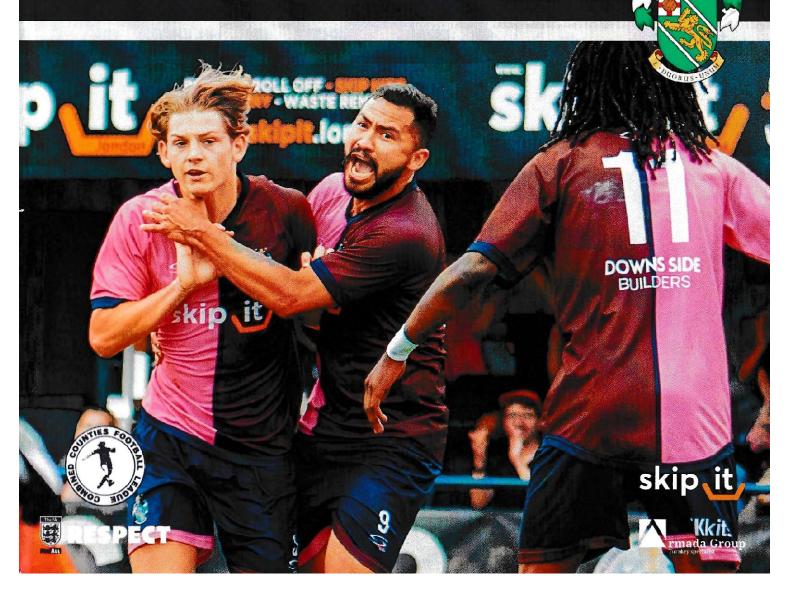


The official matchday programme of Corinthian-Casuals Football Club

## Corinthian-Casuals vs. Epsom & Ewell

Monday 25 August 2025 — Combined Counties Premier Division South





## Proud Stadium Sponsors of CORINTHIAN-CASUALS FC

info@armada-group.uk



### GONTENTS

- 5 MAAN MANAGEMENT
- 7 BRIAN ADAMSON: CHAIRMAN
- 8 Opposition: Epsom & Ewell
- MATCH REPORT VS SEVENDAKS TOWN
- 12 VAI CORINTHIANS! UPDATE FROM BRAZIL
- 14 CORINTHIAN-CASUALS PLAYER PROFILES
- 18 CORINTHIAN-CASUALS HISTORY
- 20 ORIGINS OF THE WORD 'SOCCER'
- **25** PLAYER APPEARANCES & LEAGUE TABLE
- **26** FIXTURES & RESULTS



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**Vice Presidents:** B. Adamson, S. Bangs, N.F.S. Epps, S.C. Harner, D.G. Harrison,

B. Phillips, J.B. Wakefield

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#### FIRST-TEAM STAFF

Manager: Mu Maan

Assistant Manager: Gabriel Odunaike First-team coaches: Mo Maan, Richard

Blackwell

Goalkeeper coach: Josh Lukwata

Physio: Carly Doyle

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## ROLL ON ROLL OFF

CLEARANCE

SKIP HIRE GRAB LORRY

WASTE REMOVAL

ood morning and welcome to the Armada Group Stadium for this Combined Counties Premier South fixture against Epsom & Ewell. I hope you have an entertaining time with us.

Entertainment. That's the word I've heard a lot since last week's FA Cup tie here against Sevenoaks Town. Entertainment's never in short supply here and an eight-goal thriller meant fans got their money's worth.

Saying that, I'd rather concede fewer goals and win football matches than go on rollercoaster rides like that. We've had over a week to prepare for this match and myself, my coaching team and the players will be ready for this morning's game.

Our opponents, Epsom & Ewell, won't be an easy challenge by any means. But there aren't any easy games in this league, especially with us being the club that we are. We're a name that every team will come out to try and beat. We learned that last season with many stepping up their game against us. Now, we'll be fully prepared and I'll always drum that into the boys in the changing room.



I'd like to pay testament to the fans too. Last Saturday was our first competitive game at home this season and we've got over 300 through the gates... and they were all our supporters. They weren't quiet either. The atmosphere was amazing. It's just a shame that we couldn't get over the line with the result. I was gutted for both the fans and the boys. With all due respect, I don't think Sevenoaks deserved that.

Despite Sevenoaks being a level higher than us, I thought we were the better side. Second half, even after going three down, I thought that was such a harsh scoreline. But once Rafa scored our first goal, I always believed that we could at least grab a draw. And when we drew level, I thought we'd push on and get the win. The officials didn't help us. Andre's disallowed goal — I don't think that should've been disallowed. We should've had a penalty in the first half too. Football's about fine margins and with Wil hitting the crossbar in the final minutes at 4-3, that proves it. But if you concede five goals, it's going to be tough to win games.

Now we turn our attention to the league which is our priority, and I'm looking forward to it. Today will be all about getting more points on the board. I've been very confident going into this season and that's not changed. We just need to apply that confidence to our performances and turn that into a run of wins.

Enjoy today and be loud and proud of the boys.





# BRIAN ADAMSON CHARMAN



ood afternoon everyone, and welcome to today's Bank Holiday game at Corinthian-Casuals, against Epsom & Ewell.

Epsom have also had a strong start to their campaign, so this should make today's game very interesting. We hope you enjoy your day with us and have a safe journey home afterwards.

After discussing developments off the pitch in my last notes, I thought I would reflect on our start to the 2025/26 campaign on the pitch today. We opened the season away at Tooting & Mitcham and, for a first game, I felt it was a very positive performance – Imperial Fields is not an easy place to go, so to come away with a point was a good start.

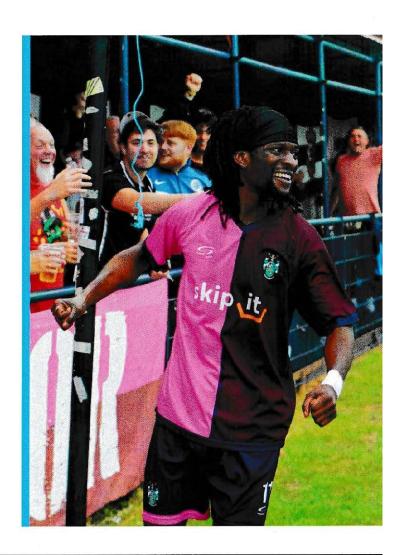
Then, in the FA Cup, we went away to Abbey Rangers and produced another excellent performance. You could clearly see the signs that Mu and his staff are building a competitive side that day in front of a great travelling contingent of our fans.

