



V **MORECAMBE** SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025

ENTERPRISE NATIONAL LEAGUE 3.03PM KICK OFF



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V MORECAMBE

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025 ENTERPRISE NATIONAL LEAGUE



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BRAINTREE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED

Founded 1898 Incorporated 1986
Companies House 02050949

Address: The Rare Breed Meat Co. Stadium,
off Clockhouse Way, Braintree, Essex CM7
3DE

Telephone: 01376 345617

Website: www.braintreeownfc.org.uk

E-mail: info@braintreeownfc.org.uk

Board of Directors: Lee Harding (Chairman),
Vic Dixon (Vice Chairman) and Alan Stuckey.
Associates: David Green (Hospitality), Alan
Robson and Adrian Marston (Secretary)

Life member: Dik Bambrick, Barry Shepherd

Manager: Steve Pitt

Assistant Manager: Karl Duguid.

Coach: David Blackmore

Secretary: Adrian Marston

Press Officer: David Ward,

Clubhouse Steward: Matt Amos,

Groundsman: The Lawn Doctor,

Kit Men: Robert Barlow & Richard Nott,

Safety Officer: Andy Gill

Turnstile Supervisor: Dik Bambrick.

PRINCIPAL HONOURS

National League

Play-offs for promotion to the Football
League 2016

South Division Champions 2011

South Division Play-off winners 2018 &
2024

South Division Play off finalists 2007

South Division Play offs 2007, 2008, 2018,
2023 & 2024

Isthmian League

Champions 2006

Play-offs 2005

Division One promoted 2001

Division Two runners up 1998

Division Three runners up 1997

Eastern Counties League

Champions 1937, 1984 & 1985

Cup winners 1988

Football Association

Challenge Cup 2nd Round 2016

First Round 5 occasions

Club ownership

The Club is owned by Braintree Town
Football Club Limited. No one person or
entity has overall control of this company.
The shareholders that have a significant
interest in this company (who own more
than 10% of the authorised and issued
shares) are as follows: L Harding 38.78%,
The Estate of K.Cowell & Cowell & Cooper
Ltd 38.78% & V Dixon 10.33%

FROM THE BOARDROOM



GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE, WELCOME BACK TO THE RARE BREED MEAT CO STADIUM FOR TODAY'S ENTERPRISE LEAGUE GAME AGAINST OUR VISITORS FROM MORECAMBE.

The Lancashire club were relegated from the Football League last season and had a turbulent summer when their very existence was threatened but, fortunately, the situation behind the scenes was resolved and they were able to start the season after having their first three league matches postponed.

Like us, they're not enjoying a great start to the season and both clubs today have identical playing records with four wins and five draws from their 20 games to date. We sit one place higher on goal difference.

Following on from our two-goal victory over visitors Truro, a fortnight ago, last Saturday we journeyed north for our first visit to fellow Iron - Scunthorpe United - and return home with a deserved point

from a 1-1 draw.

The North Lincolnshire side took a fifteenth minute lead when Jean Belehound nodded home a flick-on from a left side corner. We could have levelled minutes later, but Sahin Kamara saw his spot kick well saved by home keeper Rory Malady after Terrell Works had been fouled in the home 18-yard box.

We continued to take the game to home side after the interval and were eventually rewarded when substitute Tom Blackwell pounced on an under hit back-pass to steer the ball past Mahady with just four minutes remaining to secure a deserved equaliser.

We then switched to National League Cup action and secured a place in the quarter-finals of this season's National League Cup with an entertaining 3-2 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers here at the Rare Breed Meat Co. Stadium on Tuesday evening.

Tom Blackwell made it two goals in two games in the ninth minute as he raced clear of the Wolves defence before sliding his shot past the visitors keeper for 1-0. Wolves levelled on 28 minutes with Edozie breaking through the Iron defence before slotting the ball between Jack Thompson and the near post. Tommy Smith thought he had scored in the 41st minute but his close range effort was offside.

After turning around all square at 1-1, we regained the lead on 66 minutes when Sahid Kamara steered home a cross from the left from Lewis Walker to make it 2-1. Alfie Pond then responded three minutes later for Wolves to make it 2-2 with a cracking header from a free kick deep on the left.

But Jay Emmanuel Thomas netted the winner with seven minutes remaining. Callum Logan broke forward on the left and with the Wolves defence stretched, found Emmanuel Thomas unmarked to steer the ball inside the right upright from 15 yards to take us through to the last eight of the competition.

Looking ahead we are away at FC Halifax Town next Saturday, 6th December, before switching our attention to this season's FA Trophy competition.

In this, we have been drawn away at Enterprise South side Ebbsfleet United in the Third Round, with the match due to take place a fortnight today on Saturday 13th December. This game will kick-off at (please note) 1pm.

Finally, don't forget that our club shop has been restocked with replica shirts and these will be available for collection this afternoon from Jon Weaver.

WEEKEND REVIEW

TITLE RACE REALLY HEATS UP FOLLOWING A THRILLING SATURDAY

**CHRIS MILLINGTON ENDURED A TORRID
RETURN TO HALIFAX**



Just a single point separates the National League top four after another blockbuster of a day with vital late winners, derby day delight and managerial returns.

