

FOUM REVIEW

2020-2021

FA Cup 4th qualifying round
v GUISELEY AFC
Broadhurst Park



Saturday 24th October
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Emirates
FA CUP



OFFICIAL FC UNITED OF MANCHESTER MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



Neil Reynolds

FC UNITED'S MANAGER TALKS IN THE BUILD-UP TO TODAY'S GAME

I've no real excuses to make for Tuesday's performance here against Lancaster – we just weren't at our best.

We knew what to expect from Lancaster, and I think we got sucked in to trying to play them at their own game at times. I made the decision to start with a 4-4-2 and it just didn't really work.

We had to make the early change with Michael Fowler coming off before half-time. It felt like things were getting a bit out of hand on the pitch, and with him already on a yellow card, I didn't want the referee to have an excuse to send him off with big games coming up.

Michael was obviously frustrated to be brought off so early, but it'd have been poor management on my part if I'd have left him out there and he ended up getting a red card when he's such a big part of our team.

We made a few tactical changes at half-time and it was great to see a near immediate impact with the goal. It was a lovely pass from Charlie, and an equally good finish from Dan to break the deadlock.

After that, it was then hugely frustrating to concede the equaliser less than five minutes later. It was a nice cross to set it up but, in all honesty, it was really sloppy defending which made for an easy finish.

Both sides had chances late on, but a draw was probably a fair result in the end. The main positive to take away from the game is that we remain unbeaten, having played a number of good sides so far.

We're now potentially just 90 minutes away from the first round proper of the FA Cup, as we welcome Guiseley AFC to Broadhurst Park this afternoon.

It's certainly the biggest game in my time here as

manager so far, and the same is true for many of these players.

I've spoken before about the photographs that are up in the tunnel, showing the great moments in the club's history – that famous night at Rochdale in 2010 being an obvious standout moment.

These lads are so driven to create their own piece of history here, and to be spoken of in the same way as the likes of Platt, Cottrell and Norton.

That said, we're under no illusions about the task in front of us today if we are going to make it into the next round.

We last met Guiseley here back in February 2019, with us fighting back to salvage a memorable 3-3 draw. Both sides were fighting for their lives in the National North at the time, and ultimately they survived and we didn't.

Last year proved to be a much better season for The

“ It's certainly the biggest game in my time here as manager so far, and the same is true for many of these players. ”

Lions under Marcus Bignot and Russ O'Neill, with them knocking on the door of the play-offs when the season was brought to an end.

They've started this season in strong form, with a pair of good victories in the Cup, along with a 4-0 victory against Blyth Spartans to kick-off the league campaign.

We're certainly not going to read too much into their 1-0 defeat against Hereford last weekend. It's been stop-start for clubs so far, so you're going to see results like that.

The fact that Hereford's winner represents the only goal they've conceded so far this season speaks volumes about how good they are defensively, as well as going forward.

We just need to play our own game, and really be a bit

braver than we probably were here on Tuesday night. We've shown how good we can be already this season, with the games against Pontefract Colls and then Stafford last week really standing out, and we need to display that confidence in ourselves.

It's obviously been a tough week for everyone in Greater Manchester, so we'll be doing our best to put a smile on the faces of those who are able to be here today.

There will be some changes from Tuesday night, and having Luke Griffiths back from suspension is a huge boost. We know the quality we have in this side, and we're really going to have to show it today if we're going to be in the hat come five o'clock.

Reno

LIVE STREAM

For FCUM fans who are reading the e-programme and not attending today's match at Broadhurst Park, there will be a live stream available for the game – costing the usual £5.

The stream is available to watch online from 2.30pm and can be found if you visit <https://tinyurl.com/fcumtv-live>

Those booking will be emailed a password so please check your junk and spam folders.

Thanks to all fans who have tuned in so far and, along with the e-programme, we hope you are enjoying the alternative matchday experience we're providing.

Though it's not possible for many of our previous regulars to attend games at the moment, the support of our 'Armchair Army' is always appreciated.



