



Nuneaton's Footballing Heritage

Nuneaton Borough
2018-2020

Contents

	Page No.
2018-2019	3
2019-2020	58
Acknowledgements	102



Nuneaton Borough 2018-2020

Groundshare Row Resurfaces



The row between Nuneaton's premier sports teams has again reared its ugly head and threatens to scupper the friendly game between Nuneaton Borough and Coventry City, which is scheduled to be played at Liberty Way this weekend.

The ongoing row threatens to escalate as the new owner of Liberty Way stadium, Norman Smurthwaite, is threatening to take legal action against the town's rugby club to resolve the matter once and for all, although he admits it could take up to a year to bring about a solution to the ongoing problem of access across the Nuns' land.

The Nuns, however, are unrepentant and say that they only wish to bring about a resolution to the problem and reach agreement on a groundshare deal.

A spokesman for the rugby club said that they wished to sit down with the football club, but until that time they were protecting their land rights.

Boro Sign Mayebi



Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of 31-year-old Cameroonian international goalkeeper Joslain Mayebi. The former Wrexham man started his career as a youth player with French side FC Metz before going on to play in Cyprus, Israel and the Faroe Islands prior to joining the Red Dragons.

Heaton Joins Guiseley

Boro's central defender Niall Heaton has joined Guiseley AFC. The former Liverpool youngster, who joined Boro from Alfreton Town, was out of contract.

Boro Secure League Status

Nuneaton Borough's position in the Vanarama Conference North has been confirmed at the League's Annual General Meeting at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport.

Top Scorer Moves On

Ashley Chambers, who was Nuneaton Town's leading goalscorer last season has joined fellow Conference North club Kidderminster Harriers on a two-year deal.

Langmead Joins Harrogate

Boro captain Kelvin Langmead has joined newly promoted Conference Premier club Harrogate Town. The central defender, who began his career with Preston North End, previously represented Shrewsbury Town and Peterborough United among others.

Boro Net Midfielder



Nuneaton Borough have made their first signing of the summer in midfielder Devon Kelly-Evans, who was released by Coventry City at the end of last season.

Boro 'Boss' Claims He Was Sacked

Gary Charles, who took over as manager of Nuneaton Town from Dino Maamria, has claimed that he found out that he is no longer the club's manager from Twitter.

Nuneaton Borough, however, have announced the appointment of former Kettering Town manager Nicky Eaden

and say that Gary Charles was only working for the club on an informal basis and did not have a contract.

Football League Approve Ground Ownership

The EFL has given their approval for Norman Smurthwaite to become the new owner of Liberty Way stadium. It is believed that the ground purchase has allowed the football club to pay off some of its pressing debts.

Former Derby Defender Signs



Nuneaton Borough boss Nicky Eaden has secured the services of former Derby County and Bournemouth centre-half Miles Addison. The central defender has made more than 100 Football League appearances including a spell at Blackpool.

Fowler Named As Assistant Manager

Nuneaton Borough have announced the appointment of former player Lee Fowler as Nicky Eaden's assistant. The much-travelled 35-year-old has represented a plethora of clubs since starting his career with Coventry City in 1999. He left Nuneaton Town in 2015 to join Crawley Town before moving on to Wrexham.

Welsh Striker Joins Boro

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of former Swansea City player Owain Jones. The 21-year-old, who has also had spells with Merthyr Town and Yeovil Town has represented Wales at U-16, U-17, U-19 and U-21 level and becomes the Boro's third signing of the summer.

Curtis Obeng Signs

Nuneaton Borough have announced the signing of former Manchester City youth player Curtis Obeng. The 29-year-old has come out of retirement to join Boro, having previously represented Wrexham, Swansea City, Stevenage and Fleetwood among others.



The defender made an appearance for the England U-19 side against Croatia and has also represented England C, coming on as a substitute in a game against the Republic of Ireland.

International Striker Joins Boro



Nuneaton Borough have signed former Leicester City player Harry Panayiotou, who played in the Conference Premier with Barrow last season.

The St. Kitts & Nevis international made one first team appearance for the Foxes and has made eighteen international appearances, scoring ten goals.

Boro Sign Augustien

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of Kemy Augustien, a 31-year-old Curacao international midfielder who has previously been associated with Swansea City, Birmingham City, Crystal Palace and Brighton.

Season Ticket Prices Announced

Nuneaton Borough have reduced gate prices for the coming season, cutting the entrance fee for an adult to £12 and reducing the cost for concessions to £10, although they will need to purchase a proof of ID card at £5.

Adult season tickets will be £199 with an early bird offer reducing the cost to £175. The price for U-16s will be £3 and U-11s will be free if accompanied by an adult.

Boro Reveal 2018-19 Kits

Nuneaton Borough have revealed the design of their new home and away kits for the coming season.



Wesolowski Joins Boro

Nuneaton Borough have signed 30-year-old midfielder James Wesolowski from fellow Conference North side Guiseley. The 30-year-old midfielder started his career with Leicester City before joining Cheltenham Town, Dundee United and Hamilton Academical on loan.

Former Bluebird Flies In

Nuneaton Borough have signed 23-year-old St. Kitts & Nevis international Theo Wharton, who began his career with Cardiff City where he made two first team appearances.

Port Vale Pair Join Boro On Loan

Nuneaton Borough have secured loan deals for Port Vale pair Dior Angus and Michael Calveley. Angus is the son of Boro legend Terry Angus and has experience at Conference North level with Tamworth, where he was on loan last season. He has also enjoyed loan spells with Leamington and Kidderminster Harriers.

Calveley is a 19-year-old midfielder, who came up through the Valiants' youth system and has also had non-league experience with Leek Town.

Midfielder Joins Kidderminster

Nuneaton Borough's former Coventry midfielder, Billy Daniels, has left Liberty Way to join Kidderminster Harriers.

Keeper Signs

Former Nuneaton Town goalkeeper Ross Etheridge has rejoined the club.

Beswick Leaves

Nuneaton Borough have announced that former captain Ryan Beswick has left the club to join Tamworth, having had his contract cancelled by mutual consent.

2018-2019

Nuneaton Borough v Coventry City

14-07-2018

Boro: R. Etheridge, M. Calveley, A. Trialist, K. Augustien, M. Addison, A. Carter, D. Angus, D. Kelly-Evans, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell, O. Jones. Subs: J. Mayebi + Trialists.

Coventry: C. Addai, J. Burroughs, L. Green, L. White, C. Camwell, J. Eccles, S. McCallum, K. Finn, A. Trialist, B. Steadman, A. Trialist. Subs: J. Ngandu, T. Bilson, L. Rowe, G. Hunt, D. Cafferty.

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro got their 2018-19 campaign under way with a low key affair against the League One side's U-23s. It was a quiet opening 20 minutes and despite the home side having a fair amount of first-half possession the game lacked urgency and quality. The home side did mount one threat when a Coventry defender had to be on his toes to clear a shot off the line, but the teams went in at half-time all square.



A Coventry defender denies Boro a goal.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

The influx of trialists after the break did little to improve the quality of the game which had little to commend it. The outcome of the game was decided by Lewis Green's late header following a free-kick, which gave the Sky Blues a narrow win.

Green Moves On

Nuneaton Borough midfielder George Green has left the club to join Chester FC for an undisclosed fee.

Nuneaton Borough v Port Vale

18-07-2018

Boro welcomed Port Vale to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro started strongly and Dior Angus forced a good save out of the Valiants' keeper Sam Hornby in the first minute. Vale came back strongly after their early scare and Harry Benns hit a well struck shot just wide of the post. However, Boro were looking dangerous and took the lead after 17 minutes when Angus slotted the ball past the onrushing Hornby to give the home side the lead.



Dior Angus gives Boro an early lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro cleared a dangerous cross from Idris Kanu as the visitors started to dominate and Kanu again threatened, but Mayebi kept out his shot and saved the follow up from Louis Dodds as Boro took their 1-0 lead into the break.

Both teams were evenly matched in the early stages of the second half and there were few chances of any note. However, Port Vale drew level after Ross Etheridge brought down one of the visitors' trialists and a penalty was awarded. The dangerous Kanu made no mistake from the spot, blasting the ball into the top corner.

Boro threatened briefly and Hornby was forced into a good save from a Panayiotou header from six yards out before Vale took the lead when Dodds' shot was too good for the home keeper. However, the home side kept plugging away and were rewarded for their efforts when Enoch Andoh drove home after Etheridge had pushed out a shot at the other end.

Nuneaton Borough v Chesterfield

18-07-2018

Boro: R. Etheridge, C. Obeng, A. Trialist, K. Augustien, M. Addison, A. Carter, M. Calveley, D. Kelly-Evans, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell, D. Angus.
Subs: O. Jones, T. Wharton + Trialists.

Chesterfield: J. Anyon, B. Howard, A. Trialist, J. Sinnott, L. Maguire, J. Sharman, I. Ofoegbu, J. Rowley, L. Shaw, A. Trialist, C. Wakefield.
Subs: G. Smith, S. Jalal, S. Wedgbury, A. Render, B. Bradbury, L. Rawson.

Boro welcomed Chesterfield to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro fell behind after only three minutes when 19-year-old

Derby County loanee Lewis Walker smashed the ball past Ross Etheridge from 12 yards out. Seconds later, The Spireites doubled their lead after Etheridge made a catastrophic mistake from a corner, dropping the ball at the feet of Lee Shaw, a close-season signing from Grantham, who scored from close range.

The opening few minutes could not have been worse for Boro and they fell further behind on nine minutes when youth team defender Jamie Sharman headed home a guided missile of a throw in from ex-Boston man Sam Muggleton.

After their disastrous start to the game, Boro hit back and Joe Anyon was forced into a brave save at the feet of Kairo Mitchell, who had latched on to Dior Angus' pass and surged to the edge of the six yard box. Keeping up the pressure, Boro threatened again as Harry Panayiotou drove a shot from the edge of the 18-yard box just wide of the far post.

Boro threatened again before the breakthrough a trialist who ran on to a pass into the area, but was forced wide and his shot clipped the far post and the follow-up was deflected out for a corner.

Boro had a penalty appeal turned down just after the break, but the referee showed no interest. Jos Mayebi was forced to tip over a shot from Joe Rowley before the visitors extended their lead after 74 minutes.

Ash Carter was out-muscled by the corner flag and the ball found its way to Joe Rowley, who slipped it inside to Nigerian striker Ify Ofuegbu, who leathered the ball past Mayebi.

The final goal featured a bizarre piece of goalkeeping from Mayebi, who rushed out of the 18-yard box to meet a long ball over the top, but was easily beaten by youth team player Luke Rawson, who slipped the ball into the net as Mayebi desperately tried to get back.

Coalville Town v Nuneaton Borough

24-07-2018

Boro made the journey to Owen Street to play Coalville Town in a pre-season friendly game.



The two teams played out a competitive game, but neither side was able to muster a goal. The condition of the pitch was an obstacle to good football, having suffered during the recent heatwave.

Nuneaton Borough v Kettering Town 28-07-2018

Boro: J. Mayebi, A. Trialist, A. Trialist, M. Calveley, A. Trialist, A. Carter, D. Angus, A. Trialist, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell, A. Trialist. **Subs:** O. Jones, T. Wharton + Trialists.

Kettering: P. White, D. Kelly-Evans, B. Toseland, D. Berry, L. Rowe-Turner, M. Richens, L. Meikle, G. Storer, C. Westcarr, B. Milnes, R. Hoeness. **Subs:** O. Pedley, K. Davidson Miller, C. Milne, O. Mulders, M. Rhiney, D. Towers.

Boro welcomed Kettering Town to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro struggled to get a foothold in the first half and almost fell behind after former Nuneaton Town loanee Michael Richens headed over the top from a Ben Milnes' corner. The home side found themselves 1-0 down on 35 minutes after Rhys Hoeness put the visitors in front, albeit with the aid of some unusual goalkeeping skills from Jos Mayebi.

After the break Boro looked a more cohesive outfit and put the visitors under some pressure, which was rewarded by a goal from Kairo Mitchell five minutes after the restart. Boro took the lead after 64 minutes when Harry Panayiotou scored from the penalty spot and made the game safe with a late goal from Owain Jones, whose deflected effort sent Poppies' goalkeeper Paul White the wrong way.



Boro defend in depth.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Hurst Signs

Boro have secured the services of former West Bromwich Albion and Portsmouth full-back James Hurst. The 26-year-old, who has had a string of clubs, has recently represented Wrexham in the Conference Premier. He has been capped for England at U-16, U-17, U-19 and U-20 level. In other news Kemy Augustien has left the club by mutual consent.