It's still too tight to call with a title race for the ages - and once again we have new league leaders.

Rochdale return to the top after winning the early game at Tamworth 2-1. Mani Dierseuvwe kept his composure from the penalty spot, adding to Kyron Gordon's opener, but they've go company.

Carlisle United sit behind them on goal difference after leaving in very late to win at Boston United, Harvey Macadam capped a brilliant display with two goals.

York City couldn't score four again but they did win for a fifth game running. Ollie Pearce's winning goal at Brackley has them just a point behind.

Wealdstone won't bow down for anyone - they pegged back Forest Green Rovers, Micah Obiero drew the Londoners level and Robbie Savage's side slip to fourth after the 1-1 draw but they're still very much in touch.

Boreham Wood are back on track. A 3-0 win at Gateshead saw Zak Brunt score two times, and they are just two points off the top.

Chris Millington endured a miserable return to FC Halifax Town with his

Solihull Moors side well beaten. Will Harris hit a fantastic hat-trick.

Altrincham's great run was ended at Southend United, Oli Coker, Nathan Ralph and Josh Walker all scored for the home side, who keep the pressure on.

Woking grabbed the Surrey/Hampshire border headlines, pictured, as they came from behind to win at rivals Aldershot Town. Josh Osude was the Cardinals hero.

On-loan Kai Jennings shone as Sutton United continue to improve. The midfielder scored twice in a 3-2 win at bottom side Truro City.

Cameron John and Nathan Sheron got the goals in Hartlepool United's 2-0 win at Eastleigh.

Tom Blackwell earned Braintree Town a brave late point at Scunthorpe United as Morecambe and Yeovil Town drew 0-0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Rochdale	18	14	1	3	34	13	+21	43
2 Carlisle Utd	20	13	4	3	37	21	+16	43
3 York City	20	12	6	2	50	22	+28	42
4 Forest Green	20	12	6	2	36	19	+17	42
5 Boreham Wood	20	12	5	3	38	20	+18	41
6 Scunthorpe	19	10	7	2	30	18	+12	37
7 Southend Utd	19	10	5	4	31	14	+17	35
8 Hartlepool	20	7	9	4	23	15	+8	30
9 Wealdstone	20	8	6	6	29	26	+3	30
10 Halifax Town	20	8	4	8	27	29	-2	28
11 Tamworth	20	8	4	8	25	30	-5	28
12 Solihull Moors	20	7	5	8	26	31	-5	26
13 Woking	20	6	7	7	25	23	+2	25
14 Eastleigh	20	6	5	9	22	28	-6	23
15 Altrincham	20	7	2	11	22	29	-7	23
16 Boston Utd	20	5	6	9	21	30	-9	21
17 Yeovil Town	20	6	3	11	18	28	-10	21
18 Brackley Town	20	5	5	10	15	25	-10	20
19 Sutton Utd	20	4	7	9	29	37	-8	19
20 Gateshead FC	20	5	4	11	25	46	-21	19
21 Braintree Town	20	4	5	11	16	27	-11	17
22 Morecambe	20	4	5	11	28	48	-20	17
23 Aldershot Town	20	3	4	13	32	42	-10	13
24 Truro City	20	3	3	14	19	37	-18	12



enterprise



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FROM THE DUGOUT

BRAINTREE TOWN BOSS STEVE PITT LOOKS AHEAD TO THIS AFTERNOON'S ENCOUNTER



Good afternoon and welcome back for another tough league encounter. Welcome also to the players, officials and supporters of Morecambe.

They've been through every possible emotion this season and I have to say that it's good to see that club are on the right path now.

Our last home game saw us come away with a welcome three points.

Thankfully we've finally 'got the monkey off our backs' as the old saying goes and I'm really pleased for all the players to get this win because they fully deserved it on the day, having again dominated the game.

This time though we took our chances and in reality, just like the previous week at Wealdstone, we should have been two or three goals up by the interval.

We persevered and continue to push hard right throughout the game and

again in the second half we had chances to have scored.

For the first 10 minutes in the second half as expected they had a go at us with five quick corners but our defence worked and worked to keep them out and they didn't really seriously threaten us in my view.

We had the same formation as last week with three up front going forward and chasing their defence down at every opportunity.

We followed this up with an extremely hard-fought point against Scunthorpe at the weekend. In fairness, we should win the game.

Yes, I am disappointed with the penalty miss but I am not going to criticise any player because we win and lose as a team and the overall team effort today has been magnificent.

What it does show how far we have come this season and for the first

time I had depth in the squad to change the players in the second half.

It was our plan at half-time to bring fresh legs on, particularly in attack, and that's why we made four substitutions on the hour and although we were the only attacking side at that stage bringing on fresh ammunition paid off.

Really I am quite honest in saying that we were the only side looking to win this game and our tremendous pressure from start to finish showed how dominant we were throughout the game.

We accomplished our aim in a way but I felt we did more than enough to have won and to come to a place like that and perform like we did was magnificent and games like this are always down to fine margins.

Get behind the lads and let's hear you again this afternoon

Steve

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DAVID GLANVILL

We would like to honour our fellow Braintree Town FC supporter David Glanvill, who sadly passed away this week after a short illness.