The FC United boss was speaking to Paul Hurst in the run-up to this afternoon's match

Broadhurst News

MATCHDAY PROCEDURES

As mentioned the past two FCUM Reviews and on the club's official website recently, we are currently operating under increased Covid-related restrictions with regards to our usual matchday procedures.

It is important for all fans attending Broadhurst Park to make themselves familiar with the new matchday regulations as we strive to continue hosting games in the safest possible environment.

All help and understanding towards these guidelines are both imperative for the club to stage matches, and also appreciated by the many who are working behind the scenes to help make matchdays run as efficiently as possible during these challenging times.

Please visit the official FC website for a full breakdown of the latest rules and restrictions, and for anybody wanting to book table service for the bar for future home games, you can contact the office on 0161 769 2005.



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FA TROPHY DRAW

FC United have drawn Northern Premier League Division One West side Marske United in the third qualifying round of this season's FA Trophy.

The tie is scheduled to take place at Broadhurst Park on Saturday 31st October.

Further ticket and match arrangement details will follow soon, so please keep an eye on the official website and our social media pages for any updates.

FA YOUTH CUP

Our FA Youth Cup match against Litherland Remyca at Broadhurst Park on Thursday night was cancelled just two days before the fixture was scheduled to take place due to the current Covid situation on Merseyside.

The young Reds have subsequently been given a bye into the FA Youth Cup first round proper and will now face Oldham Athletic in early November at Boundary Park (date to be confirmed).

The match is likely to be played behind closed doors



– with the Latics first team operating at Football League level, and the ground not yet deemed suitable for games to take place.

ACADEMY RECRUITMENT

FC United are looking to recruit two coaches to join our club's academy on a part-time basis.

This is an exciting chance to develop your career in football coaching, being part of the academy department, and responsible for delivering the academy coaching programme to maximise the opportunities for players to reach their full potential in line with the academy vision and philosophy.

A typical week would consist of 7.5 hours but this is subject to change, and the salary is up to £12 per hour depending on experience.

Closing date for applications is Friday 30th October and no applications can be considered after this date.

Applicants must send their CV and cover letter to the academy manager Tom Conroy via email to tom.conroy@fc-utd.net and if you are interested then please visit our recent website story for further details.



FCUMW

Following last Sunday's impressive 5-2 victory against Norton & Stockton Ancients in the FA Cup, FC United's women's team will return to league action tomorrow afternoon.

The Reds will meet West Didsbury & Chorlton in the North West Women's Regional Premier Division at Brookburn Road (kick-off 2pm), with manager Kamran Hussain beaming after his team's history-repeating result against the Ancients.

He told FCUM Review: "Sunday was the perfect example of the preparation and hard work that everyone at the club does. But then to go out and execute that is a testament to the girls, they battled and attacked without fear and we got everything we deserved from the game."

Hussain's side have now been drawn at home to Chorley in the fourth qualifying round of the Women's FA Cup, and the tie will take place on the main pitch at Broadhurst Park on Sunday 1st November (kick-off 2pm).

Chorley play in the division above FC United, and the teams previously met in a

pre-season friendly last year, with the Magpies winning 2-1.

They were close contenders for relegation last season but are under new management and currently lie ninth in the 12-team FA Women's National League Division One North with one defeat and one win to their name.

Finally, looking forward to the match at Wests, where the Reds will be looking to maintain an unbeaten start, the FCUMW boss added: "It's back to the league tomorrow away to West Didsbury & Chorlton.

"I know the coaches personally and will expect a big challenge from them. However, it's one that I know we can overcome and with the group of players we have, it's a matter of turning up on the day and showing everyone what we can do."

FCUM MEMBERSHIPS

To become a co-owner of FC United, memberships are available priced at £15 for adults and just £3 for U16s.

Please visit the official website, call 0161 769 2005 or email office@fc-utd.co.uk to become an owner of this thing of ours...



