


Historic Ilford Football Club

Respect 



Wednesday 12th February 2025

Kick off 7.45pm at Cricklefields

Essex Senior Football League

Premier Division

v GREAT WAKERING ROVERS



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £2.00



Ilford Football Club

Club Officials

Chairman - Adam Peek
President - Michael Foley
Vice Chair - Steve Mahoney
Secretary - Joe Kuzsel



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Asst Manager - Ray Bartlett
Coach - Kwame Kwateng
Physio - Charlie
Head Of Strategy - Kwame Kwateng

U18 Manager - Glen Hart
U14 Manager - Ashley Diamond
U13 Manager - Kevin Nash

Club contact email: ilfordfc.chairman@hotmail.com
Twitter - IlfordFC1881 Instagram - Ilfordfootballclub
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Welcome to Cricklefields for this Essex Senior League game against Great Wakering Rovers. I would like to welcome the players, fans, management and committee of our visitors and we hope you have a good visit with us.

We come into this game on the back of a very poor 4-3 loss at home to Sawbridgeworth Town on Saturday in what was probably our worst performance since the management came in 15 months ago. After finding ourselves 2-0 up we gifted Sawbridgeworth more chances than I have ever seen us give any team and our defending was unacceptable. That was a game that could have pulled us further clear from the drop zone and now means we need to fight harder to pick up points elsewhere. I am expecting to see a reaction for the lads tonight as they owe all the people associated with the club a better performance following Saturday. No win in 3 games and we need to put it right.

Today we face GWR FA Vase finalist and a team who are right amongst the play-off contenders and will no doubt come here expecting to get 3 points. We have to show them respect but no to much and we must get amongst them early one.

The pitch has badly cut up after the last few weeks and will make it a tough game for both teams but it will be down to who plays the conditions better on the night.

We appreciate your support today and look forward to seeing you at home game in the near future. Our next home game is next Saturday where we face Benfleet 3pm.



Adam Peek, Ilford FC

**FOR A PRINTED COPY
OF THIS PROGRAMME,
PLEASE CONTACT MARK ON
sundayonly1@aol.com**



Meet Our Visitors

Great Waking Rovers FC

The club was formed in 1919 by soldiers demobbed after World War I and finding employment in the local brickfields. They joined the Southend & District League, dominating it during the 1960s and 1970s. In 1982 they switched to the newly-formed Southend & District Alliance Football League, but this league folded in 1989. At this point the club decided to make the step up to intermediate level and were founder members of the new Division Three of Essex Intermediate League.

In 1990-91 Great Waking were Division Three champions, earning promotion to Division Two. After winning Division Two the following season, the club successfully applied to join the Essex Senior League. They went on to win the league in 1994-95 and finished as runners-up three times in the next two seasons. They were as runners-up again in 1998-99, but as champions Saffron Walden Town failed to meet the ground grading requirements for a place in Division Three of the Isthmian League, Great Waking were promoted in their place.

The 1999-2000 season saw Great Waking finish as runners-up in Division Three, earning promotion to Division Two. League restructuring resulted in them being moved to Division One North in 2002, and in 2004 they were transferred to the Eastern Division of the Southern League, where they remained for two seasons before being transferred back to Division One North of the Isthmian League. In 2011-12 the club finished bottom of the division, and were relegated back to the Essex Senior League. In 2013-14 the club were Essex Senior League champions and were promoted back to the Isthmian League. After finishing bottom of the division in 2016-17, the club were relegated to the Essex Senior League. However, they went on to win the league at the first attempt, earning promotion back to the renamed North Division of the Isthmian League.

In 2022-23 Great Waking finished third-from-bottom of the North Division, resulting in them facing an inter-step play-off with a club from the division below. After being beaten 5-0 by Quorn they were relegated to the Essex Senior League. In 2023-24 the club reached the final of the FA Vase, where they lost 3-0 to Romford.



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Ilford FC Photo Gallery v White Ensign (05/02/25)

With Grateful Thanks To Nicky Hayes





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BBC Essex Senior Cup



2024-25 Season

FIRST ROUND

1.	02/10	Buckhurst Hill	4-2	Cannons Wood
2.	08/10	Benfleet (<i>won on pens</i>)	3-3	FC Clacton
3.	01/10	West Essex	6-0	Hullbridge Sports
4.	01/10	Clapton Community	0-3	Harwich & Parkeston
5.	01/10	Halstead Town	8-0	Newbury Forest
6.	30/09	Barkingside	0-3	Romford
7.	01/10	Harlow Town	1-0	Hutton
8.	01/10	Takeley	6-3	Basildon Town
9.	08/10	Saffron Walden Town	3-2	Stanway Pegasus
10.	01/10	Frenford	0-3	Great Wakering Rovers
11.	15/10	Little Oakley	2-1	Athletic Newham
12.	02/10	Ilford	2-1	Stanway Rovers
13.	01/10	Wivenhoe Town	2-4	Holland
14.	08/10	Stansted	1-1	May & Baker (<i>won on pens</i>)
15.	02/10	White Ensign	3-3	Barking (<i>won on pens</i>)
16.	01/10	Southend Manor	0-1	Rayleigh Town
17.	02/10	Coggeshall Town (<i>won on pens</i>)	2-2	Woodford Town
18.	09/10	Dunmow Town	3-1	Burnham Ramblers

SECOND ROUND

19.	15/10	Halstead Town	1-2	Dunmow Town
20.	15/10	Harwich & Parkes. (<i>won on pens</i>)	0-0	Benfleet
21.	08/10	Barking	0-1	Buckhurst Hill
22.	15/10	Takeley (<i>won on pens</i>)	1-1	May & Baker
23.	15/10	Coggeshall Town	1-4	Ilford
24.	15/10	Harlow Town	0-2	West Essex
25.	15/10	Saffron Walden Town	3-2	Great Wakering Rovers
26.	15/10	Rayleigh Town	5-0	Holland
27.	22/10	Little Oakley	3-1	Romford