Dave was a true & passionate supporter of Braintree Town home and away .

He regularly helped with jobs around the stadium.

Dave was also a key figure in our Supporters Club, and a brilliant fundraiser .

Dave was very popular & well liked, always putting others before himself.

Our thoughts go out to his wife Jill and all his family & friends.



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IN TOWN TODAY

MORECAMBE



GWION EDWARDS



After enduring a difficult close-season, with off the field issues threatening to affect the future of the club, today's visitors were taken over just in time by Panjab Warriors.

The new owners made the decision to replace former boss Derek Adams with Ashvir Singh Johal and he set about rebuilding the squad.

The club had to move quickly as they had only five players signed but they brought in a number of new players and were ready to begin the new season.

Although they began the new season two weeks later than everyone they made a fantastic start to the campaign when they entertained Altrincham in their first game of the season.

A crowd of 3408 turned up at the Mazuma Mobile Stadium and what a start they made when Ben Tollitt put the Shrimps ahead after just six minutes.

The visitors did equalise and with the game deep into stoppage time it appeared as if Morecambe would begin

the season with a point until Daniel Ogwuru arrived with a match winning goal to send the vast majority of the crowd home happy.

Following that win though the next four games were all lost but they stopped this disappointing run with a 4-4 draw away at Solihull Moors.

Their next home game saw Wealdstone the visitors and the Shrimps raced into a 3-0 lead by half time. However, the Stones hit back in the second half to score three times and looked as if they had rescued a point.

The home side, though had other sides and with time running out Emmerson Sutton grabbed his first goal of the season to give Morecambe a 4-3 victory.

Since then, however, the team have suffered three defeats on the spin including heavy losses at Truro City, when they were beaten 5-0, and then last Tuesday they were 4-0 down at home against Gateshead, in the opening twelve minutes, before going down to a 5-2 defeat. They currently sit in 22nd place having played 20 games.

LET'S MEET SOME OF THE MORECAMBE PLAYERS

ARCHIE MAIR: GOALKEEPER

Archie started his career with the youth teams of Aberdeen and Norwich City and has also spent time on loan at King's Lynn Town, Lincoln City, Dartford, Notts County, Gateshead, Morecambe and Motherwell. In his previous loan spell with the club he made thirty one appearances and so far this season has played in all of the club's ten games.

GWION EDWARDS: MIDFIELDER

Gwion Edwards arrived at the Mazuma Mobile Stadium in January 2024 on a six-month deal before penning a one-year extension with the option of another twelve months.

A product of the Swansea City academy, the thirty year-old spent two loan spells at St. Johnstone and one at Crawley Town while contracted in South Wales before leaving permanently for the latter in 2014. Following a total of ninety three appearances and fifteen goals at the Broadfield Stadium, Edwards made the switch to Peterborough United before joining Ipswich Town in the summer of 2018 where he represented the Tractor Boys more than one hundred times.

Three years later, a move to the North West with Wigan Athletic transpired where he helped guide the Latics to the 2021/22 Sky Bet League One title. Edwards stayed at the DW Stadium until February last year where he made the switch to Scottish Premiership side Ross County on a loan move until the end of the 2022/23 campaign.

As well as domestic experience which spans over 270 EFL appearances, Edwards has been capped nine times for Wales at youth level and has been involved with the senior team in a couple of squads.

IN TOWN TODAY

MORECAMBE



PAUL LEWIS: MIDFIELDER

After beginning his career with Macclesfield, the 29-year-old made his EFL bow in January 2017 following a move to Cambridge United.

Lewis spent three-and-a-half years at The Cledara Abbey Stadium, which included a one-month loan at Dover Athletic. He then completed a permanent switch to Tranmere Rovers in August 2020.

During his first season in Birkenhead, he formed part of the squad to reach the EFL Trophy final where they ultimately lost out to Sunderland AFC.

A move to Northampton Town followed before a return to Prenton Park where he remained until the conclusion of the 2023/24 campaign.

YANN SONGO'O: MIDFIELDER

The experienced midfielder joined the club for the 2024/25 campaign and linked up with previous manager Derek Adams for the sixth time.

Songo'o first arrived at Morecambe in September 2020 and played a key part in a memorable campaign which resulted in promotion to Sky Bet League One via the play-off final at Wembley. Last season, the Frenchman racked up 46 appearances in all competitions and, on the final day, played his 200th Sky Bet League Two fixture.

BEN TOLLITT: FORWARD

Ben Tollitt joined the Shrimps during the summer of 2024 on a one-year contract with the option of a further 12 months. Born in Liverpool, he was a product of the Everton academy before release which saw him drop down to non-league.

During this period, he was picked up by Portsmouth and went onto represent the likes of Tranmere Rovers, Wrexham AFC and Blackpool.

BEN TOLLITT



Another stint outside of the EFL followed for a number of clubs including Macclesfield, AFC Fylde, Oldham Athletic, Kidderminster Harriers and Chester before arriving at the Mazuma Mobile Stadium.

During his first pre-season with the club, Tollitt notched three goals in five games, including an impressive strike from half way against League One outfit Burton Albion

Ben scored Morecambe's first goal of this season when he gave his team the lead on the opening day of the season putting the Shrimps 1-0 up against Altrincham.

