

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

HOLLANDS & BLAIR'S



5th February 2022



v



MAYPLACE GROUND, BEXLEYHEATH, DA7 6JT



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From The Chairman

Welcome to the Mayplace Ground today as we host Hollands & Blair in a SCEFL League game.

We head into this fixture off the bounce of a back-to-back defeats in the league plus an extra-time loss in the cup. We need to perform better today!

Hollands & Blair have returned to me very good results since their change of Manager and they are sure to pose us a very tough test.

A huge 3 points are up for grabs which we desperately need to ease our relegation worries.

Big game ahead!



Tower Hamlets

A Brief History

Tower Hamlets Football Club is an English football club based in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The club are currently members of the Essex Senior League and play at the Mile End Stadium. Up until July 2013 the club was playing under the name Bethnal Green United. The club was established in 2000 by Mohammed Nurul Hoque and Akhtar Ahmed as a community club. The club played in several leagues, including the Canary Wharf Summer League, the Inner London Football League and the London Intermediate League, before joining the Middlesex County League. They were granted Senior status after winning the league's Premier Division in 2009, and were promoted to the Essex Senior League. In the 2009–10 season they finished fifth in the ESL and won both cups operated by the Essex Senior League, beating Burnham Ramblers 4–1 in the final of the Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy.

In 2020 our First Team switched leagues to the Southern Counties East and are playing our home games at Phoenix Sports Mayplace Road Ground.

Club Honours

FA Vase – Last 16 – 2011/ 2012 season

Eastern Junior Alliance U18 League Cup Champions - 2010/ 11

Essex Senior League Cup - 2009/10

Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy Champions - 2009/10

Middlesex County 'Premier Division Champions - 2008/09

Middlesex County Open Cup Winners - 2008/09

Middlesex County Premier Division Cup Runners up - 2008/09

Echo League U16 'A' Division Champions - 2008/09

Hollands & Blair

A Brief History

In 1970, when you could have been watching programmes such as Time Machine, the Pink Panther Show or the Harry Secombe Show on the four channels of your television, the current club as it is now, was formed under the banner of H & B United and they began life in Division Six.

Their first ever game on September 12 1970 ended in a 4-2 away defeat at Halfway House but just seven days later a first win was recorded when R.N.S.T.S were beaten 5-3 on their home pitch of Beechings Green.

At the end of that first campaign H & B United finished ninth having collected 20 points (eight wins and four draws) from their 24 games.

The original side continued their upward spiral, winning the Rochester & District League Division Two title in 1971-72 and they followed that up by being runners-up in Division One the next season (1972-73).

Then in 1973 the two clubs merged, initially on a first team/reserve team basis but after just one season the Blair first team folded and H & B chose to continue under the Hollands & Blair moniker, competing in Division Four for the 1974-75 campaign.

Fast forward 35 years and having confirmed their SCEFL Premier Division status with a 3-0 victory over Rusthall late in the 2018-19 campaign, Blair announced that former Herne Bay boss Simon Halsey will be the new manager for the 2019-20 season. So another chapter in the history of our club had begun...

After a few seasons struggling at the wrong end of the table, a new manager, aided by experienced assistant Luke Harvey, brought an influx of new players, a mixture of youth and experience, which gelled very quickly and the team spent most of the campaign, that was unfortunately ended early by Covid-19 in March, in the top six.

Unfortunately the pandemic continued into 2020-21 and the season was eventually curtailed a second time in November 2020 after just 11 games with Blair lying in seventh spot having picked up 21 points from six wins and three draws.





**Phoenix Sports Club
Mayplace Road East, Barnehurst, Kent,
DA7 6JT**

No spectator or unauthorised persons are permitted to persistently stand in a seated area or smoke in any area of the stadium where smoking is not permitted.

“The Southern Counties East Football League strongly support recent FA statements that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be based on race or ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, faith, age, ability or any other form of abuse will be reported to the relevant County Association for action by that Association.”

“The Southern Counties East Football League supports the ‘Swearing – Let’s Tackle It’ campaign and strongly condemns the use of foul and abusive language at football matches.”

Match Filming



Tower Hamlets are proud to be working with VEO who will be recording our games during the 2021/22 Season

If any opposition or spectators are looking to also film or use professional photography at our home games please politely inform us at info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk



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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

SO, after much deliberation, doubt and concern, England C is back – and in a whole new guise.

It's been two-and-a-half years since Paul Fairclough led out Non-League's Young Lions with many fearing that crippling FA finances from the pandemic may spell the end of the institution which has had young semi-professionals dreaming of representing their country since 1979.

You needn't go far to realise just what donning those Three Lions means to a Non-League footballer. Players now playing in the top-flight of English pride have done so with immense pride and speak fondly about how the experience helped develop them as a player – and as a man.

Only a few weeks ago, NLP columnist Tony Incenzo spoke to QPR's former Watford striker Andre Gray about his six England C caps won between 2012 and 2014 while playing for Luton Town.

