, Hednesford Town's then Assistant Manager, to join the club as their new First Team Manager who immediately went on to completely revamp the team and gave the club, as a whole, a much-needed impetus.

The turning point in the club's fortunes finally came during season 1998-99 when they finished in a very creditable 7th place, while the following season saw the Pic's take 7th place for the second consecutive season, but with a much-improved points tally. The club also won their first piece of silverware for exactly twenty years when they defeated the then Southern League club Roces ter at Bescot Stadium in a dramatic penalty shoot-out to lift the prestigious Walsall Senior Cup for the first time since 1965.

Season 2000-01 saw the Pic's surpass all expectations as they just missed out on promotion to the Southern League Western Division by ending the campaign as Midland Football Alliance Runners-Up to promoted Stourport Swifts by the narrowest margin

of one single goal. However, during season 2001-02 Manager John Allen moved upstairs to take on the role of club Chairman, while his assistant Kevin Hadley took over and Olympic once more ended the campaign with silverware as the club won the Midland Football Alliance Cup for the first time by defeating Barwell after extra time, in addition to completing the Alliance season in a respectable 5th position.

The club made further progress during season 2002-03 as they went on to record their best ever Alliance campaign, registering their highest ever number of victories and most points achieved by the club, as they finished as runners -up to Stourbridge. Disappointingly, their efforts both on and off the pitch were still not enough to attain their long-term goal of Southern League football when the Pic's were denied a promotion place at the eleventh hour after a crucial vote went narrowly in favour of former Southern League club Yate Town.

August 2003 saw the return of John Allen into the management hot seat after the club decided it needed a change of direction and subsequently parted company with Kevin Hadley and his coaching staff. The club were then able to enter a period of financial consolidation in order to concentrate on ground improvement work during summer 2004 that saw the construction of a Conference standard dressing room complex at Dales Lane. However, even working under such constraints he was still able to guide his charges to the 2003-04 Midland Football Alliance Cup Final, which eventually took place in August 2004, although his side were ultimately defeated 3-1 after extra time by Stratford Town.

To focus firmly on the task in hand John Allen decided to step down from the joint role of Chairman at the end of season 2003 -04 and was now more determined than ever to make a sustained championship challenge in his bid to finally take the club into the higher reaches of non-league football. Indeed, after 7 seasons of trying "Mr Rushall" irrefutably delivered the club's ultimate goal as he led his side to the 2004-05 Midland Football Alliance Championship with 3-weeks to spare and by a commanding 7-point margin. Following an anxious 4-week wait the Football Association eventually decreed that Olympic's dream had come true as they secured automatic promotion into the Southern Football League Division One West for the first time in their history. To round off what was undoubtedly the best ever season witnessed at Dales Lane, Rushall's Reserve Team also completed a superlative league and cup double by clinching the Midland Football Combination Reserve Division Championship and Challenge Trophy.

The 2005-06 campaign saw the Pic's claim an excellent 10th place finish during their Southern Football League debut, while they also lifted the coveted Staffordshire Senior Challenge Cup for the first time in the club's history by defeating Stoke City by a single goal at the Britannia Stadium. Meanwhile, the Reserve Team also retained the Midland Football Combination Reserve Division to complete a season that was a marvellous epitaph to John Allen who then stepped down from his managerial role due to increased business commitments and was replaced by the former Bloxwich United, Blakenall and Bromsgrove Rovers boss Bob Green. However, the new managerial reign lasted only 6 pre-season games during summer 2006, before John Allen was forced to return to the hot seat in August 2006, quickly followed by former Semi-Professional England International Joe O'Connor in October 2006. Following a sequence of defeats leading into the New Year period the Pic's decided upon a fourth managerial change in five months when former Halesowen Town manager Paul Holleran was handed the task of maintaining the club's Southern League status in January 2007. The new man at the helm eventually led Rushall to a comfortable 15th place finish and the Pic's also reached the Staffordshire Senior Challenge Cup Final for the second season running, but a weakened side due to player ineligibility were comprehensively defeated by Kidsgrove Athletic at Port Vale's Vale Park.