FC UNITED MANIFESTO

Democratically agreed by the club members (owners) in 2005:

- The Board will be democratically elected by its members
- Decisions made by the membership will be decided on a one-member, one-vote basis
- The club will develop strong links with the local community and strive to be accessible to all, discriminating against none
- The club will endeavour to make admission prices as affordable as possible, to as wide a constituency as possible
- The club encourage young and local participation, playing and supporting, wherever possible
- The Board will strive to avoid outright commercialism
- The club will remain a non-profit organisation

OWNERS: THE FANS

- Board Members: Adrian Seddon, Sam Mullock & Dennis Shannon
 - Secretary: Viv Ware
 - Manager: Neil Reynolds
 - Assistant: Brian Richardson
 - Coaches: David Chadwick, Mike Faulkner & Paul Chapman
 - Physio: Olivia Smith
 - Kitman: James Deadman
 - Women's team manager: Kamran Hussain
 - Women's secretary: Rob Fullen
 - Academy Manager: Tom Conroy
 - Academy Secretary: Pete Moulds
 - Operations Manager: Paul Smith
 - Community Liaison Manager: Vinny Thompson
 - Matchday/Team Secretaries: Viv Ware & Paul Delamere
- FC United Limited, Registered Society number 29969R

FINAL REMINDER FOR UNPRINTED PROGRAMMES

Thank you to everyone who ordered copies of the as-yet unprinted pre-season programmes, along with the edition from our cancelled Whitby game at the end of last year.

We should be able to print about 50 of each edition but could extend this further, so if you would like to buy any of the unprinted programmes then this weekend will be the last opportunity to get your order in.



To reserve a copy of the limited Whitby, Barrow, City of Liverpool and Trafford FCUM Reviews, please either visit the programme stall at today's game or email 1878unitedmagazine@gmail.com

We'll then be aiming to print the magazines over the next week or two, so they should hopefully be available at one of the forthcoming home games in November.

Finally, we still have a number of the postponed Alfreton FA Cup programmes available, so if you're missing one of those issues for you collection, you can pick one up from the stall or send an email to the above address.



**FC UNITED.....1
LANCASTER.....1**

Following Saturday's first Northern Premier League victory of the season at home to Stafford, it was back to the drawing board on Tuesday night as our match at Broadhurst Park against Lancaster City finished all square.

Games against the Dolly Blues always seem to be feisty affairs and our midweek meeting under the lights proved to be no different.

FCUM enjoyed much of the early possession and could have twice gone ahead in the opening exchanges, before Lancaster countered from a home attack in the 16th minute but blazed their first effort over and had an effort saved by Dan Lavercombe not long after.

A niggly encounter brought a number of bookings and before the break Michael

Fowler was subbed after being one recipient of a yellow card, However, just five minutes after the turnaround, FC United went ahead as star man Dan Cockerline netted his second goal in as many games, slipping his effort past ex-Red Sam Ashton after receiving a Charlie Ennis through ball.

Lancaster, though, were back on level terms just five minutes later when Tom Kilifilin met a cross from out wide to make it one apiece.

Late on, Cockerline could have grabbed all three points, only to be denied by Ashton, and a late goalmouth scramble following a visiting corner was eventually, and thankfully, cleared before the ref blew for full-time.

It means that after five NPL matches, Reno's side have drawn four and won one, making it a rare unbeaten start to a season for FC United, and hopefully providing a solid foundation for the rest of the 2020-21 campaign.

Today, our attention will turn once more to the FA Cup, with the Reds aiming to reach the first round of the famous old competition for the first time in half a decade, with our last appearance in the fourth qualifying round bringing a late 3-1 defeat at Telford in 2017.



Stats Entertainment

with FCUM Radio's PAUL HINSON



Last Saturday Charlie Ennis saw his penalty saved by Stafford Rangers and FCUM old-boy Lewis King at Broadhurst Park.

It was his first miss in six attempts and, fortunately, his side still won the game 2-1. In all the Reds have been awarded 125 penalties and converted 88 (70%).

What happened when we fluffed the other 37?

In 19 games (51%) we went on to win. Four were drawn (11%) and the remaining 14 (38%) were lost.

A total of 26 were saved by the keeper, and on two occasions the rebound was netted (Carlos Roca against Burscough in 2011 and Dean Stott against Grantham Town in 2012).

