







Emirates Footba







SPELTHORNE SPORTS FOOTBALL CLUB

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

2023/24 SEASON

#UPTHESPELLY

SPELTHORNE SPORTS FOOTBALL CLUB Our History

Spelthorne Sports Club has been providing sports for the local community since 1922. Spelthorne Sports Football Section pride ourselves in providing football to all, within the right environment, to persons of all ages and abilities, so they can enjoy and learn playing football.

All our coaches and managers provide this voluntarily.

In 2013–14, the Spelly won the Middlesex FA Intermediate Cup, beating Middlesex County Premier side Cricklewood Wanderers 3–0 in the Final. On 16 April 2014, Spelthorne Sports were crowned Combined Counties Division One Champions with a 2–1 win away to Epsom Athletic.

They lifted the trophy 3 days later following an emphatic 7–0 win at home to local rivals Staines Lammas.

The Spelly also won the RPM Records Division One Challenge Cup against Staines Lammas at Windsor FC on 5 May 2014. A single second half Lee Staples goal was enough to make sure The Spelly lifted the trophy, winning the league and cup treble in the process.

The team went on a phenomenal 46 game unbeaten run in all competitions that season, beating teams in cup competitions from higher divisions such as Frimley Green, Staines Town (on pens), Walton Casuals, Wembley, and Epsom & Ewell (on pens).

That unbeaten run finally came to an end on 7 May 2014 when they played Combined Counties Premier Division side Hanworth Villa in the Southern Combination Cup Final, losing 1–0. The game was played at home and marked the club's first ever game under the newly installed floodlights.

The lads then suffered their second defeat of the season to the same opposition when the sides met again 3 days later in the Cherry Red Records Premier Challenge Cup Final, again losing 1–0.

The 2013–14 season was extremely successful for Spelthorne Sports. Winning two cup finals, and finishing runners-up in another two cup finals. However the biggest achievement by far was winning the league without losing a single game in the process. Winning 22, drawing 8, losing 0, scoring 92, and conceding 23.

Season 2014–2015 saw us in action in the Combined Counties Premier Division where we finished in a very respectful 6th position. Our first experience of the FA Vase occurred in September of this season with a win against Langford followed by another win against Risborough Rangers.

Season 2015/16 saw our first appearance in the FA CUP with a 2-1 home win against Stotfold. We then travelled to Cogenhoe only to lose 3-0. The season continued with a change of management back under the control of Steve Flatman with support from Paul Burgess and Mark Harper.

Season 2016/17 saw us off to a great start in the FA Cup beating CCL Winners Hartley Wintney 4–3, only to fall at the next hurdle losing 2–3 at home to Andover Town. Season 2017/18 ended in us reaching our first Senior Cup Final against local rivals Hanworth Villa, only to narrowly lose 3–2 on the day.

Season 2018/19 saw our best ever FA Cup runs and our highest Premier Division finish (6th place), having finished 8th, 9th, and 10th in our first 3.

Season 2019/20 will be remembered as the one that wasn't! However, we shall remember it as being 2nd in the table with Mark Harper, Daren Bulman & Andy Viney at the helm. Following this, we again had to deal with the COVID pandemic, and another cut short season. That season saw a re-shuffle of step 5 leagues with Combined Counties now having North & South Premier Divisions. We are in the North Div and welcomed some new opponents to THE SPELLY! We also welcomed Jason Tucker to the coaching team.

At the end of the 2022/23 season, Manager Mark Harper accepted the offer to take over the vacant Manager position at Chertsey Town with Andrew Viney joining him. All of our support staff moved onto pastures new and so a new era has begun for Spelly in 2023/24. Myles Hook has taken over as First Team Manager, Dan Green as Assistant Manager and we welcomed Darren Bullen as First Team Coach. This season sees yet again a reshuffle of the league with Spelly transferring across Step 5 from the Combined Counties North Premier Division to the South Premier Division.

LOXVOOD FC History

Loxwood Football Club, nickname "The Magpies" was founded in the village back in 1920. Since its formation, the football club has competed, on and off, in local village football for 75 years but primarily on a non-competitive basis, so there is little in terms of accolades beyond local bragging rights.

However, in 1997 the club re-formed and joined the West Sussex Football League, starting at the bottom of the regional county pyramid in its 5th Division. Over the following 9 years the club progressed through the various regional and county-wide divisions until ultimately, under the leadership of player/manager Barry Hunter (above right) they secured promotion from the League's Premier Division in 2006 and thereby took their place in the Sussex County League and would now compete in Step 7 football for the very first time.