The 2007-08 campaign was an excellent one for the Pic's in Southern Football League Division One Midlands as Paul Holleran guided his charges to a promotion play-off position. Unfortunately, the dream of Premier Division football was not to be realised as Rushall narrowly lost out to runners-up Leamington in the Play-Off Semi Final, but the seasonal statistics were impressive to say the least. From the 40 games of the campaign Olympic eventually secured 5th position with 23 victories and as a side conceded only 23 goals in the process, courtesy of keeping 23 clean sheets in the league and 32 in total from 59 games. The success was undoubtedly built around almost unrivalled meanness within the defensive ranks that was only bettered in this and higher levels of football by, none other than Manchester United in the Barclays Premiership! Away from league action the Pics competed in a titanic 18 cup games, with a best ever Football Association Challenge Cup run to the Fourth Round Qualifying stage (with the agony of a 6-0 defeat at former Football League York City) and a best ever Third Qualifying Round appearance in the F.A. Trophy were also very much amongst the tremendous highs of the season.

May 2008 saw the Pics presented with a new challenge when in an incredible turn of events, the Football Association Leagues Committee met to decide on the allocation of clubs for Steps 1 to 4 of the National League System campaign - which resulted in the club being moved across the non-League pyramid into the Northern Premier Football League First Division South for the 2008-09 campaign.

The Pics debut campaign in the northern section of the non-League pyramid proved to be an extremely successful transition as they repeated the feat of twelve months earlier and reached the promotion play-offs with another 5th place finish. Unfortunately, they suffered once more disappointment after this time losing by a single goal to runners-up Belper Town in the Play-Off Semi Final. However, Rushall did finish their campaign on a high note by claiming the Walsall Senior Cup for the first time in nine years as they grabbed a nail-biting 2-1 victory against Tipton Town at the Banks's Stadium in front of 550 spectators.

Dramatic developments towards the end of May 2009 saw manager Paul Holleran step down from his role due to a combination of work commitments and inevitable financial restructuring within the club as a result of the credit crunch and only days later was replaced by former Pics player Neil Kitching who returned to Dales Lane from a managerial role at Coleshill Town he had occupied since November 2008. During the 2009-10 campaign the Pics led the First Division South table in both October and January, but they eventually faded out to a 12th place finish, while a second consecutive Walsall Senior Cup Final appearance ended in disappointment with a single goal defeat to lower league Bloxwich United AFC at the Banks's Stadium.

Summer 2010 saw a further cut in the playing budget as senior player Nick Amos took on the role of player-assistant manager, while Ian Cooper returned to the fold to take up the position of player-coach. However, the backroom reshuffle paid immense dividends as Olympic finished in a best-ever 3rd place in the Evo-Stik League First Division South table with a game to spare and claim a place in the Promotion Play-Off's for the third time in four seasons.

After accounting for Brigg Town 3-0 at Dales Lane in the Semi-Final, they gained home advantage in the Final, where a superb battling display from Rushall saw them surpass all expectations and claim fully deserved promotion to Step 3 of the non-League pyramid for the very first time in their history following a stupendous 2-0 victory against Grantham Town in front of 751 spectators. The Pics also ended a truly memorable campaign with more honours by winning the Walsall Senior Cup for the second time in three years at the Banks's Stadium, while manager Neil Kitching received a hugely deserved personal honour to crown a brilliant season by being named as the Evo-Stik League "First Division South Manager of the Month" for April/May 2011.

Rushall's 2011-12 debut campaign in the Evo-Stik League Premier Division was nothing short of an outstanding success as they gamely battled away to an excellent 8th place finish, leaving many high-profile teams with far healthier budgets firmly in their wake - but were ultimately some 11 points shy of the promotion play-off zone. The Pics were also heavily involved in cup action, reaching the finals of The Doodson Sport (League) Cup, Staffordshire Senior Cup and Walsall Senior Cup - but were unfortunately only successful in the latter, triumphing for the third time in four seasons.

During the 2012-3 campaign Olympic occupied the play-off positions during the early part and latter stages of the campaign but ultimately fell short of a top five play-off zone finish by five points after claiming just a single victory in their final five games to finish in 6th position and then had to end Staffordshire Senior Cup disappointment in the final for the second successive season.