THIRD ROUND

28.	12/11	Saffron Walden Town	2-0	Braintree Town
29.	05/11	Witham Town (<i>won on pens</i>)	2-2	Brentwood Town
30.	04/11	Redbridge	0-2	Brightlingsea Regent
31.	04/11	Maldon & Tiptree	1-1	Hornchurch (<i>won on pens</i>)
32.	29/10	Walthamstow	0-4	Aveley
33.	13/11	West Essex	1-1	Chelmsford City (<i>won on pens</i>)
34.	05/11	Waltham Abbey	3-1	Grays Athletic
35.	28/10	Concord Rangers	0-2	Billericay Town
36.	05/11	Harwich & Parkeston	2-1	Bowers & Pitsea
37.	06/11	Ilford	0-3	Tilbury
38.	06/11	Takeley	0-1	Rayleigh Town
39.	04/11	Hashtag United	5-3	Southend United
40.	06/11	Dunmow Town	1-9	Heybridge Swifts
41.	05/11	Buckhurst Hill	0-3	Canvey Island
42.	19/11	Dagenham & Redbridge	1-0	Colchester United
43.	04/11	Little Oakley	3-0	Basildon United

FOURTH ROUND

44.	26/11	Heybridge Swifts	2-0	Witham Town
45.	18/12	Canvey Island	3-0	Dagenham & Redbridge
46.	19/11	Rayleigh Town	0-2	Hornchurch
47.	26/11	Billericay Town	2-3	Chelmsford City
48.	26/11	Saffron Walden Town	0-5	Tilbury
49.	10/12	Waltham Abbey	2-0	Little Oakley
50.	26/11	Hashtag United	8-1	Harwich & Parkeston
51.	19/11	Brightlingsea Regent	2-1	Aveley

QUARTER-FINALS

52.	17/12	Waltham Abbey	1-3	Chelmsford City
53.	17/12	Hashtag United	2-4	Hornchurch
54.	17/12	Heybridge Swifts	1-0	Tilbury
55.	14/01	Brightlingsea Regent	1-1	Canvey Island (<i>won on pens</i>)

SEMI-FINALS

56.	18/02	Canvey Island	vs	Chelmsford City
57.	14/01	Heybridge Swifts	0-4	Hornchurch

FINAL (at Colchester Utd FC)

58.	18/03	Canvey Island or Chelmsford City	vs	Hornchurch
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Eynesbury United 3 Peterborough Rangers 1 (Played at Eynesbury Rovers) (Hunts Intermediate Cup Semi Final) att 100

With temperatures being more respectable tonight, I made the country lane journey to Hall Road without too much difficulty to watch two sides play who probably had never played each other before. United are in SSML Division 2, whilst Rangers are mid-table in Peterborough & District League Division 1. There was a good crowd present for the game and they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and they were vibrant, but with no hint whatsoever of any silliness. This applied to the players as well and thus this made for a very enjoyable evening as the atmosphere was good. The only slight fly in the ointment was the occasional patches of fog coming and going during the game and when it was at its thickest there were fears that the match might get abandoned. As for the game, it got off to a fairly even start, before Rangers took the lead on 19 minutes when a play ran in from the right to score from a narrow angle. But United were level three minutes later when the scorer found the net with a well hit rising, angled shot from about ten yards out.

Then five minutes later the hosts took the lead with yet another angled shot, this one coming from about 15 yards out. Initially I had thought that the announcer had said that the scorer's name was McClown, but after a while I realised that he had said it was McLeod! Thereafter United were the better side for the remainder of the half. In the second half the fog thickened and soon it got quite bad, but after a short while most of it dispersed and thereafter the game was able to be completed without any further problems. On 53 minutes Rangers were given a penalty following a shove, but the resultant spot kick was saved. Then on 77 minutes United got their third goal, with a shot from about ten yards out after the ball was pulled back to the scorer. But by then the match was really already won as the visitors were offering little up front by now. Although most of the fog had disappeared at the ground by the end of this enjoyable match, it became very thick indeed on the way home and I had to drive very slowly. Luckily, I was able to locate the fog light switches in my car!

137. (14,292) Saturday 18th January 2025. Stotfold 2 Beaconsfield Town 3 (Pitching In Southern League Division 1 Central) att 102.

I know that in January we have to expect dodgy weather, but today yet again it was unpleasant. Although it was dry and there was no wind, it was nonetheless misty and freezing cold, just two degrees. Today Stotfold needed to beat their beatable opponents to pull further away from the relegation places and although the visitors started the game five points ahead of them, Stotfold had four matches in hand on them. The first half was quite exciting in that initially the hosts lived dangerously at the back before they settled down, as well as getting more players in their opponent's box at times than they usually do. It was from one of these attacks that they took the lead on 24 minutes, when they scored from the box following a trip. But the lead didn't last long, as six minutes later Beaconsfield equalised with a shot from about 15 yards out after the scorer was not closed down. Often this season the strength of their defence has been their saviour, but not in this instance.

If the hosts were very slightly the better side in the first half then they were unable to build on it after the break and on 56 minutes the visitors took the lead when in a crowded penalty area the ball was forced home, again from about 15 yards out. On about 72 minutes and very unusually there was a problem in the crowd when a heated argument took place between two parents took place. However eventually one of the stewards calmed them down and later on, the protagonists shook hands and life continued. On 73 minutes Beaconsfield scored a third goal with a direct free kick from just outside the area. Stotfold hadn't given up though and with less than a minute of added on time left they pulled a goal back with a shot though a ruck of players from close range. By the end the visitors had just about deserved their win, but today the 100% Stotfold gave was not enough.