Our next league game against Badshot Lea was disappointing. We didn't get it right on the night, but football is about learning and moving forward. And move forward we certainly did against Cobham, producing a strong, solid performance despite key players being missing. Credit goes to the whole squad for that.

Then came last weekend's FA Cup tie against Sevenoaks Town. From three goals down, the team showed tremendous spirit to level at 3-3 with three superb strikes. We felt we had a strong claim for a penalty that wasn't given and unfortunately conceded again to make it 4-3. The fifth didn't matter — by then we were chasing the game. What mattered was the fight, the work rate, and the never-say-die attitude.

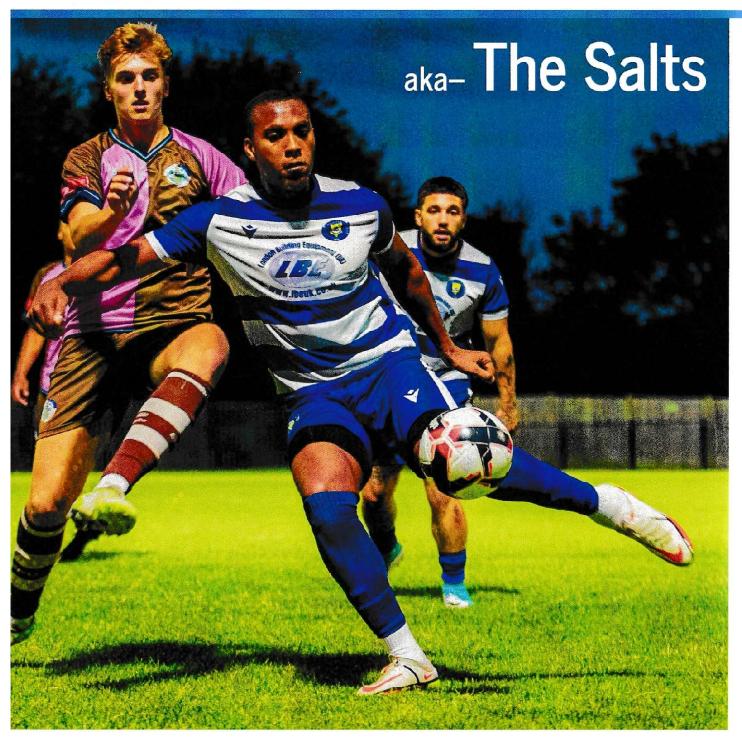
It's the best spirit and togetherness I've seen here in many years. Long may it continue. My thanks to Mu, Richard, Gabs and Mo for their hard work, and of course to the players for their commitment. Let's see where this journey can take us.

Enjoy the game, and come on you Casuals!



#### Opposition

### EPSON & EWELL



#### LAST TIME OUT

CORINTHIAN-CASUALS 1-2 EPSOM & EWELL (25 MARCH 2025)

Scorer- Cheklit 47; Miller 56, Green 63 (pen)

Line-up-Bernardes, Gjoshe, Morgan, Protsyshyn, Falodi, Dos Santos, Onovwigun, Adelakun, Odunaike,

Cadogan, Masikini Subs-Pilonetto, Cheklit, Travin, Dillon, Mo Maan



Stablished in 1918, Epsom & Ewell Football Club were founded as Epsom Juniors FC, entering the Surrey Junior League in 1919 and the Sutton & District League in 1920. In 1922, a name change to Epsom Town FC preceded their rise to senior status in 1924/25, when they joined the Surrey Senior League and won the championship in 1926.

A move to Ewell FC's West Street in 1925 provided stability, and the club enjoyed success in the London League, winning the title at the first attempt in 1927/28 before finishing as runners-up five times. The 1930s saw the team reach the Surrey Senior Cup Final and the FA Cup first round in 1933/34, losing 4-2 to Clapton Orient in front of 10,000 spectators. In 1939, war interrupted progress and the club temporarily folded, with Epsom Town playing in the wartime leagues but disbanding in 1946.

Post-war, Epsom FC resumed playing, joining the Corinthian League in 1949. The 1950s saw a second Surrey Senior Cup final appearance, against Corinthian-Casuals, losing 2-0 at Selhurst Park. In 1960, the club rebranded as Epsom & Ewell FC to represent the entire borough and three years later the Corinthian League merged with the Athenian and Delphinian Leagues. However, Epsom & Ewell were relegated in 1965.

Founded 1918

**Ground** Leg O'Mutton Field

Chairman Mel Tough

Manager Craig Dundas & Max Johnson

The early 1970s marked a revival under manager Pat O'Connell. After a League Cup win in 1973/74, the club joined the Athenian League and, in 1974/75, reached the first-ever FA Vase Final at Wembley, narrowly losing 2-1 to Hoddesdon Town. Success followed with Isthmian League entry in 1977, winning Division Two in their first season. In 1981, Epsom & Ewell won the Surrey Senior Cup, defeating Woking in the final.

The club's golden era faded in the mid-1980s, leading to successive relegations. Then, in 1993, West Street was lost and the team entered a series of groundshares, beginning at Banstead Athletic. League restructuring and struggles followed, though a brief resurgence in 2002 led to a top-10 Isthmian League finish under manager Adrian Hill.

After moving to the Combined Counties League in 2006, the club enjoyed success under Lyndon Buckwell, reaching the last 32 of the FA Vase in 2009/10 and winning the League Cup in 2013. However, mass player departures in the summer of 2017 led to the club's relegation in their centenary year. A series of managerial changes disrupted progress, but the club was promoted back to Step 5 in 2022/23.

Last season saw them finish 15th in the league and win the Southern Combination Cup while groundsharing with us, and they have begun this season in fine form, winning both their league games so far and progressing to the first qualifying round of the FA Cup by beating South Park in a replay last Tuesday.

#### **LAST 3 SEASONS**

SEASON	LEAGUE	Ē	Ŵ	D	L	F	A		POS
THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T	Combined Counties Premier South	38	12	5	21	52	79	41	15/20
The second secon	Combined Counties Premier South	38	9	4	25	59	95	31	16/20
2022/23	Southern Combination Division One	32	20	5	7	68	41	65	2/18



- 1 S. BAEK
- 2 Z. EJETA
- 3 G. BOND 🍩
- 4 T. SMITH
- 5 Q. ROWE **Y**
- 6 C. AFONSO
- 7 VITINHO V
- 8 H. ADELAKUN
- 14 R. BARBOSA 🏶
- 10 D. DA SILVA V
- 11 A. COKER 🍲
- 12 T. CASTELO
- 17 M. DOS SANTOS
- 18 R. BAILEY-ALLEN
- 16 W. EWERTHON A
- 15 T. MASIKINI
- 9 P. MAIA 📤



- 1 J. PERRIN
- 2 K. DIOMANDE 🕸
- 3 C. DICKENS 🏶
- 4 T. HANFREY V
- 5 R. SAWYER
- 6 T. JONAH 🍩
- 7 J. DING V
- 8 J. WISSON
- 9 W.-H. MFULA
- 10 J. JEFFREEY V
- 11 M. DOUGHTY 🕸 🔻





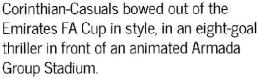


14 J. HOWLETT-MUNDLE

15 A. BURNETT A

16 J. BROTHERS A

17 W. BERNAL



Against step four opposition, in Sevenoaks Town, Casuals put in a performance to be proud of, recovering a three-goal deficit before falling victim to two late goals.

