



14th August 2021 3:00pm

**DARTFORD FC**

National League South  
Clarence Park

STALBANS CITY FC.COM

# SAINTS



OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF ST ALBANS CITY FC



# WELCOME

A very good afternoon and welcome to Clarence Park for the start of the 21/22 season. It's been a long time coming and I'm really excited to finally see a league game with fans of both clubs being able to attend. I would also like to welcome the players, staff and supporters of Dartford FC for today's National League South fixture.

I hope you will see that over the last season and during the closed season, we have made many positive changes to our fan engagement and fan experience at Clarence Park, whilst playing behind closed doors.

We've improved our match-day highlights, which can be seen for free on our SACFC TV YouTube channel. Our player and management interviews have been modernised in order to allow our supporters to get a better sense of each individual's personality. I hope you will also agree that our social media output has stepped up a gear.

At Clarence Park we have updated many aspects in order to make the match-day experience better. Our food concession has proved popular during pre-season as has the new fanzone areas with player and Enter

Shikari murals along with the new Satellites \*\* Bar at the Hatfield Road end as well as the new bar area at the York Road end.

Along with the new dugouts, the addition of covering, courtesy of Kevin Mudd and Conkernation Scaffolding, behind both goals which will help safety and supporter enjoyment, I really hope you have a fantastic time today and at all our home games.

Finally, I would like to thank the large team of volunteers and staff who have dedicated considerable time, effort and hard-earned money to make all of this a reality.

Come On You Saints!

Lawrence



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The legal name of St Albans City Football Club is St Albans City Football & Athletic Club Ltd, Company No 01922742. The ultimate owners are Lawrence Levy & John McGowan.

## Programme Design

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# IAN ALLINSON

Manager

## A very warm welcome back to Clarence Park for the start of the new season in earnest.

Can I start by saying - and of course I speak for all the lads as well when I say this - just how great it is to be back playing in front of crowds again. This is what football is all about. We made the best of it last year, for as long as it lasted, but football is - as the cliché goes - nothing without its fans. We were given a tantalising glimpse of what might be for what was one game I seen to recall, but it wasn't to last and all our efforts - not to mention a really promising league position - counted for nothing.

It was frustrating, even though we know that the decisions were all taken for the right reasons. We just have to hope that we can finish what we're starting this time around, and that we can be pushing at the right end of the table when we do.



All that said, last season wasn't a wasted effort. We're building now on what we put in place and what we achieved last season, to give us an even better chance this time around. Players have moved on, as they always do, but we've retained the spine of the side, and added to it, including over the past week or so, with some quality players. Yes, we've bided our time.

I know there were some starting to get concerned about the size of the squad we were going into the season with, but we have a budget to work to like everyone else and we have to make sure that those who come in are absolutely right for the positions we need to fill. We go into today's game with a strong all-round squad, and cover across the pitch, and there is no reason why we can't pick up where we left off last season.

The lads who have returned, and the ones coming in for the first time, have clearly looked after themselves over the extended break. That said, there's no substitute for playing games, and everyone has had to work up to match fitness. We've had a good mix of home and away pre-season friendlies, including against a strong Watford XI down here and we are largely happy with how these have gone.

Everyone has had the opportunity to show me what they can do. We've chopped and changed a bit to try a few different things, and it was of course great to have Lee and his Hendon team down here for our final home friendly - he'll be pleased with how his side performed, second half in particular.

We also learnt a few things about where we need to improve and what we need to do differently, not least against a strong and useful Bedford side that I'm sure will do very well during the coming season. You can learn as much, if not more, in defeat than you can from victory, so a very worthwhile outing even if the result in that one didn't go our way. It's what these games are for - we've taken those lessons on board, and will be a more effective unit a result.



*"We're building now on what we put in place and what we achieved last season."*

Looking forward now, and I'm not sure we could have had a tougher couple of opening games than the ones we've been handed.

Our opponents today were in second place in the division when everything was called to halt last season. Always a tough test, today will be no exception, and we'll have to hit the ground running if we're to get off to the start we all want this afternoon. A welcome to all associated with Dartford FC here today.