Steve Torpey converted against Norton United at Gigg Lane in September 2005 but, due to encroachment, referee Fishwick ordered a retake and Torpey's second attempt

was saved by Gavin Deaville. Norton converted a spot-kick of their own in the 83rd minute and won 2-1.

Of the ones saved we went on to win 13 (50%), drew three (8%) and lost 10 (42%).

Six penalties hit the woodwork. Four struck the post, Rory Patterson v Cheadle in 2005 (drew 3-3), Patterson v Chorley in 2008 (won 2-1), Carlos Roca v North Ferriby United in 2009 (lost 1-0) and Jake Cottrell v Brighton & Hove Albion in 2010 (lost 4-0).

Curiously, both times the crossbar was rattled we won the game (Patterson v Congleton Town in 2006 – won 3-0 and Nicky Platt v Skelmersdale United in 2008 – won 4-1). In the latter game, Patterson netted the retake.

Five missed the target, Patterson, Phil Marsh, Roca, Stott and Stott (twice) being the culprits. The last one fired wide was Stott against Blyth

Spartans in November 2013. Of these five games, three were won.

In 47 FA Cup ties we have converted nine of 10 spot-kicks. The only failure was the Cottrell miss mentioned earlier.

Dean Stott scored twice from penalties against Kendal Town in 2012, beating Craig Dootson in the 61st and 87th minutes.

Steve Irwin stepped up in the 84th minute at Edgeley Park with Stockport County winning 3-2, netted and earned a replay which FC went on to win.

The only incidence of the Reds converting an FA Cup penalty and losing was in 2019, when Regan Linney scored against Warrington Town.

The almost perfect conversion rate contrasts with the FA Trophy record, where the tally is three from six in 40 ties. Carlos Roca, Michael Norton and Tunde Owolabi have all seen efforts saved.

OLD FRIENDS

LOKOMOTIVE LEIPZIG



For the latest in our new irregular series featuring fan-owned clubs that FCUM have met since our formation, we look at the first team we played in a Euro away, with Lokomotive Leipzig fan and volunteer MATTHIAS LOFFLER answering our questions...

First, can you give us a brief history of your club before our teams played each other and how it became fan-owned?

How much time do you have? Our club has one of the longest and most convoluted histories in German football, dating back to our foundation as VfB Leipzig in 1893. We were the first ever German champions in 1903 and, after subsequent championships in 1906 and 1913, we were the first "record champions" (a title now held by Bayern Munich).

Our Bruno-Plache-Stadion, which is still in use today, was opened in 1922 and we won the second ever German Cup in 1936.

After World War II, all sport clubs in the Soviet occupation zone were forcibly wound up, including VfB Leipzig. Later in the German Democratic Republic, the authorities

established a different system with clubs linked to sections of industry and, in 1966, the old VfB Leipzig, via numerous name changes – eventually became 1. FC Lokomotive Leipzig. The same year we won the not very famous International Football Cup.

More international success followed: 1966-67 we knocked Eusebio's Benfica out of the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup. In 1973-74 we reached the UEFA Cup semi-final, losing to Tottenham, and in 1987 we reached the Cup Winners' Cup final, losing to Ajax.

We won four East German domestic cups, although we never quite managed to win the league (the Stasi-backed BFC Dynamo won 10 in a row, but we're not bitter...)

After the wall came down, the club was renamed back to VfB Leipzig in the summer of 1991 – an attempt to leave the communist era behind and reconnect with past glories. We qualified for the Second Division and, in 1993, became the first ex-GDR club to win promotion to the Bundesliga. We beat Borussia Dortmund away but that was as good as it got and we went straight back down.

In 1998, we were relegated again and had to

play third-tier football for the first time in the club's history. By 2004, VfB Leipzig were in Division Four and were bankrupt.

In December 2003, however, supporters had reformed Lokomotive Leipzig, initially to save VfB's youth teams. In summer 2004, a senior team started in the lowest league, setting an attendance record of 12,421 for a game in the 11th tier. Under manager Rainer Lisiewicz (part of the 1973-74 UEFA Cup semi-final team), we won four straight promotions and, via a merger with a smaller club, were back in the fifth tier by 2008.