The 2013-14 campaign saw the Pics once more fell short of the play-off places by the relatively slim margin of five points, ultimately finishing in 7th place as a result of succumbing to three defeats in their final five league games. There was also some mixed fortunes in cup competitions as they claimed the Staffordshire Senior Cup for only the second time in their history against Port Vale at Vale Park but suffered a heavy defeat in the final of the Walsall Senior Cup at the hands of lower league neighbours Chasetown. Prior to the Banks's Stadium defeat in May 2014, in a surprise move the Pics had already announced that Neil Kitching had opted to end his managerial reign after five successful years at the club by mutual consent and was quickly replaced as Manager by Richard Sneekes, the former Ajax, Bolton Wanderers and West Bromwich Albion midfield maestro and his experienced assistant Steve Hinks.

The first season under the new managerial regime ultimately saw wholesale changes on the pitch, however an excellent finish o f 9th place was achieved. The 2015-16 campaign ended with Rushall finishing in 10th position, but they did win the Staffordshire Senior Cup for only the third time in their history and won the Walsall Senior Cup for the sixth time after being awarded the trophy when their opponents unexpectedly withdrew from the competition.

Summer 2016 saw a surprise managerial change as Richard Sneekes stepped down and was ultimately replaced by Pics Chairman John Allen, returning to the role he last occupied in October 2006. However, his move back into the Dales Lane hot-set lasted just one term when during summer 2017 the club unveiled a new managerial team headed by former Stoke City, Southampton and Burnley defender Wayne Thomas, assisted by Will Ryder and Trevor Burroughs - allowing John Allen to step aside to focus all of his attention on his role as Chairman once more.

Following a poor start to the 2017-18 campaign the new managerial team were ultimately relieved of their duties in October 2017 after 17 games and were replaced by former Redditch United, Hednesford Town and Solihull Moors manager Liam McDonald, ably assisted by his trusted backroom team of Nick Green, David Bridgwater and Trevor Burroughs.

The new regime worked wonders and quickly revamped the squad to lift the Pics from joint bottom of the table to a final finish of 8th place - before suffering a 12-point deduction at the end of the campaign for fielding a player in 17 league games whose contract registration was ruled not to have been approved in accordance with the league and Football Associated rules. Despite dropping down to 18th in the standings there was a positive end to the campaign by clinching the Walsall Senior Cup for the seventh time in their history following a narrow victory on penalty kicks against near neighbours Walsall Wood at the Banks's Stadium.

Following ten seasons as members of the Northern Premier Football League, May 2018 saw Rushall returned to the jurisdiction of the Southern Football League after the Football Association undertook a major reallocation of clubs to increase the previous three Step 3 divisions of 24 clubs to four divisions of 22 clubs, thus allowing for the creation of a "Midlands" division at Step 3 of the National League System for the 2018-19 campaign. Following a slow start the Pics debut campaign gathered momentum during the run in and they ultimately finished just seven points outside the Evo-Stik Southern League Premier Division Central play-off places in 8th position, but suffered disappointment in the Final of the Staffordshire Senior Cup against Stafford Rangers at the home of Stoke City.

The summer of 2019 saw the end of an era and the beginning of an exciting new future as the Dales Lane turf was finally torn up after 42 years and replaced with a state-of-the-art 3G surface, which will not only help to secure the Pics future, but also allow closer links to be established between the clubs First Team, U21's, U-18's, Education & Football Academy, Development Section and local community groups and organisations.

Unfortunately, the 2019-20 campaign was curtailed on Saturday 7 March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic and all playing records were expunged, which was a major disappointment with the Pics with then sitting nicely in 5th place in the Southern League Premier Division Central standings with 33 games out of 42 played and with Birmingham and Staffordshire Senior Cup Semi-Finals still to be played, plus a Walsall Senior Cup Quarter-Final.

Sadly, season 2020-21 ultimately failed to last past the second month of competition after Southern League Premier Division Central commenced in September 2020 and no more league games were played after a second national lockdown was imposed in

early November 2020 with the Pics handily placed in 4th position. Steps 3 to 6 of the National League System were then curtailed with immediate effect in February 2021.