And it doesn't get any easier after this one. After today, we travel to heavily fancied Dorking next weekend. Dorking were setting the pace when the league was wound up last season and we can expect them to be up there again this time around. But we'll have

to beat sides of this calibre if we're to finish where we want to be, so I welcome these games early on in proceedings. We're ready.

Our next game down here at the park is against Welling the weekend after, on 28th, and we look forward to welcoming you back for that one.

Keep safe, and enjoy the game.

Ian



# FIRST TEAM

Player Profiles



**1** MICHAEL JOHNSON

**GOALKEEPER**

Sponsor **The Gladding Family**

Age 27

Nationality **England**



**13** LIAM GAUTHIER

**GOALKEEPER**

Sponsor **Available**

Age 21

Nationality **England**



**2** DEVANTE STANLEY

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Sponsor: Hayley, Katie, Stephen, Paul & Dan**

Age 24

Nationality **England**



**4** KYRAN WILTSHIRE

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Larry, Curly & Moe**

Age 24

Nationality **England**



**7** ROMEO AKINOLA

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **The Saintettes**

Age 21

Nationality **England**



**3** TOM BENDER

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **James Bender**

Age 27

Nationality **Wales**



**5** JAMES KALOCZI

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Alan Cobb**

Age 25

Nationality **England**



**6** MICHAEL CLARK

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Jax Bender**

Age 23

Nationality **England**



**8** LIAM SOLE

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Available**

Age 24

Nationality **England**



**12** DAVE DIEDHIU

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Climatic Ten**

Age 31

Nationality **Senegal**



**14** DAVID NOBLE

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Richard Stanwell**

Age 39

Nationality **Scotland**



**10** ALKEO BANI

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Available**

Age 20

Nationality **Albania**



**18** CALLUM ADEBIYI

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Available**

Age 27

Nationality **England**



**19** JOY MUKENA

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **The Newton family**

Age 27

Nationality **Belgium**



**15** HUW DAWSON

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Available**

Age 22

Nationality **England**



**17** ALEX LANKSHEAR

**MIDFIELDER**

Sponsor **Climatic Ten**

Age 18

Nationality **England**



**20** JOHN GODDARD

**DEFENDER**

Sponsor **Gareth Thomas**

Age 28

Nationality **England**

# FIRST TEAM

Player Profiles



**9** **SHAUN JEFFERS**

**FORWARD**

Sponsor **Michael and Zak Hill**

Age **28**

Nationality **England**



**11** **ZANE BANTON**

**FORWARD**

Sponsor **Nigel & Alex Culkin**

Age **24**

Nationality **England**



**16** **MITCHELL WEISS**

**FORWARD**

Sponsor **City Slickers**

Age **27**

Nationality **England**



**IAN ALLINSON**

**MANAGER**



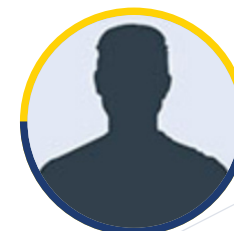
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**ASSISTANT MANAGER**



**STEVE CONROY**

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**



**STEVE HAUGHNEY**

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**



**JAMES ALLINSON**

**ANALYST**



**PETER RUSSELL**

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**DAVE HALL**

**MEDICAL LEAD**

**LUKE MITCHELL**  
**SARA COHEN**

**ELISE WALTERS**  
**PHYSIO TEAM**



**GRAHAM ALLINSON**

**KIT MAN**





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# ABOUT DARTFORD

**For the forthcoming season Dartford have retained the services of experienced manager Steve King, coach Craig Belgrave and goalkeeper coach Larry Raji.**

Player wise Dartford have retained the services of goalkeepers Craig King (14 apps) and Daniel Wilks (3 apps) whilst promoting Dan Colmer from the Dartford Academy.

Craig King joined the Darts at the beginning of last season from Oxford City whilst Daniel Wilks joined during the season having previously been at Welling United.

In defence are the old guard of Tom Bonner, Josh Hill, Connor Essam and Ronnie Vint together with the versatile Jordan Wynter are joined by the experienced Bagasan Graham who ended last season at Romford.