Since then, we've established ourselves as one of the top sides in the Regionalliga Nordost (Division Four), which we won last season on points-per-game after the league was suspended. Unfortunately, we subsequently lost the promotion play-off on away goals (2-2, 1-1), missing out on the 3. Liga and the chance to play in a national league for the first time since 1998.

In terms of ownership, most German clubs are fan or member-owned, in accordance with the 50+1 rule, including Lok Leipzig. After reunification, big sponsors with big money and big promises arrived from "the West" – but they delivered little. So, at Lok, the fans took matters into their own hands in the same way that those teenage football enthusiasts did when they founded VfB Leipzig back in 1893.

We consider ourselves to be the direct successors of the first German champions – albeit unofficially. However, a legal process is currently nearing its conclusion which would make that lineage official. Then we can even wear a star on our badge for those first three titles.

Can you tell us about how we came to play each other, and your involvement arranging the friendly match in 2006?

You could say, I am the one to blame for that. In 2005 I was DJing in a Leipzig pub and met FC fan John Marley. We talked football all night, I told him the Lok story and he told me the story of FC United. Both were formed/reformed around that time and the

idea for a friendly match took hold. We were normal fans and started writing emails etc.

In May 2006 it finally happened and it was one of the best football-related stories I've ever witnessed. 7,426 people came to watch a German club from league seven play an English team from league ten. Everybody had a good time, the match ended 4-4, what more can you ask for?

I've been a volunteer for the club in various capacities since that match and I also worked as a volunteer for FC United back in 2011 when I was living in Manchester for a year.

What are your memories of that night?

A lot of organising, running around, chatting with people, fantastic weather. We sat together with the FC players and officials until 4am or 5am. The next day – a Saturday – Lok played a regular league game, but we were already promoted. We also played a fans' game. Loads of very good memories.

How has the team performed since we met and what is your current level of support both home and away?

We currently have 2,759 members, technically making us the biggest football club in Leipzig. Last season (before the coronavirus) the average attendance was 3,225. For bigger games, we tend to attract even more: 4,498 came to the Bruno-Plache-Stadion to see the home game versus Energie Cottbus for example.

Away followings depend on distance and the attractiveness of the opposition. We took over 2,000 to the Saxony Cup semi-final against third-tier Chemnitz in 2019, drawing



3-3 and unfortunately lost on penalties. What a match and what an atmosphere.

What's your most memorable moment as a supporter?

I'd rank the 1993 game versus Mainz in my personal top three – the last game of the season in the old Zentralstadion. VfB Leipzig won 2-0 and earned promotion to the Bundesliga. A guy named Jürgen Klopp played for Mainz that day. He was sent off.

I also have to mention two games at our local rivals' ground: a 3-3 draw in December 1999 against the old FC Sachsen Leipzig – my first real Leipzig derby. Then, in November 2016, a 1-0 extra-time win in the Saxony Cup quarter final, the first competitive game against the "new" BSG Chemie Leipzig (their history is also complicated...)

The third occasion took place in May 2013. We were nearly bankrupt (again) and played the local energy drink branch who, despite the money, were still in their third Regionalliga season. Our manager was our former player Marco Rose (now in charge of Borussia Mönchengladbach). The game ended 0-0 but we had survived. It felt like a win.

And away from the match, what have been the club's greatest achievements over the last seven years, with regards to the supporters, work in the community, stadia, etc?

A new board took over in early 2013 and they've done brilliant work. They prevented the club from going bust in 2013 and, since then, we've made great progress on and off the pitch. Last summer, we unveiled our first ever artificial training pitch, we have a refurbished indoor pitch and at the moment the wooden main stand – in use since 1922! – is undergoing refurbishment.

We have successful youth teams at every level, and even a blind football team.

The club and fans are heavily engaged in the community and support local charities in various ways. During the corona break and

during the close season, we have dozens of fans turning up to volunteer their time to carry out painting, weeding and building work around the ground. There is a lot going on and that's fantastic.