The FA Cup fever was setting in around the ground prior to kick off, but unfortunately for Casuals, the bubble of excitement burst just five minutes into the tie. Sevenoaks wrote their name onto the scoresheet first, courtesy of a wellengineered inswinging corner that was headed home by Charlie Dickens.

Casuals threatened to amend a slow start in the subsequent minutes. A fluid counterattack gave them the licence to pounce on a shortage of Sevenoaks centre-halves, and just as Raf Barbosa's finish trickled into the corner, roars of jubilation shifted to cries of frustration at the sight of the linesman's raised flag. Then, Andre Coker must've thought he had fashioned the equaliser, but following a tantalising ball across the face of goal, the marksman could only strike the foot of the post.

The Oaks' seasoned striker Warren Mfula formerly a popular figure at Casuals – led a late Sevenoaks charge as half-time approached, rolling it square to James Jeffrey, who forced a crucial save from Sanghyun Baek at his near post.

Town began the second half how they started the first, by denting the hosts'



spirits. Dickens continued to alarm the Casuals defence from left-back, and his sweet half volley ricocheted into the path of Tolu Jonah who couldn't miss. After a reshuffle of the Corinthian pack, the Oaks pulled even further ahead. Mason Doughty sprinted through the final third before opening up his body and curling in a calculated third.

However, the noise never faded from the 302-strong Corinthian contingent despite the scoreline. The unwavering support was repaid when substitute Patrick Maia floated in an inviting cross from the right flank which kissed the boot of Raf Barbosa, whose pure first-time volley reignited the cup spirit around the ground.

Left-back George Bond commenced his Casuals career with a formidable performance away at Cobham last week and he continued his promising start yesterday. After collecting the ball 30 yards out, he wouldn't have expected to score a goal-of-the-season contender quite so soon, unleashing an arrow into the top-right corner. A belter for some,



a pearler for others, but Corinth were well and truly back in it with half an hour to play.

It was another new signing who then had the fans truly believing in the 'Magic of the Cup'. Andre Coker, making his home debut, endeared himself to the Corinth faithful in style by picking the ball up on the byline, cutting in, and firing home the equaliser to the sound of Casuals hysteria. It was a mountain, but Maan's men had climbed it.

Yet Town managed to forge ahead once more, against the run of play. Kevin Diomande's tenacity saw him intercept Bond's mishit clearance, before driving home his side's fourth of the afternoon inside the near post. Despite a last-minute onslaught from the hosts, Sevenoaks wrapped up a spot in the first qualifying round when Dan Duncanson swept in the insurance goal. Casuals unravelled but not disheartened.

It was a result which, on another day, could've landed in Corinthian-Casuals' favour. As Maan suggested after the last round's victory at Abbey Rangers: "We can go toe-to-toe with whoever we get."





### **UAI CORINTHIANS!**

#### RICARDO GALLI BRINGS US THE LATEST FROM SAO PAULO



### A NEW ERA BEGINS FOR TIMÃO UNDER DORIVAL JÚNIOR

In 2025, Corinthians appointed former Brazil national team coach Dorival Júnior, bringing his tactical experience to the club. Known for solid defensive organisation and balanced play, Dorival aimed to stabilise Corinthians in the Brasileirão championship. However, the journey so far has been challenging and Corinthians have been stuck around mid-table as we approach the 20-game mark, still searching for consistency.

Dorival's men have shown flashes of brilliance, notably in a tight 1–0 away win over Ceará and a thrilling comeback against Internacional, but have also been undone by lapses in concentration. The defence, once the foundation of Timão's success, has been tested, especially on the road.

Dorival has blended youth academy graduates with experienced veterans, giving young players valuable minutes while relying on seasoned stars to guide the team through rough patches. As the league approaches its decisive phase, the challenge is to turn isolated wins into sustained momentum.

A top-six finish and a spot in the Copa Libertadores (the South American Champions League) remain within reach, but every match is now a must-win.

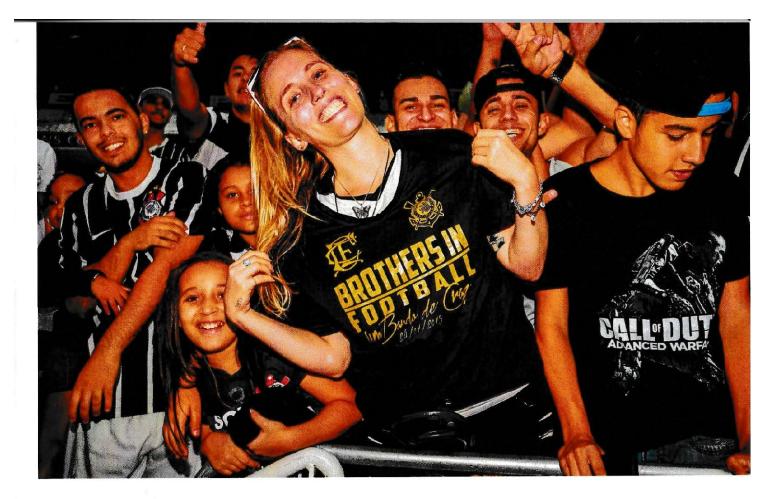
#### COPA DO BRASIL: DERBY TRIUMPH

Corinthians and Palmeiras faced each other in the Copa do Brasil knockout round for the first time in history this year, creating one of the season's most intense moments.

The first leg at Corinthians' Neo Química Arena on 30th July was a tense battle. Corinthians' Yuri Alberto missed a penalty early on, and Memphis Depay scored a header to give the home side a 1–0 lead. Palmeiras then had a goal disallowed by VAR, fueling outrage among their fans.

The return leg at Palmeiras' Allianz Parque was charged with anticipation. Due to São Paulo regulations, only home fans attended, creating a hostile atmosphere for Corinthians. Still, the Fiel





Torcida gave the team a huge send-off from the training centre, sending a message: this derby was not just to be played, but to be won.