**138. (14,293) Tuesday 21st January 2025.
Stotfold Reserves 4 Ampthill Town 1
(Beds Senior Trophy Quarter Final) att 55.**

I was back at New Roker Park tonight to watch a re-run of the league match between the two sides back at the beginning of November which ended up as a 1-1 draw, which was a bit of a feisty game. Tonight's game was worse, with most of the problems being created by the intimidating visitors, who gave the ref an unnecessarily hard time and caused Stotfold some problems as well, turning them into a confrontational side as well, as they sought to protect themselves. Although these tactics generate excitement, they are not what I signed up for when I first started to watch the game, when I saw the game as a sport, trying to win matches based on skill and fair play. The trouble was that Ampthill forgot the basics tonight in that whatever your tactics are, you have to score more goals than the opposition to win. So it was that Stotfold opened the scoring after just 46 seconds with a shot which went in off the post.

Their second goal came on 19 minutes when from a free kick the ball was nodded in from close range, Bobby Smith style and I thought that the ref might disallow it, but he didn't. On 27 minutes it seemed that Ampthill had pulled a goal back, but after initially ignoring the lino's offside flag, he eventually agreed with him and the goal was rightly disallowed. Then on 45 minutes Stotfold got a third goal when from a free kick a header was headed off the line to the scorer who headed home. In the second half Stotfold kept pressing and if it wasn't game over by this stage, then it was by the 51st minute when the fourth goal arrived when the scorer finished off a cross from the right from near the edge of the six yard box. Slowly the game became more 'normal' now and on 80 minutes Ampthill scored from the spot after the keeper barged one of their players off the ball. On the night I thought that they scored again on 88 minutes with another Bobby Smith goal, but seemingly this was apparently disallowed by the ref. So by the end we had watched an exciting match, deservedly won by Stotfold, albeit for all the wrong reasons.

**139. (14,294) Wednesday 22nd January 2025.
Tottenham Hotspur U21 2 Dinamo Zagreb U21 1
(Premier League 2 International Cup Group A)
(Played at Stevenage) att 200 approx.**

Spurs seemed to have treated this competition with some contempt and judging by their attitude, I don't think that they want to be in it. Of course they could field a stronger side, but some of their better players are either out on loan or are now part of the first team squad, or of course injured! Having said that, Spurs put in a good shift this evening and ended up beating a not much better (or worse) side than them. In the first they generally dominated possession, which consisted mainly by starting their moves by playing out from the back through their keeper, which made me cringe because the players are clearly not happy playing this way and there were fears that any one of them would get dispossessed.

However, when they got the ball forwards their attacks consisted of moves down the right side which came to nothing because the final cross in was poor. Spurs were on top through but on 45(+2) minutes Zagreb took the lead when a looping cross allegedly took a deflection which saw the ball loop over the keeper and go in off the foot of the far post. But in the second half Spurs were more direct and on 48 minutes they equalised when a probing cross from the left was diverted home from about 8 yards out. Then, on 56 minutes they got the winner, from the spot from the same scorer after he was pulled back after he ran into the box. This win lifted Spurs off the foot of the table!



IN last Sunday's NLP, we spoke exclusively to National League CEO Mark Ives to look deeper into the national 3UP campaign, officially calling for a third promotion spot into the EFL. Backed by all 72 member clubs at Step 1 and 2 after years of planning, the proposal officially calls for a change in regulations from the current two-up system and has received widespread support from the Non-League game. But, as we've also heard this week, the campaign has also come up against some fierce opposition and there is a lot of convincing left needed to be done if EFL clubs are to vote in favour of the proposal at the EFL's AGM this June. Ives spoke passionately the logistics behind the campaign but also warned that unless the matter is addressed now, it risks being kicked down the road for more years to come.

"Why now is a really important question," he told The NLP. "Everybody is aware we've been having conversations privately with the EFL. They've been very constructive, very amiable conversations. "Then we have the Independent Football Regulator coming in. Whilst there are debates ongoing at the minute between the parliamentary houses and, potentially, up to 400 suggested amendments to the Bill that are being discussed, what is sure is the regulator is coming into play. "That brings in another dynamic from an EFL point of view because the EFL are saying while they're supportive in principle of this issue, they cannot take this forward until the other footballing matters are dealt with - the current discussions between the PL and the EFL over the wider distribution of monies. That's a matter for the PL and the EFL, that's not a matter for us. "We do not see them as being interdependent to the issue of three-up. If you think about them not being able to deal with anything until the matter is resolved between the PL and the EFL, which would potentially mean the regulator, the backstop and everything else kicking into play."

The National League's plea came after a wide-ranging BBC Sport interview with EFL chairman Rick Parry back in November when he accepted the need for change, commenting: "we have to acknowledge the need to look downwards as well as upwards". But as columnist Chris Dunlavy warned in our sister paper, The Football League Paper, last Sunday, finding support from EFL clubs will be far from easy. "It's only natural to ask why turkeys would vote for Christmas, and in the short-term it's a logical argument. Nobody wants to make themselves more vulnerable to relegation," Dunlavy writes.

"So precarious are finances throughout the EFL, however, that all but the biggest clubs could become a basket case, practically overnight. Remember Bolton, or Derby? "There's also a lot of money in Non-League, meaning the clubs who come up - like Stockport and Wrexham - tend to push the incumbents down. That makes relegation at least a reasonable possibility for the majority of EFL clubs and means three-up, three-down is very much in their long-term interest. "Unfortunately, that's not how people operate. Which is why, without legislative intervention or a financial sweetener, the National League's 3UP campaign is a non-starter." Shrewsbury Town manager Gareth Ainsworth agrees. Speaking on BBC Radio 5 Live Sport's 72+ EFL podcast last week, the former Wycombe Wanderers gave a rather damning indictment of the proposal, while voicing his annoyance at being unable to compete financially with wealthy clubs coming from Non-League such as Wrexham, Notts County and Chesterfield.