"I loved my time with England C," he said. "We travelled to countries that we probably never would have visited otherwise and saw some unreal places.

"The support from the coaching staff was really hands on and they were very good at the diet and psychology side of things. People might be surprised by how professional the England C set-up is run.

"It was such an honour to be capped at international level as a Non-League player. I found it a great opportunity to test myself against top young footballers from places like Russia and Turkey.

"Most of the players around me in Paul Fairclough's squad moved into the Football League and the Premier League. I am sure that my England C appearances helped me progress as a footballer. The whole experience prepared me towards playing at a much higher level of club football.

"I would definitely recommend England C to any young Non-League players who are aspiring to move forward in their careers."

Thankfully, calls for a reunification of the England C post-Covid have been heard and last week it was announced that the Three Lions would return to play their first game since June 2019 when they take on Wales C at Caernarfon Town on Wednesday, March 30.

As he has since 2003, Paul Fairclough will once again take the reins – but this time has an altogether different job on his hands with his squad selections no longer limited to players under the age of 23.

That means, the veteran former Barnet and Stevenage chief literally has the pick of Non-League football to choose a squad from and with the likes of Wrexham, Stockport and Chesterfield all spending big and taking the National League to a whole new level, that's a pretty mouthwatering task.

I mean, can you imagine a strike force, for example, containing the likes of Kabongo Tshimanga and Michael Cheek and boosting with the experience and firepower of an Ollie Palmer, Paddy Madden or Paul Mullin?

Interestingly, this new England C set-up will no longer be funded by the Football Association but instead jointly by the National League and the Trident Leagues at Steps 3 and 4.

The FA have remained pretty tight-lipped on the reason for this but, thinking about it, with the TV connections that the National League have, could it be that the England C team begin to get the exposure that they deserve?

This, in turn, can resurrect careers and propel new ones with players of all levels vying for their chance to go under the spotlight.

At The NLP, we are naturally delighted to see the England C team back in action and can't wait to see how the new venture unfolds.

It may have taken a while but the Three Lions are roaring again.

TOWER HAMLETS

2021/22 Results

League	Canterbury City (A)	L 1-2
League	Erith & Belvedere (H)	L 1-5
FA CUP	Sheppey United (H)	L 1-4
League	Rusthall (A)	L 0-1
League	Hollands & Blair (A)	W 3-0
League	Fisher (A)	L 0-2
League	Glebe (H)	L 0-4
FA VASE	Balham (A)	W 2-1
League	Erith Town (A)	L 1-3
League	Lordswood (H)	D 3-3
FA VASE	Crawley DG (H)	L 1-3
League	Holmesdale (H)	L 1-3
League	K Sports (A)	L 2-3
League	Punjab United (A)	L 4-5
League	Deal Town (H)	L 0-4
League	Crowborough Athletic (H)	L 0-4
LONDON	Cray Valley PM (H)	L 2-5
League	Bearsted (H)	L 1-3
League	Holmesdale (A)	L1-3
League	Kennington (A)	L1-3
League	Rusthall (H)	D 0-0
League	Crowborough Ath (A)	L 0-5
League	Chatham Town (H)	L 0-10
Cup	Erith Town (A)	W 2-1
League	Canterbury City (H)	D 1-1
League	Welling Town (A)	L 1-4
League	Erith Town (H)	W 2-1
League	Erith & Belvedere (A)	W 3-2
League	K Sports (H)	L 0-2
League	Glebe (H)	L 1-3
LCUP	Sutton Athletic (A)	L 2-6
League	Hollands & Blair (H)	05/02

Premier Division

Fixtures

Saturday 5th February

Deal Town v Rusthall
K Sports v Chatham Town
Lordswood v Kennington
Erith Town v Tunbridge Wells
Sheppey United v Punjab United
Tower Hamlets v Hollands & Blair
Welling Town v Bearsted

Tuesday 8th February

Bearsted v Holmesdale (7.30pm)
Crowborough Athletic v Punjab United
Sheppey United v Canterbury City