Early in the game, Palmeiras' Aníbal Moreno received a red card, reducing his team to 10 men and shifting momentum decisively to Corinthians. Matheus Bidu scored late in the first half after a corner kick, and Gustavo Henrique sealed the victory with a powerful header in the second half.

The 2–0 aggregate win sent Corinthians to the quarter-finals and marked a historic milestone: Timão had eliminated their fiercest rival in a national cup tie for the first time, a moment Fiel Torcida will remember for years.

#### POLITICS AT THE CLUB: TURBULENCE OFF THE PITCH

Off the pitch, Corinthians has faced one of its most serious political crises in decades, impacting both club leadership and on-field performance.

The trouble began with a sponsorship deal signed in late 2023 with VaideBet, the largest in Brazilian football history. Initially promising, the

contract became a scandal after São Paulo Civil Police launched investigations into allegations of money laundering, criminal association, and qualified theft involving the sponsorship and some club executives.

By May 2025, pressure from the Deliberative Council led to the removal of President Augusto Melo. Vice-President Osmar Stábile took over as interim president. Meanwhile, disputes over the removal of Council President Romeu Tuma Júnior intensified factional divides within the club.

Tensions escalated in July when about 500 fans from supporter groups including Gaviões da Fiel, Camisa 12, and Pavilhão Nove invaded the club's headquarters. They chained gates to block access, hung banners declaring "Closed in mourning for mismanagement," and demanded structural reforms: rewriting the club statute, expanding member voting rights, and accountability for those responsible for the club's debt.

On 9<sup>th</sup> August, members of the club voted and approved Augusto Melo's impeachment at a General Assembly, where he was then removed from the presidency of Corinthians.

# GORNTH N-GASUALS PLAYER PROFILES



sponsored by

A promising young goalkeeper who impressed against us in our pre-season game against Chessington & Hook United and signed for Casuals soon afterwards. Baek — who turns 20 in September — came through the Kingstonian youth system.



sponsored by

DANIEL MASON

Mu's brother and a safe pair of hands in the dugout or between the sticks whether he's. He won promotion with Met Police in his younger days and donned the gloves for Casuals many times since returning, while also offering his wisdom as a coach.

PHILIP & SARAH TODD



sponsored by THE BACK 4 - ANDY, DAVID, KELVIN & PAUL

sponsored

A mobile and assured defender who has played professionally in Poland and his native Ukraine. Protsyshyn made his Casuals debut in October 2024 and has become an influential presence in the side. Named captain in summer 2025.



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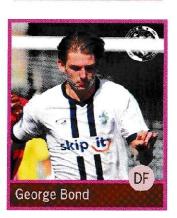
**CCFC WALKING FOOTBALL** 

Tommy returned to King George's from Redhill this season after previously spending time here under James Bracken. A nononsense defender who earned promotion to Step 3 with Corinth, Tommy now brings more experience and leadership.

Quincy Rowe

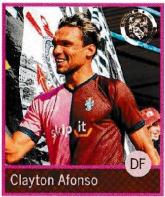
IN MEMORY OF KITCH

An FA Vase winner with Chertsey Town, Quincy can be one of a select few to have scored a winning goal at Wembley Stadium. The experienced centre back joined Mu's squad in the summer of 2025 having been with Westfield most recently.



Dual registration from South Park

Energetic 18-year-old left-back signed on dual registration from South Park. Bond spent some time with Casuals in pre-season before returning here in August, making his debut in our 2-1 win at Cobham, where he had a hand in our opening goal.



sponsored by

Hong Kong. Central defender Clayton has played for a number of Hong Kong clubs and made his international debut for them against Bahrain in a World Cup qualifier in 2021.

A Brazilian-born former

pro whose career includes

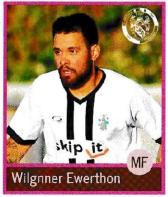
international honours with



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Experienced left-back or deep-lying central midfielder who returned last year to a club he knows well, having made over 100 appearances for Casuals during his previous spell here, mainly under James Bracken. A one-time Crystal Palace academy player.

#### **BARRY KYLE**



sponsored by

IAIN GRAY

Technically gifted Brazilian midfielder who joined us after a brief spell with NW London FC in Step 6, having previously played professionally in his home country, at state level in Tocantins. Matches a great eye for a pass with a penchant for set-pieces.



sponsored by

STUART TREE

A Brazilian ball-playing centre-half or box-to-box midfielder who is a vocal presence at the heart of the Casuals side and was Supporters' and Manager's Player of the Season in 2024/25. Played for Gremio Barueri, Sao Bernardo and Penapolense in Brazil.



sponsored by

A graduate of Kinetic Academy, Zack was with Whyteleafe last season and moved to Casuals ahead of this season. The 18-year-old is comfortable in central midfield or at rightback, where he made his competitive debut against Tooting & Mitcham.



Stylish midfielder who combines technique and presence. The latest Brazilian to join our ranks moved to London as a boy, playing for Dulwich Hamlet up to Under-18s, then Hillingdon Borough. He then moved to Greece, before joining Casuals this summer.





Sponsorship available

Versatile player who has operated at centre-back, rightback and in midfield since joining us in the summer of 2024. He missed much of his first campaign after suffering a nasty injury away at Jersey Bulls in October but recovered to take up his place in the squad for this season.



Sponsorship available

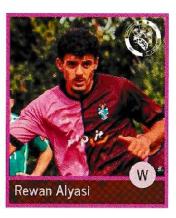
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**CCFC YOUTH SECTION** 

One of our own. Theo came through our youth section and starred during a very strong 2024/25 campaign for the Under-18s. He made the step up to the first-team in pre-season and impressed with his tidy technique and progressive play from midfield.

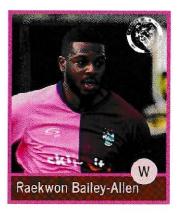


Attacking midfielder who joined us on loan from Aldershot Town in mid-August. The 19-year-old helped the Shots' B team reach the semi-final of the District Cup last season and also scored five goals while on loan to Sandhurst Town in this division.



A tall and skilful winger, who looks to commit opposition full-backs with his direct running, Alyasi joined us on trial in the summer and impressed, scoring a penalty before being sent off against Leatherhead. At 19, he has plenty of promise and determination

On Ioan from Aldershot Town



Rae Bailey-Allen joined Casuals at the outset of this season, signing from Raynes Park Vale. A left-footed right-winger who introduced himself in style with a wonderful individual goal on his pre-season debut. Former clubs also include Merstham and Southall.

