



Garstang Football Club

Official Match Day Digital Programme - Season 2025-2026

North West Counties League – Division 1 North



Squires Gate
Wed 18th March
7.45pm KO

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Garstang Football Club

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High Street,

Garstang PR3 1EB

www.garstangfc.co.uk

[Email: garstangfc3@gmail.com](mailto:garstangfc3@gmail.com)

Club Officials

Chairman: Adrian Wilding

Vice Chairman: Graham Shaw

Financial Director: Darren Blacow

Directors: Marc Armstrong, Ryan Armstrong, Phil McBride, Andrew Dixon, Neil Beesley, Bob Freeman

Head of Media, Programme Editor and Sponsorship Co-Ordinator: Ryan Armstrong

Club & First Team Secretary: Graham Shaw

Res. Team Secretary: Marc Armstrong

Kit Manager: Ryan Armstrong, Phil McBride

First Team Manager: Guy Heffernan

First Team Assistant Manager: Craig Nolan, Gareth Pugh

First Team Goalkeeping Coach: Alex Kaylor

Reserve Team Manager: Peter Pye

Reserve Team Assistant Manager: Mike Clark

Pitch Maintenance: Richard Brown

Matchday Volunteers: Alan Morton, Mark Corless, Hazel Corless, Andrew Dixon, Phil McBride, Ruth McBride, Graham Shaw, Ryan Armstrong, Winnie Shaw

We warmly welcome all supporters, staff and players of Squires Gate to The Riverside.

The First Team have enjoyed a rare week off from action. We now welcome Squires Gate for the replay of our abandoned game from a few weeks ago.

The side now sit 7th in the league, just outside the playoffs on goal difference. There is a tight pack vying for the playoffs so this game could prove crucial for them. Form wise, we sit 5th in the league, whereas Gate are 11th. It will be a tough test for us, but an important game in our fight for survival.

In this edition, you will find an update from our Sponsorship Co-Ordinator about our successes from this season, thoughts of both managers, recent match reports and Junior news.

Over the next few weeks, both teams have a lot of games in the run in. We'd like to thank you for your support over recent weeks and hope to see you supporting us for the final weeks of the season.

There are some tough games in that mix, but by coming together behind the team we can give them the best chance of succeeding.

Enjoy today's game.

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Club Honours

1999/00: Lancashire Shield Winners

1999/00: President's Cup Winners

2000/01: Reserve Div. Two Champions

2002/03: Houston Cup Winners

2006/07: West Lancs Div. One Runners Up

2007/08: West Lancs Premier Div. Champions

2007/08: Reserve Div. Two Champions

2008/09: Wilf Carr Memorial Trophy Winners

2011/12: LEP Youth League Red Runners Up

2012/12: West Lancs Div. One Runners Up

2014/15: West Lancs Res. Div. 1 Champions

2015/16: Richardson Cup Runners Up

2016/17: Richardson Cup Runners Up

2017/18: West Lancs Prem. Champions

2017/18: Richardson Cup Winners

2017/18: Lancs Amateur Shield Runners Up

2017/18: West Lancs League Div. 3 Champions

2017/18: Stewart Rowe Memorial Cup Winners



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”

The Manager

Good Evening.

It has been good for the players and my staff to have a week off since we last played. The tiredness from the tight schedule finally caught up with us in what was a really poor match against Daisy Hill. Quality was lacking from both sides. Yet, I was very impressed with the way we came back. It would have been incredibly easy for us to lose the game after conceding such a sloppy goal so late on into the game. However, the grit and determination it took to come back proved that the lads are rallying round each other to try and get out of the bottom three.

Tonight's game will be another tough encounter; indeed all are at this level. Squires Gate are pushing for the play-offs. We fell to a particularly disappointing defeat at their place, but were leading in the return fixture before abandonment.

I want to see that grit, work rate and determination we have seen in the last month from my players, if they do that we have the best chance of winning and giving you a performance to be proud of.

Best wishes, Guy



Guy Heffernan
First Team Manager



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Contact: 07967 337418

SCORE LOTTERY

February Winners

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£100 – 2822 – John Wilding, Garstang
£60 – 1997 – Diane Vile, Garstang
£60 – 2707 – Ethan Dalton, Preston
£60 – 2261 – Tracey Mercer, Chorley
£25 – 1900 – Martin Lawrenson, Pilling
£25 – 3202 – C Eastham, Garstang
£25 – 1404 – NM & C Thornber, Garstang
£25 – 3184 – Phil McBride, Garstang

Ben Turton wins February 'Score' Lottery

The February 2026 winner of Garstang FC's 'Score Lottery' was First Team player, Ben Turton. His cheque was presented by Chairman Adrian Wilding before Saturday's game against Darwen FC. Ben celebrated his big win by scoring the club's 89th minute winning goal against their high-flying opposition. Ben was overjoyed by his win and stated that his win would go towards his Summer holiday.



