

OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME | ISSUE #7 | £1.50

# THE SALTS



REG MADGWICK STADIUM, KT11 1AA  
TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2023  
COMBINED COUNTIES | PREMIER SOUTH  
KICK-OFF: 7.45PM





Reg Madgwick Stadium, Downside  
Bridge Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1AA

OFFICIAL CLUB WEBSITE  
[www.epsomandewellfc.co.uk](http://www.epsomandewellfc.co.uk)

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PROGRAMME EDITOR	MATT EDWARDS
PROGRAMME PRINTERS	KALLKWIK (L'HEAD)



# CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

## MEL TOUGH

We Welcome Balham to The Reg Madgwick stadium tonight in our Combined Counties Premier Division game.

An eventful week which saw Epsom score 3 but failed to overhaul Croydon in the Cup, then a farewell to Mark Durbridge which was well supported by all and Saturday's game against Tadley,

I didn't expect too much out of the game and thought a draw would have been a fair result as both teams were evenly matched.

It took one mistake and we came away with nothing!

So hopefully tonight the boys can continue to progress and get some points on the board.

Off the back of our cup runs it was decided that the funds gained would be invested into a VEO Camera which will be used in tonight's game, technology permitting.

Enjoy the evening,  
Mel





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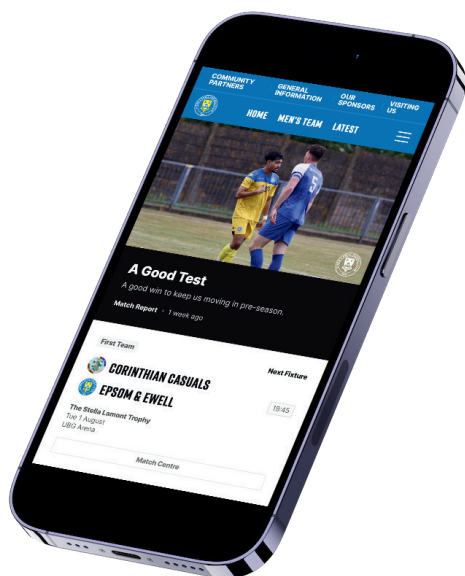
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**Balham Football Club was formed in 2011 in order to provide player progression into open-age football for the hugely talented, high-achieving age group teams of Balham Blazers FC, which was founded by Greg Cruttwell in 2001.**

Having won back-to-back promotions in 2011/12 and 2012/13 Balham did the league and cup double in the Surrey South Eastern Combination in 2013/14.

In 2014/15 Balham finished in a promotion position again, in the Surrey Elite Intermediate Football League, however promotion was denied due to Combined Counties League facility requirements not being met.

Having moved to ground share with Cobham FC, in order to meet the facility requirements, Balham finished as runners-up in the SEIFL in 2015/16 and as a result, was promoted to Division One of the Combined Counties League for the 2016/17 season.

The club had an exceptional first league campaign at Step 6, finishing in a promotion position for the sixth consecutive season and winning the London Senior Trophy.

In 2017/18 the club had an equally exceptional season, finishing 5th at Step 5 in the Premier Division of the CCL and winning the London Senior Cup.

2021/22 will be the club's fifth season at this level after flirting with relegation in 2018/19 and then having null and void seasons in 2019/20 and 2020/21 due to COVID-19.

Having begun on Wimbledon Extension, before moving to Cobham and then to the Wibbandune Stadium, which the club ground shared with Colliers Wood Utd, Balham were on the move again in 2020, this time to the Mayfield Stadium, where the club has embarked on a two-year ground share agreement with AFC Croydon Athletic.

The moving location meant having to move sideways in the Football League Pyramid, from the Premier Division of the CCL into the Premier Division of the SCEFL (South East Counties Football League)

However, after one single season in the SCEFL, which was curtailed due to COVID-19, the FA have brought Balham back to the Combined Counties League for the 2021/22 season, at the same level, in a newly formed Premier League South.

In the 21/22 season, we were back in the Combined Counties League Premier South – and it was great to play against some of the teams we have faced many times before and some new ones. Despite it being our second-highest finish in the division, we couldn't find consistency, there was a notable effort in the Surrey FA Senior Cup where we reached the semi-final but lost to National League side Dorking Wanderers.

Balham's 21st season was also Greg Cruttwell's final one in charge of football at the club. Greg has taken a step back and he is now Club President. The 1st team for the 22/23 season will be led by Ebrahim Seedat and assisted by Emil Kot, Daré Jean-Pierre, and Maciej Kulbacki in the CCL Premier South.