The 2021-22 campaign effectively saw football return to normality, despite the ongoing threat of Covid-19. However, it was an extremely successful one for the Pics as they recorded the highest ever finish in their history by ending the season in 4th position in the Southern League Premier Division Central standings on the back of a 21 game (15 league game) unbeaten run between November 2021 and February 2022. At one time the Pics occupied 2nd position, only to fall away to fourth place after only recording two wins in their final 10 league games. However, a play-off place was achieved, although Rushall fell at the first hurdle against Coalville Town. The season still finished on a high note as Olympic claimed the Walsall Senior Cup for the eighth time in their history with victory over Sporting Khalsa at the Banks's Stadium.

Season 2022-23 proved to be a defining moment in the history of Rushall Olympic as Manager Liam McDonald guided the Pics to their finest ever moment. After securing a second consecutive play-off spot following a 5th position finish at the end of the Southern League Premier Division Central campaign, the Pics overcame runners-up Coalville Town in the Semi-Final with a dramatic 4-3 penalty shoot-out at Owen Street, in front of a largely partisan crowd of over 1,600 following a tense one-all draw after extra time.

In the play-off Final they travelled to Liberty Way to tackle 4th placed Nuneaton Borough where a crowd of over 3,500 gathered to see another intense affair that saw Olympic again triumph 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out following a goalless draw after extra time. The victory saw village club Rushall promoted to Step 2 of the National League System for the first time in their history to take their place alongside ex-Football League clubs Boston United, Chester, Darlington, Hereford, Scunthorpe Unted and Southport for the 2023-24 campaign.

The season also finished with a flourish as Olympic clinched an unprecedented treble by winning the Staffordshire Senior Cup for the fourth time with victory over Leek Town at Vale Park and the Walsall Senior Cup for a 9th time against a young Walsall side at the home of Burton Albion.

The Pics debut season in the National League North was something of a baptism of fire as they ended August 2023 in 23rd position, without a league victory; peaked in 15th place towards the end of October; and ultimately assured themselves safety with a game to spare as they ended the campaign in 19th spot, two places and three points clear of the drop zone.

Rushall also ended the 2023-24 campaign with another cup double as they retained both the Walsall Senior Cup and Staffordshire Senior Cup. Local rivals Chasetown were defeated 4-1 at Walsall's ground to clinch the Walsall Senior Cup for the 10th time and for the third consecutive season, while in the Staffordshire Senior Cup the Pics defeated Leek Town at Stoke City's ground to clinch the trophy for the fifth time in the history.

During the middle of May 2024, the club surprisingly announced that manager Liam McDonald had opted to step down as manager of the Pics after nearly seven seasons in charge and take up an offer to manage Step 3 outfit Stourbridge. He left Dales Lane having claimed four Walsall Senior Cups; two Staffordshire Senior Cups; and promotion to Step 2 by winning the 2022-23 Southern League Premier Division Central Play-Off.

Within 24 hours Rushall announced that former Coalville Town manager Adam Stevens had agreed to become the new boss at Dales Lane and that he would be assisted by Pics Academy Manager Steve Hinks, his former No.2 at Coalville. The new management team was completed with the return of Richard Sneekes as Coach, who had previously been Rushall's manager for two seasons between 2014 and 2016.

However, despite guiding the Pics to their first ever appearance in the First Round Proper in the F.A. Cup, ultimately being defeated by two goals to nil at home to League Two side Accrington Stanley, a run of only one win in twelve league games saw the manager dismissed after the final game of November 2024 as the club strived to retain its Step 2 status.

Following a short spell as interim manager, Richard Sneekes was subsequently promoted to the role of manager, assisted by Steve Hinks and player-coach Sam Mantom. However, despite a successful return in January 2025, where the Pics won 4 of their 6 league games and took the scalps of high-flying Kidderminster Harriers and Scunthorpe United, their failure to win games during February and April (gaining only 10 points from the final 17 league games) and an inability to take points from teams around them in the table, ultimately cost them dearly.

With three games to go the clubs first ever relegation in their history was confirmed as they ultimately dropped back down to Step 3 of the National League System, 16 points adrift of safety with a 22nd place finish. Frustratingly and despite lodging an appeal the Pics were ultimately allocated a place in the Northern Premier League Premier Division for season 2025-26 by the Football Association, as opposed to the preferred Southern League Premier Division Central, missing out on a whole host of derby games against Midlands rivals in the process.