Barwell v Nuneaton Borough 31-07-2018

Barwell: E. Taylor, E. Percival, E. Nisevic, Desrosiers, B. Gascoigne, N. Julien, D. Brownhill, Q. Albertus, L. Barlone, B. Hickey, J. Warmington. **Subs:** J. Heath, M. Macdonald, J. Onyeaka, L. Cross, M. Kazinuerczak, H. Almehdi, C. Keeling-Treasure, D. Pritchard.

Boro: R. Etheridge, R. Platt, T. Morrison, J. Hurst, O. Edobor, J. Piggott, M. Tweed, T. Warton, C. Saunders, E. Andoh, O. Jones. **Subs:** C. Abraham, C. Jones, L. Worsey, J. Hines, L. Corocan.

Boro made the journey to Kirby Road to play Barwell in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro started slowly and Ross Etheridge had to be on his toes

to keep out Jake Warmington after he had broken clear of the Boro defence. Boro, however, quickly hit back and took the lead through a goal scored by one of the trialists.

Warmington then hit the bar for the home side before Nigel Julien passed up a reasonable chance when he fired over the bar. Boro then spurned a peach of a chance after the Barwell keeper had given the ball away, but former Boro youth team keeper Elliott Taylor was allowed time to recover and the visitors went in with a solitary goal lead at half-time.



Enoch Andoh takes on a Barwell defender.

Photo: Adam Etheridge

Barwell started the second half strongly, but failed to take their chances when well placed. Boro had a goal disallowed for offside before Luke Barlone was stretchered off. The home side then drew level in spectacular fashion as Danny Pritchard hit a stunning bicycle kick into the top corner.

Barwell continued to waste opportunities and both Massiah McDonald and Brady Hickey passed up good chances from close in, albeit from narrow angles. Boro missed a good chance before Barwell took the lead through McDonald, who took the ball around the keeper before slotting it into the empty net, giving the home side a 2-1 win.

Ex-Seagulls' Midfielder Signs

Boro have secured the services of former Coventry City academy midfielder Courtney Richards. The Jamaican joined the Sky Blues from Romulus, before joining Brighton and Hove Albion. He then moved on to Torquay United, where he spent three seasons. The 24-year-old spent part of last season with Macclesfield Town before joining Solihull Moors on loan.

Brazillian Keeper Joins Boro

Nuneaton Borough have acquired the services of former Bristol City goalkeeper Adriano Basso, who is joining the club as a goalkeeper coach. The experienced keeper has had non-league experience with Woking, Truro and FC United among others. The 43-year-old will also be registered as a player.

Also moving to Liberty Way is former Cambridge United youngster Danny Burns. The central defender has spent time with Gateshead, Frickley Athletic and Blyth Spartans since being released by The U's.

Andoh Joins Boro



Boro have signed Ghanaian winger Enoch Ebo Andoh following his release from Port Vale. The 25-year-old joined The Valiants from AEL Limassol in 2014, but his career with the club was cut short by injury. Meanwhile goalkeeper Jos Mayebi has left the club. His replacement in the goalkeeping stakes will be former Everton custodian Louis Gray.

Tweed Promoted To First Team Squad

Promising Youngster Michael Tweed has been promoted to the first team squad after showing up well in friendly matches. Also joining Boro is 22-year-old Welsh goalkeeper Louis Gray. He was a member of Everton's U-21 and U-23 squads before joining Colwyn Bay on loan. He was also sent out on loan to Carlisle United before being released by The Toffees.

Another addition to the squad is Massiah McDonald, who started his career as a youth player with Notts County before joining Alfreton Town. He has gained non-league experience with Worksop, Matlock and Bradford Park Avenue amongst others.

Ashton United v Nuneaton Borough 04-08-2018

Ashton: J. Ollerenshaw, M. Bakare, M. Regan, A. Chalmers, M. Hill, M. Lees, S. Sheridan, S. Sephton, M. Chadwick, B. Dixon, L. Tomsett.
Subs: J. Roberts, N. Evangelinos, J. McAtee, D. McHale, C. Anghel.

Boro: L. Gray, D. Burns, J. Hurst, J. Wesolowski, M. Addison, A. Carter, M. Calveley, C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, O. Jones, D. Angus. **Subs:** E. Andoh, R. Etheridge, T. Wharton, M. Tweed, K. Mitchell.

Boro made the journey to Hurst Cross to play Ashton United in a National League North game.

Boro started the match strongly and James Hurst hit a

powerful shot, but it took a deflection for a corner. The newly promoted home side then suffered a set-back after former Stalybridge defender Mathias Bakare had to be subbed off after just ten minutes.

Miles Addison shot wide of the target shortly after, as Boro dominated the early exchanges. Josh Ollerenshaw made a regulation save from an Owain Jones' effort before Courtney Richards' shot narrowly wide for the visitors.

The game was evenly-balanced with 20 minutes gone but Boro continued to ask questions as Ashton defended in numbers. Harry Panayiotou had a shot blocked while ex-Salford man Matthew Chadwick shot wide.

Louis Gray saved Boro's blushes as two Boro defenders found themselves grounded and there was almost some self-inflicted damage by the home side as Dior Angus put a defender under pressure who over-hit his pass back, causing a moment of concern for The Robins. Panayiotou had a shot saved by Ollerenshaw just before the break, but the two sides went in for their half-time cuppa on equal terms.



Owain Jones takes on an Ashton defender.

Photo: Sam Bettany

Owain Jones hit a shot narrowly wide from 18 yards straight after the break before the rangy former AFC Fylde midfielder Bohan Dixon had a shot blocked. Hurst put an Owain Jones free-kick over the top while Chadwick shot wide for Ashton.

Miles Addison headed over for Boro while Chadwick had Boro hearts in their mouths as he hit the ball across goal and narrowly wide.

The game became very ragged as the clock ticked past the 80 minute mark with both sets of players feeling the effects of the blistering sun.

The game had a final twist though, as Boro keeper Louis Gray rushed out of his area to challenge former Manchester City youngster Dominic McHale as he broke free on goal. Gray was forced to handle the ball to prevent a goal and received a straight red for his trouble. Mike Calveley took over between the sticks, but other than watching the free kick conceded by Gray sail over the bar, he was largely untroubled and the game fizzled out to its inevitable conclusion.

Peterborough Youngster Joins Boro

Lewis Freestone, an 18-year-old left back has joined Nuneaton Borough on a loan deal. The Posh defender has played eight first team games and has also gained experience at non-league level with Cambridge City, St Albans City and Guiseley.

Nuneaton Borough v Hereford United 07-08-2018

Boro: L. Gray, J. Hurst, L. Freestone, D. Burns, M. Addison, A. Carter, M. Calveley, C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell, D. Angus (O. Jones 41).
Subs: E. Andoh, R. Etheridge, T. Wharton, M. Tweed.

Hereford: M. Horsell, K. Thomas, R. Green, J. Liburd, D. Greenslade, E. Richards (J. Bird), M. McGrath (C. Dinsley), B. Murphy, J. Myrie-Williams, L. Smith (L. Hall), H. White. **Subs:** C. Sainty, H. Smith.

Boro welcomed Hereford United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro made a cagy start against a team fancied to do well after taking the Southern League Premier Division title last term with an impressive 113 points.

However, despite not having the amount of possession enjoyed by The Bulls, Boro defended well and Diro Angus did well after picking up James Hurst's clearance and forced an early corner for the home side. However, Courtney Richards' corner was easily dealt with by former Weymouth keeper Martin Horsell.



Dior Angus goes past a Hereford defender.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Dior Angus was spoken to for an over-vigorous challenge before Kairo Mitchell sent Mike Calveley away, but the on-loan midfielder's shot was saved by Horsell. Boro began to make inroads into the visitors' defence and won consecutive corners, the second of them resulting in a melee from which Miles Addison shot wide.

Richards then got Mitchell away but his shot was dealt with by the Hereford defence. The Grenadian international put a shot onto the roof of the net just before Lance Smith threatened, but he dragged his shot wide from inside the box. The half-time whistle saw Boro go in for the second consecutive match with the score deadlocked at 0-0, albeit with The Bulls slightly ahead on points.

The game was evenly balanced in the opening minutes of the second period, but neither side looked capable of breaking the deadlock, although Addison's header hit the stanchion from Courtney Richards' corner.

Boro were now enjoying more of the possession and a shot from Lewis Freestone was deflected wide while Addison again put a header wide from the resultant corner.

As the game wore on, it looked more and more like another stalemate, with neither side having enough ammunition to force a result. The versatile Hereford midfielder Lewis Hall came closest to a goal, but Louis Gray was on his mettle to deny the former Gloucester City man.

Boro Sign Defender

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of Jonathan Onyeaka. The powerfully built central defender impressed in the friendly game against Barwell when he featured prominently for the Leicestershire club. The American played for Jersey Express in the Premier Development League, which is in the fourth tier of the American soccer set-up.

Nuneaton Borough v Chorley 11-08-2018

Boro: R. Etheridge, J. Hurst, L. Freestone (C. Obeng 56), D. Burns, M. Addison, A. Carter, M. Calveley (E. Andoh 80), C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell, T. Wharton. **Subs:** A. Basso, M. Tweed, O. Jones.

Chorley: M. Urwin, M. Challoner, A. Blakeman, A. Teague, S. Leather, S. Jordan, A. Newby, J. O'Keefe, M. Karver, L. Almond, E. Newby. **Subs:** J. Wilson, L. Short, D. Whitham, C. Meppen-Walter, W. Fletcher.

Boro welcomed Chorley to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro got off to a brisk start and Harry Panayiotou was brought down in full flow by former Altrincham defender Scott Leather, who received a booking. Courtney Richards' shot from the resultant free-kick failed to trouble Matt Urwin in the Magpies' goal.

Despite Boro's early promise, Chorley had a rugged defensive unit that looked well capable of containing the home side's attacking threat, although Kairo Mitchell got in a dangerous cross, but the Chorley defence dealt with the danger.

For a period of time both sides seemed happy to probe each other and there was little in the way of goalmouth action. Then, with 32 minutes gone the visitors thought they should have had a penalty after Elliot Newby tumbled to the ground, but the referee was unimpressed and no penalty was awarded.

Harry Panayiotou had a sight of goal after being picked out by Lewis Freestone, but the St Kitts & Nevis international made a mess of the chance, failing to make a good contact and putting the ball behind. Boro were made to pay for that miss as Marcus Carver dived to head past Ross Etheridge, who might have done better. The half-time whistle saw Boro go in 1-0 down with the opposition looking likely to be a tough nut to crack.



Ash Carter comes away with the ball.

Photo: Simon Kimber

After the break the visitors simply closed the game down and Boro chances were almost non-existent, not that the visitors were very adventurous, although Josh O'Keefe tried his luck from long range, but without success.

Chorley, after spending most of the half in their shell, applied some pressure on the home defence and Etheridge was called on to save from much-travelled striker Louis Almond, whose shot was pushed away by the Boro keeper.

As the game fizzled out there were a spate of yellow cards shown. Andy Teague was punished for a handbagging incident as the ball ran out of play, Michael Calveley received a card for tugging back Elliot Newby and Enoch Andoh was cautioned for a blatant dive in the Chorley box.

All in all Chorley had been far too good defensively for a Boro team lacking in attacking ideas.

Cambridge City and Royston Town put an effort wide of the post before Boston took the lead.

With time running out in the first-half Wafula set off on a run at the Boro defence and when the ball broke to Arnold, the experienced striker drove the ball from just outside the area into the Boro net.



Kairo Mitchell challenges a Boston defender.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Courtney Richards wasted a free-kick at the start of the second half before Boston took control of midfield for a time and continued to keep Boro in check while looking the more likely of the two sides to score. Eventually, after 73 minutes, The Pilgrims extended their lead and Wafula was again involved as substitute Nicky Walker played a sublime ball through to the attacking midfielder who crashed the ball past Gray from a narrow angle.

Boro found a way back into the game after Boston were reduced to ten men following the sending off of Ashley Jackson, who went in late on Michael Tweed and received a straight red. With eight minutes of normal time remaining Curtis Obeng cut the ball back across the area and Enoch Andoh scored from close range.

Boro now had their tails up and Andoh almost grabbed an equaliser, clipping a shot just wide of the angle. Boston had a chance to put the game to bed as Gray was caught off his line and a shot from some distance crashed against the crossbar. Despite almost seven minutes being added on at the end Boston managed to keep Boro at bay and took the points.