Southern Counties East Football League

Latest Premier Division Results

Friday 4th February

Glebe 3-1 Erith & Belvedere

Tuesday 1st February

Deal Town 0-0 Chatham Town

Saturday 29th January

Canterbury City 2-1 Fisher

Bearsted A-A Tower Hamlets

Chatham Town 3-0 Erith Town

Crowborough Ath 5-0 Lordswood

Erith & Belvedere 1-0 Deal Town

Hollands & Blair 1-2 Glebe

Holmesdale 0-1 Sheppey United

K Sports 3-4 Welling Town

Rusthall 0-1 Punjab United



Premier Division SCEFL Table

#	Club		M	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pt
1	 Chatham Town	W W D W D >	24	20	2	2	76	15	61	62
2	 Sheppey United	L W W L W >	22	18	2	2	57	18	39	56
3	 Glebe	D W W W W >	23	17	4	2	66	24	42	55
4	 Erith & Belvedere	L W L W L >	25	14	3	8	53	37	16	45
5	 Deal Town	W W W L D >	21	14	2	5	47	15	32	44
6	 Erith Town	L L L L L >	25	14	1	10	49	41	8	43
7	 Crowborough Ath	W L L L W >	26	12	4	10	55	51	4	40
8	 Kennington	L D W W L >	25	11	5	9	48	48	0	38
9	 Tunbridge Wells	W D D L W >	20	10	3	7	45	29	16	33
10	 K Sports	L L W W L >	24	10	2	12	49	53	-4	32
11	 Holmesdale	L L L W L >	22	10	1	11	34	27	7	31
12	 Bearsted	L W D L D >	22	8	6	8	36	39	-3	30
13	 Hollands & Blair	D W D W L >	24	8	5	11	31	31	0	29
14	 Fisher	L W D W L >	24	7	6	11	30	36	-6	27
15	 Canterbury City	D W W L W >	25	7	5	13	30	54	-24	26
16	 Welling Town	L W W L W >	22	7	2	13	28	53	-25	23
17	 Punjab United	W L D L W >	22	5	3	14	30	51	-21	18
18	 Rusthall	W W L L L >	24	5	2	17	24	61	-37	17
19	 Tower Hamlets	L W W L L >	25	3	3	19	28	77	-49	12
20	 Lordswood	L L L L L >	23	2	3	18	19	75	-56	9

Up to and including 4th February

Player Sponsors



Tower Hamlets are welcoming Player Sponsors for our 2021/22 Season in the Southern Counties East Football League.

Those sponsoring a player will have a season long mention in this matchday programme, receive Social Media mentions and feel the warm glow of helping support their local football club.

For more details or to sponsor one of the lads for just £50 please contact the Chairman or email us at info@towerhamletsfc.co.uk

SportBlogs

Dele Alli

Time for his resurgence.

From the white side of London at Tottenham to the trenches of Merseyside in Everton.

Fresh beginnings at the age of 25 for the once wonderkid who struck stardom at MK Dons and was flying high at spurs.

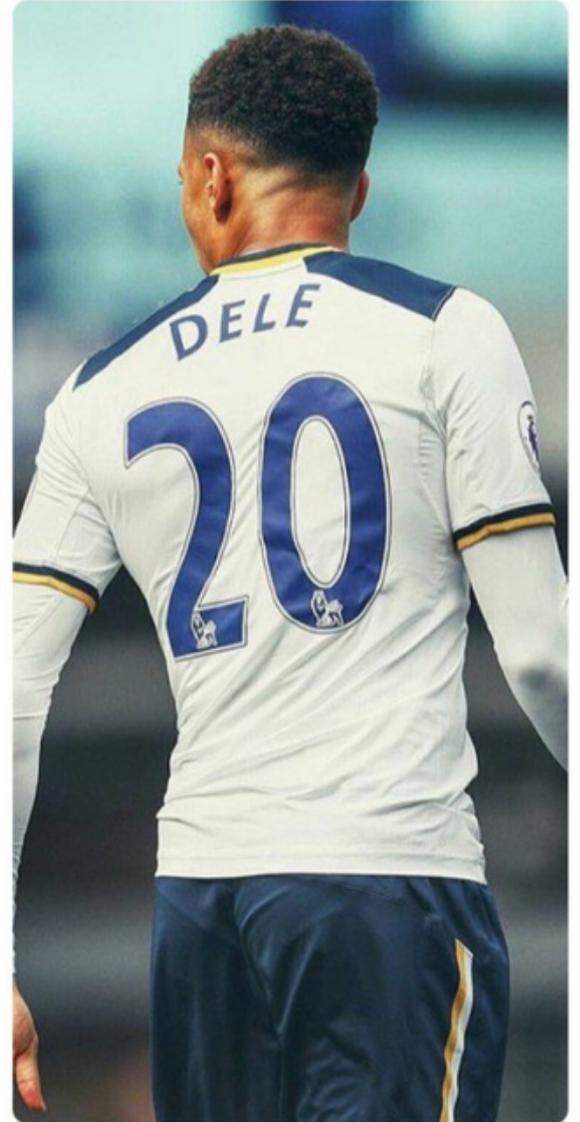
The streets won't forget what a baller this sensational player was during his early years.

That scintillating goal v Palace!

The two touch screamer at Old Trafford!

This kid was special.

181 appearances with 51 goals to go with it for Alli in a Tottenham shirt and although some may suggest there has been a decline like they say form is temporary and class is permanent & it really won't be long till Dele Alli is shining once again!



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THE SQUADS



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Luke Exall
Rob Gillman
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Joe Kane
John Walker
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Leyton Davis
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MATCH OFFICIALS

- Wayne Horsfall - Adam Clayton - Martin Etheridge