On 28th April 2025 it was announced that Richard Sneekes was to step down as first team manager in order to take up the role of Technical Advisor at the club, while Olympic were delighted to announce the appointment of Ian Long as his replacement, a former Pics' player who had gone on to become a well-respected manager in the local football scene for his work with Tividale, Alvechurch, Stourbridge and Walsall Wood, where he forged a reputation for building well-organised and hard-working teams that play attractive football.

However, on the league front the Pics struggled at times on their return to the Northern Premier League Premier Division, with an acute lack of goals hampering their progress. Indeed, they only secured their Step 3 status in the penultimate game of the season, eventually ending with a 16th place finish. On a positive note, Rushall clinched the Staffordshire Senior Cup for a sixth time, their third success in four seasons, when they defeated Step 6 side Eccleshall by three goals to two at Stoke City's ground.

During May 2026 it was confirmed by the Football Association that as part of the National League System club allocations the Pics would be moved laterally back to their preferred Southern League Premier Division Central for the 2026-27 campaign.

Rushall Olympic - First Team Squad Profiles

Ian LONG – Manager. Popular former player who was announced as the Pics new manager on 28th April 2025.

Richard COLWELL – Assistant Manager. Long term assistant to the Pics new manager Ian Long, the duo were announced as the new managerial team at Dales Lane on 28th April 2025.

Danny PILGRIM – Coach. UEFA A License coach who arrived at Dales Lane during April 2025 as part of the new managerial team.

Neil REEVES – Goalkeeping Coach. Highly regarded goalkeeping coach who arrived at Dales Lane during June 2025 to link back up with manager Ian Long.

Kaiman ANDERSON – Forward. A strong, energetic and prolific goalscorer capable of operating in a variety of attacking positions.

Luke BENBOW – Forward. Highly prolific front runner who made a welcome return to Dales Lane to begin a third spell with the Pics.

Jordaan BROWN – Defender. Powerful left-sided defender equally at home at centre-back or full-back who returned to Dales Lane from Stourbridge during June 2025 to begin a second spell with the Pics.

Bradley BURTON – Defender. Versatile right sided attacking full back or wing back who arrived at Dales Lane during August 2025.

Jake DAVIES-MANTON – Goalkeeper. Highly rated young custodian who progressed through the ranks at Dales Lane and stepped up into the first team squad during summer 2025.

Anthony DWYER – Forward. Experienced front runner who has amassed a tremendous amount of experience within the higher echelons of non-league football.

Luke ENRIGHT – Forward. Mobile and aggressive striker with an eye for a goal who transferred to Dales Lane during December 2025.

Carter LYCETT – Defender. Talented and highly regarded left sided defender who became new manager Ian Long's first signing when he arrived at Dales Lane during May 2025.

Liam McALINDEN – Midfielder/Forward. Extremely versatile player with over 200 Football League games under his belt.

Roddy McGLINCHEY – Midfielder. Gifted and influential central midfielder who arrived at Dales Lane during summer 2024, having been released by Peterborough United.

Reece MITCHELL - Defender. Highly regarded left-sided defender who made a welcome return to the Pics in June 2026.

Alex MOORE – Midfielder. A creative, ball-playing midfielder who is also very adept at dead-ball situations.

Osaze OKUONGHAE – Defender/Midfielder. Versatile emerging teenage talent who initially arrived at Dales Lane on trial during summer 2025.

Max RAM – Defender. Commanding and versatile right sided central defender who is extremely useful in both boxes.

Ollie TAYLOR – Goalkeeper. An extremely experienced goalkeeper, he became the Pics' first signing of the summer when he joined from former Southern League Premier Division Central side St Ives Town in May 2026.

Aurio TEIXEIRA – Midfielder. Highly rated defensive midfield ball-winner, who is calm and assured on the ball.

Sam UNITT – Midfielder. Dynamic and creative box-to-box midfielder who returned to Dales Lane during summer 2025 following a spell with Northern Premier League Division One West neighbours Chasetown.