Sponsorship available



runs from either flank wreak havoc in opposition defences. Masikini previously played for Corinthian-Casuals during our time in the Isthmian Premier Division and returned to the club from Leatherhead in September 2024.

Rapid winger whose mazy

Sponsorship available



sponsored by JOHN NORMAN

A former winner of Supporters' Player of the Year for Casuals, Shea is one of the most popular figures at the club, with his driving, attacking football and silky skills on the wing or at No10. His dad, Gary Cascoe, used to play for Corinthian-Casuals in the Eighties.

A dynamic forward who

was integral to Cray Valley's

last season before moving

to Casuals over the summer.

Came through the academy

system at Crystal Palace,

Andre has also played for Maidstone, Cray Wanderers,

K's and Folkestone.

Isthmian Premier playoff push

MIKE CARTER



sponsored by

A neat and skilful Brazilian No10 who looks to link play between midfield and attack, Diogo was our top scorer last season - his first in England. Previously played professional football in Albania with KF Valbona. where he won promotion to the second tier.

TRURO TANNADICE TOLWORTH



sponsored by

**LEGION CASUALS** 



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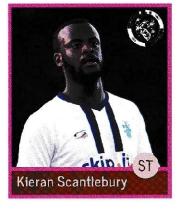
**MIKE DONNITHORNE** 

The experienced striker joined us this summer after scoring against Burnham in his first trial match during pre-season. At 36 years of age he can reflect on a career that has taken him from Brazil to Colombia, Guatemala and Malta, where he played professionally.



**GEOFF BUNGE** 

Exciting Brazilian striker who got off to a flyer at Casuals last season when he struck a memorable FA Cup goal at North Greenford in his competitive debut. A fiery presence, he previously played professionally in Albania and Brazil, where he began with second-tier Goias.



Sponsorship available

Kieran joined Casuals in the summer of 2025 and impressed in pre-season with his sharpness up front. An exciting forward who counts Dartford, Fisher, Chessington & Hook and Crowborough as former clubs. Cousin of fellow Casual Trey Masikini.

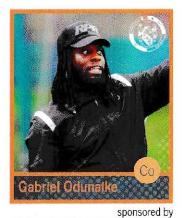


INMEMORY OF KEITH "THE CASUAL" WEBB

In his second season as gaffer here. Mu was also a Casuals hero in his playing days, when he starred as a goalscoring midfielder in James Bracken's promotionwinning side before returning to take the reins as manager ahead of the 2024/25 season.







**BROADWAY TO BRAZIL PODCAST** 

Mu's team-mate in his playing days at King George's Field, Odunaike was a powerful forward whose all-action displays and goalscoring prowerss made him a crowd favourite. Now a fitness drill guru, his charisma shines through from the dugout too.



Sponsorship available

Former Fulham academy goalkeeper who left the game briefly after his time in their youth setup ended and is now bringing his lessons to the Casuals keepers. A recording artist on the side, 'Lukwatsss' has racked up millions of streams on Spotify.



sponsored by

IAN KIRBY

Former Sutton United centre-back who has vast experience through the levels of non-league and has coaching pedigree from his time with Carshalton Athletic's youth system. Has occasionally donned his boots since joining Casuals last season.



sponsored by

**FIONA GANE** 

Physio who works hard getting the players back to full fitness, Carly graduated in Sports Rehab at St Mary's in 2006 and has been with the club more than 15 years. Carly has run the London Marathon in under 3 hours and travels more than Judith Chalmers.

# GORNTH M-GASUALS HISTORY

idden away off a slip road by the A3 in Tolworth is King George's Arena, home to one of the most significant clubs in the history of world football: Corinthian-Casuals.

The club in its modern guise was formed in 1939 as the result of a merger between two grand old amateur clubs, Corinthian FC and Casuals FC, that helped to popularise football around the world.

Corinthian FC was founded in 1882, when the FA suits were tired of seeing Scotland get the better of their team and set about starting a club that could act as a launching pad for the England national team. The plan worked: it wasn't long before England were trouncing Scotland on a regular basis, and 'The Corinthians' – as they were known – provided the entire England XI for two international matches, in 1894 and 1895.

Corinthian played with style and class, so much so that, when Real Madrid were founded, they decided to adopt white jerseys in their honour. Yet, the Corinthians' most obvious stamp on modern football is a legacy of their 1910 tour to Brazil, during which their performances so impressed the locals in Sao Paulo that they formed their own club of the same name. Sport Club Corinthians Paulista went on to become one of the best-supported and most successful clubs on the continent.

A further to trip to South America was aborted upon the team's arrival in 1914, owing to the outbreak of the First World War. After hearing the news, the players made the decision to return home immediately. Devastatingly, more than 100 former players of the Corinthians and the Casuals lost their lives in the war.

Corinthian didn't believe in entering competitions, but they made an exception to play the English league champions or FA Cup winners in the Sheriff of London Shield (a forerunner of the Community Shield) and they were the most popular opponent for exhibition matches with the top professional teams. In a sense, they were the first global superstars of football. In 1904, for example, the Corinthians defeated Manchester United 11-3, which remains the Red Devils' record defeat to this day.

Corinthianism has always stood for sporting integrity, fair play and the power of the game for the greater good. In 1884, the first-ever black international footballer – Scotland full-back Andrew Watson – chose to represent the Corinthians when he moved to England and influenced their famous sweeping attacking passing style significantly.

There were characters everywhere in those days. The team's captain during the late Victorian period was Charles Wreford-Brown, a charismatic centre-half who is often credited with coining the term "soccer" when he used it as an abbreviation of "association football".







In 1939, the Corinthians merged with Casuals FC to form Corinthian-Casuals, wearing the pink-and-chocolate shirts of the Casuals, who had their own proud history. Formed in 1883, they were a strong force in the early amateur game, runners up in the first FA Amateur Cup Final in 1894, founder members of the Isthmian League in 1905, first holders of the AFA Senior Cup in 1907 and winners of the FA Amateur Cup in 1936.

The newly merged Corinthian-Casuals entered the league system and reached the FA Amateur Cup final in 1956, with England cricket star Micky Stewart among their number, but after drawing at Wembley were defeated by Bishop Auckland in a replay at Middlesbrough.

The club has twice reached the FA Cup first round proper since amalgamation too, playing Watford in 1965/66 and Bristol City in 1982/83.

1988 was a truly historic year, as the club returned to Brazil, where they faced a Corinthians All-Star XI featuring Brazilian greats Rivellino and Socrates. Indeed, Socrates played for both sides, pulling on the pink-and-brown of the Casuals midway through the second half, in a moment that has gone down in club folklore.