It only took two seasons for the Club to make the next step as in 2008 The Magpies secured the 3rd Division title and in the same year reached the final of the Sussex County FA Intermediate Cup, but missed out on a rare double by losing on penalties to Bexhill United.

This next step up provided the Club with the platform to expand beyond its 1st Team and the next couple of years saw it launch both a Reserve Team in the County League as well as form an alliance with a local youth football club to set about securing its onfield future to go with the vast advances that were being made off it. The most notably of these developments at Plaistow Road were the installation of some of the most effective floodlights in the County League and a 100-seater covered stand, thereby providing what is a delightfully atmospheric arena in the middle of the Sussex countryside, particularly on midweek nights.

Despite these betterments, the challenge of rising out of the County's second tier was proving elusive, with 5th and 6th placed finishes being the pinnacle. The Club weren't without notable occasions to be cherished during that time, in particular in 2010 when the Club reached the Division 2 Cup Final as well as hosting Brighton & Hove Albion in the County Cup where they only went down 3-1 in front of a packed house under the lights.

Nevertheless, Barry Hunter magnanimously passed the reins over to Dave Cocoracchio in 2012 enabling him to assume the much-valued role of Club Chairman from which he could continue to drive his vision for the Club as a whole. Dave's arrival at the Club sparked another period of advancement as firstly the Senior side achieved promotion to the top tier in the County in 2014 as well as winning the Division 2 Cup that they had missed out on 4 years previously. Later that year came the much cherished launch of Loxwood Youth Football Club, which had been a long-desired goal and put in place the foundations for the Club to develop a clear route for local players to enjoy their football from an early age and provide the opportunity for them to develop all the way through to representing the First Team.

2015 saw a top 6 finish in the first year of the top division as well as the Club's Reserve Team finally being successful in achieving promotion from the second tier of that section and thereby closing the gap in quality of the opposition the two senior sides were competing against. This year also saw the development of another key partnership as ex-professional Mark Beard launched his Love The Ball Sussex Academy under the Club's banner and with it bringing in a quality of young player that would see the winning of the U18 County Cup (and its retention in 2016) as well as securing the Southern Youth League South Division title. Due to Dave's growing work commitments, Mark also took over the management of the 1st Team later that year enabling the former to focus on his role as Director of Football overseeing both the Senior and Youth aspects of the Club. This structure led to an exciting new period for the Club and commenced with the winning of the inaugural County U21 West title under the stewardship of Matt Camp – an achievement that perfectly demonstrated the Club's commitment to investing in young, promising players.

A 6th place finish in Division One (Now Premier) in 2014/15 followed by 8th in 2015/16 and 6th in 2016/17 (Both Premiership) but with a slight slip to 11th in 2017/18 had pretty firmly established the Club as a real competitor in amongst some sizeable towns and cities. Change was afoot though across several areas.

Loxwood chairman Barry Hunter stepped down from his role at the end of the 2017/18 season after 15 years of overall service and a 'monumental journey' at the club. Hunter played a key role in that rise having served as a player, first-team manager, director of football and most recently, chairman, in that time. His successor Mark Lacey a local businessman joined the club committee two years previously and had already brought into the close-knit ethos at Loxwood. At this time Dave Cocoracchio stayed in charge of first team management duties and as the club's director of football.

LOXVOOD FC History

However, in April 2018 Dave Cocoracchio announced he was also stepping down at the end of this season due to work related reasons – and relinquishing his role as director of football. He was replaced as manager by Gareth Neathey, who has been the assistant manager to both the first team and under-18s.

Our U18's team continued under the management of Matt Camp. Having won the Combined Counties U18 League and been quarter finalists and semi-finalists in various cup competitions it's certainly been a season to be proud of!

2018/19 saw a very tricky spell for the First Team however culminating with a dip into the relegation zone. A swift move by the now fully ensconced new Chairman, Mark Lacey, and his committee by bringing in new and very experienced senior player management Alex Walsh and Nathan Bowen effectively combined to save the day and some last-minute success eventually meant we finished two places outside the drop zone and a large sigh of relief was heard across The Nest. Change continued however only this time surrounding our development squad. Yet more work pressure meant Matt Camp had to relinquish his responsibility for the U18 squad after all his hard work and with departures from Gareth Neathey and Chris Simmons the committee were left once again to consider the best options.