HARRISON PANAYIOTOU: FORWARD

Born in Leicester, Panayiotou joined his hometown club Leicester City as a youngster, making his first-team debut in April 2012.

After loan spells at Port Vale in October 2014 and Raith Rovers in the second half of the 2015-16 season, he was released by Leicester.

He joined Barrow in September 2016 and was loaned to Salford City in

March 2017. He signed with Nuneaton Borough in June 2018 before moving on to the Greek side Aittitos Spata in January 2019.

Panayiotou returned to the English National League with Aldershot Town in July 2019. After two seasons there, he joined Scottish Premiership side Livingston for a short spell but returned to Aldershot Town in January 2022.

He joined Maidenhead United on loan in February 2023. He joined Gibraltar club Bruno's Magpies in August 2023 and moved to Maltese Premier League side Sirens the following year.

He signed with Larne of Northern Ireland in January 2025, and returned to England eight months later to join Morecambe making his debut on the opening day of this season against Altrincham.

He represents the Saint Kitts and Nevis national team, having made his international debut in 2014.

JACK NOLAN: MIDFIELDER

Jack started his career with the youth team of Reading before making his senior debut with Walsall. He has represented England at under-17 level. Has also played for Accrington Stanley and Gillingham. Jack is joint-leading goalscorer so far this season with three goals to his name.

MEET THE BOSS

ASHVIR SINGH JOHAL: MANAGER

Ashvir began coaching at Leicester City, working up to under-18 level in the academy. He then held roles at Wigan Athletic, Como and Notts County, before being named head coach at Morecambe in 2025.

He became the youngest manager in England's top five divisions, and the first Sikh to lead a professional English club.

AROUND THE GROUND

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE RARE BREED MEAT STADIUM

SUPPORTERS CLUB

Membership

Braintree Town Independent Supporters Club are continuing to take new members for the 2025-26 season. We had 249 members last season. We have almost 200 members signed up for this season so far. Application forms are available from the Club Shop. Membership fees remain £3 for Adults & Youths aged 16 and over and £1 for Youths aged under 16.

Volunteers Needed!

Supporters willing to volunteer their time to assist us with activities are always very welcome.

The John Welford Rumble

The John Welford Rumble continues to be very popular. The jackpot currently stands at £675.

If you correctly predict the outcome to all seven selected (ordinarily National League) fixtures, (Home win, Away Win or Draw) you will win or share the jackpot. If you predict the outcome for six of the seven fixtures then you will receive a cash prize of £20. Supporters can complete their Rumble by seeing the Rumble agents around the ground, at our designated table in the clubhouse or in the Club Shop. This must be submitted and paid for prior to kick-off or will not be accepted.

Upcoming Social / Fundraising Events

Everyone is invited to take part in our upcoming Quiz Night which will be held in the clubhouse on this evening, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. £4 per person - Teams up to 6 people. There will be great prizes to be won for the winning team. This quiz will be hosted by David & Carol

Bland. A Raffle will be held on the night. Any donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received. It is always good fun and we hope as many of you as possible can attend.

CLUB SHOP

The new supply of home and away shirts are expected to be available by today's home game v Morecambe. Quite a few of these have been reserved, as we recommended.

We strongly suggest that you speak to Jon or Russell as soon as possible to reserve one and ensure that you are not disappointed.

We have received a number of match-worn home and away shirts from the promotion winning 2023-24 season, complete with name and number. These are £15 each, and are proving very popular!

Free 2025-26 team postcards are available from the turnstiles, bar area and club shop. Make sure to pick up yours.

We have also received a small supply of zip tops in various colours and sizes. The adult ones are £30, and kid sizes are £25.

We have a new club metal badge, complete with a scroll that reads 2025-26. This is our second new badge of the season, following on from the '100 YEARS IN ORANGE & BLUE' design that has been selling well throughout pre-season.

Both of these badges are £3 each, and they are complimented by several hundred other badges from clubs at all levels of the game. The 2025-26 scroll comes in two colours.

The shop is the place to go to for beanies (a choice of three colours), and baseball caps. If you are after

one of the new bucket hats, you can get those from the Merchandise Kiosk in the right-hand corner of the ground.

Scarves, key rings, fridge magnets, pennants, pens can all be purchased for cash today, and there is also a quantity of retro football shirts at a bargain £5 each. New ones are coming in all the time.

EBBSFLEET AWAY IN FA TROPHY THIRD ROUND

Braintree have been drawn away Ebbsfleet United on Saturday, 13th December

Braintree Town have been drawn away at Enterprise South side Ebbsfleet United in the FA Trophy Third Round, with the match due to take place on Saturday 13th December. This game will kick-off at 1pm.