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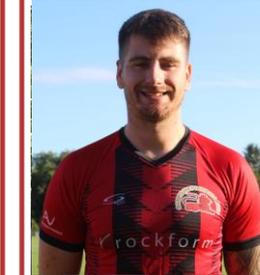
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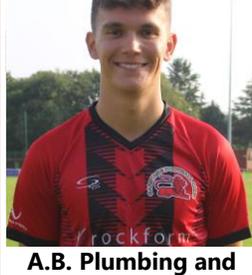
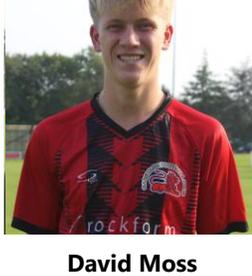
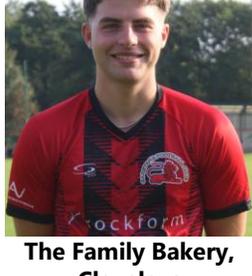
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**Ryan
Armstrong**
*Director
(Sponsorship
Co-Ordinator)*

View from the Board

Good Evening,

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to the players, supporters and volunteers of Squires Gate.

This season has been a record for us in terms of sponsorship. At the beginning of the season, we set a target of bringing more businesses on board, to boost their profile and improve our sustainability.

We sold out of all our board spaces, the first time ever that this has happened. We are working on bringing more spaces before the start of next season for more businesses to promote themselves and brighten The Riverside up even more!

Player sponsorships have similarly seen an unparalleled increase. Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who have chosen to support us in this way, it is a great way via social media to show your support.

We also secured our first ever stand sponsor, and still have the other one remaining, which will be a priority going into next season. Please do get in touch if this amazing opportunity is of interest.

Recently, on our website, we launched a new sponsors guide, which collates information about the brilliant businesses who sponsor us. This includes a sponsor spotlight for each, providing an in depth look at what each business offers. Check it out here: <https://garstangfc.co.uk/club-info/sponsors-guide>.

Next season, we will continue to push sponsorship, building on what we have achieved in the past year.

I'd like to thank all of our amazing partners for the way they support the club. We cannot survive without it. I look forward to welcoming all board and major sponsors to our Sponsors Match at the end of the season.

Ryan

HT VEHICLE SALES

EST. 2020

Contact Adrian Wilding - 07769397145



MEET THE HOSTS

History

Garstang Football Club was formed in 1885 and documented records show that, in 1927, the club won the Guildhall Cup as a member of the Preston and District League.

In the mid-sixties both the First and Reserve Teams moved from "The Beeches" to the club's current home of "The Riverside". At the time of this move the club continued to be a proud member of the Preston and District League. After much soul searching and debate during the summer of 1994 the club made the decision to advance and two steps into the West Lancashire League.

Garstang made steady progress in the early years and then, under the guidance of manager Keith Brindle, the first team reached the Lancashire Amateur Shield final for two years in succession. The first final during the 1998/99 season, saw the team suffer defeat at the hands of Fulwood. However, the following year the club bounced back and secured the trophy with a victory over favourites Stand Athletic.

In the 1999/00 season, Garstang secured the President's Cup with a thrilling sudden death penalty shootout victory, and they also achieved promotion to the West Lancashire Premier Division as runners up. There followed a few ups and downs until the 2007/08 season saw the Reserve Team secure the Reserve Division Two title under the guidance of Paul Bailey. The First Team were also involved in a thrilling title battle that went down to the last game of the season and in front of over 250 of their own fans, the team secured the three points needed to win the Premier Division title.

Adrian Wilding returned as Chairman and off the field plans were put in place to improve the facilities as the club, a major part being the "Score" lottery instigated by Les Taylor. An Under 18 team was formed with the ambition to nurture our own talent and this is now starting to pay dividends. The club recorded their first ever Reserve Division 1 title again under the leadership of Paul Bail and further silverware was won in the 2017/18 season which proved to be a historic one for the club. Former players from the 2008 Championship winning side Lee Baker and Neil Beesley were now in charge and the First team won the West Lancs Premier League and Cup double. In the same season the club was also runners up in The Lancashire Shield whilst the reserves under the stewardship of Hugh Sneddon and Joe Miller also did the double. After much hard work it was confirmed, we had been accepted into The Hallmark Security League and the beginning of a new chapter for Garstang Football.