Eventually an U23 route was preferred, and the newly appointed Charlie Holmes and Jack Stevens took the reins of a squad entered into the Combined Counties U23 league. They worked closely with the First Team management to ensure maximum opportunity for the development players as part of a wider Senior squad. The 2019/20 Season was not our finest. In fact, we struggled to maintain a consistent team right through the season and with that lack of consistency reflected in results we were left languishing at the bottom of the Premier League. The U23 saw out the season with a slightly better record but still mixed. Nathan Bowen left the Club to go to Worthing and the committee feared the worst. We were saved purely by circumstances, and with a second chance at things moved quickly to install new management across both First Team and U23 (also moving the U23's back to Sussex rather the Combined Counties. Spencer Slaughter was confirmed as manager with Paul Dollner as his assistant and head coach. Ismael Vasconcelos was appointed as the U23 Manager. They quickly embarked on a total rebuild of the team, obviously in the difficult circumstances we all face. This has come together well, and everyone is just looking forward to getting out and playing football again.

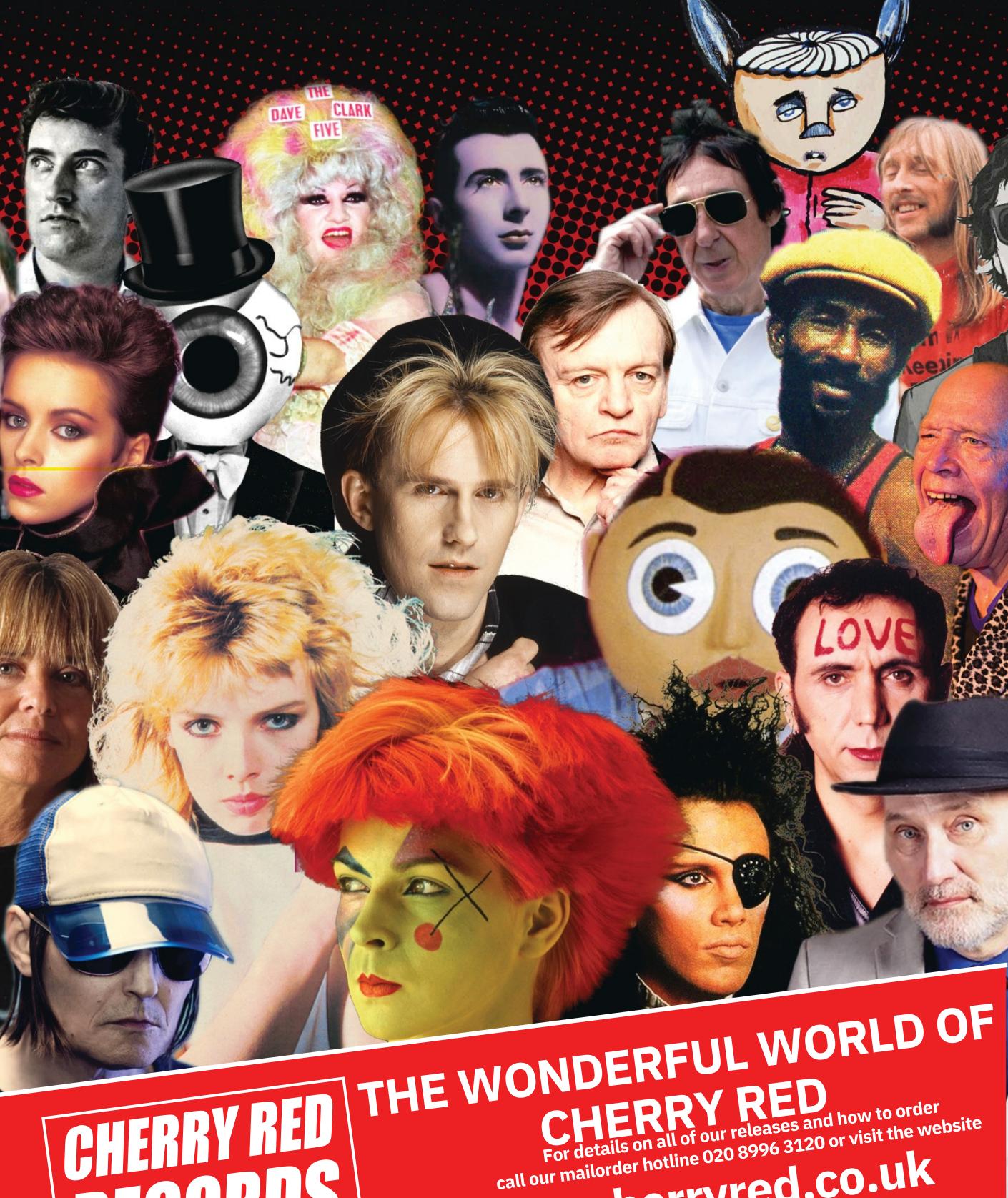
With Covid effectively putting the brakes on County Football many changes ensued over this period. Spencer Slaughter moved back to Hassocks as a player and Paul Dollner (who had left the club) then returned as manager and augmented his team with the addition of Matt McCabe. In addition, Andrew Thompson (First Team Coach) has joined them whilst Paul Dowdell (GK Coach) continue as part of a vastly experienced team. The team itself has also gone through several changes and Paul is gradually building a squad based around a very young base.