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# MATCH ACTION

## TADLEY-CALLEVA

Tadley-Calleva FC v Epsom & Ewell FC  
**Combined Counties | Premier South**  
Saturday 30th September 2023

**Before we begin the match report it would be wrong not to mention the funeral of our loyal supporter, Mark Durbridge on Friday afternoon. It was a poignant, respectful and well attended service from our committee, fans and players - REST IN PEACE MARK.**

Back to their match. We are very much suffering from injuries and absentees at the moment with 9 players unavailable for the match. We welcomed back Zac Powell after a few games away, although he was probably expecting a gentle introduction from the substitutes bench, however the person in the starting berth at centre back (Recce Tierney) pulled up in the warm up so Zac came straight into the team.

We started very well and had a couple of good chances against a team in fine form and probably surprised the home team with our play. As the half went on no team were really in the ascendancy and we were more than holding our own against the higher placed team and then in the 41st minute we made a defensive area by playing the ball across our 18 yard box and their opposition striker went onto to place the ball past our goalkeeper. They could have increased their lead shortly after but Harvey Keough made a smart save in our goal. Half time 1-0.

The second half was very much the same as the first with no team really in the ascendancy. We had a great chance with a George Owusu header who leapt at the far post way above the much taller Tadley defender only to see the ball go just outside the post. We had other opportunities but either we did not get the shot away to trouble the goalkeeper or the effort was blocked. The game ended 1-0 to our hosts and another defeat for our team. It was a game that we should have got something out of but we just did not get that bit of luck to score.

We now have two games at home, firstly we entertain Balham at 1945 on Tuesday 3rd October and then the following Saturday with a 3pm kick off against Colliers Wood. Both matches will be at the Reg Madgwick Stadium in Cobham.







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\*The Athlete Academy App: a strength and conditioning platform for athletes who compete in multiple sports (football, basketball, rugby, hockey, and more). Like the “Design Your Training” platform, you will choose your exercises, following an effective, structured strength and conditioning program.

We also held our first showcase football trial, where we brought in multiple scouts representing clubs (Southampton FC, Gillingham FC, Bromley FC, and more) and observed players aged 8-22 to scout for their respective clubs. Out of 29 players who attended, 5 drew interest from the scouts and were put in contact with them. We hope to host more showcases soon. Head over to our website for further information!



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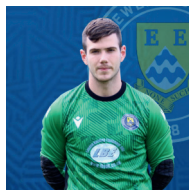
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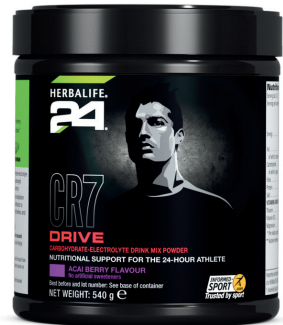






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# Community Partners

## Epsom & Ewell Colts FC



Epsom & Ewell Colts FC is an inclusive and diverse charter standard club committed to providing a safe and fun environment that allows players, coaches and managers to develop their skills and ensure a positive experience of youth football.

Our club has been in existence since 1971, originally known as West Ewell Wanderers FC. In 2006 the club changed its name to Epsom & Ewell Colts FC.

Since 2006 the Colts have gone from strength to strength, not only on the pitch but also with its committee, managers and coaches who ensure the stability, standards and continued growth of the club.

Currently, we run a mixture of boys & girls teams, with the number of teams standing at 50 plus that play across Saturdays and Sundays.



As part of our three-year development plan, the Colts have initiated key partnerships and priorities:

Partnership with Chelsea Football Club Foundation to support the development of the Club, Managers and Players.

Partnership with GLF and Glyn School to secure a home ground that can provide excellent facilities for both the Colts and the wider community.

Our Ladies' team has now been created and provides lots of fitness and fun.

Sponsorship initiatives to provide income and longevity for the club

Our community partner clubs are a part of our project to return back to the borough, by allowing more younger players to use first-class grassroots facilities we have partnered with many local organisations to try and achieve this. You will find out more about our other community partners in future editions





# Community Partners

## Alexandra United FC



Founded in 1972, Alexandra United Football Club play their home games at Alexandra Recreation Ground in Epsom, Surrey.

We are accredited as a Charter Standard club by the Surrey Football Association (FA) which means we have been rigorously adjudged to be well-run and sustainable – as well as prioritising child protection and quality coaching.

We also have Club Mark status, which is a universally acknowledged cross sport accreditation scheme for community sports clubs.

It confirms that we subscribe to high standards of welfare, coaching and management. Further, it shows that our club provides the right environment to ensure the welfare of members and encourages everyone to enjoy sport and stay involved throughout their lives. Being accredited recognises that our club is a safe, rewarding and fulfilling place for participants of all ages as well as helping parents and carers know that they are choosing the best club for their young people.