Ainsworth said: "Obviously, we're not going to vote for it. Who in the right mind in the EFL will be the vote for, you know, three down, three up? "But that National League, believe me, very strong. And often the team that do come up. They compete well. "And I think that's a big argument point for them saying, look at your records, look at your Chesterfields of yours, look at your, you know, Stockports, you know. "They've all kicked on, but it could kill some really, really big league teams. You know, you Oldhams and your Torquays. They've really found it difficult getting back in. "Should we not look after our teams that you know, we keep going on about the teams that are struggling. We should look after our pyramid better. "And the teams if a team just can't keep up financially, but no other reason than the other teams have got billionaires coming in a million is that we it's not fair that they just sink out the league and out of obscurity.

"So my argument would be, yes. These teams have done well, but have a look at the money that they've had invested in them as well."



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The Untold Game

The European Cup final of 1960 is, by many, considered to be the greatest game of football ever played. Real Madrid secured their fifth European title in five years, the first five years of the competition. The legendary Alfredo di Stefano scored a hat trick, but was outdone by his teammate Ferenc Puskas who scored four. A massive 127,000 were in attendance in Glasgow, among them Alex Ferguson, and many times that have claimed to have been there. And Real Madrid manager Miguel Munoz had only been in the job for a month, though he would stay for 14 years. But there was another side in that final, and Eintracht Frankfurt came within 90 minutes of upsetting the footballing order.



Frankfurt were a provincial team with no history of success. Any impetus they were beginning to gain in the first half of the twentieth century was snuffed out by the rise of Nazism, and at the end of the war they took their place as an average side in their regional league. Football before the Bundesliga saw the winners of regional divisions qualify for national playoffs, which Frankfurt managed in 1953 and, crucially, 1959. In 1960, many associations still refused to acknowledge the European Cup, and so thanks to the withdrawal of their Finnish opponents in the first round Frankfurt's first foray into continental competition was against Swiss opposition. Young Boys were three times Swiss champions and well-versed in football at this level, and were expected to win.

A rain soaked first leg saw Young Boys' ground only three quarters full. The Swiss champions entered the game with confidence, but after just four minutes Hans Weilbacher fired a free kick past the despairing goalkeeper. The home side equalised, but in the final quarter of the match Frankfurt went on the rampage, first with a twenty yard strike and then a penalty to all but secure qualification. A fourth, late on, confirmed it, and Frankfurt ensured the second leg was a stodgy 1-1 draw. Tougher opponents awaited in the next round. Wiener Sport-Club, the Austrian champions from Vienna, came to Frankfurt for the first leg of their quarter finals, and were far more solid than their Swiss counterparts. They reckoned without winger Erich Meier, however, who chose this game to display his brilliance down the left. He created the first goal after 17 minutes, and was a constant threat throughout the game. Sport-Club equalised before half time, but on the hour Meier danced through the defence yet again, placing a shot in the corner. Frankfurt held on to take a valuable lead into the second leg.

An energy sapping Derby against Offenbacher was between the games, which Frankfurt won 3-2 but was hardly the best preparation for an important European tie three days later. Sport-Club knew they needed a goal, and pushed forward hard. It took half an hour for them to level the tie, and at half time a tired Frankfurt feared their journey was over. Tired legs continued to defend resolutely, and then Erwin Stein had his moment. The ball broke to him in the Viennese' half, and he sprinted past the defence, powering home a finish. Frankfurt held on, and progressed. The first time a German side had gone this far in the competition. The semi-final saw them drawn against an enthusiastic Rangers. The final in Glasgow



The Untold Game

was a serious carrot for the Scots, and they were determined to beat their Catholic rivals in becoming the first Scottish side to win the European Cup. Rangers had won their domestic league 30 times by this point, and were renowned across the continent. Frankfurt had won their league just once, and were barely known beyond their city. Rangers players put bets on how many goals they would win by, foretelling their hubris. That was a serious mistake.

The first leg was a massacre, but the first half was tense, with each side scoring once before the break. Six minutes after the break, however, Alfred Pfaff nutmegged the goalkeeper to restore the Germans' lead. Four minutes later, he got his second. Rangers pressed forward, leaving themselves open, and on 75 minutes conceded again to all but end the tie. And keeper George Niven was apoplectic. His mood was not helped by conceding twice more, as the overconfident Scottish champions lost 6-1. Another six goals conceded in the second leg, losing 6-3, put the seal on Rangers miserable semi-final. In Germany, the victory was celebrated so completely that Adidas took out adverts showing the side wearing their boots. The magical ending would elude the Germans, however. In front of 127,000 people, with an estimated 70 million watching at home, they took the lead, but merely annoyed the Spanish giants. Puskas, Di Stefano, Paco Gento, there was just too much quality in the side. Possibly the greatest array of attacking talent to that point put Frankfurt to the sword and scored six before they conceded again. Frankfurt were disappointed, but not shamed. As so often in football, the gods did not give us the fairytale, and Real Madrid won another European Cup.

Enjoy the game.