Tom Bonner is now in his second spell with the Darts having originally joined in the summer of 2010. Leaving in May 2013 to sign for Cambridge United Tom rejoined the Darts in June 2016 having left Ebbsfleet United after one season (361 apps 2 subs and 17 goals). Josh Hill is also in a second spell with Darts. Josh rejoined the Darts at the start of the 2019/20 season after leaving Welling United. Originally joining the Darts in August 2013. (47 apps, 6 subs and 6 goals). Connor Essam joined the



Darts in the summer of 2020 for what was his third spell with the Darts, having previously had two loan spells with us. Vastly experienced defender with several National League sides, ( 29 apps, 2 subs and 3 goals). Ronnie Vint has progressed through the Dartford Academy to the Dartford first team. Has spent time on loan at Leatherhead gaining valuable experience and made his first team debut in the Conference against Nuneaton at the end of the 2014/15 season, since when he has been regular member of the Darts defence also had a spell on loan at Dulwich Hamlet (182 apps, 10 subs and 11 goals). Bagasan Graham was Steve Kings first signing for this season joining from Romford. Previous National League experience at Chelmsford City, Ebbsfleet United and Dagenham & Redbridge.

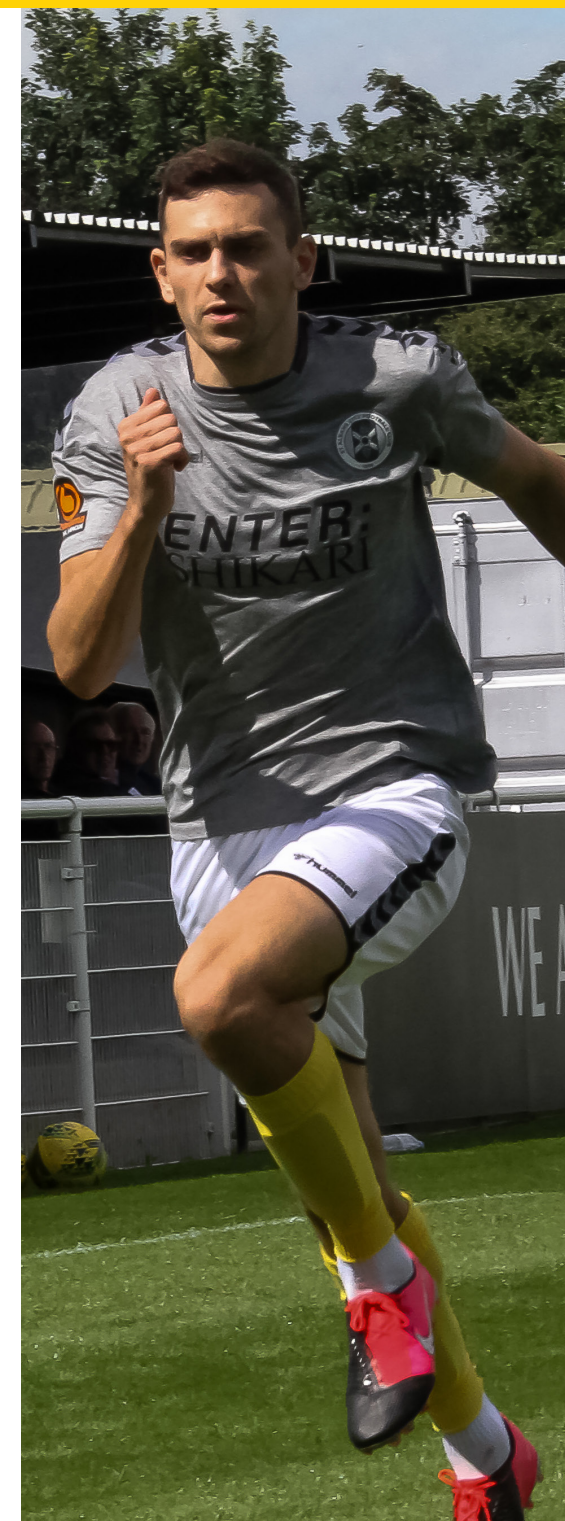
Midfielders Jack Jebb, Luke Allen and Noor Husin are joined by the returning Luke Wanadio from Billericay Town and Tyrique Hyde from Dulwich Hamlet and new acquisitions in George Porter formerly of Maidstone United and the vastly experienced Kieran Murtagh from Borehamwood. Academy players Alfie Evans and Sam Odaulu have been added to the first team squad.