Our pitch and facilities continue to improve, befitting our Senior Football Club status, and facilities include floodlights, hard spectator standing around the pitch, a 100-seater stand, a covered stand and a modern clubhouse which have all come because of significant local fundraising, sponsors and grant applications. The Plaistow Road pitch is now regarded as one of the best playing surfaces in Sussex. Indeed, we regularly host important semi-finals and finals at County level. As part of our development, we are currently replacing the pitch side fencing, adding extra toilet facilities, providing new dugouts and additional goals for various age groups. Effectively, over just a 20-year period, this historic village football club has rapidly evolved into a Senior Football Club that has a reputation for doing things the 'right' way. Loxwood is a club that seeks to provide the best possible environment for all at the Club: our players, coaches, and supporters from every age group. An environment that is conducive to the development of all involved as footballers, people, and members of a team in order to succeed both on and off the pitch in a manner which is sustainable and respectful.

The management team for 2023/24.

Manager: Peter Barkley
Asst Manager: Mike Lockhart
Coach: Andy Lampard
Gk Coach: Alex Harris
Physio: Alan Street

www.loxwoodfc.co.uk



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SPELTHORNE SPORTS FC SQUAD 2023/24























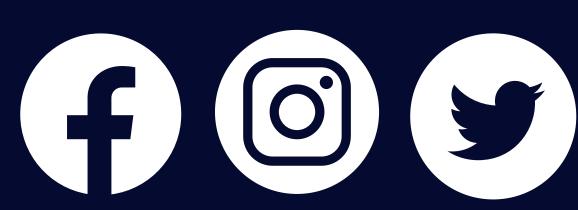














SPELTHORNE SPORTS FC SQUAD 2023/24

















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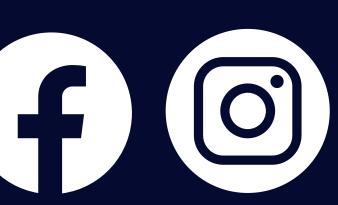














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NEW MANAGEMENT 2023-24

A new era has begun with Myles Hook as First Team Manager (Center), Dan Green as Assistant Manager (Left) and we welcomed Darren Bullen as First Team Coach (Right).

Both Myles and Dan have worked together in previous seasons with Spelly's U18's, U23's and both supported the previous First Team Management Team.

We would like to thank you all for the support we have received so far.

To all of the players in our youth section, and their parents and families who have supported us through pre-season, and from existing and new supporters who have joined our journey - You have all helped bring the Spelthorne community together and this will help us push the club forward together. #UpTheSpelly

Myles Hook 1ST TEAM MANAGER



AUGUST FIXTURES



SPELTHORNE SPORTS FC

2023-24 AUGUST FIXTURES













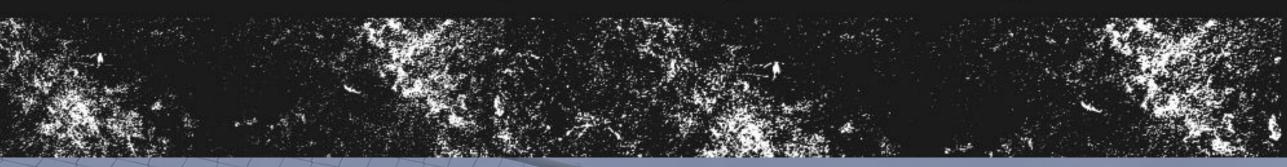
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PRE-SEASON THROUGH A LENSE