Martyn Green,

The Untold Game

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RECORD

1887-8	Winners	Essex Senior Cup
1888-9	"	Essex Senior Cup
1889-90	"	Essex Senior Cup
1891-92	"	Essex Senior Cup
1900-1	"	London Senior Cup
1903-4	"	Essex Senior Cup
1904-5	"	London Senior Cup
1906-7	Champions	Isthmian League
1907-8	Winners	Essex Senior Cup
1912-13	"	Essex Senior Cup
1913-14	"	London Senior Cup
1920-21	Champions	Isthmian League
1921-22	"	Isthmian League
	Winners	London Senior Cup
	"	London Charity Cup
	"	Essex Senior Cup
1923-24	"	Essex Senior Cup
1926-27	"	Essex Senior Cup
1927-28	"	Essex Senior Cup
1928-29	"	F.A. Amateur Cup
	"	London Senior Cup
	"	Essex Senior Cup
1929-30	"	F.A. Amateur Cup
	"	London Senior Cup
	"	London Charity Cup
1933-34	"	Miller Memorial Shield
1934-35	"	Miller Memorial Shield
	"	Guernsey Victory Cup
1935-36	"	S.E. Charity Cup
	Finalists	F.A. Amateur Cup
1936-37	Winners	Guernsey Victory Cup
1937-38	"	London Charity Cup
1938-39	"	S.E. Charity Cup



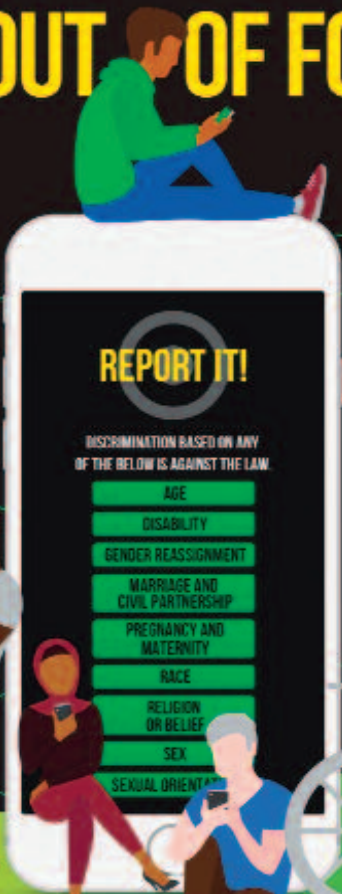
The Racism Campaign

Kick It Out Of Football

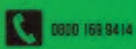
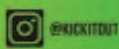
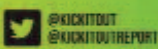
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1994: Art thieves snatch Scream



BBC
NEWS

Thieves have stolen one of the world's best-known paintings from a gallery in the Norwegian capital, Oslo. Two men took just 50 seconds to climb a ladder, smash through a window of the National Art Museum in Oslo and cut *The Scream*, by Edvard Munch, from the wall with wire cutters. The cutters were left behind along with a short ladder as the men fled with the painting. The entire incident was filmed by security cameras.

The director of the museum, Knut Berg, said, "It is impossible to estimate the value of the painting. "But it is Norway's most valuable, Munch's most renowned, and it would be impossible to sell." The museum's alarm went off at 0630 local time (0530 GMT) and a security guard immediately alerted police, who arrived within minutes.

Police officers are searching for a Mercedes car thought to have been used as a getaway vehicle. The painting was in the gallery as the highlight of a Norwegian Culture Festival staged in connection with the Winter Olympics which start today in Lillehammer. There is widespread speculation that the theft may have some connection with the Games, possibly as a publicity stunt by campaigners. Art experts believe the painting is so well-known that it is unsaleable. The museum is facing strong criticism over its security after it was revealed that the masterpiece had been moved from the more secure first floor to the ground floor for the exhibition. It is believed to have been uninsured.

The stolen painting is regarded as the most important of the four versions Edvard Munch painted of *The Scream*, and was created in 1893 as part of his *Frieze of Life* series in which sickness, death, anxiety and love are central themes. The haunting depiction of a skull-like face wide-mouthed in agony and despair before a blood-red sunset has become an icon of human anguish across the world. Several other Munch paintings have recently been stolen: six years ago, another well-known masterpiece, *The Vampire*, was stolen from the Munch Museum in Oslo, but was later recovered, as was a lithograph, *Madonna*, which disappeared in 1990. Another painting, *Portrait Study*, was taken from the National Art Museum last August and is still missing.

In Context

Initially, a radical Norwegian anti-abortion group claimed responsibility for the theft, but police remained sceptical. Then in March 1994, the gallery received a £700,000 (\$1m) ransom demand for the painting. The gallery board refused to pay, unsure that the demand was genuine. In May 1994, Norwegian and British police mounted an undercover sting which uncovered the painting, unharmed, in the seaside town outside Oslo where Edvard Munch painted many of his most famous paintings.

In January 1996, four men were convicted and sentenced in connection with the theft. One of the two thieves who carried out the raid, Paal Enger, is now a legitimate art buyer, acquiring his first Munch - an unsigned lithograph - at auction in 2001. In August 2004, another version of *The Scream* was stolen in Oslo along with Munch's *The Madonna*, this time from the Munch Museum. Three men were found guilty of charges relating to the theft of these two paintings by a court in Norway in May 2006. In August 2006, Oslo police recovered both the *Scream* and *The Madonna*. They had minor marks and tears and were put back on show in September 2006 at the Munch Museum - this time protected in heavy glass boxes.



With Grateful Thanks To Nicky Hayes





One side of Brechin City's Glebe Park is enclosed by a hedge. Over the years it has become famous as an iconic feature of this lovely ground. Threatened with removal in 2009, it thankfully survived, and runs around two-thirds of the length of the east side.

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The Essex Senior Football League

Results & Fixtures 2024-25

Saturday 8th February 2025

Premier Division

Frenford	2-1	FC Clacton
Ilford	3-4	Sawbridgeworth Town
Romford	1-2	Hullbridge Sports
Saffron Walden Town	2-1	Barking
Stanway Rovers	8-1	West Essex
Takeley	2-0	Woodford Town

Saffron Walden Town	v	Buckhurst Hill
Stansted	v	Little Oakley
Stanway Rovers	v	Barking
Takeley	v	Great Wakering Rov.
White Ensign	v	Frenford

Tuesday 11th February 2025

Premier Division

Barking	2-1	Takeley
West Essex	2-2	White Ensign

Tuesday 25th February 2025

Premier Division

Little Oakley	v	Woodford Town
Stansted	v	Athletic Newham

London Senior Cup

Barking	v	Erith Town
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Peter Butcher Memorial Trophy