Boston United v Nuneaton Borough 14-08-2018

Boston: G. Willis, B. Middleton, R. Qualter, S. Harris, A. Jackson, N. Arnold (T. Lees), B. Abbott, A. Thanoj, J. Wafula, A. Marriott (C. Westcarr), A. Johnson (N. Walker). Subs: J. Margetts, G. Roberts.

Boro: L. Gray, C. Obeng, L. Freestone, J. Hurst, D. Burns, A. Carter, M. Calveley, C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, O. Jones, K. Mitchell. Subs: T. Wharton, R. Etheridge, J. Wesolowski, M. Tweed, E. Andoh.

Boro made the journey to the Jakeman's Stadium to play Boston United in a National League North game.

Boro had the first sight of goal as Harry Panayiotou got in a shot from the edge of the box, but Boston's former Gainsborough Trinity keeper George Willis made a comfortable save. When Boston hit back Nathan Arnold was thwarted by Louis Gray.

Gray again came to Boro's rescue with a save from the tough-tackling midfielder Spencer Harris, who got in a shot from Ryan Qualter's knock down. Kenyan striker Jonathan Wafula called Gray into action again as the home side forced Boro back onto the defensive. Adam Marriott, a prolific striker with

Nuneaton Borough v Southport 18-08-2018

Boro: L. Gray, J. Hurst, D. Burns, A. Carter, C. Obeng, C. Richards (D. Angus), J. Wesolowski (M. Calveley), L. Freestone, E. Andoh, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell (M. Tweed). Subs: R. Etheridge, T. Wharton.

Southport: D. Hanford, J. Richards, J. Langley, R. Astles, D. Winnard, N. Lowe (M. Phenix), D. Morgan, A. Parry (E. Osborne), D. Green (D. Lynch), J. Sampson, D. Charles. Subs: J. Gilchrist, S. Mueller.

Boro welcomed Southport to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Southport, without a single point to their name, hammered Boro with a clinical display of finishing which saw them secure what was in effect a match winning 3-0 lead before half-time. The Sandgrounders scored with their first attack

on the Boro goal, with just three minutes on the clock, when Jack Sampson converted a cross from Dion Charles, who had been played clear by Devarn Green. The former Morecambe and Macclesfield Town striker, who had a hand in all four Southport goals, poked the ball past an unsuspected Louis Gray.



Jack Sampson notches the opening goal.

Photo: SouthportFCPix

The visitors maintained their stranglehold on the game for the first 20 minutes, but Boro hit back and James Wesolowski hit a shot wide from Courtney Richards' corner. There was another chance for the home side when Enoch Andoh hit a shot just wide from the edge of the area, but Boro's mini resurgence was quickly put down when Charles, a Northern Ireland U-21 international, relieved James Hurst of possession and took the ball round Gray before slipping it into the net.

Boro, in desperate need of the half-time whistle, shipped another goal minutes later after Sampson scored his second goal of the match. The impressive Charles, proving a handful for the Boro defence, got in a cross that picked out Sampson who put the ball away in style to give the visitors what looked likely to be an unassailable lead.

The visitors maintained their grip on the game after the break, although Dan Hanford was called into action by Enoch Andoh who put a shot wide of the post before Southport broke again and busy midfielder Devarn Green's shot was touched around the post by Gray.

Dion Charles again threatened the Boro goal, but once again Gray touched the ball wide. On the hour Charles found himself in acres of space and took the ball down the right and into the 18-yard box where his shot was blocked by James Hurst. Tweed had a look-in for Boro on 66 minutes, but his weak shot was easily dealt with by Hanford.

Southport received a set-back three minutes later when David Morgan committed an unnecessary foul on Michael Tweed, bringing back memories of his time in a Boro shirt in 2015, and collected a second yellow card and was sent off. Boro notched a consolation goal in the 82nd minute when Enoch Andoh laid the ball on a plate for Dior Angus to power home an unstoppable shot.

As Boro pushed forward, trying to get another goal, The Sandgrounders struck again through Charles, who notched his second goal of the match by lifting the ball over Louis Gray and into the net.

Hurst Departs

Defender James Hurst has left Nuneaton Borough by mutual consent and has joined Welling United of the Vanarama Conference South.

Boro Complete Double Signing

Nuneaton Borough have moved to strengthen their squad with the signing of Nuneaton-born goalkeeper Cameron Belford and Callum Coyle, who joins on a month's loan from Solihull Moors.

Belford is well known to Boro fans, as he represented local rivals Tamworth when they were in the same league as Nuneaton before joining Wrexham. Callum Coyle is a 18-year-old full-back who made first team appearances for the Damson Park outfit last season, but has not featured in the Conference Premier in the current season.

Guiseley v Nuneaton Borough

25-08-2018

Guiseley: J. Green, C. Moyo, N. Heaton, A. Halls, S. Garner, T. Kennedy, K. Felix, K. James, R. Liburd, R. Thompson, J. Dyche. **Subs:** W. Thornton, A. Purver, K. Odejayi, P. Clayton, T. Hussain.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, L. Freestone, M. Calveley, D. Burns, A. Carter, M. Tweed, C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, D. Angus, E. Andoh. **Subs:** D. Kelly-Evans, A. Basso, C. Coyle, J. Onyeaka, K. Mitchell.

Boro made the journey to Nethermoor to play Guiseley in a National League North game.

Guiseley got in the first shot of the game as the rangy former Chelsea youngster Rowan Liburd called Cameron Belford into action. The game was slow to get going and a period of midfield stalemate followed before the home side mustered another shot, but this time the Coventry-born defender Scott Garner was wide of the target.

Cameron saved another Liburd effort before Andy Halls received a talking to from the referee for a robust challenge on Enoch Andoh. Belford then made a good save with his feet before Boro broke upfield and Angus was brought down on the edge of the box. The free-kick was taken by Andoh, but Lions' keeper Joe Green made a save, bringing the ball under control at the second attempt.

Three minutes later Boro took the lead through the busy Andoh, who was played in by Dior Angus and slid the ball past Green and into the net. Five minutes later Boro almost doubled their lead as a Guiseley defender lobbed the ball over his own keeper, forcing the 6ft 5in custodian to perform a bicycle kick to keep the ball out. Another chance fell Boro's way before the break when Harry Panayiotou headed the ball back across the area for Danny Burns, but the defender couldn't get his shot on target and the ball flew wide.

A double half-time substitution saw Guiseley grab the initiative at the start of the second half and the home side dominated the opening 15 minutes of the half. The pressure was beginning to tell and the home side were looking more and more dangerous as the clock ticked past the hour mark. Six minutes later the Lions got the goal they probably deserved as half-time substitute Alex Purver smashed the ball into the Boro net after the visitors had failed to clear from a corner kick and Kingsley James fed the ball into the midfielder who made no mistake.

Guiseley were now well on top and former York City winger Kaine Felix was leading Boro a merry dance down the right wing. With the game deep into injury time former Boro defender Niall Heaton launched a long throw into the path of Kaine Felix who slotted the ball into the net.

To cap off a miserable second half Ash Carter was shown a red card, allegedly for an incident involving one of his own players.

Nuneaton Borough v Brackley Town 27-08-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (M. Tweed), L. Freestone, D. Burns (C. Coyle), M. Addison, A. Carter, M. Calveley, C. Richards, H. Panayiotou, D. Angus, E. Andoh (K. Mitchell). **Subs:** A. Basso, J. Onyeaka.

Brackley: D. Lewis, E. Myles, C. Franklin, S. Byrne, C. Hall, G. Dean, L. Fairlamb, J. Armson (D. Nti), L. Ndlovu (G. Smith), M. Lowe (S. Murombedzi), A. Walker. **Subs:** L. Graham, G. Walker.

Boro welcomed Brackley Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The visitors were first to threaten and Lee Ndlovu outpaced Danny Burns and forced his way into the penalty area before forcing debutant keeper Cameron Belford into a fine save. The visitors were well on top in the early stages and forced Boro to defend in depth after conceding a number of corners. Ndlovu, a powerfully built centre-forward, threatened again with 15 minutes gone, but his shot was off target.

Courtney Richards hit back for the home side and lashed a powerful drive narrowly wide. However, Boro's fight-back was short-lived and with 19 minutes gone the dangerous Luke Fairlamb got behind the Boro defence and pulled the ball back to Boro old boy James Armson who had the simple task of slotting the ball into the net.



Ex-Boro captain Gareth Dean holds off Dior Angus. Photo: Simon Kimber

The Saints were in no mood to sit back on their lead and continued to keep up the pressure on Boro with Matt Lowe forcing Belford into action. Connor Hall and Armson both put headers over the bar while just before the half-time whistle Freestone's cross brought Boro a fruitless corner.

Boro started the second half quite brightly and the first action saw Connor Hall receive a booking for a foul on Harry Panayiotou before Brackley doubled their lead. Former Boro favourite Connor Franklin's cross was right on the mark and Lee Ndlovu increased Brackley's lead.

The visitors continued to cause problems for Boro and had a number of chances to further extend their lead, but even when Ndlovu rounded the keeper, he was unable to score, putting the ball wide of the post. Two minutes after the Brackley striker's miss Boro pulled a goal back against the run of play when Kairo Mitchell glanced a header just inside the post to give the home side renewed hope.

Brackley, however, were unphased by this setback and Fairlamb capped an impressive performance by creating havoc in the Boro area, bamboozling a number of defenders before shooting across the goal and into the far corner of the net with ten minutes to go.

Boro battled on after conceding a third goal, but the only other 'highlight' was a double sending off after Harry Panayiotou and Shep Murombedzi entertained the crowd with a playground scuffle for which they received a red card.

Boro Add Experience



Nuneaton Borough have signed ex-Coventry City midfielder Carl Baker. The 35-year-old started his career as a youth team player at Liverpool before moving on to Prescot Cables and then Southport where he made over 130 appearances.

He then moved into the Football League with Stockport County before joining the Sky Blues, where he made over 150 appearances. His other clubs include Milton Keynes Dons and Portsmouth.

Curzon Ashton v Nuneaton Borough 01-09-2018

Curzon Ashton: C. Mason, C. Rowney, D. Morton, J. Hunt, C. McJannet, D. Shaw, J. Guest, P. Marshall, R. Brooke, A. Samizadeh, C. Hughes. Subs: N. Cummins, O. Crankshaw, M. Fawns, M. Ali, J. Baillie.

Boro: C. Belford, M. Calveley, D. Burns, M. Addison, J. Onyeaka, L. Freestone, C. Richards, C. Baker, D. Angus, H. Panayiotou, K. Mitchell. Subs: C. Obeng, A. Basso, E. Andoh, M. Tweed, T. Wharton.

Boro made the journey to the Tameside Stadium to play Curzon Ashton in a National League North game.

With seven league matches already played, Boro at last picked up a win, despite having to hang on for dear life in the second half. Boro were first to show early on as new signing Carl Baker had a shot blocked before former Bolton Wanderers' youngster Alex Samizadeh had a shot easily saved by Cameron Belford.

With only eight minutes on the clock Boro took the lead after Mike Calveley's ball down the line picked out Dior Angus who lashed a shot into the roof of the net. Boro, enjoying plenty of possession early on, almost extended their lead when Baker's free kick found its way through the home side's defensive wall, but was wide of the target. Curzon hit back through former Oldham striker Ryan Brooke, who headed wide of the goal when he should have done better.

Iranian striker Samizadeh had a shot blocked while Belford pulled off a good save as the home side stepped up their game. The Boro keeper had to be on his toes again a couple of minutes later as a shot was deflected by debutant Jon Onyeaka. Belford was already committed but managed to save with his feet.

Dior Angus had a shot blocked and was then played clear after a terrific pass from Baker, but his cross failed to find Kairo Mitchell. Despite Boro looking dangerous on the break the home side enjoyed plenty of possession without looking particularly threatening. Courtney Richards had a shot blocked before Carl Baker's free kick from the edge of the box flashed narrowly wide.

The experienced Paul Marshall passed up a good opportunity while Samizadeh again brought Belford into action as the home side dominated the closing minutes of the half.

The second half action started with a wayward shot from Richards while the visitors' defence continued to work hard at keeping the Nash at bay. However, Boro still looked dangerous on the break and Baker continued to provide some ammunition for Angus, who appeared to be Boro's best hope of adding to their narrow lead.

Curzon had plenty of possession but lacked a cutting edge and the Boro defence held firm with the game going into the final quarter. The home side had a penalty appeal waved away by the referee while Boro frustrated Curzon and their supporters by winding the clock down. Cummins headed a good chance wide of the target as the home side continued to press, but Boro hung on for their first win of the season.