The club started its first season in the Hallmark Security league Division 1 North in Season 2018/19 and a long campaign saw the club secure a highly creditable 7th place finish and the team had excellent cup runs in 3 competitions including the Buildbase FA vase. During the season the club had its highest home attendance against local rivals Longridge Town with 352 spectators watching. Lee Baker left the club at the end of that season and was replaced by Richard Cookney who did an excellent job consolidating the club's position within the league. After a number of Covid interrupted seasons Cookney left the club in November 2021 and following an interim role as Caretaker Manager, Zach Clark was appointed Player Manager.

Season 22/23 was a real Jekyll and Hyde season with the team either on a long run of wins or a long run of defeats. The team was decimated with injuries and the club has never had to contend with so many injuries in one season. This hampered the manager in being able to select a regular line up. The injury situation improved just in time towards the very end of the season, as the club secured 2 consecutive wins to close out the season and finish two places above the bottom three.

In September 2023, Zach Clark chose to leave the club to concentrate on playing and after a recruitment process Darrell Slater-Smith was appointed to the First Team manager's role following a successful spell running the Second Team.

After a very difficult season Darrell, left the club in May and was replaced by Guy Heffernan, who brings with him a management team of proven operators at this level as the club. The club had another difficult season for the 24/25 season, but this was a year of rebuilding, before hoping to push on this season.

Squad

GK	Joe Lawton
GK	Matty Hodds
DEF	Elliot Bradshaw
DEF	Ellis Hancox
DEF	Phil Nagy
DEF	Steve Mercer
DEF	Louis Edwards
DEF	Owen Imadiyiosat
DEF	Ben Turton
DEF	Elliot Grime
DEF	Harley Mather
DEF	Jomar Da Silva
DEF	Joseph McDermott
DEF	George Lord
DEF	Tyler Chester
MID	Lucas Pinnington
MID	Oliver Cooper
MID	Charlie Nelson
MID	Liam Clegg
MID	Woody Howard
MID	Cobie Entwistle
ATT	Andrew Murphy
ATT	Thomas Dennison
ATT	Weslie Bajraliu
ATT	Sam Burton
ATT	Harvey Whittaker
ATT	Bobby Carter
ATT	Dan Pye

Staff

Manager	Guy Heffernan
Ass. Man.	Craig Nolan
Ass. Man.	Gareth Pugh
GK Coach	Alex Kaylor

PITCH SQUARES

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Alan Morton	In memory of Reg Armstrong	HT VEHICLE SALES EST. 2020 Contact: Adrian Wilding, 07769397145				