Halstead Town	v	Great Wakering Rov.
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Wednesday 12th February 2025

Premier Division

Ilford	v	Great Wakering Rov.
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Saturday 1st March 2025

Premier Division

Saturday 15th February 2025

Premier Division

Benfleet	v	Stanway Rovers
Buckhurst Hill	v	Barking
Frenford	v	Great Wakering Rov.
Halstead Town	v	Sawbridgeworth Town
Hullbridge Sports	v	Ilford
Little Oakley	v	Takeley
Romford	v	Saffron Walden Town
West Essex	v	Athletic Newham
White Ensign	v	FC Clacton
Woodford Town	v	Stansted

Benfleet	v	Takeley
Buckhurst Hill	v	Halstead Town
FC Clacton	v	Great Wakering R.
Hullbridge Sports	v	Barking
Ilford	v	Little Oakley
Romford	v	Frenford
Sawbridgeworth T.	v	Stansted
Stanway Rovers	v	Saffron Walden Town
West Essex	v	Woodford Town
White Ensign	v	Athletic Newham

Tuesday 18th February 2025

Premier Division

Benfleet	v	Romford
Sawbridgeworth T.	v	White Ensign

Errington Challenge Cup

Halstead Town	v	Takeley
Little Oakley	v	Athletic Newham
Saffron Walden Town	v	Great Wakering Rov.

Tuesday 4th March 2025

Premier Division

Benfleet	v	Barking
Stansted	v	White Ensign

Peter Butcher Memorial Trophy

Saffron Walden Town	v	Little Oakley
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Friday 7th March 2025

Premier Division

Woodford Town	v	Benfleet
---------------	---	----------

Wednesday 19th February 2025

Premier Division

Buckhurst Hill	v	FC Clacton
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London Senior Cup

Woodford Town	v	Tooting & Mitcham U.
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Friday 21st February 2025

Premier Division

Woodford Town	v	Sawbridgeworth Town
---------------	---	---------------------

Saturday 8th March 2025

Premier Division

Athletic Newham	v	Saffron Walden Town
Barking	v	FC Clacton
Great Wakering Rov.	v	West Essex
Halstead Town	v	White Ensign
Ilford	v	Takeley
Little Oakley	v	Buckhurst Hill
Sawbridgeworth Town	v	Frenford
Stansted	v	Hullbridge Sports
Stanway Rovers	v	Romford

Saturday 22nd February 2025

Premier Division

Athletic Newham	v	Romford
FC Clacton	v	West Essex
Hullbridge Sports	v	Halstead Town
Ilford	v	Benfleet

Tuesday 11th March 2025

Premier Division

Benfleet	v	West Essex
Great Wakering Rov.	v	Little Oakley
Halstead Town	v	Saffron Walden Town

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 Southend & Basildon SL
 Suburban FL
 Surrey County Intermediate FL
 Swindon SL
 Tandridge Youth FL
 Thames Valley Counties Womens FL
 Thurrock Association SL



The Essex Senior Football League

League Table (11th February)

<u>PREMIER DIVISION</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>PT</u>
Stanway Rovers	26	19	6	1	76	27	63
Takeley	27	18	5	4	60	25	59
Woodford Town	26	17	5	4	57	20	56
Saffron Walden Town	26	16	4	6	58	34	52
Barking	26	16	4	6	52	35	52
Great Wakering Rovers	25	16	3	6	54	26	51
Romford	25	13	4	8	49	31	43
White Ensign	24	10	6	8	39	36	36
Athletic Newham	26	10	6	10	46	45	36
Buckhurst Hill	25	9	6	10	47	45	33
Little Oakley	23	8	7	8	36	36	31
Benfleet	22	9	1	12	42	40	28
Frenford	27	8	4	15	45	54	28
West Essex	26	7	7	12	37	53	28
Halstead Town	26	8	3	15	51	82	27
Hullbridge Sports	27	8	2	17	46	64	26
Ilford	26	6	7	13	33	44	25
Sawbridgeworth Town	25	4	4	17	34	77	16
Stansted	23	3	4	16	24	60	13
FC Clacton	25	2	4	19	25	77	10

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Ilford FC Photo Gallery v White Ensign (05/02/25)

With Grateful Thanks To Nicky Hayes





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The Essex Senior Football League

Leading Goalscorers

George Okoye	Stanway Rovers	19
Harry Talbot	Great Wakering Rovers	13
Juwon Akintunde	Barking	12
Solomon Ofori	Saffron Walden Town	12
Sam Shaban	Barking	12
Ross Wall	Saffron Walden Town/Stanway Rovers	12
Harry Brown	Great Wakering Rovers	11
Leonardo Luis De Carvalho Pedro	Athletic Newham	11
Suley Zuhdu	Buckhurst Hill	11
Darren Mills	Little Oakley	10
Tyreece Robertson	Buckhurst Hill	10
Callum Boylan	Great Wakering Rovers	9
Kieran David	Sawbridgeworth Town	9
Jordon Elongo	Frenford	9
James Eveleigh	Halstead Town	9
Max Jobson	Benfleet	9
Charlie Morris	Hullbridge Sports/Saffron Walden Town/ Romford	9
Dean Ager	Halstead Town	8
Jamie Bennett	Stanway Rovers	8
Correy Davidson	Stansted	8
Kennedy Feyi	Romford	8
David Gokou-Siakouri	Woodford Town	8
Coby Miles	Takeley	8
Daniel Rowe	Little Oakley	8
Nathan Sollosi	Woodford Town	8