Jones Out On Loan

Striker Owain Jones has gone out on a short term loan deal to Merthyr Town. He will spend a month at Penydarren Park. Also going out on loan is Ross Etheridge, who joins Stratford Town for an initial period of one month.

Freestone Loan Extended

Boro have extended the loan period of full-back Lewis Freestone with Peterborough United and he will now stay with the club until January 2019.

Striker Joins Boro



Nuneaton Borough have acquired the services of Shane Benjamin from Heather St John's. The powerfully built striker has previous experience with Stafford Rangers, Racing Club Warwick, Shepshed Dynamo and AFC Hinckley. He also featured at Coleshill Town where he was the Midland League Golden Boot winner with 47 goals.

Goalscorer Joins Boro

Northern Ireland U-21 international Adam McGurk has joined Nuneaton Borough. The former Tranmere Rovers and Burton Albion striker has also seen service with Portsmouth, Cambridge United and Morecambe. The first team squad has been further bolstered by the promotion of youth team defender Obaro Edobor.

Spennymoor Town v Nuneaton Borough 15-09-2018

Spennymoor: M. Gould, J. Hibbs, S. Brogan, K. Thackray, J. Curtis, J. Chandler, S. Tuton (R. Hall), S. Henry, A. Johnson (M. Anderson), G. Taylor (A. Boyes), R. Ramshaw. Subs: R. Atkinson, C. Elliott.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, L. Freestone, J. Onyeaka (D. Kelly-Evans), M. Addison, D. Burns, C. Baker, C. Richards, J. Wesolowski (S. Benjamin), A. McGurk (K. Mitchell), D. Angus. Subs: A. Basso, E. Andoh.

Boro made the journey to the Brewery Fields to play Spennymoor Town in a National League North game.

Boro's day got off to the worst possible start as Jon Onyeaka

brought down Glen Taylor. The striker picked himself up and sent Belford the wrong way from the spot kick, notching his sixth goal of the campaign. This early set-back for Boro, struggling for form and up against one of the play-off candidates, could have been fatal, but a minute later they had a penalty of their own after midfielder Andrew Johnson brought down Curtis Obeng in the area. Like Taylor, Dior Angus sent the keeper the wrong way from the penalty spot.



Dior Angus scores from the spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro came under the cosh for a period of time with former Gateshead midfielder Robert Ramshaw causing problems for the visitors but they quickly bounced back and were providing stiff opposition for their high-flying hosts.

Ramshaw shot wide before Courtney Richards earned himself a yellow card with a late challenge on the same player. Boro went close as Angus set up McGurk, but he failed to get enough on his shot and the vastly experienced James Curtis hammered the ball clear. Carl Baker's effort was comfortably saved by Matthew Gould before ex-Barnsley man Shaun Tuton cleverly tricked his way past two defenders to set up Shane Henry, who was unable to convert.

With half-time in sight, the home side had taken control of the game and Boro were being pushed back and Belford was called into action to save Ramshaw's deflected effort before the home side took the lead right on half-time. A mix-up between Miles Addison and Danny Burns allowed Ramshaw to run clear of the Boro defence and go one-on-one with Belford. The England C international kept a cool head and slipped the ball past Belford to give Moors a 2-1 lead going into the break.

There were chances for both sides straight after the break with Shane Henry putting the ball over the top from close range before Gould made a great save after Dior Angus raced through on goal. Glen Taylor's header was cleared for a fruitless corner before Spennymoor extended their lead. The impressive Ramshaw was involved again, providing Andrew Johnson with the opportunity to slip the ball past Belford.

Boro, despite being 3-1 down were not giving up hope and Angus had a chance in front of goal, but was unable to keep

his header down and it flashed over the bar. The Moors kept Boro at bay and almost extended their lead after Curtis drove a ball over the area for Johnson, who was unable to get enough on the ball. Spennymoor were able to close the game down in the final few minutes and despite a brave show from the visitors, ran out worthy winners.

Young Defender Signs

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of Shrewsbury Town's U-18 defender Rhys Davies on a season long loan deal.

Nuneaton Borough v FC United

29-09-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Davies, T. Wharton, M. Calveley, A. Carter, C. Richards, D. Kelly-Evans, A. McGurk, D. Angus, E. Andoh.
Subs: K. Mitchell, A. Basso, S. Benjamin, J. Blackham, L. Fowler.

FC United: D. Carnell, C. Lynch, L. Thompson, M. Jones, B. Priestley, S. O'Halloran, J. Crawford, H. Winter, K. Willoughby, M. Donohue, T. Brierley.
Subs: J. Senior, C. Lonsdale, J. Logan, B. Litchfield, J. Bannister.

Boro welcomed FC United of Manchester to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro started the game on the front foot and created a couple of weak efforts without really threatening to score and the first event of note saw debutant Rhys Davies earn himself an early booking for bringing down Jamal Crawford from behind after the FC United youngster had skinned him down the right.

Dior Angus outstripped the visitors' defence and managed to get a shot away, but it lacked power and failed to trouble the former Hyde keeper David Carnell.

The game lacked any real quality as both sides conceded possession at regular intervals. Angus was fortunate to escape a booking for his challenge on defender Billy Priestley before Harry Winter had a shot charged down following a FC United corner. The same player shot wide as the visitors fought their way into the game.



Dior Angus puts a shot over the bar.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Curtis Obeng found his way into the book for a vigorous challenge on Crawford. The former Wrexham defender gave away another free-kick a couple of minutes later and Kurt Willoughby's shot from 30 yards out was deflected wide for

a fruitless corner. Former Boro defender Steve O'Halloran performed some great defensive work to stem a dangerous Boro attack just before the break and the sides went in all-square at the break.

The second half, like the majority of the first, was nothing to write home about, but the visitors looked slightly more threatening. Boro, however, should have taken the lead after McGurk brought a fine save out of Carnell, who dived full length to palm away the Boro striker's free-kick. The ball broke to Mike Calveley, just five yards out and with the net gaping, but he hit the ball high and wide, when he should have scored.

FC United had a period of pressure and Donohue could have done better from one of them before United launched an all-out assault on the home goal and two shots were charged down by Boro's defence.



Enoch Andoh notches Boro's winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The winning goal came six minutes from the end of normal time and it was entirely in keeping with most of the 84 minutes' play that preceded it. The ball found its way out to the right and when the cross came in it was headed skywards by a FC United defender. Carnell missed his punch under pressure from Angus and Andoh and when the ball broke back to Andoh, he swivelled on the ball and drove it into the net.

FC United tried hard to get an equaliser in the remaining few minutes but Boro held out to secure a much-needed three points which lifted them off the bottom of the table.

Nuneaton Borough v York City

02-10-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Davies, T. Wharton, M. Calveley, A. Carter, C. Richards, D. Kelly-Evans, A. McGurk, D. Angus, E. Andoh.

Subs: H. Panayiotou, A. Basso, S. Benjamin, J. Wesolowski, C. Baker.

York City: A. Bartlett, K. Griffiths, J. Law, S. Newton, J. Tait, A. Moke, A. Harris, S. Heslop, J. Burrow, M. Langstaff, D. Ferguson. **Subs:** J. Wright, R. Penn, H. Bencharif, W. York, J. Parkin.

Boro welcomed York City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro gave a much-improved performance in a game they might have won. The home side started strongly, winning

an early corner kick. In fact, there were a number of corners for both sides early in the game, but none of them came to anything. Boro looked the more likely of the two teams to score and so it proved when, after ten minutes, Dior Angus gave the home side the lead following a corner from the right. Mike Calveley headed the ball back across goal and Angus acrobatically hooked the ball past the vastly experienced England C international, Adam Bartlett.



Dior Angus scores Boro's first goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The York keeper made a routine save from Enoch Andoh before his Nuneaton counterpart Cameron Belford thwarted the ambitions of Macaulay Langstaff who tried to take the ball around the Boro keeper.

The much-improved Adam McGurk put a shot wide of the post from just outside the area while Belford beat Langstaff to Joe Tait's long ball out of defence. Jordan Burrow put a shot wide while Angus did the same with a header. Angus, who looked dangerous every time he had the ball, put a shot over the bar before the visitors went close when Tait headed a corner against the bar. When the ball found its way back to the former Lincoln City and Halifax striker Burrow, his header picked out Tait, who shot wide.

With the half-time break in sight, Boro fans thought their favourites had doubled their lead as Adam McGurk headed home powerfully from Angus' cross, but an offside flag curtailed any celebrations.

The first real action of the second half saw Curtis Obeng stem the danger as Langstaff looked to get onto the end of a Simon Heslop pass. Bartlett denied Angus and then made a tremendous save to keep out Andoh's shot.

Just after the hour mark York introduced the legend that is Jon 'The Beast' Parkin and he was straight into action, putting former Hibernian and Dundee forward Alex Harris away. The Scotsman's cross was headed wide by David Ferguson.

Former Harrogate man Jame Wright, on as a substitute, made an immediate mark on the game, being booked, denied a penalty and then equalising from a header from a Josh

Law cross. The striker did well to get his header on target as he was slightly underneath the ball, but it was well out of Belford's reach.

Parkin hit a shot wide, while at the other end Angus brought Bartlett into action with a fierce shot at the near post. Seconds later the Port Vale loanee gave Boro the lead with a goal from the top drawer, curling the ball past Bartlett, who had no chance of saving.



Dior Angus celebrates his second goal of the night. Photo: Simon Kimber

Unfortunately, Boro's lead was short-lived and York were on level terms again two minutes later. The ball broke to Parkin in the Boro box and The Beast hit a powerful shot into the net. Boro continued to press in search of a winner and had the visitors on the back foot right up to the final whistle. The game had been in stark contrast to the game against FC United as Boro fans were treated to an inspiring display.

Boro In Dire Straits

The long term future of Nuneaton Borough Football Club is hanging by a thread as the club staggers on without a chairman, a board or any of the basic necessities required to run a National League North club.

Basic amenities such as telephones, hot showers and mains electricity are all missing at Liberty Way and the club is being guided through this crisis by the club's manager Nicky Eaden, his assistant Lee Fowler, club secretary Adam Etheridge and general office manager Carly Morrey.

The money raised through season ticket sales and small amounts of sponsorship is running out and with no new owner or people prepared to invest in the club, the club appears to be in danger of going out of business.

With ground owner, Port Vale chairman Norman Smurthwaite's hands being tied by rules that limit an individual's interest in two clubs at the same time, Boro look to be in a very dark place and Nuneaton Borough Supporters' Co-operative are appealing to those involved in the ownership of the club and ground to discuss a way forward with Mr Smurthwaite, Lee Thorn, local businessmen or any other parties interested in securing the long term future of the club.

Liberty Way Owner Issues Statement

Norman Smurthwaite has shared with the Supporters' Co-operative the following statement, which he is happy for us to share in full below, followed by our response.

In the absence of anyone being able to or choosing to I thought it appropriate that I clarify the position of both myself and the football club.

I was originally approached in April this year by Lee Thorn to see if I would consider buying the stadium, as an option to save the football club to stay within the Conference North competition. The other two interested parties at the time were Nuneaton Rugby Club and The Nuneaton Borough Co-op. I was approached again just before the National League AGM that those two options could not or would not be completed within the timescale. I then agreed to and purchased Borough Stadium Limited, with the sole intention of enabling Nuneaton Town, as was, to continue to play their fixtures at that venue. I also agreed with Lee Thorn that I would endeavour to act as a facilitator to try to bring together a new body to acquire Borough Leisure Limited, the holding company of the football club, in order that Lee could extract himself from his involvement. At that time we agreed that all directors' loans would be cancelled. He also requested and gave me authority to approach and negotiate with the existing unpaid creditors of Nuneaton Town which has been a work a progress since that time.

Lee Thorn was and is the 100% beneficial shareholder of Borough Leisure Limited. Due to undertakings provided by myself to the EFL with regard to purchasing Borough Stadium Limited and the stringent rules laid down by the EFL, National League and the FA regarding dual ownership, I could not and will not be able to have any shareholding in any existing or new business or provide any financial support to such a business. However, it was agreed and understood that I can help and use my experience gained over the past 6 years of owning an EFL member football club as long as I do not breach any rules or regulations laid down by any of the aforementioned bodies.

One of the biggest challenges I encountered in dealing with the above was the non-desire of the obvious key business parties within Nuneaton, with the true interests of the club at heart, who would not engage with Lee Thorn, even with me acting as an intermediary, in order to satisfactorily conclude the transfer of ownership to a new entity.