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MEET THE VISITORS



History

Squires Gate were formed in 1948 as Squires Gate British Legion FC and competed in the Blackpool & District Amateur League. They won the leagues Rawling Shield in their first season. The name of the club was changed to Squires Gate FC in 1953. They won the leagues First Division in 1955-56 and 1956-57; also the Blackwell Cup in 1958-59 and 1959-60. They spent the 1960-61 in the Fylde District League, winning the Fylde Cup and losing finalists in the Bannister Cup. The following season they moved up to the West Lancashire League where they spent the next thirty years. From 1961 until 1980 they were in Division Two and were promoted in 1981 as champions. In the 1986-87 season they won the Richardson Cup. They were elected into the North West Counties Football League for the 1991-92 season, joining Division Two for the 1991-92 season. They won the 2001-02 season Division Two Trophy and then the following season they missed the runner-up spot on goal difference but were still promoted to Division One following the demise of Stand Athletic who had originally been promoted as Division Two champions. They reached their highest league placing in the 2005-06 season also reaching the quarter finals of the FA Vase. To cap a very impressive 2007-08 season, Squires Gate were delighted that no less than nine of their members were honoured with long service awards: Albert Hamer, George Diggle, Roy Westhead, Brian Hugill and Brian Addison all collected Football Association Order of Merit mementos for 50 years service; and Steve Bellamy, Mick Farrer, John Maguire and Tony Hornby received 30 years awards from the Lancashire FA. Groundsman Brian Addison was judged the best at our level in the Northern Region, and a magnificent third nationally at the FA Groundsman of the Year presentations in London last September, and his pitch is clear evidence of his commitment. Due to an indifferent start in the 2015/16 season, club captain Danny Penswick took over as player manager and ensured survival with a memorable last game victory at Ashton Athletic. Danny also ensured Premier Division status in 2016/17 thanks to a late surge including a victory at home to Runcorn Linnets. Andy Clarkson took over in October 2017 and guided the club to a creditable 8th place finish and improved again in 2018/19 season with another 8th place finish. After a difficult start to the 2019/2020 season Luke Evans was appointed manager by Chairman Tony Jo, assisted by Shane Hudson. Evans led the club up the table, with Gate sat in 9th place before COVID-19 struck the nation, cutting the season short in March. The time away allowed the committee to look at how to move the club forward off the pitch, with much needed improvements made across the board. New changing rooms were implemented, with various other improvements made around the stadium. A new media team was also appointed, with James Ashton, Dan Hayden and Jay Hayden heading up a new look social media, programme and graphic design, with Ian Moore coming in as the new Club Photographer, taking over from the irreplaceable legend Albert Cooper. Andy Baker also came in as the new Assistant Manager. The 2020/21 season only saw nine league matches take place for Gate, before COVID struck once again to cut the season short after December. Again though this allowed time for Luke Evans to keep moving the club forward, as strong partnerships with Talented Player Development and Global Football Network were made. Meanwhile, a new Under 23's team was formed, led by Liam Robinson of Talented Player Development. Forward to the start of the 2021/22 season, a decent start in the league coincided with Gate putting together a good run in the FA Cup, reaching the 2nd Qualifying Round - matching their best run in the club's history. The highlight of this run came in the Preliminary Round, as Gate hosted newly formed Macclesfield FC at The Brian Addison Stadium. A record crowd of 738 watched an incredible match, as Gate came away 6-4 winners to progress into the next round. After knocking out North Shields, Gate were narrowly beaten 3-2 by Pontefract Collieries to end their run. Gate kept ticking in the league too, finishing 17th with safety confirmed comfortably by the start of March. Unfortunately during the 21/22 season, the club had the devastating passing of beloved chairman Tony Jo. Luke Evans and the rest of the club committee now had the club in their hands. It made for a difficult summer in 2022, with the club only just surviving, but the committee and its volunteers pulled together to keep the club afloat and put together a new young and hungry squad for the 2022/23 season. While the previous season's FA Cup achievement couldn't be matched, an excellent run was put together in the FA Vase, with Gate reaching the Third Round. The summer of 2023 saw more off the field changes, with club legend John Maguire stepping down from his role as Secretary, ending 48 years of stellar service. James Ashton and Alan Davis were elected onto the club committee, as well as Ian Moore who became the new secretary. Hayden Moore was appointed Head of Recruitment, while a new chairman was also appointed - head of Global Football Network, John Pladas.

NEWS

Liam Clegg wins the NWCFL Player of the Month

The First Division North Player of the Month for January 2026 goes to Liam Clegg of Garstang. This is the first time Liam has won this award and the second this season for Garstang after Andrew Murphy won it in September.

The 25-year old came through the ranks at Preston North End, and also represented Lancashire Schoolboys as a youngster. After his release from Deepdale, he joined Clitheroe, initially in their Under 21's side before progressing through to the First Team playing in the Northern Premier League. He played six games for Garstang in 2022/23 season, before moving there full time at the start of the 2024/25 season, and has since made over 50 appearances for the club.

The first game of February for Liam was at Steeton, where he opened the scoring on 19 minutes when he held off the defender and found the corner. On the hour, Liam scored his second goal of the game, this time a perfectly executed lob from the edge of the box to extend the lead. The game finished 2-2 with Liam awarded Man of the Match for his performance in the game.

The mid-month bad weather then hit with home games against Daisy Hill and AFC Blackpool both postponed, with Garstang leading against Squires Gate in another game through a Liam Clegg goal before the game was abandoned due to a waterlogged pitch.

The second game was therefore Ashton Athletic at home, with Liam threading an excellent through ball to teammate Bobby Carter who slotted home the opener on seven minutes. And on 13 minutes he was at it again, whipping in a ball for Steven Mercer to head home to double the lead. Garstang won 2-1 with Liam denied another Man of the Match due to the performance of keeper Joe Lawton who kept Ashton at bay, particularly in the second half.

Garstang's third and final game of the month came as part of the NWCFL Groundhop in the derby game at Fulwood Amateurs. Fulwood were two goals ahead after just seven minutes, but Garstang came back to draw 2-2. Liam got no goals or assists this time, however his performance in helping his side to come back from two goals down led to him winning yet another Man of the Match, his fifth in the last seven league games which certainly shows his form at this time.

Congratulations to Liam on a fine month.

A photo of Liam being presented his award is on the cover on this programme.