Essex Senior Football League

Grounds Map & Directory



Athletic Newham



Barking



Benfleet



Buckhurst Hill



FC Clacton



Frenford



Great Wakering Rovers



Halstead Town



Hullbridge Sports



Ilford



Little Oakley



Romford



Saffron Walden Town



Sawbridgeworth Town



Stansted



Stanway Rovers



Takeley



West Essex



White Ensign



Woodford Town





Ilford Football Club

1st Team Results, Fixtures, Scorers, Etc

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPOSITION</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>SCORERS</u>	<u>ATT</u>
Sat 27 Jul	Takeley	Lge	0-1		111
Tue 30 Jul	Benfleet	Lge	3-6	Appiah (2), Habib	197
Sat 3 Aug	Newport Pagnell Town	FACEP	3-3	Olatunji, Habib, Akpele	230
Wed 7 Aug	Newport Pagnell Town	FACEP rep	0-3		42
Sat 10 Aug	FC Clacton	Lge	1-0	Habib	60
Tue 13 Aug	Newport Pagnell Town	FACP Rep	0-2		130
Sat 24 Aug	Harlow Town	FAV1Q	0-2		224
Sat 31 Aug	Great Wakering Rovers	Lge	0-1		128
Tue 3 Sep	Sawbridgeworth Town	Lge	0-1		37
Mon 16 Sep	Romford	Kge	1-3	Adu	101
Wed 25 Sep	Buckhurst Hill	ECC	2-2	Akpele (2)	32
Sat 28 Sep	Stanway Rovers	Lge	1-2	Appiah	52
Wed 2 Oct	Stanway Rovers	ESC1	2-1	Izekor, Appiah	41
Sat 5 Oct	Halstead Town	Lge	3-1	Olatunji , Akpele (2)	43
Sat 12 Oct	Saffron Walden Town	Lge	0-3		251
Tue 15 Oct	Coggeshall Town	ESC2	4-1	Kaan (2), Junior, Appiah	55
Tue 22 Oct	Barking	Lge	2-2	Adu, Wazola	54
Sat 26 Oct	Hullbridge Sports	Lge	1-0	Akpele	64
Wed 30 Oct	Halstead Town	PBMT	1-2	Emmanuel	TBA
Fri 1 Nov	Buckhurst Hill	Lge	2-2	Izekor (2)	85
Wed 6 Nov	Tilbury	ESC3	0-3		76
Sat 9 Nov	Woodford Town	Lge	0-2		67
Sat 16 Nov	Stansted	Lge	3-1	Izekor (2), Habib	72
Wed 20 Nov	Barking	Lge	2-2	Adam, Appiah	92
Sat 23 Nov	Frenford	Lge	2-3	Akpele, Konate	TBA
Wed 27 Nov	Romford	Lge	1-1	Dousa	91
Sat 30 Nov	Little Oakley	Lge	1-1	Adu	64
Sat 14 Dec	Stanway Rovers	Lge	0-1		90
Sat 21 Dec	West Essex	Lge	3-1	Junior (2), Emmanuel	136
Sat 28 Dec	Athletic Newham	Lge	1-1	Konate	77
Sat 25 Jan	Halstead Town	Lge	1-3	Akpele	228
Wed 29 Jan	FC Clacton	Lge	2-1	Akpele, Habib	71
Sat 1 Feb	Saffron Walden Town	Lge	0-1		81
Wed 5 Feb	White Ensign	Lge	0-0		41
Sat 8 Feb	Sawbridgeworth Town	Lge	3-4	Appiah (2), Wazola	52
Wed 12 Feb	Great Wakering Rovers	Lge	H		
Sat 15 Feb	Hullbridge Sports	Lge	A		
Sat 22 Feb	Benfleet	Lge	H		
Sat 1 Mar	Little Oakley	Lge	H		
Sat 8 Mar	Takeley	Lge	H		
Sat 15 Mar	Frenford	Lge	A		
Fri 21 Mar	Woodford Town	Lge	A		
Sat 29 Mar	White Ensign	Lge	H		
Sat 5 Apr	Buckhurst Hill	Lge	H		
Sat 12 Apr	Athletic Newham	Lge	A		
Sat 19 Apr	Stansted	Lge	A		
Sat 26 Apr	West Essex	Lge	H		



Reserve Team Results, Fixtures, Scorers, Etc

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPOSITION</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>SCORERS</u>
16 Aug	Hutton	Lge	4-4	Lewis (2), Pasichniak, Kovalchuk
30 Aug	White Ensign	Lge	2-0	Pasichniak, Ukonu
20 Sept	Southend Manor	Cup	3-2	Kovalchuk, Erdei
27 Sept	Redbridge	Lge	1-7	Abasov
5 Oct	Herongate Athletic	ECC1	2-7	Abasov, Ukonu
19 Oct	Takeley	League	2-6	Kovalchuk, O.g.
25 Oct	Cambridge Heath	ECC2	H-W	<i>(Match awarded to Ilford)</i>
1 Nov	Heybridge Swifts	Lge	3-3	Kovalchuk, bell, Owootomo
15 Nov	May & Baker	Lge	5-1	Kovalchuk (2), Owootomo Bell, Pasichniak
22 Nov	Heybridge Swifts	LCMT2	4-7	Huluba (3), Kovalchuk
30 Nov	Goldfingers Seconds	ECC3	3-0	Lewis, Owootomo, Kovalchuk
13 Dec	Southend Manor	Lge	7-2	Abasov (2), Erdei (2), Radim, Pasichniak (2)
17 Jan	May & Baker	Lge	3-1	Francis-Hendricks, Sahin Abasov,
25 Jan	Exerter Old Boys	LCC4	1-10	Pasichniak Ukono
1st Feb	Southend Manor	Lge	3-1	Owootomo (2), Lewis
7 Feb	Buckhurst Hill	Lge	3-4	Owootomo (2), Lewis
14 Feb	Hutton	Lge	A	
22 Feb	Redbridge	SC	A	
28 Feb	Heybridge Swifts	Lge	A	
7 Mar	Buckhurst Hill	SC	H	
15 Mar	Redbridge	Lge	A	
18 Mar	Buckhurst Hill	Lge	A	
29 Mar	White Ensign	Lge	A	