When we played our game in Leipzig in 2006, there was still a prominent right-wing element to a section of the club's support. Has the situation improved in the last 14 years and what, if any, action has been taken with such groups? Or is it still a problem that plagues the club?

In my personal 'Lok world', my friends, colleagues and family, I have never attended a Lok game in the company of right-wing idiots. However, there is no denying that Lok did have a significant problem with Nazis, and that the club didn't always take serious action.

In recent years, and especially under the new board, that has changed dramatically. As early as 2006, five months after the FC United game, we took part in the "FARE" (Football Against Racism in Europe) for the first time, and I can still remember painting a banner to mark the occasion. But I also remember "conversations" where some idiots would accuse us of "bringing politics into football." Which is, of course, rubbish.

Yet things are much improved now. The club itself has issued dozens of banning orders to known members of right-wing groups, while anti-discrimination and anti-racism are enshrined in the club's constitution.

Like anywhere, fans are also learning and



realising that it's no longer ok to shout certain words and insults which used to be considered acceptable.

The club's hardcore ultra scene is also very different nowadays, a small but active group of young fans who are anything but right-wing extremists. But, of course, we know what damage has been done and we know that the reputation persists. There is always work to do!

Racism is unfortunately a problem in society as a whole and extremists try to use football for their own ends. But Lok Leipzig in 2020 is nothing like the Lok Leipzig of previous years. We're not perfect but we tackle the problem head-on, which can't always be said for other areas of society.

What have been the biggest challenges you've faced since then, and how have you coped and been affected by the current Covid crisis?

It's safe to say that life as a Lok fan is never boring. There is never enough money and the next problem is always waiting just around the corner. But that's the case for the majority of football fans, I suppose.

In the Covid crisis the club was affected like many others. But we're used to crises in Leipzig, so we launched a campaign called "Fill the place up, people!", selling virtual €1 tickets for a match against the 'Invisible Opponent'.

The campaign went viral and we received support from all over the world – including numerous generous donations from Britain – ultimately raising €182,612 and setting a (virtual) attendance world record! We filmed

the "match" as well. You can watch it with English commentary on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=SL2i5_rZPdY

What are the aims for the season ahead and where would you like your club to be in five years time?

After the blow of missing out on promotion, we lost half of our team so the goal for this season is to integrate all the new players and just have a decent campaign under our new manager.

And there is still the coronavirus situation. We've had one league game limited to 1,000 fans with social distancing, etc. Hopefully that will increase. It's an odd situation, to be honest.

I hope that, by 2025, we'll be able to renovate the whole ground so that we have a modern stadium – but not too modern! I'd like to play in a nationwide league again, so the Third Division would be nice.

And, of course, we're still waiting for that rematch against FC United... currently 4-4 after the first leg!

Finally, can you tell us what you know and think about FC United?

I'm not as close as I was years ago, but FC is still my team outside Leipzig, and many Lok fans still take an interest in developments in Manchester. If you look at all the achievements, especially Broadhurst Park, you can be very proud.

Despite all the problems, FC United is still a very good thing that happened to a perverted football world.

And we know all about that in Leipzig.

meet the owners

HELEN MURPHY



How did you get involved with FC and how did you first hear about the club?
I'm from Whalley Range originally and was brought up as a Red. I ended up living in Leicester and knew I could never afford to go to United regularly.

To be honest, I watched 'Looking for Eric' and loved what I heard and that FCUM were the underdog, wanting football to be about family.

There was a voucher for a free FCUM ticket in the DVD box when I bought it. I did use it. I watched the Rochdale game and was hooked.

Then I found out that my school and Stretford End friend, Rose Commons, was very involved in the club and that was the seal of approval for me.

Sum up in a sentence what FC United means to you.

Friendship.

What does the club do best?

Appreciate and value everyone for who they are.

What could the club do better?

Because I live miles away, I can only really judge the club on matchdays, and I haven't seen anything that would get my goat enough to moan!

Jeans or socks on first?

Jeans. Only weirdos do socks first!

What was your first memory of attending a football match?