ON THE ROAD

FC HALIFAX TOWN NATIONAL LEAGUE SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2025 3.00PM KICK OFF



The Shay Stadium: Home of FC Halifax Town and Halifax RLFC
FC Halifax Town

ADDRESS: The Shay Stadium, Halifax,
HX1 2YS (HX1 2YT for sat navs)

TELEPHONE: 01422 341222

DIRECTIONS:

FROM THE NORTH:

Take the A629 to Halifax Town Centre, take the 2nd exit at the roundabout following signs for A629 (Huddersfield), then into Skircoat Road where you will find the ground

GENERAL:

Take the M62 exiting at junction 24, follow signs for A629 Halifax into Skircoat Road, then onto Shaw Hill

where you will find the ground

BY RAIL

Five to Ten minutes walk from Halifax station. Leave the car park, turn left and the ground is on your right in 1/2 mile

SOUTH STAND

The South Stand is a terraced stand behind the goal for home fans which gives an excellent view of the playing field

Fans can enjoy a pre and post match pint in the South Stand Bar

SKIRCOAT STAND

The Skircoat stand is all seater down the Skircoat Road side of the Shay Stadium and when open is for away supporters

NORTH STAND

The North Stand provides a great view however this stand is unused

EAST STAND

A magnificent stand holding 4000 fans giving a unobscured view of the playing area and holds Banqueting Suites, Bars, Food Areas and Hospitality Boxes

SOUTH STAND BAR

The South Stand Bar is located under the stand at the Spring Hall end of the Shay Stadium

The bar is open to all fans and will provide good beer in a friendly environment

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THE ROAD AHEAD

ALL THE IRON STATS FROM THE 2025/2026 CAMPAIGN

DATE	OPPO	F/A	ATT	TEAM						
Sat Aug 9	FC HALIFAX TOWN	3-0	1011	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	Smith	F.Terry	Vennings	
Tue Aug 12	LEICESTER CITY (NLCup1)	2-0	291	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	Smith**	F.Terry*****	Judge***	
Sat Aug 16	Hartlepool United	0-2	3424	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	Smith	F.Terry	Miranda	
Wed Aug 20	Boreham Wood	1-2	974	M.Terry	K.Smith	F-Clarke	T.Smith	F.Terry	Miranda	
Sat Aug 23	YEOVIL TOWN	1-0	1009	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	T.Smith	K.Smith	Miranda****	
Mon Aug 25	Carlisle United	0-5	6761	M.Terry	K.Smith***	Langston	T.Smith	F-Clarke	Miranda	
Sat Aug 30	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	0-0	1007	M.Terry	K.Smith	T.Smith	F.Terry	F-Clarke	Miranda	
Tue Sep 2	TAMWORTH	1-2	931	M.Terry	K.Smith*	T.Smith	F.Terry	F-Clarke	Omoree	
Sat Sep 6	Rochdale	0-2	2,562	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston****	T.Smith*	F.Terry	Miranda	
Sat Sep 13	YORK CITY	2-3	1,409	M.Terry	Pinnington***	Langston	F-Clarke	F.Terry****	Vennings	
Tue Sep 16	NOTTS FOREST (NLCup2)	1-0	244	M.Terry	Pinnington	Langston	F-Clarke	F.Terry	Omoree	
Sat Sep 20	Eastleigh	3-1	2,132	M.Terry	Pinnington	Langston	F-Clarke	F.Terry	Vennings	
Wed Sep 24	Boston United	0-2	1,356	M.Terry	Pinnington	Langston	F-Clarke	F.Terry	Vennings	
Sat Sep 27	GATESHEAD	1-2	1,007	M.Terry	Pinnington****	Langston	F-Clarke	Clayton	Miranda	
Tue Sep 30	Aldershot Town	1-1	1,567	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	F.Terry	Pinnington	Vennings	
Sat Oct 4	SUTTON UNITED	0-0	1,042	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	F.Terry	Pinnington	Babic	
Sat Oct 11	FARNBOROUGH (FAC4Q)	2-0	606	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	F.Terry	Pinnington	Miranda	
Sat Oct 18	Solihull Moors 12.30pm	0-2	885	M.Terry	F-Clarke	Langston	F.Terry	Pinnington	Miranda	
Tue Oct 21	WEST BROM (NLCup 3)	2-3	169	Gray	F-Clarke	Smith*	F.Terry	Pinnington	Omoree***	
Sat Oct 25	ALTRINCHAM	0-0	901	Thompson	Pinnington	F-Clarke	Langston	Terry	Miranda	
Tue Oct 28	Tilbury (ESC3)	1-8	123	Athersmith	M-Brown	G-Morriss*	L.Mansfield	McPherson	Murphy	
Sat Nov 1	Chelmsford City (FAC1)	1-4	3,502	Thompson	Pinnington	F-Clarke	Langston	Terry	Miranda***	
Wed Nov 5	BRACKLEY TOWN	0-1	732	Thompson	Pinnington	Smith	Langston	Terry	Cooper	
Sat Nov 8	Wealdstone	0-1	1,407	Thompson	Langston	Smith	Terry	Pinnington	Miranda	
Sat Nov 15	TRURO CITY	2-0	969	Thompson	Langston	Omoree	Terry	Pinnington	Vennings	
Sat Nov 22	Scunthorpe United	1-1	4,062	Thompson	Langston	Omoree	Terry	Pinnington	Vennings	
Tue Nov 25	WOLVES (NLCup4) 7PM	3-2	206	Thompson	F-Clarke	Langston	Smith*	Blackwell**	Miranda***	
Sat Nov 29	MORECAMBE									
Sat Dec 6	FC Halifax Town									
Sat Dec 13	Ebbsfleet United (FAT3)									
Sun Dec 21	HARTLEPOOL UNITED 2pm									
Fri Dec 26	SOUTHEND UNITED									
Tue Dec 30	Woking									
Sat Jan 3	Yeovil Town									
Sat Jan 10	(Date of FAT4)									
Sat Jan 17	BOREHAM WOOD									
Tue Jan 20	BOSTON UNITED									
Sat Jan 24	York City									
Wed Jan 28	(Date of NLCupQF)									
Sat Jan 31	EASTLEIGH									
Sat Feb 7	Gateshead									
Wed Feb 11	Sutton United									
Sat Feb 14	SOLIHULL MOORS									
Wed Feb 18	(Date of NLCupSF)									
Sat Feb 21	Altrincham									
Wed Feb 25	ALDERSHOT TOWN									
Sat Feb 28	Truro City									
Sat Mar 7	WEALDSTONE									
Sat Mar 14	Morecambe									
Wed Mar 18	(Date of NLCupF)									
Sat Mar 21	SCUNTHORPE UNITED									
Tue Mar 24	Brackley Town									
Sat Mar 28	CARLISLE UNITED									
Fri Apr 3	Southend United									
Mon Apr 6	WOKING									
Sat Apr 11	Forest Green Rovers									
Sat Apr 18	ROCHDALE									
Sat Apr 25	Tamworth									