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JUNIORS

Garstang Junior Football Club were established in 2023, the first time for a long period that there had been junior football provision in the town of Garstang itself. The club has gone from strength to strength in a short space of time, with now 10 teams from u6 to u14. The club were named Sports Team of the year in 2024 by Garstang Town Council for their work. Alongside their five boys teams, they are key in developing girls' football locally, with 5 girls' teams.

After a couple years of brilliant development under the leadership of Warren Salisbury, Nickie Gaunt and Grant Calder, the Juniors joined our club, becoming Garstang FC Juniors in October 2025, with Neil Beesley joining the others to drive forward the merger.

Their teams play at pitches across the town, including Nateby Primary School, St. Mary and St. Michael's Primay School, Garstang Community Academy and Garstang Community Primary School.

More information on the Juniors will be coming as the year progresses, so keep updated by following their social media pages.



JUNIOR NEWS

Time to introduce another NEW team 🌐

● ● CUBS ● ●

The Garstang Cubs Under 6 Girls are a brand new team who are just starting their football journey and learning the basics of the game. At this age it's all about having fun, building confidence, working as a team and enjoying being on the pitch together.

Training sessions are full of fun drills, mini matches and lots of encouragement from teammates and coaches. The girls have shown fantastic enthusiasm and are already improving so much each week. It's been brilliant to see how quickly their confidence is growing. From their first kicks of the ball to working together in games, the progress they've made has been amazing. The girls support each other, celebrate every goal and show great team spirit every time they play.

Most importantly, they're having lots of fun, making new friends and building a love for football – which is exactly what it's all about at this age. We're so proud of them all and can't wait to watch them continue their football journey.

A huge thank you to our amazing sponsor Asecca for supporting the team with their brand new football kits!

Coaches Carlo, Marcus and Jeff



MATCH REVIEW



GARSTANG 1-1 DAISY HILL FC



Match Report

Following Saturday's impressive win against Darwen, we were back at The Riverside again to welcome Daisy Hill. We were 5 games unbeaten, with 2 wins in that time. Table wise, we moved up to 16th and sit 5th in the form table. Our opponents were 7th in that form table, and 12th in the overall table (6 points ahead of us). We drew 2-2 with them earlier in the season away from home, but they had undergone a lot of change since then.

Only one change was made to the starting XI that pulled off that victory against Darwen. Nagy was unavailable, meaning a straight swap for Edwards in the back line. McNair and Chester replaced two more unavailable players on the bench.

There isn't much at all to say about the first half. We had the most of the ball, but it was played in the middle third of the pitch. They were very effective at preventing us from having many real chances. The only two in the first half saw an effort from Bajraliu outside the box caught with ease, and an attempted chip by Bajraliu which the 'keeper tick over while back peddling. They didn't threaten at all.

HALF TIME: GARSTANG FC 0-0 DAISY HILL

After such a poor first half of football, the game was there for the taking if one of the sides got their act together. Daisy had the first chance, with a driven shot caught with ease by Lawton. Pinnington responded, winning the ball high up the pitch, but his shot from range was wide. Lord then won the ball high up the pitch and fed to Clegg who again shot wide. Clegg then lifted a cross into the box that the 'keeper spilled but was able to block the resulting chance.

We were some better chances up front, but nothing remarkably clear cut and Daisy Hill were limiting us well. The game continued in that fashion, with neither side doing much. In the 88th minute, Daisy Hill had a corner, which no one defended at all, and a free man was able to run in and poke home. A game characterised by poor quality was exemplified by that defending.

However, we weren't done there. Daisy had the ball in the corner in our half but had committed too many men forward. We won the ball back, and a fast transition executed very well by our defenders got the ball up the pitch. Here, Turton ran with it down the right, feeding Bajraliu whose first time finish was brilliant to bring the game back level. We then had another chance from Thompson, but it was a poor header caught with ease.

Much like the first, the second half was characterised by poor quality. Both teams were incredibly sluggish, probably a symptom of the schedule pressures. We had more possession, but failed to create anything goalscoring opportunities with it, and Daisy defended resolutely. A lapse of concentration allowed them to get a goal and go ahead, but it shows something about our character and the position we are now in as a group that that didn't phase us and quality was there when needed.

We now have a break from play this Saturday, before welcoming Squires Gate on Wednesday.

FULL TIME: GARSTANG FC 1-1 DAISY HILL

Post Match Reaction

Following our last match against Daisy Hill we caught up with Guy.

What were your overall thoughts on the performance?

Poor game all round if I'm honest. I listened to their manager's interview and I think we both thought the same. On the night 2 poor teams who actually looked tired, no energy or desire to go and win the game. If one team had even little of that I think they would have won the game but overall poor game.