FCUM. Bonkers people. A bloke in an FC beret sitting in the goalmouth drinking bubbly at full-time; a bloke walking around with a MASSIVE white balloon over his head; and the guy behind me trying to convince everyone that hippos are evil vegetarians!

Two of these three are good friends of mine now. I think the other was eaten by a hippo? Obviously, I went to MUFC before but nowhere near as memorable!

Where do you hope FC will be in five years?

Standing by their values, serving the community, developing talent, enjoying football and friendship – and having paid off our debts. And if we are higher up the league ladder, that would be nice.

What song gets you on the dance floor?

Reet Petite by Jackie Wilson.

Do you do any volunteer work for the club? If so, tell us about how you help out.

Living 100 miles away makes it difficult to know when I can volunteer. I have helped Vinny out by cleaning under the Main Stand and bottling up the bar under the SMRE once.

Because I can't always get to games, I make sure I am part of the Holiday Draw and buy Pound For the Ground tickets online so I am still helping the club out in some way.

Where do you stand/sit at Broadhurst?

I stand with the "Saturday Support Crew" on the SMRE in the corner near the sweet stall! It makes it easy to buy my PFTG tickets from Lesley and to get to the bar! I flit about and have a chat with Honest Trevor and other friends as the game goes by.

Funniest thing seen at the match?

Not that funny but I found it funny when FC were losing on a snowy day in Boston and most of my friends stayed in the clubhouse for the second half and missed a brilliant comeback.

Best FC moment?

My first game. Barwell away. I got what it was all about.

Favourite player?

It was Tunde Owolabi but now I'll go for Charlie Ennis.

Favourite past player?

Tom Greaves. #mumcrush



Favourite flag?

A Woman's Place Is At The Match. My mum managed Whalley Rangers men's team in 1968. She had seven kids at the time!

Best and worst terrace songs?

Favourite, as a teacher, when Reno got sent off I did like 'Reno's in detention, Reno's in detention'. Worst: Anything that doesn't spread love and fun!

Do you collect anything daft or what you consider to be normal?

No, but if anyone wants to buy my football programme collection going back to the early 60s – all proceeds to the club!

If Reno was coming round for tea, what would you cook for him?

I usually bring a box of vegetable samosas to share with the SMRE and FCUM Radio, so that would be the starter. Then the main would probably be a lamb rogan josh. If it's a school night, it'd be a takeaway!



To appear in Meet The Owners, please email us via the club office

Guisseley AFC



Today we welcome National League North side Guisseley to Broadhurst Park with both sides hoping to reach the first round of this season's FA Cup.

So far, their route to the FA Cup fourth qualifying round has seen Guisseley eliminate two Northern Premier sides on home turf, with Atherton Collieries being beaten 4-0 and Matlock Town 2-0 to set up this afternoon's tie.

Meanwhile in a league campaign that kicked off less than a month ago, the West Yorkshire side have played just two games so far, with their opening-day 4-0 victory at home against Blyth Spartans being followed up by a 1-0 defeat to a visiting Hereford side last Saturday.

In charge of Guisseley are joint-managers Marcus Bignot and Russ O'Neill, who have been at the Nethermoor helm since May 2018 following the club's National League relegation.

Bignot enjoyed a long playing career in the professional game, making over 600 appearances for the likes of Queens Park Rangers, Millwall, Rushden and Crewe Alex, who he joined in 1997 after playing non-league with Telford and Kidderminster.

The 46-year-old's managerial career started in 2011 at Solihull Moors and he steered the club to National League North title success in 2016 before accepting an offer from League Two side Grimsby Town, where he almost took the Mariners into the play-offs during his only season in charge.

After a short spell at a financially-troubled Barrow, Chester appointed Bignot in September

2017 and relegation from the National League followed before his departure from the Deva club the following April.

Russ O'Neill, meanwhile, enjoyed a successful 10-year stay at Alfreton Town working with Nicky Law as they reached non-league's top tier and challenged for the play offs under their stewardship.

Having left The Reds he moved to Burnley to join their player recruitment department before arriving at Nethermoor two years ago.