The new millennium brought plenty more historic adventures for the Corinthian-Casuals. They visited Brazil again in 2001 and then were invited to play a friendly at the recently reopened Wembley Stadium in 2008, when AFC Wimbledon were their opponents. In 2011, the team lifted

the Surrey Senior Cup under the management of Brian Adamson.

Then, in 2015, Corinthian-Casuals finally played the SC Corinthians Paulista first team for the first time in the two clubs' history. 30,000 people turned up for the momentous occasion in the Corinthians Arena as the game ended 3-0 to the Brazilian side, but there was great excitement when Jamie Byatt swapped jerseys – and sides – with Corinthians captain Danilo for the last few minutes.

Corinthian-Casuals went from strength to strength in the years that followed under the management of James Bracken, whose brother Danny captained the side as goalkeeper. In 2018, after two near misses, they achieved promotion to the Isthmian Premier Division, and celebrated their first year at Step Three with a post-season trip to Budapest, where they were invited due to the part they played in the growth of football in Hungary.

The Bracken brothers departed in the summer of 2022 and the two seasons that followed were tough as the team suffered back-to-back relegations to the Combined Counties League Premier Division.

However, with former trophy-winning manager Brian Adamson now chairman and one-time Casuals midfielder and fans' favourite, Mu Maan, in his second season in the dugout, this historic club is once again looking ahead with positivity and ambition.

# ORIGINS OF THE WORD 'SOCIETY

he renowned Corinthian player, Charles Wreford-Brown, is often credited with inventing the word 'soccer' but Scottish football historian, Andy Mitchell, believes this can now be dismissed as a myth...

It's a word which was invented in the Victorian era as the short form of association football and has spread around the world, but the origins of 'soccer' remain shrouded in obscurity.

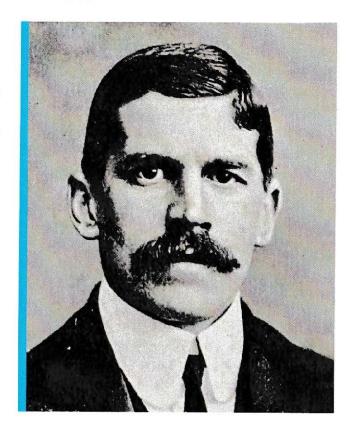
For a long time, the earliest printed example that the Oxford English Dictionary could find was in 1891. With digitisation of many Victorian publications that date has now been pushed back to 1885, when 'soccer' surfaced at the same time as its counterpart 'rugger'.

But this discovery has only served to muddy the waters as there are no fewer than three examples of 'soccer' or 'socker' in late 1885, all printed a few days apart in school magazines from different parts of the country. There is no obvious connection between them, so the mystery remains – where exactly did the word spring from?

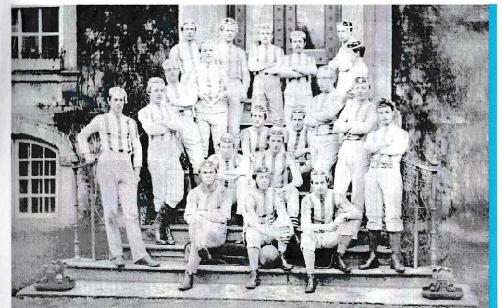
The accepted wisdom is that 'soccer' was coined by students at Oxford University who had developed a slang which involved adding the suffix -er to common words: hence 'fresher' for freshman and 'brekker' for breakfast, among many others. Football was shortened to 'footer' but this could mean either code so they came up with a convoluted diminution of 'association' in response to the more easily understood 'rugger' for rugby.

More specifically, soccer's invention has often been attributed to former Corinthian, Charles Wreford Brown, an Old Carthusian, captain of the University football eleven and an England internationalist. However, he can be ruled out as he was still at school when 'soccer' first appeared in print. In any case, the story was not published until 1952, a year after his death, when Geoffrey Green, the legendary football correspondent of The Times, told the anecdote but added the caveat 'Or so the story goes'.

The theory that soccer owes its origin to Oxford University takes a further dent as The Oxford Magazine offers the first printed use of 'Socker' in February 1887, three months after it first used 'Rugger'. Nothing earlier at the University has yet been found.



C. Wreford-Brown





The Marlborough College rugby team in 1870

Nor is there anything to confirm that 'soccer' began life as 'assoccer' before being shortened, which may appear logical but there is no known contemporary usage of 'assoccer'. I believe this speculative explanation surfaced only recently, in the current century.

Let's have a look at the hard evidence, which points to 'soccer' and 'rugger' being created at the same time.

By a whisker, the earliest known publication of 'soccer' was in The Marlburian, the fortnightly magazine of Marlborough College in Wiltshire, in its edition dated 25 November 1885. An anonymous pupil wrote: 'I can't help thinking it a great pity that there has been no 'Association' on the Common this term. It must improve the forward play and is certainly a pleasant change occasionally from everlasting Rugby.' He signed his letter 'Soccer', and clearly expected readers to understand what he meant by his pseudonym.

Intriguingly, Marlborough was a rugby-playing school, and although there were other letters in its magazine around that time promoting the merits of association football, only this one used the word 'soccer'.

Amazingly, within days, the word appeared in two other school publications, with a different spelling as 'socker'. At Radley College, five miles south of Oxford, a jocular article in the December 1885 issue of The Radleian used the word twice, comparing 'Socker' to 'Rugger' – which is the first

known printed use of the latter – then stating: 'The patriotism of Old Radleians and their enthusiasm for 'Socker' reached such a pitch on All Saints' Day that they floated an Old Radleian Football Club.'

Also that month in Shropshire, at Old Hall School in Wellington, The Oldhallian contained an 'Oxford Letter' from a former pupil who wrote: 'The Varsity played Aston Villa and were beaten after a very exciting game; this was pre-eminently the most important 'Socker' game played in Oxford this term.'

So, in late 1885, correspondents to three geographically diverse schools all felt comfortable in using a new word for association football, and one of them used its equivalent for rugby. Yet there is nothing to link them and it is implausible that they all came up with the same idea simultaneously.

My hunch is that that 'soccer' and 'rugger' were already in verbal use and had been committed to print earlier that year in another journal — which has not yet been identified — and that this was picked up by these three contributors. Whatever their origin, the new slang took a surprisingly long time to gain traction as 'soccer' and 'rugger' were used only a few times in print in the second half of the decade.