Daisy Hill led very late on, what does it say about where we are at at the moment that we managed to level at the death?

Having said all that to go 1-0 down after 88mins and for my lads to keep going , going to the death and with last min goal all credit to them and maybe 6 months ago we would of just let the game pass us by and lost 1-0 but massive credit to the lads to keep going , having the belief and earning the reward of getting that point - fair play to the lads.

A rare blank Saturday for us, before welcoming Squires Gate next Wednesday, what are your plans for the week ahead?

Weekend off and told the lads go and have fun with family and friends , switch off from football, forget about it for the weekend and recharge ready for squires gate next Wednesday where we go midweek, Saturday again till end of the season.



Guy Heffernan
First Team Manager

MARCH FIXTURES

FIRST TEAM



Wed 4th (7.45pm) - AFC Blackpool (H)



Sat 7th (3pm) - Darwen FC (H)



Wed 11th (7.45pm) - Daisy Hill (H)



Wed 18th (7.45pm) - Squires Gate (H)



Sat 21st (3pm) - Ashton Town (A)



Wed 25th (7.45pm) - Nelson (H)



Sat 28th (3pm) - Maghull (A)



Tue 31st (7.45pm) - Droylsden (A)



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Get To Know...

Sponsor: Ezra Safety Group

Position: Goalkeeper

Previous Clubs: Chipping, Myerscough, AFC Flyde, Galgate

Chinese, Indian, Fish & Chips or Pizza: Chinese

Who do you support and why: Blackburn Rovers due to my dad giving me no choice

Favourite all time British and International

Players: British - Bradley Dack; International - David Raya

Best football memory: Playing on Ewood park (motm there too 😊)

Best/worst ground visited: Best - Ewood/Etihad; Worst - Deepdale

Most famous person you have met: Charlie Mulgrew at Forton Services

Ben is sponsored by Ezra Safety Group for the 25/26 season.



Ben Sudell
Goalkeeper

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WALKING FOOTBALL

Garstang FC Walking Football was founded in 2020 by Dave Graham, Phil Moore, Dave Thornhill and Ian Blundell following the COVID-19 lockdowns. The aim was to encourage exercise and socialisation, with the board enthusiastically getting behind the idea, assisting with the affiliation and insurance requirements needed to get it off the ground.

Since then, we have gone from strength to strength, with nearly 100 members over all the age groups. Over the few years we've been active, we've won many awards and trophies and more recently have founded a Women's Section.

The team plays at Garstang Academy and has already played in national cup matches at both over 50s, 60s and 65s.

But the key factor is fun, as we have players of all abilities and playing brings many health benefits, and Garstang's oldest players are in their 80s and give many of the over 50s a few footballing lessons.

Sessions take place twice weekly at the Garstang Academy

- Saturday: 9.30am-10.30am (men and women)
- Monday: women (7-8pm) and men (8-9pm)
- Sessions are pay per play at £3 each session, with the first at £10 as you'll get the famed blue/yellow bib!



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Champions 2023
Northwest o50s First Division
Champions 2023



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Walking Football Round-Up

The three Garstang Over 50 sides were in action last week, in the Lancashire League.

In the Premier Division, Garstang Reds secured a vital 4-3 away win over Fylde to take them into the final game of the season with an outside chance of still snatching the title. They will need to win against Winstanley on March 15th, while last season's Champions Fylde will travel to unbeaten Power League and need to win to leave the door open for Garstang Football Club.

Goals from Dave Banning, Mick Gornall, Warren Skelly and Terry New were all important, but a fantastic display from goalie Steve Franklin was equally important in securing the vital win.

Meantime, Scott Kennedy, the Garstang Whites player manager, scored as the Whites upset the previously unbeaten and top of the table Denton, in East Manchester.

An own goal and one from the player manager gave the Whites a comfortable lead before Denton netted a penalty close to the end. The Whites, with new faces on board, are now looking stronger as the season heads to the finish line and were delighted to also see back on the pitch ex-player manager Alex Spence after a long absence on a worldwide culinary tour.

In League One, the Garstang Blacks, with co-manager Chris Hampson in place for the first time, went 2-0 down at Rainhill, before cracking goals from the evergreen Antony Bradshaw with a piledriver and Phil Oliver with a great backheel got them back into it at 3-2.

A late cracker for the Merseysiders saw them grab a 4-2 win though and take all the points in a crazily tight division where only one win separates the sides in the promotion and relegation slots.