As time went by Lee decided that things were not progressing quickly enough for him and he ultimately resigned as a director and severed all contacts with the regulatory bodies, creditors and the football club. This resulted in the Club being unable to access the bank account, operate the payroll and other obvious legal requirements of running a limited company which resulted in the National League placing an embargo on Nuneaton Borough FC on the 3rd October 2018.

I have had several meetings and numerous discussions with the National League and latterly with the FA in relation to



the challenges the above has presented to the football club. My last meeting with them both was on the 8th October. The rules of both bodies allow certain changes to enable the transferring of the membership of the National League to a new company or body, subject to meeting all the necessary rules and requirements laid down. This enables new parties to now become involved, create a board and produce the necessary financial budgets to take the Club forward. Sadly over the last few days the appetite for this has become splintered amongst several of the people who were to become involved. The amount owed to existing creditors is quite small, which is unusual in this situation and, in fact, the biggest creditor is Borough Stadium as no rent has been paid, but this would be waived in the current circumstances. The current monthly payroll of the players is circa £25,000 per month but with the gates as they are the monthly shortfall of the Club is between £17,000-£19,000 per month. Here lies the major operational issue of Nuneaton Borough in whatever guise going forward.

Having now established a process to save the football club the new board was to be interviewed by the National League next week, pass the appropriate fit and proper tests and be in situ, having met all necessary requirements before the 1st November being the next board meeting of the National League. On leaving the meeting on Monday I was confident that this timescale was achievable but, at the time of writing this statement, I am far from confident that this will now be the case.

For my part, I purchased the stadium to give a lifeline to the football club in an area to which I have a personal affinity. I have had very healthy dialogue with the Chair of Nuneaton Rugby Club and, although a ground share agreement was not taken up by them, we have tried to work as neighbours as best as possible in the circumstances. I am still pursuing the legal process of obtaining the appropriate access within the stadium currently being denied by the rugby club and this will become clear in due course.

As you are no doubt aware there is a skeleton staff employed at the football club who have done an unbelievable and admirable job to try and deal with both the administration of running a football club and the challenges which appear to be raised to deflect that on a daily basis.

Understandably the players are concerned regarding their livelihood but the contractual position is that they remain players registered until Nuneaton Borough FC defaults on its contractual obligations, i.e. not meeting the payroll; 14 days after such a breach they are free to terminate their contract.

I now turn to the fans and the wider Nuneaton community. The next week to ten days is the most critical time I believe this club has ever faced. I feel that the club needs to engage you all in trying to avert the sad closure of the football club's doors. As I now do not believe that the parties who originally expressed an interest in wishing to create a new board and take the club forward on their own, there are both the

operational issues of still creating a new vehicle and trying to find funding to meet the club's financial obligations. If the town wishes to keep the heritage and the football club alive, it now needs your immediate assistance. I will endeavour to help within the constraints the regulatory bodies have imposed upon me and hope that a solution can be found to what are some serious challenges in front of the Club and the town as a whole.

This statement is a reflection of my own personal views and assessments and not that of the EFL, the National League or the FA.

Nuneaton Borough Supporters' Co-operative Response

The Supporters' Co-Operative welcome Mr Smurthwaite's statement about his involvement with the ground and football club.

What is clear is that the Boro is in a critical moment in its history. From what we now know, the club needs people to immediately come on board in order for the club to keep going. We are encouraged to hear that the football club has no directors' loans outstanding and the amount owed to creditors is 'quite small'.

The Boro has a rich history, as highlighted in the From Town to Town history project, and to see it in such a position is desperately sad. If the Boro were to fold it would not only be the loss of a football club, but a loss of the community of fans, staff and players that is built around it.

We will endeavour to do all we can to save the Boro, and would urge people interested in helping to achieve this to contact us at info@nbfccoop.co.uk or by speaking to Mark Axon (acting chair) on 07814663158, or contact Mr Smurthwaite directly.

Lewis Freestone Returns To Posh

Lewis Freestone has returned to Peterborough United after being recalled from his loan.

Nicky Eaden BBC CWR Interview

Interview by David Deakin (BBC CWR)

Boro boss Nicky Eaden has voiced his concerns regarding player wages, which are due at the end of October. The under-siege manager outlined some of the other problems faced by the club including the uncertainty regarding ownership, the problems in putting together a full-time side just before the start of the season and re-starting the Academy from scratch.

Regarding the structure of the squad, Eaden described the difficulties in having too many young players, given that the National League North is a very competitive competition. The manager went on to describe his attempts to add some quality to his struggling side by signing seasoned professional



duo Carl Baker and Adam McGurk, whose experience would benefit the younger players.

The former Coventry City and Birmingham City player described the embarrassing issues resulting from the club's lack of funding, which included giving team talks in the dark and having players and officials face the prospect of a cold shower at the end of the game, after the boiler was condemned. Eaden also described the almost comic scenario of giving a team talk while assistant manager Lee Fowler shone the torch from his iPhone onto the tactics board.

The manager went on to outline a host of other allied problems, such as a lack of training facilities and the length of the grass on the pitch, which were worse than the conditions enjoyed by Sunday League players. Eaden told the interviewer, that he had considered walking away, but as he and Lee Fowler had signed the majority of the players, they felt they owed the players some loyalty.

The Boro manager concluded the interview by stating that the loss of the town's football club would be a great loss as it was a focal point for the people of the town. He briefly mentioned that clubs at all levels had at times been mismanaged, but unless something happened quickly, the outlook was bleak with the club not able to go into administration, but immediately going out of business.

Nuneaton Borough v Burton Albion 16-10-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (K. Mitchell 85), R. Davies, M. Calveley, J. Blackham, J. Wesolowski (M. Tweed 79), C. Richards, D. Kelly-Evans, C. Baker, S. Benjamin (D. Angus 67), E. Andoh. Subs: L. Corcoran, R. Etheridge.
Burton: B. Collins, B. Hart, K. Wallace, M. Harness, R. Lal, J. Buxton, E. Hodge, D. Cole, M. Sordell, J. Starra, R. Hutchinson. Subs: C. Hawkins, J. Melhado, T. Armitage, K. Clamp, C. Beardsley.

Boro welcomed Burton Albion to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup 1st Round tie.

Nuneaton Borough progressed to the second round of the competition with a late winner after a thrilling encounter against their Football League Division 1 neighbours. The two sides were evenly matched in the opening stages with neither side creating anything of note.

However, all that changed after 26 minutes after Enoch Andoh raced into the box and took the ball around Bradley Collins in the Burton goal to give the home side a 1-0 lead. Ten minutes later Courtney Richards surprised Collins with a magnificent strike from 25 yards, which left the Burton custodian powerless to stop the thunderbolt of a shot.

Burton emerged from the half-time break in a more determined mood and halved the deficit almost immediately as Joe Sbarra slotted home. The former West Bromwich Albion youngster almost notched a second, but Belford made a fine save. Unfortunately the ball came straight back into the area and Devante Cole headed home to put the teams on an equal footing.

With the visitors holding the whip hand, Boro looked to be on their way out of the competition after 75 minutes when former Coventry City youngster Marcus Harness gave the visitors a 3-2 lead. Boro continued to battle, however, and with six minutes of normal time left substitute Dior Angus took advantage of some good work from Enoch Andoh to level the scores for the home side.

With the clock speeding up to the four minutes added time mark the tricky Andoh forced a penalty. Collins made a good save from the spot kick, but the ball rebounded straight to the intruding Kairo Mitchell, who scored from close range.

Burton's Generous Gesture

Burton Albion, whose footballing rivalry with Nuneaton Borough goes back to the early 1950s have donated their share of last night's gate to the financially impoverished Liberty Way side.

Burns Leaves

Central defender Danny Burns, who joined Boro from Gateshead in the summer, has left the club and will be joining Northern Premier League side Stafford Rangers.

Owain Jones Joins Merthyr

Ex-Swansea City youngster Owain Jones, who joined Boro in the close-season, has returned to Wales, joining his old club, Merthyr Town on a permanent deal.

Nuneaton Borough v Bradford Park Avenue 20-10-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Davies, A. Carter (J. Blackham 61), M. Calveley, C. Richards, D. Kelly-Evans, T. Wharton (C. Baker 46), E. Andoh (H. Panayiotou 46), A. McGurk, D. Angus. Subs: J. Wesolowski, S. Benjamin.
Bradford: S. Drench, M. Ross, D. Lowe, N. Wroe (Hurst 68), S. Killock, L. Havern, J. Spencer, C. Branson, J. Beesley, O. Johnson (A. Nowakowski 71), L. Knight (N. Clee 68). Subs: R. Toulson, J. Atkinson.

Boro welcomed Bradford Park Avenue to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

There was no indication of what was to follow as the game was fairly even in the opening quarter of an hour with Cameron Belford collecting an early corner before Enoch Andoh got to the line and crossed for Dior Angus, who shot was deflected wide for a fruitless corner. The visitors threatened the home goal as former Norwich striker Oli Johnson got in a shot, but his powerful drive was pushed away by Belford.

The tricky Andoh smashed a shot against the crossbar and Angus had a shot saved by Steve Drench before Johnson brought a fine save out of Belford. The visitors were beginning to look more dangerous after an even opening spell and the vastly experienced Nicky Wroe headed over the top. Angus briefly threatened but he was shut down by former Harrogate defender Shane Killock.

Bradford opened the scoring after 23 minutes, when Conor

Branson broke through one on one with Belford. The Boro keeper appeared to have driven Branson wide of the goal, but the big defender turned on the ball and looped a shot over the Boro defence and into the net.

The opening goal was a turning point and Bradford took a stranglehold on the game with young midfielder Jamie Spencer forcing Belford into a fine save, while the dangerous Johnson had a shot blocked by Mike Calveley. Adam McGurk hit a speculative shot high and wide from 25 yards before Bradford extended their lead with a fantastic goal from Nicky Wroe, who saw Belford off his line and hit a shot from around 50 yards out. The Boro keeper scrambled to get back into his goal but the ball sailed over his head and into the net.



Jamie Spencer scores Bradford's third goal just before the break.

Photo: Simon Kimber

With the first half almost done, Boro conceded a corner and failed to deal with Wroe's flag kick, clearing the ball to the edge of the 18-yard box from where Spencer drove the ball into the net, giving The Avenue a 3-0 half-time lead.

Something needed to change for the home side and Nicky Eaden threw on Carl Baker and Harry Panayiotou in a bid to shore up the midfield. This seemed to have some effect early on and Angus put a shot over the bar before Panayiotou followed suit. Courtney Richards hit a desperate effort high and wide before Belford denied former Salford City striker Jake Beesley.

Boro's world imploded just after the hour mark when they lost Ash Carter following a collision with Jamie Spencer and then went down to ten men after Belford was sent off following a clash with Beesley. The referee awarded Bradford a penalty kick which was converted by Beesley past stand-in keeper Mike Calveley.

Substitute Alex Hurst hammered another nail into the home side's coffin on 73 minutes when the 18-year-old midfielder, making his debut after signing from Matlock Town, helped himself to a goal after being given too much time and space in the 18-yard box, from where he tucked the ball into the far corner of the net.

Hurst hit a shot wide while Calveley showed off his

goalkeeping skills with a fine save from former Guiseley captain Danny Lowe, who then left Boro substitute Jack Calveley sprawled in the corner following a battle for the ball. It looked unlikely that Blackham would be rejoining the fray and with Boro having used all their substitutes they were left to see out the match with nine men. Bradford completed the rout in the 89th minute as Beesley doubled his own personal tally with a shot from 12 yards.

Director's Loans

It has been announced that Nuneaton Borough's former owners have written off loans allegedly totalling £450,000.

Stockport County v Nuneaton Borough 27-10-2018

Stockport: B. Hincliffe, S. Minihan, S. Duxbury, E. Osborne, A. Palmer, J. Stott, A. Thomas (C. Dimaio, 86), S. Walker, F. Mulhern, M. Warburton (N. Bell 46), D. Stephenson. Subs: D. Cowan, I. Ormson, J. Keane.

Boro: R. Etheridge, C. Obeng, M. Calveley, M. Addison, A. Carter, R. Davies (D. Kelly-Evans 64), J. Weslowski (H. Panayiotou 71), C. Richards, T. Wharton, A. McGurk, D. Angus. Subs: A. Basso, S. Benjamin, E. Andoh.

Boro made the journey to Edgeley Park to play Stockport County in a National League North game.

Some Boro fans speculated pre-match about the amount of goals Stockport would beat them by. But, their pessimism was misplaced and the team that lost heavily to Bradford Park Avenue the previous weekend put up a battling display, which could have seen them travel home with all three points.