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BRITAIN'S FIRST REPRESENTATIVES AT THE EUROPEAN CUP

HIBERNIAN'S EUROPEAN ADVENTURE

WHEN YOU CONSIDER BRITISH REPRESENTATION IN THE EUROPEAN CUP, A FEW NAMES SPRING TO MIND. CELTIC, THE FIRST BRITISH EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS, OR MANCHESTER UNITED, THE FIRST ENGLISH CLUB TO ACHIEVE THAT FEAT. LIVERPOOL, OF COURSE, OR PERHAPS NOTTINGHAM FOREST FOR FANS OF THE UNDERDOG. BUT AWAY FROM EUROPEAN ROYALTY, THE FOUNDERS OF THE INAUGURAL EUROPEAN CUP HAD ANOTHER CLUB ON THEIR MIND TO SET IMAGINATIONS ALIGHT ACROSS THE CONTINENT. BECAUSE OF THEIR HERITAGE AND THEIR APPEAL TO SUPPORTERS, L'EQUIPE EDITOR GABRIEL HANOT REASONED, THE BRITISH FLAG WOULD BE CARRIED INTO THE FIRST CONTINENTAL COMPETITION BY THE 'ENTIRELY SUITED' HIBERNIAN.

BRITAIN PRESENTED A PROBLEM. THE BIRTHPLACE OF FOOTBALL, AND STILL CONVINCED OF THEIR SUPERIORITY IN THE GAME, BRITISH REPRESENTATION WAS A MUST IF THE EUROPEAN CUP WERE TO BE TRULY EUROPEAN, AND GAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE THAT IT NOW HAS. IT WAS DISAPPOINTING, THEN, TO FIND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE NEW COMPETITION WAS LACKING. THE ENGLISH FA PUT A BAN ON ENGLISH CLUBS COMPETING ALTOGETHER. SCOTLAND WAS MORE AMBIVALENT, AND CHAMPIONS ABERDEEN WERE INITIALLY KEEN, BEFORE DISCOVERING THAT MATCHES WOULD BE PLAYED MIDWEEK, IN THE EVENINGS.

PITTODRIE DIDN'T HAVE FLOODLIGHTS AND THE BOARD WAS WORRIED THAT PLAYING UNDER THE LIGHTS WOULD ONLY GIVE THEIR OPPONENTS AN ADVANTAGE.

CELTIC HAD FINISHED THE PREVIOUS SEASON SECOND, BUT DIDN'T SEE THE PRESTIGE IN THE COMPETITION AND WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE COST OF TRAVELING AROUND THE CONTINENT. IT WAS A SIMILAR STORY WITH THIRD PLACE RANGERS AND FOURTH PLACE HEARTS, SO HANOT AND UEFA WERE FORCED TO APPROACH AN ENTHUSIASTIC, MID-TABLE HIBS.

HARRY SWAN, HIBS CHAIRMAN SINCE 1931, HAD LONG ADVOCATED A EUROPEAN CUP, AND ALMOST AS SOON AS HE HAD TAKEN CHARGE AT THE EDINBURGH CLUB HAD ADVOCATED FOR THE FUTURE OF FLOODLIGHTS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, HE HAD LED THE TEAM TO THREE LEAGUE TITLES IN A ROW IN THE EARLY 1950S, AT WHICH POINT HE HAD INSTALLED THE FLOODLIGHTING THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO COMPETE AGAINST EUROPE'S ELITE. THEY HAD ALSO RECENTLY BEATEN MATT BUSBY'S MANCHESTER UNITED 7-3, ADDING A FURTHER FEATHER TO THEIR CAP.

PERHAPS EQUALLY IMPORTANTT, HIBS HAD TRAVELED TO BRAZIL IN 1953 TO TAKE PART IN AN UNOFFICIALL WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP. THEY FINISHED BOTTOM OF THEIR GROUP, BUT UEFA AND L'EQUIPE SAW A SIDE THAT WAS WILLING TO TRAVEL VAST DISTANCES FOR SUPRA-NATIONAL GLORY.