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K Reynolds have a showroom on Garstang High Street, 4 Market Place, where you can speak to them and view past projects, a few of which are also on their website.

To learn more about the services they offer and to get in touch with them, check out their website here: kreynoldssonsbrickwork.com/.

Thank you to Keith and his team for their ongoing support, we couldn't continue without it.



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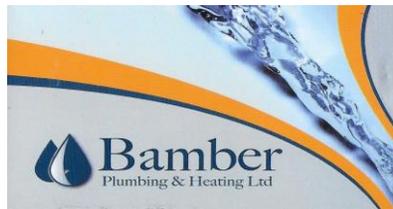
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MATCH REVIEW



MILL HILL 4-0 GARSTANG FC RES



Match Report

3 days on from the away defeat to Bamber Bridge and Garstang Reserves were on the road once more, this time journeying to Mill Hill FC for the quarter finals of the Presidents Cup.

After the heroics of the previous round versus higher league opposition and the recent league meeting between the two clubs where Mill Hill scraped a draw with the final kick of the match, manager Peter Pye was optimistic of his side's chances. However, as the week progressed and the Friday night fixture rearranged to Wednesday to accommodate the cup tie it became apparent the biggest obstacle to overcome wouldn't necessarily be our opponents but our availability.

With Pye having to make 7 changes to the starting line up that faced Holker in the last round, and only 4 players available from the line up that faced Mill Hill previously it would prove an uphill battle with only 11 players available come Friday afternoon. With both Captain Ali White and Vice-Captain Ethan Dalton unavailable, Ben Sudell was rewarded with the armband, a well-deserved accolade given his performances between the sticks this season.

Within 8 minutes of the kick off Mill Hill hit the front, a long punt forward causing confusion at the edge of the Garstang box resulted in the easiest of goals for the Mill Hill forward. Garstang were up against for the first 20 mins but started to grow into the game when the first big decision of the opening half came. A deliberate back pass from the Mill Hill defender saw the keeper fluff his clearance and the ball spin up into the air under pressure from Walmsley, as the ball landed Walmsley was running on to it when the goalkeeper decide to use his hands and catch the ball preventing a tap in for the Garstang striker from 8 yards out and a certain equalising goal. The referee upon seeing this acted very leniently, only awarding an indirect freekick for the deliberate handball and denial of a goal scoring opportunity whilst keeping his cards in his pocket. The second big incident came only a few minutes later, Garstang pushing for a leveller saw Woody Howard play a through ball destined for the path of top goal scorer Liam Painter, only the outstretched arm of the Mill Hill defender preventing Painter being 1 v 1 with the Goalkeeper. Once more the referee awarded the free kick but elected to keep his cards firmly in his pocket. He later explained to the Garstang coaching staff that bizarrely he didn't feel either handball was deliberate. Either side of the two handball decisions Sudell was called upon and made two top drawer saves and with very little in it the half-time whistle came

HALF TIME: MILL HILL 1-0 GARSTANG FC RESERVES

All the talk at half time was about keeping it tight, we were very much in this game and bar a mix up at the back we were right in this tie. Within seconds of the restart the game plan had vanished and Garstang were 2-0 down. Another long ball from Mill Hill into the corner was followed by a lack of communication and Mill Hill got a throw in. In true Premier League style, a melee of bodies surrounded the goalkeeper, and a long throw was launched into the box and flicked on by the first man. The Mill Hill goalscorer didn't know much about it as the ball skimmed off his head from the flick and flew past Sudell into the Garstang net with less than a minute of the second half played. From here it was going to be an uphill battle, Pye switched formation sacrificing Archie Howard in midfield for Dan Pye to go with 2 strikers but 10 mins later Garstang were again undone by a long ball and found themselves 3-0 down. On the hour mark Mill Hill notched their 4th goal, Sudell saving brilliantly but the striker reacted quickest to smash in the loose ball. Pye then made 4 changes, Heys replaced Riley, Sam Daniels came on for Thomas Atkinson and Jack Paynter and Liam Painter made way for youngsters Thomas Knowles and Tyler Clark. Despite the scoreline Garstang continued to battle on, Sudell in the goal was being kept busy making 4 very good saves when it looked certain his goal would be breached once more. On 75 mins another long ball over the top saw Werner and the Mill Hill striker come together whilst both looking for the ball in the mid-afternoon sun. As Sudell collected on the edge of his box the referee's whistle sounded, we looked for an offside flag but there was none and more confusingly the referee pointed to the spot for a penalty to the home team despite the collision being 3 yards outside the Garstang penalty box and showing Werner a yellow card for his troubles. Justice on this occasion was to prevail with the outstanding Sudell proving his worth once more diving full stretch to keep the ball out of his bottom right corner with his 4th penalty save in 3 matches!!