The home side dominated possession in the opening minutes and looked dangerous every time they went forward. However, they were treated to a surprise with seven minutes on the clock as Adam McGurk, who picked the ball up just inside the Stockport half, ran at The Hatters back-peddalling defence and shot into the bottom corner of the net from the edge of box, surprising both the home and away fans.

The home side were almost caught cold straight from the kick-off when Dior Angus had a header saved by Stockport's former Worcester City goalkeeper Ben Hincliffe. Boro had Stockport on the back foot again when they hit them on the break, but Hincliffe came to the rescue. Defender Sam Minihan brought another Boro attack to halt when he put a stop to Angus' run.

Matty Warburton hit a shot wide of the post as the home side struggled to get back into the game. Ross Etheridge, whose handling had been top drawer in the first half hour, took a dangerous cross from Scott Duxbury off the head of Frank Mulhern. Curtis Obeng fired wide following a short corner while Southport loanee Elliot Osborne hit a free kick goalward, but Etheridge again handled confidently.

Adam Thomas deflected an Angus shot towards his own net, but Jamie Stott made a clearance at the near post. Thomas headed over in time added on at the end of the first half, but Boro went in a goal to the good.

Boro almost surprised the home side at the start of the



second half when Hinchliffe was forced to save an Angus' shot with his legs before The Hatters won a succession of corners. The immaculate Etheridge punched clear from the final flag kick of the series, but Stockport took the lead a couple of minutes later after winger Darren Stephenson picked out Adam Thomas, who hammered the ball home, much to the delight of the home fans.

Hinchliffe was earning his money and made a brave save from Angus before the home side forced Boro back on the defensive which resulted in the award of a penalty in the 68th minute, after Cutis Obeng had punched Ash Palmer's goalbound header off the line, for which he was sent off. Former Bolton Wanderers and Bury winger Tom Walker slotted home the penalty giving the home side the lead.

Darren Stephenson had a shot deflected into the arms of Etheridge before Boro drew level on 78 minutes. Devon Kelly-Evans put in a corner from the right and it found Miles Addison unmarked at the far post, from where the Boro captain headed the ball home just inside the post.

Boro held out for a deserved share of the spoils and as the crowd drifted back to their transport the main point of discussion was how Ben Hinchliffe in the Stockport goal had failed to secure himself the man-of-the-match award.

Academy Folds

Nuneaton Borough have announced that their Academy is to fold for this season. The late start to the season made it difficult for the Academy to attract enough players to make it a viable proposition and they have struggled to field a side recently. The club have tried to find a suitable alternative for the remaining students.

Nuneaton Borough: The Club With No Chairman, No Owner And No Training Ground

By Chris Evans

Nicky Eaden is standing in the dark. Looking across the dressing room, smothered by blackness, it's barely possible to make out the objects that surround him. A place normally full of enthusiasm is now encased with uncertainty.

A light suddenly appears, providing a shaft of illumination. Behind it, umpteen sets of eyes focus directly on Eaden, waiting for his next move.

"Can you still see, lads?" the Nuneaton Borough manager asks the figures sat in the gloom around him. "Right, we'll carry on then."

Eaden swivels in the shadow of the iPhone light now trained on the tactics board behind him and continues with his team talk. There's no way an unpaid electric bill is going to stop him from preparing for today's match. After all, being plunged into darkness just minutes before kick off is the least of Eaden's worries as he gets to grips with his first permanent job in football management.

"We haven't got a training ground, there's no training kit

and no hot water, so the lads haven't had a hot shower all season," says Eaden.

"The ground is running off an electric generator because last season it got cut off the mains and there's a couple of times when that's run of fuel, including during the team talk before a match. We even had to wait [until part way into the new season] for the match kit to turn up, while the stadium is run down and needs a lot doing to it."

It's a far cry from the 45-year-old's spells playing in the Premier League with Barnsley, Birmingham City and Wigan. While his stints at English football's top table weren't for the country's most glamorous outfits, Eaden would never have encountered conditions like the ones he's faced since taking charge of non-league Boro this summer.

The National League North side only had one player on their books when he arrived in June, with the bulk of the squad having departed when their contracts weren't paid following the previous season's end. Eaden knew he'd have a rebuilding job to do on the field, but he hadn't grasped the paucity of facilities he'd have to do it with.

"It's just been a bit weird really, because everything I got told in the summer was going to happen just hasn't anywhere near happened in terms of playing budget or what I could do," he explains. "When I came in, they wanted to be full-time, and get the academy back up and running.

"Instead, we're pretty much rock bottom at the moment and have nothing. No hot showers, no training kit – and you're thinking, pub teams have that. I play over-35s on a Sunday and if the showers are freezing, everybody is going mad. It's the real basics we haven't got."

Although Nuneaton's travails might bear all the hallmarks of another non-league club pleading poverty in the shade of the Premier League's riches, that assertion doesn't tell the full story. For one, the Warwickshire side has no chairman, no owner or, reportedly, no bank account in its name. Instead, the Boro is a rudderless vessel, a ghost ship left sailing football's seven seas without a captain to steer it into calmer waters.

The impasse has been in place since around the time of Eaden's appointment. Given the job by previous owner Lee Thorn, Eaden knew that his new boss was keen to wash his hands of the club before he took charge. However, with the ground having been sold to Port Vale owner Norman Smurthwaite and the promise of a new figurehead to take charge of the club itself, the uncertainty was likely to pass quickly.

Only it didn't.

After selling the Liberty Way pitch to Smurthwaite, Thorn appeared to cut all ties with Nuneaton. Smurthwaite, who claims to have agreed to act as a facilitator to find a new owner, wasn't allowed to step into the void due to FA rules forbidding somebody to run two football clubs so close together in the pyramid.



And with Smurthwaite unable to find a suitable buyer quickly, things began to get even messier. When Eaden and his new-look team got off to a sluggish start in the league, it became clear that nobody had the authority to make the big decisions.

“The contract I was offered [by Thorn] was two years with a three-month notice period,” Eaden says. “But when I sat down with Norman [Smurthwaite] in September, he said that things needed to improve and that if we got to the end of the month without any improvement, he’d expect me to walk away.

“Obviously I’m trying to protect myself, so I said I’d got a three-month notice period that he’d agreed to, so he said that, in effect, I was working my notice from today, which I’m six weeks into.

“It’s a nonsense of a situation really. I did say to Norman that he’d have to hope I walked away because he can’t sack me. He said he could, but I told him no because he’s not the chairman or owner of the football club and there’s no board of directors. In effect, I’m unsackable.”

Despite the chaos, results started to pick up. But with no means of income other than paltry gate receipts, a reported deficit of between £17-19,000 per month spelled imminent danger off the pitch.

Smurthwaite released a statement on 12 October which outlined the severity of the situation, stating the following “week to 10 days is the most critical time I believe this club has ever faced” in the hunt for a new buyer. The alternative, it seemed, was that the club would cease to exist.

In the meantime, supporter unrest grew. While many people began to prepare themselves for the worst, a string of conspiracy theories began to crop up on social media and fans’ forums, centring on Smurthwaite attempting to ring the club’s death knell in order to sell the ground for his own financial gain. Smurthwaite strongly denies such claims.

When The Set Pieces spoke to Smurthwaite about the situation he referred us to his earlier statement, before going on record to reveal his feelings about being made a scapegoat by the Boro fans.

“The wider picture is that I bought it [the ground] to protect football in the community of Nuneaton, period. Nothing beyond that,” he says.

“On reflection, I should never have got involved. I should have let the club go bust and let Nuneaton deal with the consequences – that’s my position.

“The fact is, I read all the conspiracy stories going about and instead of applauding a man who put his hand in his pocket to do something to save the club – and that’s what the people of Nuneaton should be doing to save it – a man gets castigated because he tries to do something. Now all of a sudden, I’ve got a hidden agenda.”

In all, it leaves a club teetering on the brink of extinction. While statements of doom and speculation reign supreme, an

axe appears to be hanging over players and fans – although nobody really knows if, when and indeed how it might fall.

But although it’s been a testing few months for Eaden, he’s refusing to walk away from his post until he’s given no other choice. “Knowing what I know now, I probably wouldn’t have taken the job,” he adds. “Your first manager’s job is your most important because if you make a mess of it, you’re probably not going to get another job.”

“You’ve got to give yourself the best chance, but if you look at it, I gave myself no chance. I’ve stuck it out because I fetched the players in and I have a responsibility to them. Whether it’s my upbringing in football, I believe you don’t pack in and give up, you stick it out and keep working.”

One thing’s for sure, Eaden isn’t the only one in the dark as to how Nuneaton Borough’s future will turn out.

Copyright: The Set Pieces

Norman Smurthwaite And Nuneaton Borough

Liberty Way stadium owner Norman Smurthwaite has issued a statement through his solicitor to distance himself from the uncertainty surrounding the ownership of the club. Mr Darby, of MJ Darby & Co., Halesowen, explained through the statement that his client had exchanged properties as payment for the acquisition of the complete shareholding of Boro Stadium Company Limited, and nothing else.

Mr Darby further explained that his client did not acquire any interest in Boro Leisure Limited, and never intended to do so.

Mr Smurthwaite had issued a statement on October 12 in which he spelled out his concern for the future of the club, explaining that he had agreed with Lee Thorn to act as a “facilitator” to try to find a buyer for the club. He further explained that Lee Thorn was and is the 100% beneficial shareholder of Borough Leisure Limited and that he (Mr Smurthwaite), had made certain undertakings to the English Football League, the National League and the FA regarding dual ownership, saying: “Due to the stringent rules laid down by the EFL, National League and the FA regarding dual ownership, I could not and will not be able to have any shareholding in any existing or new business or provide any financial support to such a business.”

Altrincham v Nuneaton Borough

30-10-2018

Altrincham: T. Thompson, A. White, C. Hampson, J. Jones, T. Hannigan, J. Mould, J. Johnston, M. Harrop (S. Richman 60), J. Hulme, J. Hancock, O. Dale (T. Peers 72). Subs: L. Goulding, S. Densmore, E. Wynne.

Boro: R. Etheridge, C. Obeng, D. Kelly-Evans, M. Calveley, M. Addison, A. Carter (R. Davies 75), J. Wesolowski, C. Richards, A. McGurk (S. Benjamin 67), D. Angus, T. Wharton (H. Panayiotou 46). Subs: A. Basso, K. Mitchell.

Boro made the journey to Moss Lane to play Altrincham in a National League North game.

There was a quiet opening ten minutes with both teams taking a cautious approach. Former TNS defender James Jones instigated the first real action with a run down the right

and a cross which was deflected over the top for a fruitless corner before Obeng came to Boro's rescue with a clearance from a dangerous cross by John Johnston. Altrincham's no-nonsense approach won them a series of three bookings in the space of ten minutes and Dior Angus joined in the fun when he was booked for diving. McGurk's bicycle kick failed to trouble the keeper.

The match reached the 30 minute mark with little to warm the crowd until Jones again broke on the Boro defence before setting up Max Harrop, who smashed the ball over the top. Etheridge made a comfortable save from Crewe Alexandra loanee Owen Dale, who shot straight at the keeper from just inside the 18-yard box.

The home side won another fruitless corner towards the end of the half before snatching the lead in time added on. An extended period of possession saw Jones make ground down the right before getting in a cross which found Dale, who knocked the ball into the net at the far post to give the home side a narrow lead at the end of an uninspiring first 45 minutes.

The second half started with a shot from the half-way line by Adam McGurk but Tony Thompson collected the ball with some ease. Seconds later Boro found themselves 2-0 down after Johnston's weak shot at goal was fumbled by Ross Etheridge, who allowed the ball to run through his legs and into the net.



Ross Etheridge gifts Altrincham a second goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

Courtney Richards brought a flying save out of Thompson before the lively Jones almost turned in the home side's third. Altrincham extended their lead on 55 minutes and it was Johnston again on the scoresheet after he ran Ash Carter ragged before curling the ball past Etheridge and into the far corner of the net.

Former Salford City striker Jordan Hulme put the ball on a plate for Johnston to complete his hat-trick, but the winger blasted over the bar with only Etheridge to beat. Hulme was in the thick of things again when Altrincham extended their lead in the dying seconds, making a strong run across the 18-yard box before slipping the ball through to Josh Hancock, who slipped the ball under Etheridge as he came out.

Boro Saved At The Eleventh Hour



New Boro chairman Nick Hawkins.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Borough's immediate future has been secured after the National League gave Nottinghamshire businessman, Nick Hawkins, the all-clear to take over at Liberty Way. The 33-year-old father of five has played non-league football, representing Gresley Rovers, Hucknall Town and Eastwood Town among others.