Sam WILDING - Midfielder. A commanding presence in the heart of midfield, he joined the Pics in June 2026 from Northern Premier League Division One West side Chasetown.

Jamie WILLETS – Defender. Dominant and powerful central defender with good communication skills who arrived at Dales Lane during October 2025 following his departure from Southern League Premier Division Central outfit Halesowen Town.

Luke YATES – Forward. A talented and prolific attacking player, he arrived at Dales Lane in June 2026 from Northern Premier League Division One West neighbours Chasetown.

Photos from Last Saturday's Match vs Needham Market

A welcome return in Sporting colours for Jak Hickman

Player of the Match performance from Dan Trickett-Smith. Photos: Chris Jepson.

Last Saturday's Results

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 8th August			Att
Anstey Nomads	1 - 1	Leiston	377
Bishop's Stortford	0 - 0	Banbury United	438
Bury Town	1 - 1	Halesowen Town	814
Kettering Town	1 - 0	Alvechurch	900
Needham Market	1 - 3	**Bromsgrove Sporting**	345
Racing Club Warwick	1 - 1	Peterborough Sports	585
Real Bedford	4 - 2	Leamington	512
Redditch United	1 - 1	Leighton Town	1,041
Rushall Olympic	2 - 1	Hitchin Town	432
Stourbridge	2 - 0	Stamford	602
Stratford Town	1 - 1	Worcester City	813

This Evening's Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Tuesday 11th August		
Alvechurch	v	Worcester City
Banbury United	v	Racing Club Warwick
Bromsgrove Sporting	v	Rushall Olympic
Hitchin Town	v	Needham Market
Leamington	v	Anstey Nomads
Leighton Town	v	Kettering Town
Leiston	v	Bishop's Stortford
Peterborough Sports	v	Real Bedford
Stamford	v	Bury Town
Stratford Town	v	Redditch United

This Saturday's Matches

The Pitching In Southern League Premier Division Central, Saturday 15th August		
Alvechurch	v	Needham Market
Banbury United	v	Real Bedford
Bromsgrove Sporting	v	Anstey Nomads
Halesowen Town	v	Bishop's Stortford
Hitchin Town	v	Redditch United
Leamington	v	Kettering Town
Leighton Town	v	Worcester City
Leiston	v	Rushall Olympic
Peterborough Sports	v	Stourbridge
Stamford	v	Racing Club Warwick
Stratford Town	v	Bury Town

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This Evening's Teams

Bromsgrove Sporting **red & white striped shirts, navy blue shorts and navy blue socks**		***Rushall Olympic*** ***light blue shirts, shorts and socks***	
Teams to be chosen from the following:			
1	***Tony Breeden (GK)***	***1***	***Jake Davies-Manton (GK)***
2	***Lamin Barrow***	***2***	***Ollie Taylor (GK)***
3	***Brad Bood***	***3***	***Kaiman Anderson***
4	***Jaden Charles***	***4***	***Luke Benbow***
5	***Joe Doyle-Charles***	***5***	***Jordaan Brown***
6	***Josh Dugmore***	***6***	***Bradley Burton***
7	***Kieron Freeman***	***7***	***Anthony Dwyer***
8	***Ollie Harrison***	***8***	***Luke Enright***
9	***Jak Hickman***	***9***	***Carter Lycett***
10	***Chris Hussey***	***10***	***Liam McAlinden***
11	***Adam Jasper***	***11***	***Roddy McGlinchey***
12	***Jake Jervis***	***12***	***Reece Mitchell***
13	***Jordan Lyden***	***13***	***Alex Moore***
14	***Jamille Matt***	***14***	***Osaze Okuonghae***
15	***Simeon Maye***	***15***	***Max Ram***
16	***Hayden Reeves***	***16***	***Aurio Teixeira***
17	***Billy Shaw***	***17***	***Sam Unitt***
18	***Dan Trickett-Smith***	***18***	***Sam Wilding***
19		***19***	***Jamie Willets***
20		***20***	***Luke Yates***
21		***21***	

Match Officials

Referee:	**Mr N Wormleighton**
Assistant 1:	**Mr P Sparrow**
Assistant 2:	**Mr J Alliband**