SOUTH DIVISION

	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>PT</u>
Redbridge	8	6	0	2	37	14	18
Heybridge Swifts	8	5	3	0	23	14	18
Ilford	9	5	2	2	31	23	17
Hutton	10	5	2	3	24	24	17
Buckhurst Hill	9	4	3	2	23	17	15
White Ensign	10	2	2	6	24	27	8
Southend Manor	10	2	2	6	19	30	8
May & Baker EC	10	1	0	9	13	45	0 *



Ilford Football Club began life in 1881 as one of many hundreds of village teams, yet unlike the majority was to rise to considerable heights and to national acclaim. The Club was a founder-member of the Southern League in 1894, its owners' refusal to adopt professionalism leading to its withdrawal two years later and being replaced by an emergent Tottenham Hotspur. The pro-am debate which dominated soccer at the time did not prevent Ilford from securing a first (Isthmian) League title in 1907 [and a famed 3-3 draw vs Manchester City was earned in the same month]. Numerous County Cup triumphs were to follow in this period. The famed Leicester Fosse side (now Leicester City) were beaten by Ilford on their own ground, while captain Joe Dines (shortly to sign for Liverpool) returned from the Stockholm Olympics in 1912 with a gold medal as part of the all-conquering GB team.

World War 1 decimated Ilford's squad and general membership, although remarkably only 5 players were counted among the Fallen. Tragically these included schoolboy hero Dines (cut down by German machine gun fire in Sept 1918 -a mere 6 weeks before the Armistice). Remarkably, the Ilford FC team assembled in the '20's was to be its most celebrated - with back-to-back Isthmian titles(1922/1923), plus consecutive FA Amateur Cup Final victories in 1929 and 1930. The decade also witnessed several now-famous European tours, with exhibition matches against Spanish giants, Barcelona and victory over Ajax in a packed Olympic Stadium, Amsterdam. *It is often assumed quite wrongly that soccer in the near continent then was in its infancy, yet Barca paraded among the world's best players in four titanic battles against Ilford -two drawn- and with British ambassadors and government Officials on VIP lists these games often assumed the status of a diplomatic event.





A further Amateur Cup Final was reached in 1936 and home gates would not uncommonly reach 7000-8000 (or higher). World War Two ended the careers of most of this squad -and the life of youth international winger Ernie Braund, scorer in the '36 Final (killed piloting his spitfire on a training flight). The post-war era saw Ilford's iconic Lynn Road Stadium employed for numerous representative games.



The London 1948 Olympiad brought huge crowds to Ilford, as France crossed swords against India (the latter's first international match since Independence) while eventual winners Yugoslavia took on Turkey. Into the '50's and England met West Germany at Lynn Road in an amateur international (featuring among others Karl-Heinz Schnellinger of World Cup 1966 fame). Many professional clubs were to visit Lynn Road in this period and Ilford played and beat a strong West Ham side at the old ground in 1962.

The end of the minimum wage at the turn of the 1960's, adding to a growing elitism in the game, brought about a sharp decline in amateur soccer. Despite earning Wembley visits in both 1958 and '74 as Amateur Cup finalists (the '74 final vs Bishops Stortford registering the swansong for the hallowed tournament), Ilford Football Club was sliding, quite dramatically and clearly lacking coherent direction. With bills escalating and gates declining it was announced that the Club was to relocate to a new, purpose-built stadium at Fairlop. Catastrophically the sale and demolition of Lynn Road, with little consultation, preceded a hefty and scandalously unforseen tax bill. With hopes for the new ground dashed, a hasty groundshare with Leytonstone was contrived.

the succession of mergers and ground sales beyond this point is well-documented. The demise not only of Ilford, but of Leytonstone and



Walthamstow Avenue (all three boasting pasts which eclipse some League 1 and even Championship clubs of today) was an avoidable tragedy serving no-one -save the owners of the current Dagenham and Redbridge FC.

A reborn Ilford Football Club emerged in 1987 in a flurry of publicity. The campaign to secure a home base in the town, spearheaded by the Foley family and a group of dedicated former supporters, proved to be the longest-running campaign in the history of Redbridge politics. Cricklefield was finally acquired in 1993-4 and successful Lottery awards at the turn of the millennium assisted the development of infrastructure which secured a return to the Isthmian (Ryman) League in 2004 (under manager, Allan Fenn) and after a gap of 25 years. A League and Cup 'double' was to be celebrated at the first attempt.



Despite failure to maintain momentum and with often crippling finances -and with modern demographics witnessing a total erosion of traditional support- Ilford FC today counts 143 years since its foundation within the Town which it still proudly serves... There is very cautious optimism that development proposals [detailed elsewhere] may yet witness the revival which many individuals have worked tirelessly for....But the club also needs support like never before -and this includes from London Borough of Redbridge and those who manage areas of sport/leisure on its behalf... If trophies were awarded for actually contributing to the demise of local football clubs [in IFC's case a club with an unrivalled heritage], it would not be hard to nominate a few contenders... Many clubs may feel the same way!



Ilford Football Club

Lynn Road - Our Home Until 1977



Wednesday 12th February 2025

Todays Teams



Colours: Blue & White
Manager: Chris Davis

Colours: Green & White
Manager: Marcus Bowers



ILFORD FC

GREAT WAKERING ROVERS FC

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RYAN SCOUGALL
BEN SEARCH
HARRY TALBOT
HARRISON TOPLISS
JAMES WHITE
ALFIE WHITAKER

THE MATCH OFFICIALS



Referee:

YARON WOOLF

Assistant Referees:

FLORIN RENTEA

&

MUNGO PRIOR

NEXT HOME MATCH:

Saturday 22nd
February 2025

v

BENFLEET

at Cricklefields 3.00pm
*The Essex Senior
Football League
Premier Division*