Garstang to their credit kept going, a neat passing move from Wellings to Clark saw Clark slide the ball down the channel for the on rushing Woody Howard with the keeper alert to the danger and snuffing it out. Pye, a late addition to the squad, only back from Portugal the night before, was doing his best to be a nuisance and almost got a chance to pull one back when played in behind the defence by Clark only for the assistant referee to do his best 'Billy the Kid' impression and firing up his flag to half proceedings when at best Pye looked level. Walmsley was also to fall foul of the linesman's flag, this time Pye feeding him the ball, Walmsley dribbling past 2 defenders was then adjudged to be offside to the bemusement of players. Garstang's last half chance fell to Knowles, getting on the end of a good cross delivered by Clark but the defender was equal to it and the game came to an end.

FULL TIME: MILL HILL 4-0 GARSTANG FC RESERVES

View from the Reserves

Asked for his thoughts after the match a disappointed Pye said 'It really was a game of two halves today. I thought first half we played well and deserved to go in at half time with something to show for our efforts. The errors we made at the start of each half especially the second goal, so early in the second half has killed us really and we've never really recovered. Fair play to Mill Hill, they've played really well and Suds has had to be on top form to keep the score down. We have a week now before we play again and I'll be wanting the lads to show up in numbers Thurs and train well because I'll be looking for a response in our next at home to Galgate.'

Peter



Peter Pye
*Reserve Team
Manager*



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1	Droylsden	27	16	4	7	59	36	23	52
2	Nelson	25	15	5	5	51	40	11	50
3	Maghull	29	12	8	9	60	52	8	44
4	MSB Woolton	27	12	8	7	50	43	7	44
5	Thornton Cleveleys	29	13	5	11	62	57	5	44
6	Darwen FC	28	11	9	8	50	43	7	42
7	Bacup Borough	26	11	9	6	49	45	4	42
8	Squires Gate	28	12	6	10	51	49	2	42
9	Holker Old Boys	26	11	7	8	48	37	11	40
10	Fulwood Amateurs	28	11	6	11	60	51	9	39
11	Ashton Town	26	10	6	10	34	35	-1	36
12	Daisy Hill	28	9	9	10	55	57	-2	36
13	AFC Blackpool	29	10	5	14	40	51	-11	35
14	Steeton	28	8	8	12	42	51	-9	32
15	Colne	27	6	10	11	49	57	-8	28
16	Garstang	26	6	9	11	42	61	-19	27
17	Ashton Athletic	28	7	3	18	35	58	-23	24
18	Maine Road	27	6	3	18	45	59	-14	21

League table correct as of Wed 18th March

Up Next...

Garstang FC:

21/03 – Ashton Town (A) – 3pm

Garstang FC Reserves:

21/03 – Galgate (H) – 3pm

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SQUAD LISTS



GARSTANG FC

Manager: Guy Heffernan

Joe Lawton
Matty Hodds
Elliot Bradshaw
Ellis Hancox
Phil Nagy
Steve Mercer
Louis Edwards
Owen Imadiyiosat
Ben Turton
Elliot Grime
Harley Mather
Jomar Da Silva
Joseph McDermott
George Lord
Tyler Chester
Lucas Pinnington
Oliver Cooper
Charlie Nelson
Liam Clegg
Woody Howard
Cobie Entwistle
Andrew Murphy
Thomas Dennison
Weslie Bajraliu
Sam Burton
Harvey Whittaker
Bobby Carter
Dan Pye



SQUIRES GATE

Manager: Luke Evans

Jack Arrowsmith
 Jack Boardman
 Rowan Chambers
 Mitch Cheetham
 Adam Chippendale
 Brandon Croskell-Robinson
 Regan Crossley
 Ivanilson Da Silva
 Christian Edokpayi
 Jake Forshaw
 Fin Gallagher
 Liam Geraghty
 Scott Harries
 Luke Holden
 Dean Ing
 Jacob Lever
 Finley Lynch
 Alexander McLachlan (GK)
 Saad Mekkaoui-Abouzaid
 Jack Page
 Ryan Riley
 Joel Sargeant (GK)
 Edward Schryburt
 Ethan Scot
 James Sherra
 Jay Smith
 Will Squires
 Josh Taylor
 Ben Thomas
 Thomas Versamis
Alex Welsh
Kevin Zokou

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: John Thomson
Asst. Ref: Charlie Regan
Asst. Ref: Dylan Fee