					SUBS					
Miranda	Walker2	Hubbard**	Thorpe***	Akinde*	Omrore	Judge**	Cooper***	Pinnington	Kamara*	Hockey
Babic	Kamara	Cooper	Thorpe*	Walker****	Omrore****	Vennings	Miranda*****	Hockey***	Pinnington**	Hubbard*
Omrore	Walker***	Hubbard*	Thorpe**	Akinde****	Judge*	Cooper**	Babic	Pinnington	Kamara****	Hockey***
Judge*	Walker	Cooper	Kamara**	Akinde***	Omrore	Vennings*	Babic**	Pinnington	Hockey	Thorpe***
Vennings	Walker	Hubbard***	Thorpe*	Akinde**	Omrore	Judge****	Cooper**	Babic	Hockey***	Kamara*
Vennings	Walker	Hubbard*	Cooper**	Akinde****	Judge****	Babic	Kamara***	Hockey	F.Terry*	Thorpe**
Vennings	Walker***	Hubbard*	Kamara****	Akinde	Omrore**	Judge*/**	Cooper****	Babic	Pinnington****	Hockey
Vennings**	Kamara	Miranda	Cooper***	Akinde	Langston*	Babic	Pinnington	Hockey**	Hubbard***	
Babic	Hockey	Hubbard***	Kamara**	Akinde	Omrore****	Vennings***	Cooper**	Pinnington*		
Miranda	Cooper	Babic*	Works 2	Akinde*	Omrore*	McPherson	Kamara***	Hockey*	Hubbard****	
Vennings*	Cooper	Hubbard**	Kamara	Hockey***	Miranda***	Babic*	H-Annous**	Ivanov		
Omrore	Cooper	Babic***	Works**	Hockey*	Blackwell 2*	Kamara	Hubbard	Clayton***	Davis**	
Miranda	Cooper	Babic**	Works***	Blackwell*	Omrore	Akinde**	Kamara	Hockey	Clayton*	Davis***
Vennngs	Davis*	Babic**	Works	Blackwell***	Omrore	Akinde***	Kamara	Hockey**	F.Terry*	Thorpe****
Miranda	Clayton**	Cooper	Akinde*	Works***	Omrore**	Blackwell*	Babic	Kamara	Hockey***	Davis
Miranda	Clayton***	Cooper	Works*	Akinde**	Omrore	Blackwell*	Walker**	Kamara	Hockey	Thorpe ***
Babic	Clayton	Cooper	Works	Akinde	Omrore	Vennings	Blackwell	Walker	Kamara	Thorpe
Babic**	Clayton	Cooper***	Works	Akinde*	Omrore	Vennings**	Blackwell	Smith	Thorpe***	Davis*
Vennings	Thorpe*****	Kamara	Davis****	Blackwell**	Langston *	Miranda***	Cooper*****	Akinde**	Babic****	
Vennings	Cooper	Kamara*	Works**	Akinde	Omrore	Babic	Clayton	Davis**	Thorpe*	
Bain	O-Wateridge**	Wood	B-Jones***	Kent	Howatt*	Bowes**	Palacios***	A.Mansfield		
Vennings	Cooper	Babic**	Works*	Akinde	Omrore	Walker*	Smith***	Kamara	Hubbard	Thorpe**
Miranda	Thorpe*	Clayton***	Walker**	Akinde	Omrore	Vennings*	Babic*	Kamara	Hubbard	Works***
Vennings	Clayton***	Babic**	Works*	Cooper	Omrore	Akinde	Kamara**	Hubbard*	Akinde***	
Miranda	Logan	Babic**	Works*	Kamara***	Blackwell	Akinde***	E-Thomas*	Hubbard**		
Miranda	Logan	Babic**	Works	Kamara*	F-Clarke	Blackwell	Walker	E-Thomas*	Akinde	Hubbard**
Vennings	Logan	Cooper	Walker****	Akinde****	E-Thomas****	Pinnington**	Kamara*	Hockey*****	Hubbard***	Terry
					</					

TRURO TOPPLED

BRAINTREE CLAIMED A FULLY DESERVED 2-0 WIN OVER TRURO CITY TO END THEIR EIGHT-MATCH WINLESS STREAK.