We first met Guisseley over a decade ago and over the course of seven previous matches, FC United have won just the once, suffering four defeats with two games ending all square.

The first time we played each other was at Nethermoor Park in the Northern Premier League during November 2008, and when Kyle Wilson made it 2-1 with just three minutes remaining, it looked like the Reds had snatched all three points. However, a goal from the hosts two minutes into injury time saw FCUM settle for a point.

Our only victory then arrived during the corresponding fixture in late January 2009 when Jerome Wright and Tommy Turner netted in the final minutes to snatch a 2-1 triumph at Gigg Lane.

Since then, Guisseley celebrated a 2-1 success in Bury at the start of the 2009-10 campaign and wrapped up a 2-0 home win towards the end of the season, and FC United were knocked out of the FA Trophy at Nethermoor in December 2012, with the hosts running out 2-0 winners.

We last met each other during our ultimate season in the National North as Guisseley cruised to a 3-0 success in August 2018 before a thrilling return match at Broadhurst Park ended three apiece in February last year.

Niall Heaton gave the visitors an early lead but Kurt Willoughby levelled just before the half-hour. Guisseley then regained their lead soon after through Richard Liburd and Will Hatfield increased their lead in the 66th minute.

However, the Reds hit back as Willoughby notched his second with 14 minutes remaining from the penalty spot, and Tom Peers made it 3-3 six minutes later to salvage a point.

FC UNITED PLAYER SPONSORS



MEN'S TEAM

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ACADEMY TEAM

Special thanks to FC United's CATALAN BRANCH, who have sponsored six Academy players – Israel Aghahowa, Alfie Clarke, Osman Agerso, Drayke Holland, Charles Adomako and Kelvin Agyei

WOMEN'S TEAM

CHELSEA PATIENT
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To sponsor an FC United player, it costs (excluding VAT) £250 for the men's team, £100 for the women's side and £50 for an academy player.

All men and women's team sponsors will have their names printed in each edition of FCUM Review, and will be presented with a signed shirt by their chosen player, along with a pitchside presentation photograph. Academy sponsors will receive a signed picture.

If you would like to become a player sponsor then please email the club at office@fc-utd.co.uk or phone 0161 769 2005.



FC United of Manchester would like to thank our academy sponsors Chantry, whose website can be found at www.chantry.com

TODAY'S SQUADS

FA CUP
FOURTH QUALIFYING ROUND

Saturday 24th October
2020



- DAN LAVERCOMBE ●
- JOSH BROOKS ●
- LENNY FIELDHOUSE ●
- TOM STEAD ●
- KAIN DEAN ●
- AARON MORRIS ●
- JOE WHITE ●
- TYLER OWEN ●
- CURTIS JONES ●
- ADAM DODD ●
- CHRIS DOYLE ●
- MICHAEL POTTS ●
- LUKE GRIFFITHS ●
- MORGAN PENFOLD ●
- MIKE DONOHUE ●
- MORGAN HOMSON-SMITH ●
- FINLAY SINCLAIR-SMITH ●
- REGAN LINNEY ●
- DANIEL COCKERLINE ●
- PAUL ENNIS ●
- MICHAEL FOWLER ●
- SANDRO DA COSTA ●

Today's referee:
David McNamara

Assistants:
Darren Brown
Jonathan Wyatt

BP BOOST
DEVELOPMENT FUND

NEXT HOME
MATCH:
versus
Marske United
Saturday
31st October
(3pm)

- BRAD WADE
- HAGIE DAMBA
- NATHAN NEWALL
- HAMZA BENCHERIF
- BRAD NICHOLSON
- DAN COWAN
- ISAAC CURRIE
- OLIVER BROWN
- CHUKWUDALU MOLOKWU
- ASHTON HALL
- KAINE FELIX
- GEORGE CANTRILL
- PRINCE EKPOLO
- ANDY KELLETT
- MARK HOWARTH
- LEBRUN MBEKA
- JAKE CHARLES
- PAUL CLAYTON
- GABRIEL JOHNSON
- JONATHAN WAFULA
- MATTY GILLAM
- JACK RYAN