After detailed searches, I have managed to find just a dozen or so instances of 'soccer' by 1890, mainly in school magazines. The Carthusian (Charterhouse) talks of the school's soccer



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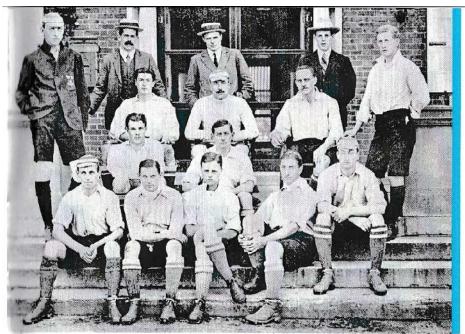
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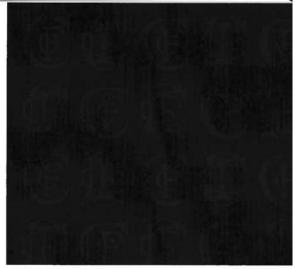


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Corinthian FC visited North America in 1906, but did they take the word 'soccer' with them?

internationalists in October 1886 and the word appears again in December that year. There are further sightings in The City of London School Magazine in November 1886, The Lancing College Magazine of June 1887, and once more in The Radleian in February 1889.

On a national level, the terminology was picked up by the Boy's Own Paper in April 1889, with an article about 'Football at Oxford' which explained: 'In Varsity patois, Rugby is yclept Rugger while Association has for its synonym Socker.'

Interestingly, the principle of adding a suffix to common words can be traced with some certainty to Harrow, where The Tyro published an article about school slang in 1864: 'Our great predilection is for shortening words connected with the school into their roots, with the addition of er. For example, we speak of ducker, fouler, speecher etc where our fathers would have used the more decorous phrases of 'duck puddle', 'foul copy', 'speech room' as the case may be. But by far the most striking instance of this termination is in the short 'footer'.'

However, Harrow boys appear to have had no need of an alternative to 'footer' as 'soccer' did not make its first appearance in The Harrovian until March 1889.

As the new words gained popularity during the 1890s, the divergence in spelling settled as 'soccer' rather than 'socker', and by the end of the decade soccer and rugger were so much part of the mainstream that in 1899 the Daily Telegraph reflected: 'Who now speaks of Association or Rugby football, and who does not welcome the abbreviated forms of 'Soccer' or 'Rugger'?'

The writer went on to ponder the origin of soccer as a word but was unable to come up with an answer: 'On whose lips Association first changed into Soccer, history is silent.'

That mystery remains the case today, and whether soccer started out as 'Varsity patois' or public school slang, there is no proof as yet.

For now, the credit for its first use goes to an unknown boy at Marlborough College, but I am confident that more about soccer's origin will, one day, be uncovered.

#### soccer

(s<u>p</u>kə<sup>r</sup> 🕩 🚺 )

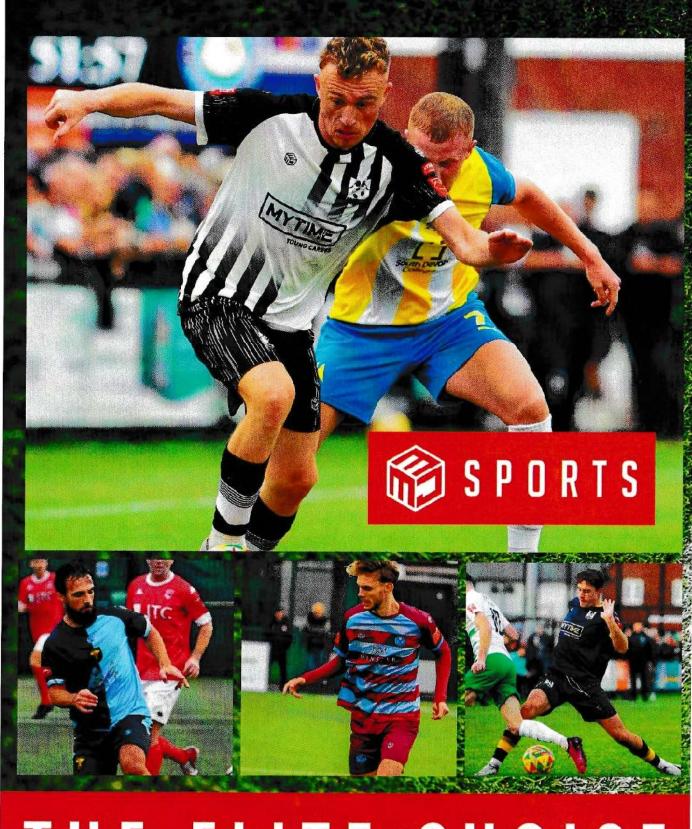
#### uncountable noun

Soccer is a game played by two teams of eleven players using a round ball. Players kick the ball to each other and try to score goals by kicking the ball into a large net.

Outside the USA, this game is also referred to as football.

**Synonyms:** football [*British*], Association Football More Synonyms of **soccer** 

A dictionary definition for 'soccer'



### THE ELITE CHOICE

WWW.MJM-SPORTS.CO.UK

#### LEAGUE TABLE & PLAYER APPEARANCES

## HOBBEICHOUTES PRINTER MICHAELEN SOLLEN

#	TEAM	P	W	D	1,	F	A	GD	PTS
_1_	Abbey Rangers	4	4	0	0	8	4	4	12
2	Redhill	3	2	0	1	9	3	6	6
3	Epsom & Ewell	2	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
4	Alton	3	2	0	1	7	5	2	6
_5	Badshot Lea	4	1	2	1	8	7	1	5
6	<b>Sutton Common Rovers</b>	3	1	2	0	4	3	1	5
7	Camberley Town	4	1	1	2	3	4	-1	4
8	Corinthian-Casuals	3	1	1	1	3	4	-1	4
9	Guildford City	3	1	1	1	4	6	-2	4
10	Tooting & Mitcham Utd	3	1	1	1	3	6	-3	4
11	Cobham	2	1	0	1	5	2	3	3
12	Horley Town	2	1	0	1	6	4	2	3
13	Fleet Town	4	1	0	3	7	7	0	3
14	Knaphill	2	1	0	1	6	6	0	3
15	Balham	2	1	0	1	4	4	0	3
16	Eversley & California	3	1	0	2	4	7	-3	3
17	Sheerwater	2	1	0	1	3	6	-3	3
18	Thatcham Town	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1
19	Chipstead	3	0	1	2	2	8	-6	_1_
20	Tadley Calleva	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0