# MATCH ACTION

# AFC CROYDON ATHLETIC

Epsom & Ewell FC v AFC Croydon Athletic  
**Cherry Red Records Premier Challenge Cup**  
Tuesday 23rd September 2023

**We entertained AFC Croydon Athletic in the first round of the Combined Counties League Cup at the Reg Madgwick stadium on Tuesday 26th September. A crowd of just less than 50 watched what turned out to be an entertaining game with our visitors coming out better of the seven goals that were scored on the evening.**

The Salts made several changes from the FA Vase loss on the previous Saturday with numerous absentees and the odd injury amongst those missing. Yet, we started the game very brightly and probably had our best opening spell of the season and after a good few chances took the lead in the 22nd minute from a penalty taken by Marlon Pinder whose kick sent the opposition keeper the wrong way. We continued to press after going ahead and 10 minutes later Sirak Negassi increased our lead after a slide rule pass to put him through as he slid the ball under the advancing Croydon goalkeeper. It should be noted that Sirak on the left wing and George Owusu on the right wing were giving the Croydon defence a torrid time.

So, 2-0 and looking comfortable we then began to get 'jittery' at the back even though the defence up to that point was being well marshalled by our back three of Nick Inwugwu, Recce Tierney and Oli Thompson our Captain on the evening. As soon as we started to look forward to our half-time cup of tea, our opponents got a goal back so this made the score 2-1 at half-time.

As soon as the second half started and with many supporters still sipping their hot drinks, we scored our third goal through the very impressive George Owusu with a great header. So back to a well-earned two goal cushion or so you would think. It was unfortunate that very soon after Reece Tierney had to go off with a slight injury which made us have to unsettle our back line and our opponents started to increase the pressure, they were putting upon us but not really creating many clear-cut chances. Until the 76th minute when the referee awarded our opponents what looked like a soft penalty which was dispatched to reduce the deficit.

This proved to be a fillip that our opponents needed and soon after a particularly good move they were level. And then in the 88th minute they were ahead for the first time in the match when we failed to clear an attack, however there was a large hint of offside for this goal according to supporters who were closer to the incident. After 5 minutes of injury time in which we had a good opportunity from a free kick to equalise, but unfortunately the ball was blasted well over the bar the match then ended 4-3 and AFC Croydon now progress to the next round.

This was an unfortunate result especially after the way we had played for the first 75 minutes. We now move onto an away league match at Tadley Calleva on Saturday, and another league match next Tuesday at home to Balham with a 19:45 kick off.





**COMBINED COUNTIES PREMIER SOUTH**

# **NEXT UP**

**AT HOME**



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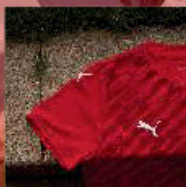
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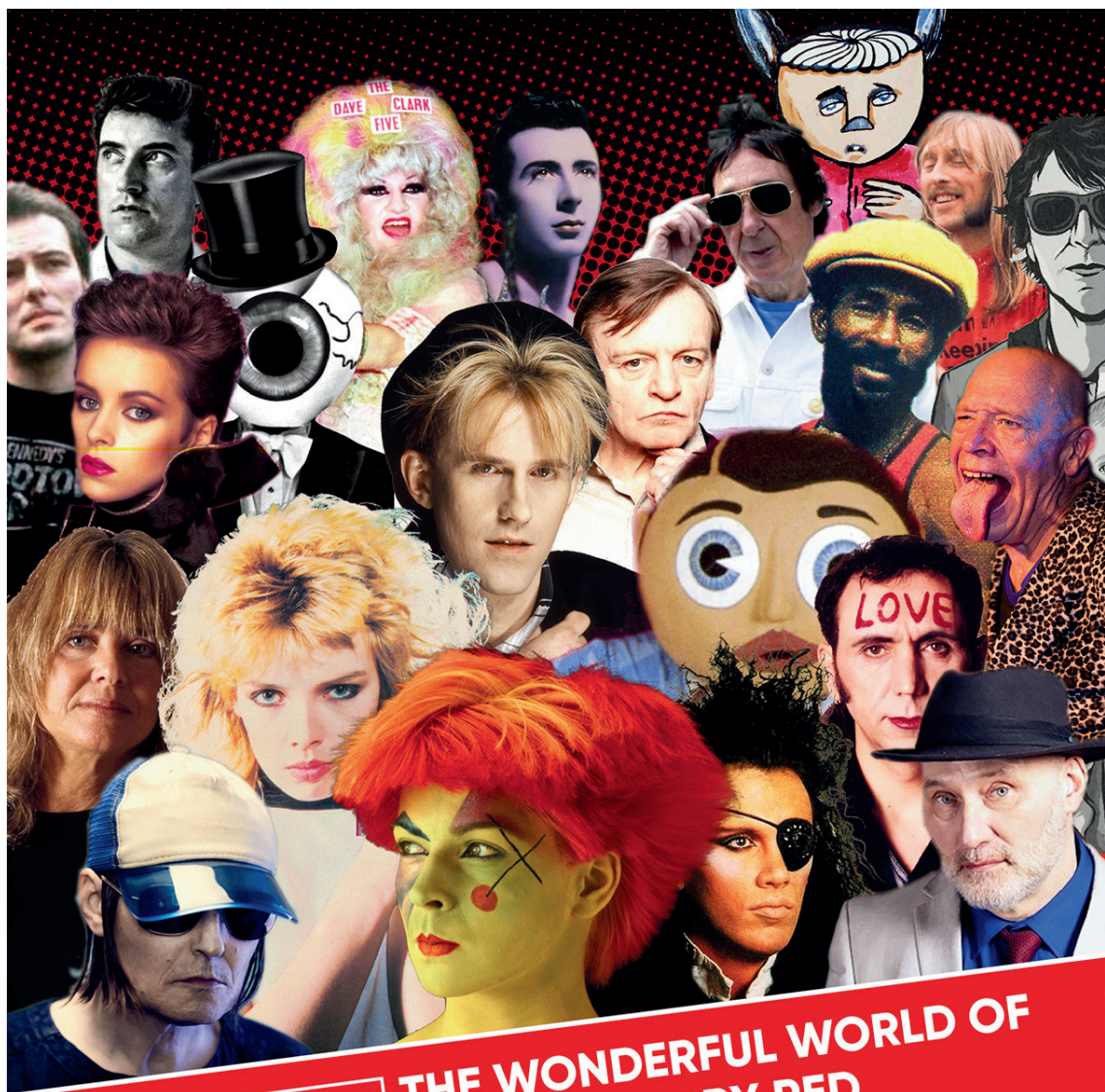
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# FIRST TEAM 2023/24