HIBS MADE THEIR DEBUT IN EUROPEAN COMPETITION IN GERMANY, AGAINST GERMAN CHAMPIONS ROT-WEISS ESSEN. LAWRIE REILLY WOULD LATER RECALL THAT FRESH MEMORIES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR INSPIRED HIS SIDE, WHO WERE INSTRUCTED TO KEEP IT TIGHT AND NOT CONCEDE IN THE FIRST LEG SO THAT THEY COULD USE HOME ADVANTAGE IN THE SECOND. THEY KEPT IT TIGHT AS INSTRUCTED, BUT AFTER TEN MINUTES DECIDED THAT 'KEEPING IT TIGHT' WAS NOT REALLY THEIR WAY. THEY UNLEASHED A TORRENT OF ATTACKS ON THE GERMANS' BOX, AND EDDIE TURNBULL BECAME THE FIRST BRITISH PLAYER TO SCORE IN THE EUROPEAN CUP, AS THE SCOTTISH SIDE PUT FOUR PAST THEIR BEWILDERED GERMAN COUNTERPARTS. THE RETURN LEG WAS MUCH MORE COMPOSED, A 1-1 DRAW.

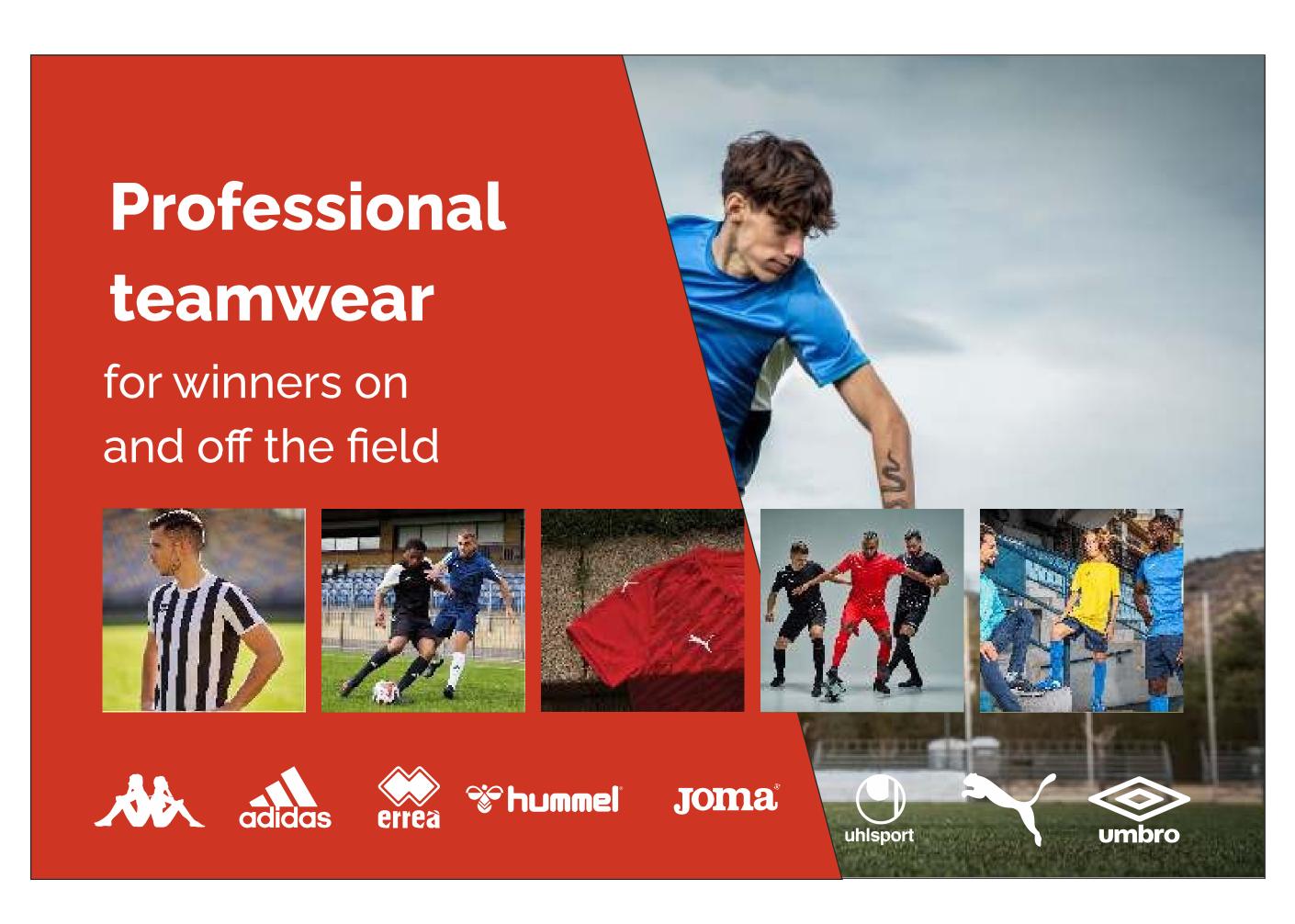
THE COMPETITION HAD ONLY BEGUN WITH 16 TEAMS, MEANING HIBS ADVANCED TO THE QUARTER FINALS, WHERE THEY WOULD MEET AMATEUR SWEDISH SIDE DJURGARDENS. WINTER IN SCANDINAVIA MADE PLAYING IN SWEDEN IMPOSSIBLE, SO DJURGARDENS PLAYED THEIR 'HOME' LEG AT PARTICK THISTLE, WHERE THE SCOTTISH SIDE WON 3-1, BEFORE ADDING A FOURTH GOAL IN THE RETURN AT EASTER ROAD. ANY WORRIES THAT HIBS FANS HADN'T QUITE TAKEN TO THE COMPETITION (TURNBULL LAMENTED FINISHING EVERY TIE IN THE FIRST, AWAY LEG) WOULD BE DISPELLED IN THE SEMI-FINALS.