TODAY'S GAMES		Male
Abbey Rangers	Sheerwater	-
Alton	Badshot Lea	-
Balham	Tooting & Mitcham United	
Chipstead	Redhill	-
Cobham	Guildford City	
Corinthian-Casuals	Epsom & Ewell	
Eversley & California	Camberley Town	
Horley Town	<b>Sutton Common Rovers</b>	
Knaphill	Fleet Town	
Tadley Calleva	Thatcham Town	



PLAYER	A	G
S. Baek	5+0	-11
H. Adelakun	3+0	0
C. Afonso	5+0	0
R. Alyasi	1+1	0
R. Bailey-Allen	2+3	1
R. Barbosa	3+0	3
G. Bond	2+0	1
S. Cascoe-Rogers	1+1	1
T. Castelo	0+2	0
A. Coker	4+0	2
D. Da Silva	4+0	0
M. Dos Santos	1+3	1
W. Ewerthon	2+3	0
Z. Ejeta	3+1	0
P. Maia	0+4	1
T. Masikini	3+1	0
A. Protsyshyn	3+0	0
Q. Rowe	3+1	0
K. Scantlebury	0+1	0
T. Smith	4+0	0
T. Soman	2+1	0
Vitinho	4+0	0

Correct up to 21.08.25

### RESERBUTS JULY - OCTOBER

TUESDAY 29 JULY, 7.45pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		TOOTING & MITCHAM CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	(
SATURDAY 2 AUGUST, 3pm FA CUP EXTRA PRELIMINARY ROUND		ABBEY RANGERS CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	2
TUESDAY 5 AUGUST, 7.45pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		BADSHOT LEA CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	
SATURDAY 9 AUGUST, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH	COBHAM FC 1	COBHAM CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	1
SATURDAY 16 AUGUST, 3pm FA CUP PRELIMINARY ROUND		CORINTHIAN-CASUALS SEVENDAKS TOWN	
MONDAY 25 AUGUST, 11.30am COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		CORINTHIAN-CASUALS EPSOM & EWELL	
SATURDAY 30 AUGUST, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH	EXHAMIC	CORINTHIAN-CASUALS BALHAM	1 <del>-</del>
TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER, 7.45pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		CORINTHIAN-CASUALS TOOTING & MITCHAM	-
SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		CORINTHIAN-CASUALS ALTON	-
SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		ABBEY RANGERS CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	-
SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH	RNAPEUL COMPANY CONTRACTOR	KNAPHILL CORINTHIAN-CASUALS	-
TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER, 7.45pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH	THE PARTY OF THE P	CORINTHIAN-CASUALS SHEERWATER	-
SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH		CORINTHIAN-CASUALS EVERSLEY & CALIFORNIA	-

#### TUESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER, 7.45pm LONDON SENIOR CUP

SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH

SATURDAY 11 OCTOBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH

TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER, 7.45pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH

SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER, 3pm COMBINED COUNTIES PREM. SOUTH













#### CORINTHIAN-CASUALS FISHER FC

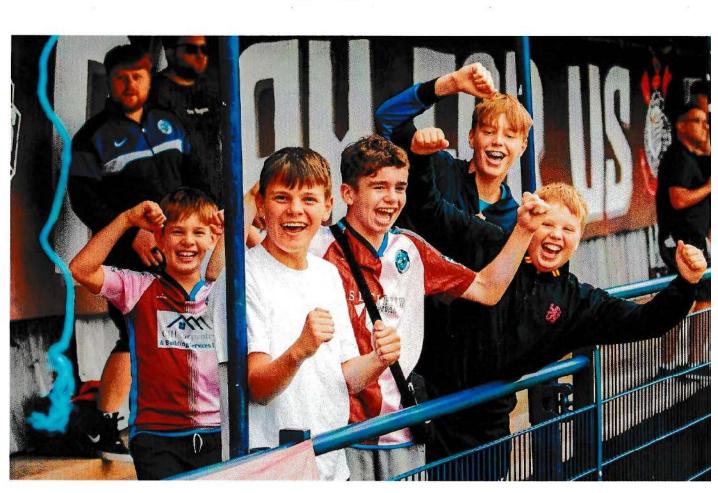
SUTTON COMMON ROVERS CORINTHIAN-CASUALS

CHIPSTEAD CORINTHIAN-CASUALS

CORINTHIAN-CASUALS CAMBERLEY TOWN

TADLEY CALLEVA CORINTHIAN-CASUALS

CORINTHIAN-CASUALS THATCHAM TOWN







#	Player	XI Sub	#	Player	XI	Sub
	Sanghyun <b>BAEK</b>			Faebian <b>WITTER</b>	******	
	Zack <b>EJETA</b>			Ryan-Bailey STEDMAN-HOYTE		
	Arsenii PROTSYSHYN			Emmanuel LIMPO		
	Marcos DOS SANTOS			Adam <b>GREEN</b>		
	Tommy <b>SMITH</b>		***************************************	Toby <b>YOUNG</b>		
	Clayton <b>AFONSO</b>			Stefan <b>AIWONE</b>		
	Trey MASIKINI			Luke MILLER		
	Andre COKER		***************************************	Brendan MURPHY-MCVEY		
*************	Rafael BARBOSA	********		Kingsley ANOKYE		
	Diogo <b>DA SILVA</b>	****************	***************************************	Jason BLOOR		
	Raekwon BAILEY-ALLEN	***************************************		Kiyo <b>BROWN</b>		
	Quincy <b>ROWE</b>	***************************************	***************************************	Ayran KUGATHAS		********
	Mo <b>MAAN</b>	***************************************		Filip KSIADZ		
	Wilgnner <b>EWERTHON</b>			Kallum <b>PEART</b>	********	
	Hakeem <b>ADELAKUN</b>			Niall STILLWELL		
	VITINHO			Obasanjo <b>AKIINNIRANYE</b>		
	Shea CASCOE-ROGERS			Luis OLIVEIRA		
	Theo <b>SOMAN</b>		************	Ethan NELSON-ROBERTS	*********	
***************************************	Tommy CASTELO	erroren erroren		Callum <b>WILSON</b>	*******	
	Patrick MAIA		***************************************	Kionte GILLFILLIAN-WAUL	*******	
	George BOND	***************************************	***************************************	Conor MCSHANE		
***********	Rewan <b>ALYASI</b>		***************************************	Anthony NAZARETH	*******	********
	Kieran SCANTLEBURY		***************************************	Ali <b>FOFAHAN</b>	****	**********
	Charlie <b>SELL</b>		************	Ben <b>GRUMMITT</b>		
				Craig <b>DUNDAS</b>		
				Tom <b>COLLINS</b>		*******
М	Mu <b>MAAN</b>		М	Craig <b>DUNDAS</b> & Max <b>JOHNSON</b>		
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