Jack Jebb joined the Darts from Wealdstone on a free transfer and stats his third season with the Darts. Jack is a playmaker and dead ball specialised. Started his career at Arsenal, had loan spells to Stevenage before a permanent move was agreed. Subsequently played for Newport County, Sutton United and Welling before moving to Wealdstone at the start of the 2019/20 season. Has represented England at U16 and U17 level.(24 apps and 2 goals). Luke Allen also starting his third season with Dartford. His first season was hampered by injury. Returning to full fitness then saw his season curtailed by the early termination of the season. Originally joined us from Braintree Town (25 apps, 5 subs and 4 goals). Noor Husin joined the Darts in February 2020 following the cancellation of his contract at Stevenage. Originally at Reading Academy, Noor joined

Crystal Palace in the summer of 2016.. Upon his release from Palace Noor joined Notts County. Released at the end of the 2018/19 season Noor joined Stevenage on 1 August 2019 on a free transfer before joining Dartford. Noor has represented Afghanistan at International level and also became the first Afghan to play in the Football League.( 24 apps, 1 sub and 2 goals). George Porter joined the Darts having left Maidstone United. Starting at Cray Wanderers George went onto play for Leyton Orient, AFC Wimbledon and Bromley. Vastly experienced Kieran Murtagh joined from BorehamWood in the summer. Early career at Fisher Athletic. Having impressed in his career at Fisher Kieran joined Yeovil Town before moving on to Wycombe Wanderers. Moving later to Cambridge United and then Macclesfield Town playing under present Dartford manager, Steve King. A move to Mansfield Town resulted in Kieran unable to command a regular starting place and at the end of his contract moved to Woking having previously played on loan there. Leaving Woking in 2017 Kieran joined Boreham Wood where he made over 150 First team appearances before moving to Dartford. Luke Wanadio and Tyrique Hyde have rejoined the Darts. Luke for his third spell and Tyrique a permanent move having played on loan from Colchester United. Tyrique also had a spell at Maldon & Tiptree and was in there recent successful FA Cup run. Was at Dulwich Hamlet last season. Luke originally joined from Welling United in 2016 before moving on to Bromley and Aldershot Town, rejoining the Darts in the summer of 2019 and 2021 and in between playing at Billericay Town.

Up front, it's a new formation with Ade Azeez joining from Dover Athletic, Dan Roberts from Slough Town, Danny Leonard from Sheppey United and Jake Robinson from Billericay Town all signing for the Darts during the summer.

Ade Azeez brings a wealth of experience having started at Charlton Athletic. Making various periods on loan After being released in 2014 Ade joined AFC Wimbledon before moving to





# ABOUT DARTFORD

Scotland to play for Partick Thistle. Returning to play in England Ade linked up with Cambridge United and then to Wales to join Newport County. Joined Dover Athletic from whom he joined the Darts. Dan Roberts made his name for his goals in the Hellenic League and played a huge part in Windsor's run to the last sixteen of the FA Vase. Joined Slough on a dual registration basis in February 2019. Jake Robinson joined the Darts in the summer having left Billericay Town. Jake commenced his football career at Brighton & Hove Albion and scored his first goal for them at the age of 16 against Forest Green Rovers. After making over 120 appearances Jake moved on to Shrewsbury, Northampton Town before making the move to non-league football with Whitehawk. Subsequent spells at Billericay and Maidstone prior to his move to Princes Park. Total career statistics of 215 goals in 613 first team appearances. Dan Leonard joined the Darts in the summer from Sheppey United where his impressive displays had attracted interest from several clubs. Started at Gillingham and has also played for Herne Bay.

## About the Manager

Steven King began his managerial career at Lewes, taking them from Isthmian League Division One South to the Football Conference in the space of 5 years, a period which included three titles and two other top five finishes.