The new Nuneaton chairman promised to rebuild links between the club and the people of the town, as well as those between fans and players.

He has acknowledged the size of the task and has set about improving the infrastructure of the club's buildings including much-needed work on the dressing rooms. Mr Hawkins said he had no illusions about the size of the task, acknowledging that it will take lots of hard work to get the club back on track.

Nuneaton Borough v Leamington

03-11-2018

Boro: R. Etheridge, M. Calveley, R. Davies, J. Wesolowski, M. Addison, A. Carter, C. Baker, C. Richards (H. Panayiotou 46), A. McGurk (S. Benjamin 46), D. Angus, D. Kelly-Evans. Subs: A. Basso, T. Wharton, M. Tweed.

Leamington: T. Breedon, J. English, C. Gudger, R. Flanagan (J. Bowen 81), J. Hood, J. Mace, K. Dunbar, C. Gittins, C. Bishop (J. Clarke 76), J. Edwards (C. Taylor 43), A. Obeng. Subs: J. Lane, T. James.

Boro welcomed Leamington to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

There was a more buoyant atmosphere both on and off the pitch at the start of the match and Boro were first to press with a smart interchange between Dior Angus and Devon Kelly-Evans. A rare handling error by Tony Breedon saw Angus through on goal, but former Hinckley United defender James Mace was alive to the danger and drew a foul to thwart the danger. Carl Baker drove a free-kick into the Leamington wall before the visitors broke the deadlock.

Nuneaton-born Connor Gudger hit a spectacular 25 yard free-kick that had Etheridge beaten but which crashed against the crossbar. The ball sat up invitingly for Colby

Bishop, who had the simplest of tasks in heading the ball into the empty net.



Dior Angus is thwarted by James Mace.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Leamington thought they had doubled their lead after midfielder Kieran Dunbar's corner was headed powerfully towards goal. Ross Etheridge fumbled the ball and Leamington claimed a goal, but the referee showed no interest in the appeal.

Boro's current form does not inspire much hope of their surviving in the National League North, having shipped 12 goals in the last three games and their prospects didn't improve as Leamington doubled their lead after 31 minutes when Dunbar hammered the ball home from close range after more good work from Colby.

Substitute Shane Benjamin brought a save out of Breedon after the break, heading down Carl Baker's free-kick, but the Brakes' custodian was not unduly troubled. There was little in the way of excitement for the remainder of the half, although Angus forced Breedon to save low down and the same player had a shot deflected over the top, but all-in-all Leamington comfortably held on for a 2-0 win.

Jamie Hood, who has put in some sketchy performances, both for and against Boro over the years, had another fine game for the visitors.



Harry Panayiotou goes down under James Mace's challenge.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Chester v Nuneaton Borough

06-11-2018

Chester: G. Shenton, J. Moran, S. Grand, G. Roberts, D. Livesey, S. Howson, D. Mooney (Dom Smalley 93), G. Stopforth, M. Dieservuwe, A. Dudley (J. Pritchard 46), G. Mahon (I. Murray 76). Subs: Deane Smalley, L. Jordan.

Boro: C. Belford, M. Calveley, C. Obeng, J. Wesolowski (C. Richards 46), M. Addison, A. Carter, C. Baker, T. Wharton (S. Benjamin 70), H. Panayiotou, D. Angus (A. McGurk 53), D. Kelly-Evans. Subs: A. Basso, R. Davies.

Boro made the journey to the Swansway to play Chester in a National League North game.

Boro started strongly and Dior Angus forced Grant Shenton to push the ball away at full stretch. Cameron Belford was called into action a couple of minutes later, but he comfortably collected Craig Mahon's 30 yarder. The home side took the lead after 17 minutes following a bout of head tennis that saw Simon Grand loop a header against the crossbar. When the ball rebounded back out former Carlisle United stalwart Danny Livesey headed into the net from three yards out.

Things looked ominous for the away side after 20 minutes when the home side went 2-0 up. Mahon robbed Calveley about 30 yards out before making his way to left-hand side of the 18 yard box from where he lofted a cross to the far post. Daniel Mooney sliced the ball into the air, but it broke to Anthony Dudley, who drove it into the net from 12 yards out.

The home side almost extended their lead just before the break following Mahon's corner which was flicked on by former Forest Green defender Jon Moran, but Grand, sliding in at the far post, put the ball high over the bar.

Five minutes into the second half Chester pulled further ahead through Mooney who cut inside Curtis Obeng before curling a shot past Belford's despairing dive and just inside the far post, giving the home side what appeared to be an unassailable lead.

Boro, however, weren't ready to throw the towel in just yet and Carl Baker threw them a lifeline when he turned three Chester defenders inside out before getting in a shot that was deflected past Shenton and into the net.



Harry Panayiotou goes down under James Mace's challenge.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Emmanuel Dieseruvwe missed a golden opportunity, scooping the ball over the bar from close range before Devon Kelly-Evans put a shot over the top when well-placed. Baker tested the keeper from distance, but Shenton made a regulation save before Boro pulled the score back to 3-2.

Harry Panayiotou played in Kelly-Evans on the edge of the area and the former Coventry City youngster found Obeng, who pushed for the line before looping a cross over to the far post where Adam McGurk headed powerfully past Shenton.



Adam McGurk sets the stage for a thrilling end to the game.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro were now in with a chance of a point, but the home side kept their nerve and played out the final ten minutes or so to take the spoils.

Nuneaton Borough v Kidderminster Harriers 10-11-2018

Boro: C. Belford, M. Calveley (R. Davies 46), C. Obeng, M. Addison, A. Carter, C. Baker, C. Richards, D. Kelly-Evans, H. Panayiotou, D. Angus, A. McGurk.
Subs: Wharton, A. Basso, M. Tweed, S. Benjamin.

Kidderminster: B. Hall, L. Vaughan, J. Taylor, J. O'Connor, F. Horsfall, R. Johnson, J. Baxendale (R. Penn 63), B. Daniels, A. Chambers (J. Ironside 86), D. Bradley (K. Richards 77), E. Williams. Subs: S. Austin, K. Digie.

Boro welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Kidderminster were first to show with Boro's former star striker Ashley Chambers prominent, making a fine run before he released Joel Taylor. The ex-Stoke City defender's cross into the box picked out Dan Bradley who forced Belford into a fine save with his feet. Although the ball broke to Lee Vaughan, he could only shoot wide.

When Boro hit back McGurk's free-kick was saved by England C international goalkeeper Brandon Hall. Carl Baker's superb through ball picked out Dior Angus, whose strong run on goal was halted by Fraser Horsfall at the expense of a fruitless corner. Baker almost surprised Hall with a shot from distance, but the ball sailed over the top.

Boro were well in contention at this stage and Baker again fired over the top before missing the target again with a shot from the edge of the area. The vastly experienced Jimmy

O'Connor, with over 400 Football League appearances under his belt, played in Chambers who picked out Bradley. The ex-Alfreton striker slipped the ball inside to Taylor but Belford made a good save from the full back. The closing minutes of the half were well contested but neither side could break the deadlock and they went in at half-time with the game goalless.

The first real action of the the second half saw McGurk shoot wide, while a couple of minutes later Chambers had a shot deflected wide for a corner following Bradley's cross. Boro's leading scorer and player of the year from last season then hit a shot over the top as Harriers upped their game.

Belford, who was in fine form, kept out an effort from Bradley before the visitors took the lead. Former Gloucester City midfielder Ed Williams picked out O'Connor who headed the ball powerfully past the Boro custodian and into the far corner of the net. The goalscorer then turned goal stopper as he blocked a shot from Harry Panayiotou, who skied the rebound over the top.

McGurk hit a lovely strike just wide before Boro drew level. Shrewsbury youngster Rhys Davies latched on to a loose ball and unleashed a powerful drive into the bottom corner.

Belford made a comfortable save from Williams' free-kick as the game drifted into its final stages while Harriers' substitute and former Boro striker Joe Ironside had a header tipped over by the Boro keeper. That was as close as anyone came to a winner and the referee's final whistle saw the two sides take a share of the spoils.

Boro Remembers



Supporters, management and staff of Nuneaton Borough Football Club congregated in the club's memorial garden prior to the game against Kidderminster Harriers to remember past players and fans as well as those who lost their lives in the service of their country.

A poppy wreath was laid and a minutes silence observed to remember those no longer with us.

Benjamin Leaves

Striker Shane Benjamin has left Nuneaton Borough to rejoin former club Heather St John's in Midland League Division 1. He joined Boro in September and made eight appearances.

Carter Returns To Alvechurch

Nuneaton Borough centre-half Ash Carter has returned to Alvechurch for what is described as an undisclosed fee. The 23-year-old, who began his career at Wolves, before joining Kidderminster Harriers in 2016. He made 16 appearances for Boro after joining from Alvechurch in June.

Boro Triple Signings

Nuneaton Borough have secured the signature of Reece Leek from Southern League Division One Central side Coleshill Town. The tricky winger has previously represented Hednesford Town and Sutton Coldfield.

Also on his way to Liberty Way is midfielder Ryan Jennings, who has most recently represented Alfreton Town. The Mancunian previously represented AFC Fylde and Grimsby after starting his career as a youngster with Stockport County.

Boro completed their trio of signing by capturing former Birmingham City youngster Ryan Edmunds, also from Coleshill Town. The midfielder/winger started his career at Manchester United before representing Walsall and Alvechurch.

Andoh Departs

Nuneaton Borough have parted company with Ghanaian winger/midfielder Enoch Ebo Andoh, who made 12 appearances for the club and scored four goals. The 25-year-old who joined Borough in the pre-season played for FC Porto at youth level before joining AEL Limassol. His career suffered a set-back when he incurred an anterior cruciate injury at Port Vale.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Borough 17-11-2018

Alfreton: S. Ramsbottom, J. Clackstone, J. Wilde, B. Johnson, M. Riley, L. Shiels, C. Chettle, D. Lynch (N. Hotte 74), R. Peniket (C. Bateson 67), J. Sinnott, T. Allan (C. Hobson 61). Subs: T. Platt, T. Nicholson.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Davies (R. Edmunds 45), J. Wesolowski, M. Addison, M. Calveley, C. Baker, C. Richards, A. McGurk, D. Angus (R. Leek 74), D. Kelly-Evans (R. Jennings 61). Subs: A. Basso, M. Tweed.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in a National League North game.

Alfreton dominated the early exchanges without penetrating the Boro rearguard, although Jordan Sinnott, signed from Chesterfield in the close season, forced Cameron Belford into a diving save from a free kick, which the keeper pushed away and Miles Addison completed the clearance. The home side continued to press and ex-Boro player Callum Chettle brought another decent save out of Belford.

Having weathered the early storm Boro came more into the

game but the home side again threatened through Peniket, who failed to control Sam Ramsbottom's long punt upfield. The home goalkeeper was then called into action for the first time when he denied Dior Angus who had found himself unmarked in the box. The visitors kept up the pressure and Angus again had a sight of goal, but fired wide of the target. He again found space moments later before Carl Baker put a shot wide from the edge of the area.

With half-an-hour gone the game erupted as Curtis Obeng was shown a red card for a disgraceful two footed tackle on Sinnott, who reacted badly to the challenge and joined the Boro full-back in the dressing rooms.



Things get lively after Obeng's tackle.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The home side went close twice in five minutes before the break with former Halifax left back Josh Wilde forcing Cameron to push out his well-hit strike, while minutes later Peniket's header hit the crossbar. Having edged the game in terms of possession and chances Alfreton conceded just before the break after Angus swept the ball home from Courtney Richards' cross following a neat exchange between Richards and Devon Kelly-Evans.



Dior Angus celebrates giving Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

However, Boro's lead was short-lived and within two minutes the home side were back on level terms as former Boro favourite Chettle, virtually unmarked, headed Bobby

Johnson's cross past Belford to send the teams into the break on equal terms.

Alfreton bossed the early stages of the second half and former Southport captain David Lynch forced Belford into a regulation save before Tom Allan forced the Boro keeper into action again. Ramsbottom denied Angus with a fingertip save and substitute Craig Hobson made a magnificent block to keep out the Port Vale loanee.

With the game entering the final third the home side struck a crucial blow when Chettle gave the Reds the lead for the first time in the game. The midfielder was right on the spot to turn in Curtis Bateman's pin-point cross from yards out. With the game entering the final minutes, Alfreton put the game out of Boro's reach when former Chester striker Hobson bundled the ball over the line after riding Michael Cleverley's challenge.