The Iron romped to victory at the Rare Breed Meat Stadium in a game resembling recent encounters where they dominated most of the match, created a host of chances but failed to find the net.

The crucial difference for Braintree in this game was bringing on three fresh strikers late on in the second half.

It proved the turning point, despite the Iron missing a penalty on the hour when James Vennings shot poorly at keeper Dan Lavercombe.

But the arrival of substitutes John Akinde, Fletcher Hubbard and new signing Jay Emmanuel-Thomas changed everything and turned the game in the Iron's favour.

On 85 minutes, Emmanuel-Thomas, 34, fired an unstoppable free-kick into the top corner of the net.

And four minutes into added on time,

Akinde showed composure and all his experience to hold off defenders and round keeper Lavercombe to score the Iron's second goal.

The signing of Emmanuel-Thomas was certain a jump of faith by Pitt for the striker, who had only earlier this year emerged from prison where he was serving time for being involved in a drugs smuggling affair.

Pitt said, "I was in contact with his agent on his release earlier this year but we've waited until this week to get him training and he's been tremendous with his attitude and commitment," said Pitt.

"He's paid his dues and deserves another chance and I've been impressed with him and he showed his quality in scoring such a fantastic goal."

FINAL SCORE

BRAINTREE TOWN 2 TRURO CITY 0





IRON SHOW SPIRIT IN DRAW

BRAINTREE TOWN PRODUCED A TREMENDOUS PERFORMANCE TO CLAIM A 1-1 DRAW AT SCUNTHORPE UNITED



Make no mistake, this was a game that the visitors should have won and deservedly so because they did enough to have secured all three points, at the Atticus Stadium.

Braintree manager Steve Pitt said: "We were excellent from start to finish and did more than enough to have won the game."

The loyal 57 Braintree fans in the 4,062 crowd that made the trek to North Lincolnshire would heartily agree with his sentiments, particularly having seen another penalty miss that would have brought the sides level by the interval after Sahid Kamara missed from the spot.

To have a fully fit squad with seven substitutes was a rare experience for Pitt this season but again making the right substitutions at the right time was crucial, in the National League clash.

It showed, because for the last 15 minutes or so every time Iron attacked they look like to score and it was only some decent saves by Scunthorpe keeper Rory Mahady that kept his side in the game.

The Iron went behind on 15 minutes when Scunthorpe's well-worked corner saw them take the lead.

But minutes later, Braintree missed a golden chance to equalise when the nippy Terrell Works was tripped in the area but Kamara's poor spot-kick was easily saved.

The second half was totally dominated by the Iron, who played some excellent football from the defence to the forward line.

It always seemed only a matter of time before they equalised and that came five minutes from time.

Substitute Tom Blackwell chased down a loose backpass in the home defence and he beat the on rushing keeper to the ball, to slide it into an empty net.

It was certainly no more than the Iron deserved and if they continue to perform as they have in the last three league games, then they will certainly start moving away from the relegation zone.

FINAL SCORE:

SCUNTHORPE UNITED 1 BRAINTREE TOWN 1





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IRONS BEAT WOLVES

BRAINTREE BEAT WOLVES UNDER-21S TO BOOK NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP QUARTER-FINAL



STEVE Pitt wants his Braintree Town side to take their form against Wolves under-21s into their National League clash with Morecambe this weekend, writes DAVID WARD.

The Iron won 3-2 in the National League Cup on Tuesday night to book a quarter-final spot for the second successive season.

It was a fully deserved victory against a young but strong and fast Wolves team at the Rare Breed Meat Company Stadium.

Pitt said: "I'm really pleased with all the players because they all put a real shift in and deserved to win on the night.

"We knew it would be hard against such a high, young, fast professional side but everyone worked their socks off and even when they equalised twice we never gave up and we kept pressing to get the winning goal.

"Now we can look forward to the quarter-finals although our priority now is take all this forward for our next home game against Morecambe on Saturday afternoon."

The 206 fans who braved the cold



weather were certainly entertained with some quality football from both sides in what was an enthralling encounter with end to end football, in a game that could have gone either way.

The Iron had a great start with Tom Blackwell scoring a well-taken individual goal on nine minutes as he outstretched the visitors' backline to find the new with a close-range shot.

Wolves U21s pulled a goal back before half-time but Braintree regained the lead on 66 minutes when substitute Sahid Kamara found

the net with a close-range finish, only for the visitors to level again within minutes.

However, this reinvigorated Iron side, maintaining their vastly-improved recent form with players chasing and working hard for one another and playing some delightful football, were duly rewarded with what turned out to be the winning goal on 83 minutes.