He is the most successful manager in Conference South history finishing first, second, third (twice) and fourth (twice) and reached the Play-off Finals four times as well.

After a brief spell as caretaker manager in the Conference with Northwich Victoria, his next destination was Farnborough, with whom he won the Southern League Premier title in his first year in charge. In his second season at Farnborough, he managed to guide them to second place in the Conference South, losing in the Play-off final.

He returned to Lewes for a second spell where he left them in third place in the league to join pastures new at Macclesfield Town FC in the summer of 2012/13.

The Silkmen remained in contention for the Play-offs throughout the campaign, at time top of the league, making club history in the FA Cup by reaching the fourth round for the first time in their 139 year history. A 1-0 defeat against eventual winners Wigan Athletic was scant reward for a performance in which the underdogs dominated large parts of the game.

Arriving late in the season 2014-15 at Whitehawk where relegation looked imminent, King kept the Hawks in the division and was awarded a 2 year contract. His second season saw Whitehawk finish fourth eventually losing in the Play-off final, in extra time at Boreham Wood. In 2015-16 season Whitehawk qualified for the 2nd round of the FA Cup, losing to Dagenham & Redbridge in a replay — and making club history for their furthest penetration in the Competition.

After a brief spell at Dagenham & Redbridge, as Head of Recruitment, he returned to Whitehawk for a second spell. At that time they had 1 point, a run of exceptional form garnered 34 points from Christmas onwards, that was only bettered by the top two teams in the division.

Season 2018/19 was spent at Welling United, Steve King guided the team to a 3rd place finish in the league – losing by the odd goal in the Play-off final. The club also won the London Senior Cup for the first time in 30 years.

Joined the Darts in October 2019 with the club in a potential relegation position, Steve turned the club's position around finishing the season in a play off position, promotion only being denied by a penalty shoot out in the final at Weymouth. With the 2020/21 being curtailed mid-season with the Darts in second position in the League the club is now looking forward to an uninterrupted season and push for promotion and with this in mind the club took the decision to extend Steve's contract until the end of the 2023/24 season.

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**Gender:** Male & Female

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The Football Stadia Improvement Fund



# FIXTURES

2021-22



DATE	HOME	TIME/ RESULT	AWAY	COMPETITION	GROUND
14th August 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Dartford	National League South	Clarence Park
21st August 2021	Dorking Wanderers	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Meadowbank
28th August 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Welling Utd	National League South	Clarence Park
30th August 2021	Tonbridge Angels	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Longmead Stadium
4th September 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Chippenham Town	National League South	Clarence Park
11th September 2021	Slough Town	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Arbour Park
25th September 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Havant & Waterlooville	National League South	Clarence Park
9th October 2021	Braintree Town	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Cressing Road
16th October 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Dulwich Hamlet	National League South	Clarence Park
23rd October 2021	Bath City	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Twerton park
26th October 2021	St Albans City	7:45 pm	Billericay Town	National League South	Clarence Park
30th October 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Eastbourne Borough	National League South	Clarence Park
6th November 2021	Concord Rangers	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	The Aspect Arena
20th November 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Hungerford Town	National League South	Clarence Park
4th December 2021	Chelmsford City	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Melbourne Stadium
11th December 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Hampton & Richmond Borough	National League South	Clarence Park
26th December 2021	Hemel Hempstead Town	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Vauxhall Road
28th December 2021	St Albans City	7:45 pm	Oxford City	National League South	Clarence Park
2nd January 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Hemel Hempstead Town	National League South	Clarence Park
8th January 2022	Welling Utd	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Park View Road
15th January 2022	Ebbsfleet Utd	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Stonebridge Road