## APPEARANCES & STATS

	Appearances (Sub Appearances)	Goals
Adeyemi Thompson	4	0
Aikins-Hawkson Jude	1 (1)	0
Amissah Ben	6	0
Batula Ade	12 (1)	4
Bauchop Ben	2 (1)	0
Brown Kiyo	10 (3)	0
Carpene Tino	12 (3)	1
Clothier Chester	8	0
Colwell Toby	1	0
Edwards Rory	13 (2)	0
Inwugwu Nick-Aaron	12 (4)	1
Keogh Harvey	12	0
Kugthas Ayran	10 (3)	0
Negassi Sirak	6 (3)	1
Nelson-Roberts Ethan	12	1
Ofosu-Hernandez Jabari	3 (2)	0
Owusu George	3 (1)	1
Pinder Marlon	2	1
Powell Zach	10	1
Snadden Ash	9 (2)	0
Stanley Jaan	9 (2)	1
Tierney Reece	4 (1)	0
Thompson Ollie	11 (4)	1
Williams Tommy	7 (1)	1
Wilson Callum	6	2





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## Epsom & Ewell FC

**Manager: James Scott**

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TOBY COLWELL (GK)  
AYRAN KUGATHAS  
ZACH POWELL  
NICK-AARON INWUGWU  
OLLIE THOMPSON  
REECE TIERNEY  
TOMMY WILLIAMS  
CALLUM WILSON (C)  
CHESTER CLOTHIER  
THOMPSON ADEYEMI  
RORY EDWARDS  
ETHAN NELSON-ROBERTS  
ASH SNADDEN  
JAAN STANLEY  
ADE BATULA  
VALENTINO CARPENE  
GEORGE OWUSU  
BEN BAUCHOP  
BEN AMISSAH  
JABARI OFOSU-HERNANDEZ  
MARLON PINDER  
JUDE AIKINS-HAWKSON



## Balham FC

**Manager: Danny Young**

JAMES ADEBAYO  
JAMES ANDERSON  
JAMAL BARTLEY  
ANDRE CRUZ ROSA  
ALFIE DANCE LAING  
DAN DAVID  
PAPS DOUKOURE  
SEBASTIAN FALLOWFIELD  
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JACK GORDON (GK)  
ALI HADDADJI  
JACK HAIRE  
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ZAK JAKUBOWSKI  
KOJO KYEI  
ED MCCREA  
RAY MOORE  
JOEL ONU  
NATHAN OSAJI  
SAM PAGANO  
MARK PALMER  
HAYDN READ (GK)  
TOM READ  
KHALID SAVAGE  
OMARIO STEWART  
ANTHONY THOMPSON  
TOMASZ WOCLAL

### Today's Match Officials

**Referee: Jordan Crichlow**

**Assistant: Phil Paice**

**Assistant: Miroslaw Matlak**