It came from Jay Emmanuel-Thomas, who came off the bench to score having been set up by the impressive young on-loan Spurs midfielder, Calum Logan.

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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

BY JON COUCH



FOOTBALL'S latest trend accessory, the micro shin pad, is going out of fashion faster than a John Barnes free-kick, it seems.

As the name suggests, "micro" - or "mini" pads as they are also known - are modern-day shin guards that cover a smaller amount of the shin, about the size of a Custard Cream biscuit.

But last week, we reported that a number of Step 5 and 6 clubs had imposed bans prohibiting their use following a horror injury suffered by young Ilfracombe Town winger Riley Malin.

Malin suffered a double leg break after coming off worse in a 50/50 challenge against Bridport, forcing their South West Peninsula League Premier East match to be abandoned.

Micro shinpads were blamed and, as a result, the Bluebirds, along with Bridport and the likes of Bude Town and Dobwalls FC, announced that they implemented an immediate and non-negotiable ban on the use of micro shin pads across all age groups and squads.

Ilfracombe said the decision had been made in the "interest of player safety and welfare", and to ensure that all players are "equipped with protective gear that meets required safety standards".

Showcased by Premier League stars such as Jack Grealish, the micro shinpad is now a popular item in dressing rooms up and down the country at amateur, grass roots and junior level.

FA guidance for shin pads in community football states that such protection is a "compulsory" piece of equipment, but stops short of prohibiting micro versions.

"The amount of shin physically covered is an important consideration, as any part of the shin that is not covered is not as well protected," the guidance says.

"Micro' or 'Mini' shin pads may therefore increase the risk of injury due to the smaller amount of shin covered compared to larger sized shin pads."

Malin's injury proved the final straw for Ilfracombe, who said in a statement: "All players must wear regulation-sized, fully protective shin pads for all matches, training sessions, and club-sanctioned activities.

"Any player found wearing micro shin pads—or any shin protection that does not meet accepted safety standards—will not be permitted to participate until compliant equipment is worn.

"The incident at Bridport highlighted the unacceptable risk posed by inadequate protective equipment. The club has a duty of care to every player, and this measure is essential to maintaining safe and responsible playing conditions."

Their stance has been emulated by South West Peninsula League rivals Bude Town. They added: "This decision has been made to ensure player safety and welfare across all elements of competitive football, whether that be matches or training.

"Players will not be able to play for Bude Town Football Club unless compliant equipment is worn and we need the co-operation from players, coaches and parents/guardians to enforce this decision."

Since our article, a number of other clubs have followed suit and also publicly come out in support of the ban.

Isthmian South Central side Binfield said: "Following recent reviews of match-day equipment and reports within the press highlighting the ineffectiveness of micro shin pads, the club is introducing a full ban on micro shin pads, effective immediately.

"Whilst we recognise that The FA has not yet put a ban in place to this effect, we at Binfield FC strongly

believe that micro shin pads do not provide adequate protection and significantly increase the risk of injury.

"To maintain a safe playing environment for all, all players must wear appropriately sized shin pads for training sessions and competitive fixtures.

We ask all players, parents, and coaches to support this policy and ensure suitable equipment is worn at all times.

"The club will continue to prioritise player welfare and appreciates your cooperation in upholding these standards.

And clubs at Step 7 are also taking a stance.

Beaminster FC, who play in the Dorset Football League, said that their new shin pad policy was "a non-negotiable policy".

"Managers/coaches and club officials present on the day will be asked to check that players are wearing appropriately sized shin guards that comply with this new policy," they said.

"Failure to comply will result in the player being withdrawn from the fixture."

And Lyme Regis FC, who play in the Devon and Exeter Premier, added: "Player safety is our highest priority, and this policy reflects our commitment to ensuring a safe and responsible playing environment for everyone at the club."

With Ilfracombe's stance gathering support all the time, don't be surprised others make a stand, thus forcing the relevant governing bodies into making a firmer decision in time.

Safety, not vanity must be the order of the day here and if a blanket ban prevents just one injury as suffered by Riley Malin then common sense will have prevailed.



	SE	ES		
				1 ARCHIE MAIR (GK)
				2 LEWIS PAYNE
				3 RAHEEM CONTE
				4 TERRELL AGYEMANG
				5 MALDINI KACURRI
				6 LUDWIG FRANCISETTE
				7 GWION EDWARDS
				8 MIGUEL AZEEZ
				9 HARRISON PANAYIOTOU
				10 JAKE CAIN
				11 ADMIRAL MUSKWE
				12 ROLANDO AARONS
				14 ALIE SESAY
				15 BEN WILLIAMS
				16 TOM TWEEDY
				17 PAUL LEWIS
				18 BEN TOLLITT
				19 MA'KEL BOGEL-CAMPBELL
				20 MO SANGARE
				21 JOE NUTTALL
				22 JOSH FELIX-EPIAH
				24 YANN SONGO'O
				26 LENNON DOBSON
				27 ADAM FAIRCLOUGH
				28 EMMERSON SUTTON
				29 ELIJAH DIXON-BONNER
				30 COREY GOODYEAR
				31 OSCAR WRIGHT
				32 GEORGE THOMAS
				33 ARJAN RAIKHY
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