DATE	HOME	TIME/ RESULT	AWAY	COMPETITION	GROUND
14th August 2021	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Dartford	National League South	Clarence Park
22nd January 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Maidstone United	National League South	Clarence Park
25th January 2022	Chippenham Town	7:45 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Hardenhuish Park
29th January 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Slough Town	National League South	Clarence Park
5th February 2022	Havant & Waterlooville	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Martin Road
12th February 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Braintree Town	National League South	Clarence Park
19th February 2022	Dulwich Hamlet	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Champion Hill
26th February 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Bath City	National League South	Clarence Park
5th March 2022	Eastbourne Borough	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Priory Lane
12th March 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Concord Rangers	National League South	Clarence Park
15th March 2022	Billericay Town	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	New Lodge
19th March 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Ebbsfleet Utd	National League South	Clarence Park
26th March 2022	Maidstone United	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	The Gallagher Stadium
9th April 2022	Hungerford Town	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Bulpit Lane
15th April 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Chelmsford City	National League South	Clarence Park
18th April 2022	Hampton & Richmond Borough	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Beveree Stadium
23rd April 2022	Dartford	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Princes Park
30th April 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Dorking Wanderers	National League South	Clarence Park
2nd May 2022	Oxford City	3:00 pm	St Albans City	National League South	Marsh Lane
7th May 2022	St Albans City	3:00 pm	Tonbridge Angels	National League South	Clarence Park

# MATCH PREVIEW

## Dartford Preview

**After a long hiatus, The Saints return to league action today against Dartford.**

Coming off the back of a ten game pre-season which saw Allinson's side secure victories over a Watford XI amongst others, St Albans will be hoping to get their season off to the perfect start.

The visitors arrive as one of the main front runners for the title in the National League South, adding to a strong 2020-21 campaign with a number of new signings.

One such signing for The Saints is striker Ade Azeez from Dover Athletic, who's career has seen the 27-year-old playing for a number of teams in the Football League as well as a spell in Scotland with Partick Thistle.

St Albans City have also strengthened this summer, with the addition of four new players, including Johnny Goddard and Callum Adebisi.

Alongside the new additions, Alex Lankshear and Huw Dawson proved themselves as up to the task across The Saints' pre-season campaign, and will no doubt continue to improve as the season progresses.

Last season, The Saints finished two points behind the side from Kent but maintained four games in hand at the point the season was drawn to a close.

Despite being behind closed doors, many Saints' fans will remember our last meeting with Dartford, a 1-0 away win thanks to a last minute Shaun Jeffers rocket from over 35 yards.

Allinson's side also had goalkeeper Michael Johnson to thank that day, having saved a penalty earlier in the fixture.

Will Tyrer



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# SQUAD LISTS

## ST ALBANS CITY v DARTFORD FC

MANAGER - Ian Allinson  
COLOURS - Yellow & Blue

MANAGER - Steve King  
COLOURS - Pink & Black

**MICHAEL JOHNSON (GK)**  
**DEVANTE STANLEY**  
**TOM BENDER**  
**KYRAN WILTSHIRE**  
**JAMES KALOCZI**  
**MICHAEL CLARK**  
**ROMEO AKINOLA**  
**LIAM SOLE**  
**SHAUN JEFFERS**  
**ALKEO BANI**  
**ZANE BANTON**  
**DAVE DIEDHIU**  
**LIAM GAUTHIER (GK)**  
**DAVID NOBLE**  
**HUW DAWSON**  
**MITCHELL WIESS**  
**ALEX LANKSHEAR**  
**CALLUM ADEBIYI**  
**JOY MUKENA**  
**JOHN GODDARD**

**CRAIG KING**  
**JORDAN WYNTER**  
**BAGASAN GRAHAM**  
**RONNIE VINT**  
**CONNOR ESSAM**  
**TOM BONNER**  
**NOOR HUSIN**  
**KIERAN MURTAGH**  
**JAKE ROBINSON**  
**DAN ROBERTS**  
**LUKE WANADIO**  
**TYRIQUE HYDE**  
**DAN COLMER (GK)**  
**ADEBAYO AZEEZ**  
**DANNY LEONARD**  
**LUKE ALLEN**  
**JOSH HILL**  
**JACK JEBB**  
**GEORGE PORTER**  
**DAN WILKS (GK)**  
**SAMUEL ODAUDU**  
**ALFIE EVANS**

### OFFICIALS

REFEREE - Tom Danaher  
ASSISTANT REFEREE 1 - David Hutton  
ASSISTANT REFEREE 2 - Hugh Gilroy

### UP NEXT AT HOME WELLING UTD

28th August 2021 3:00pm - National League South