'ALREADY INTEREST IN THESE FLOODLIT EVENING GAMES IS ON THE WANE', DECLARED A STUFFY CELTIC PROGRAMME ARTICLE, THE SAME NIGHT AS EDINBURGH WAS A CAULDRON WELCOMING FRENCH CHAMPIONS REIMS. THE FIRST LEG HAD BEEN A FIERY AFFAIR, AND THE SCOTTISH SIDE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE MAGIC OF MICHAEL HIDALGO AND RAYMOND KOPA, WHO HAD GIVEN REIMS A TWO-GOAL LEAD. 45,000 PACKED IN TO THE EASTER ROAD AND WATCHED HIBS COMPLETELY DOMINATE THE GAME, CREATING CHANCE AFTER CHANCE BUT FINDING THE REIMS DEFENCE A BRICK WALL. AS THEY GOT MORE DESPERATE, THEY LEFT MORE SPACE, AND EVENTUALLY KOPA HIT THEM ON THE COUNTER AND KILLED THE TIE. 'IN TERMS OF CHANCES CREATED, WE HAD MUCH THE BETTER OF THINGS,' LAMENTED GORDON SMITH, 'BUT TACTICALLY REIMS... WERE LIGHT YEARS AHEAD OF US.'

DESPITE THE DISMISSIVE ATTITUDE OF THEIR RIVALS, HIBS HAD SHOWN JUST WHAT THE EUROPEAN CUP WOULD BECOME. CELTIC MAY HAVE BEEN THE FIRST CHAMPIONS, LIVERPOOL MAY BE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL BRITISH SIDE, BUT IT WAS THE MID-TABLE TEAM FROM EDINBURGH WHO LED THE WAY.

ENJOY THE GAME.

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SPELTHORNE SPORTS FC



V LOXWOOD FC SQUAD SHEET



DATE: **SATURDAY 5 AUGUST 2023 KO 3:00PM**DIVISION/COMPETITION: **FA CUP – EXTRA PRELIM**

Spelthorne Sports

Jenson Allchurch Raphael Azimi **Tyrese Cummings Oliver Davison Ahmed El Hana Aaron Fraser** Jamie Fuller **Olawale Garuba Bob Honey Shay Honey Leon Iluobe Kelvin Karanja Daniel Kone Lasine Kone Mahijith Kumar Darnell Lemar** Felipe Marques De Lima Frazier-Isaias Osunkoya **Rian Patel Benedict Statham Samuel Talbot Leon Ugbebor**



Loxwood

Finn Bishop Renato Carvalho Mitchell Clark **Ethan Cumming Kieran Dimelow Ryan Doyle Archie Goddard Billy Ground Benjamin Stuart Hack Alexander Ian Harris Matthew Hay Alfie Jones Conor Manderson Shay Matthews Eugene Moteane Ezekiel Ndhlovu Harry Pearson** Jay Popham **Danny Potter** Jake Relleen **Jordan Stallibrass Donnachadh Street**

Referee: TERENCE DAWKINS

Asst Referees: MARK JACOB & DANIEL MARAGH