Boro Sign Leicester Road Duo

Nuneaton Borough have secured the signatures of Joe Lyne and Nathaniel Kelly from Midland League Division One outfit Leicester Road FC. Lyne, a midfielder, has come up through the Hinckley side's youth team. Joining him at Liberty Way will be team-mate Kelly, who started his career with Birmingham City youth team before joining Kidderminster Harriers on loan. He then won a contract with Solihull Moors in the National League before joining Leicester Road.

Nuneaton Borough v Solihull Moors 20-11-2018

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Davies, J. Lyne, N. Kelly, M. Calveley, C. Baker, D. Kelly-Evans, D. Angus, R. Edmunds, R. Jennings. Subs: A. McGurk, A. Basso, H. Panayiotou, M. Tweed, M. Addison.

Solihull: S. Lomax, R. McNally, C. O'Keefe, D. Barkers, H. Flowers, C. Coyle, M. Herve, L. Maxwell, D. Sweeney, J. Murphy, G. Carline. Subs: J. Clarke, B. Maxwell, B. Kendrick, M. Hirst, A. Soleman.

Boro welcomed Solihull Moors to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup 2nd Round tie.

Boro were worthy winners against an understrength Moors' side, even though they left it late before securing their place in the next round of the competition. The first action saw ex-Boro youth team goalkeeper Sam Lomax made a decent save from Carl Baker before Belford made a regulation save from Dan Sweeney.

The visitors looked dangerous from their long-throw expert George Carline and Jordan Murphy put an effort over the top. Ryan Edmunds had a shot saved by Lomax, who was in action again as Ryan Jennings went through the visitors' defence.

The latter stages of the half were evenly contested and there was no imminent threat to either goal as the side's went in for the half-time break at 0-0.

Callum Coyle, who was on loan at Liberty Way earlier in the season broke clear and had a shot blocked by Cameron Belford while Dior Angus went round Lomax and picked out Baker, but the keeper was able to recover and saved the

Boro midfielder's shot. Coyle picked out centre-half Dylan Barkers who forced the back-peddalling Cameron Belford into a fingertip save. Ryan Edmunds, who was looking a danger out wide, tried his luck from range, but his shot was narrowly wide of the target.

The visitors hit back and Belford was forced into a routine save from Corey O'Keefe before Murphy hit a powerful shot at goal which came back off the post and was cleared. Murphy had an effort blocked as the game entered the final stages with extra-time looking to be on the cards. However, with just three minutes of normal time left Baker picked out Dior Angus who shot powerfully past Lomax to give Boro the lead.

Two minutes later, a Boro win was almost guaranteed when Ryan Edmunds hit a fabulous strike from all of 30 yards out which flew into the top right hand corner, leaving Lomax helpless. It was a fitting reward for Edmunds who had enjoyed a promising home debut.

Nicky Eaden Departs



Nuneaton Borough have parted company with manager Nicky Eaden, after he left the club 'by mutual consent'. Eaden, who was formerly involved with Kettering Town, as assistant manager and as Under-23 coach at Coventry City, took charge of Boro during the summer, when the club was in turmoil. The former Barnsley full-back made almost 300 appearances for the Tykes and more than 500 Football League appearances overall, including spells with Birmingham City, Wigan Athletic and Nottingham Forest. Assistant manager Lee Fowler will be in charge for Saturday's FA Trophy tie at Brackley Town.

Two More Leave

Nuneaton Borough's restructuring continues apace with the departure of former Leicester City and Oldham midfielder James Wesolowski, who was signed in the summer by Nicky Eaden and will be joining Boro rivals Hereford United.

Joining the mass exodus from Liberty Way is Courtney Richards, who was also signed in the summer. The 24-year-old had previously represented Torquay, Macclesfield and Whitehawk amongst others.

Wharton Moves On

Nuneaton Borough midfielder Theo Wharton has become the latest player to exit Liberty Way. The St Kitts & Nevis international has reportedly attracted the attention of several other clubs.

Morrison-Derbyshire Signs

Boro have secured the signature of much-travelled 6ft. 3in. central defender Luis Morrison-Derbyshire. The 24-year-old has most recently been with Alfreton Town, who loaned him out to Sheffield FC for a month in February. He was released by the Derbyshire club at the end of the 2017-18 season.

Two Out On Loan

Goalkeeper Ross Etheridge has left Liberty Way on a season long loan deal with Stratford Town. Joining Etheridge is Michael Tweed, who will be joining Leicester Road FC on a month long deal.

Nuneaton Borough v Blyth Spartans 01-12-2018

Boro: C. Belford, H. Panayiotou, D. Kelly-Evans, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, M. Calveley, N. Kelly, J. Lynes, C. Baker, A. McGurk (R. Leek 52), D. Angus, R. Edmonds. Subs: O. Edobor, A. Basso.

Blyth: P. Jameson, A. Nicholson, M. Liddle, K. Green (J. Holmes 61), A. Cunningham J. Watson, J. Rivers, C. Oliver, D. Maguire (B. Fewster 86), S. Reid (Mullen 82), R. Dale. Subs: I. Watson, L. Homer.

Boro welcomed Blyth Spartans to Liberty Way to play a National League North game. The visitors were captained by Robbie Dale, a player whose career has lasted long enough for him to have played against three different versions of the Nuneaton footballing franchise.

Boro launched their first attack in the opening minutes as Carl Baker turned Kieran Green and got in a shot from which Peter Jameson made a routine save. Michael Liddle gave Cameron Belford some work to do. The Blyth custodian parried Ryan Edmunds' effort but McGurk was unable to cash in on the rebound as Boro's early promise continued.



Carl Baker prepares to take a first-half free-kick. Photo: Nuneaton Borough

Spartans' former England C international striker Dan Maguire had a shot deflected narrowly wide before Boro broke from Blyth's flag kick and Devon Kelly-Evans picked out Harry

Panayiotou, but the former Leicester youngster's diving header was wide of the post.

The visitors won another corner following Connor Oliver's shot but Belford was able to collect from the flag kick after a short scrimmage in the six yard area. However, the visitors weren't long in notching the opening goal as Belford elected to punch Green's driven cross and the ball fell to Jarrett Rivers, who curled the ball into the far corner of the net.

Oliver hit a shot over the top before Boro threatened an equaliser as Edmunds powered through the Spartans' defence and forced Jameson into a fine save. Then, with just a minute to go before the break, Boro again went close as Baker picked out Dior Angus, who curled a shot narrowly wide of the far post.

Having enjoyed a fairly even first-half Boro found themselves two goals down immediately after the restart when former Blackpool midfielder Rivers pounced on the ball ahead of Belford and slipped the ball into the net. Angus was close to converting Joe Lynes' cross, but lost out to a defender, before Boro's chances of getting something out of the match looked to have disappeared as Spartans' leading scorer 'Nippa' Maguire notched his second goal of the match, outmuscling Mike Calveley before scoring his 13th goal of the season.

Angus threatened briefly as Boro looked for a way back, while just after Nat Kelly headed a corner against the crossbar. The visitors looked to reassert their authority on the game and Maguire set up Rivers before Oliver hit a speculative effort well over from all of 40 yards. Boro had a narrow escape when Maguire rounded Belford and laid the ball on for Rivers, who crashed his shot over the bar from point-blank range.

Boro fought their way back into the game in the latter stages and attacked the Blyth back division at pace. Their efforts were rewarded as Angus cemented his place as leading goalscorer side footing the ball into an empty net after Jameson's attempted clearance had ricocheted off substitute Reece Leek, who had been played clear by Baker.

Fowler Departs

Nuneaton Borough manager Lee Fowler has left the club by mutual consent after only two full games in charge. The much-travelled midfielder arrived at Liberty Way in the summer as Nicky Eaden's assistant and stuck with the club through its darkest days, when they were on the verge of total collapse.

Nuneaton Chairman Nick Hawkins paid tribute to Fowler, saying: "On behalf of the club we wish Lee every success in his future, he has a lot to offer and I know he'll bounce back from this. We all know how difficult a task it has been here and people have seen his effort and application, that he doesn't fold under pressure and that whatever the circumstance, he just knuckles down and gets on with things. In the right conditions he'll thrive, we're very disappointed to be losing him."

Ginnelly Takes Over



New Boro boss Jimmy Ginnelly with Chairman Nick Hawkins.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

Nuneaton Borough have appointed local man, Jimmy Ginnelly as their new manager, following the departure of Lee Fowler after just two games in charge.

The new manager, who is Nuneaton born and bred, has a great deal of experience in managing local clubs further down the pyramid, starting his managerial career with local side Stockingford AA before going on to manage Atherstone Town, Shepshed and Northern Premier League Barwell, where he has spent the last eight years.

Darlington v Nuneaton Borough

08-12-2018

Darlington: J. Maddison, L. Trotman, B. O'Hanlon, J. Wheatley, J. Burn, T. Galbraith, W. Kokolo, T. Elliott, H. Saunders, J. Nicholson, S. Thompson.
Subs: M. Glover, A. Burn, S. Lingthep, T. Lycett, B. Morrison.

Boro: C. Belford, H. Panayiotou, M. Addison, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, N. Kelly (D. Kelly-Evans 90), J. Lyne, M. Calveley, R. Edmunds (R. Leek 46), C. Baker, D. Angus, A. McGurk. **Subs:** R. Davies, O. Edobor, A. Basso.

Boro made the journey to Blackwell Meadows to play Darlington in a National League North game.

The home side started strongly and former Boro defender Luke Trotman skied a shot over the top before Kokolo made a strong run, but his cross to the edge of the box was cleared by Adam McGurk. However, it was Boro who had the first real effort on goal – former Yeovil Town keeper Jonny Maddison made a save with his feet from Ryan Edmunds after the Boro winger had dispossessed Terry Galbraith.

However, the Quakers hit back strongly and Cam Belford had to be on his toes, making a fine one-handed save from Steve Thompson who had been played in by Jordan Nicholson. Sunderland loanee Williams Kokolo had a shot beaten away by Belford, but the ball rebounded to Harvey Saunders, whose overhead kick cleared the bar. Thompson threatened again shortly afterwards, as the home side continued to hold the whip hand, but his cross to the back post clipped the bar on its way over the top. A superb crossfield ball by Carl Baker picked out Ryan Edmunds, who raced towards the 18-yard

box before picking out McGurk, but the Boro striker was narrowly beaten to the ball by Maddison, who collected at the second attempt.

With the half time whistle imminent, the home side suffered a shock as they fell behind to an excellent strike from Ryan Edmunds. The former Coleshill Town man controlled McGurk's cross to the back post on his chest before volleying a spectacular shot into the roof of the net.

Despite being a goal down the home side continued to dominate and fought like tigers for an equaliser. With the game approaching the hour mark, the goal The Quakers were looking for came about as ex-Boro favourite Jordan Nicholson reminded the visitors what they were missing, as he slipped inside a defender before hammering the ball into the net from 20 yards out.

Boro, however, were not beaten and continued to battle for the ball - and with 20 minutes left on the clock Angus was played clear of the home defence by Lyne's headed pass. The Port Vale man held off the attentions of Trotman, who might have done better, before slipping the ball past Maddison.

The visitors' defence underwent a turbulent time as the match progressed with Darlington players almost lining up to take pot shots at Belford – but to no avail. With two minutes of normal time left Nat Kelly sustained a nasty head injury which required lengthy treatment before he was replaced by Devon Kelly-Evans.

The injury added eleven minutes onto the end of the game and Ben O'Hanlon shot horribly wide before Kokolo forced Belford into a first class save. Experienced defender Terry Galbraith forced the Boro keeper into another fine save after powering his way into the 18-yard area but Boro kept their shape and made the long journey home with three points in new manager Jimmy Ginnelly's first game in charge.

Full-back Recalled

Boro's on-loan full-back Rhys Davies has been recalled from his loan by parent club Shrewsbury Town.

Nuneaton Borough v Highgate United

11-12-2018

Boro: C. Belford, H. Panayiotou, C. Obeng, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, M. Addison, M. Calveley (McGurk 70), J. Lyne, D. Kelly-Evans (R. Edmunds 67), C. Baker, R. Jennings (O. Edobor 81), D. Angus. **Sub:** A. Basso.

Highgate: B. Catlow, T. Edwards, N. Pulisciano, S. Oji, R. Bryan, C. Currithers (B. Thomas 83), D. Courtney, L. Brown (G. Robbins 93), M. Manning, I. Jagroop (P. Anyanegbu 83), C. Deards. **Subs:** C. Jay, J. Cole.

Boro welcomed Highgate United to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup quarter-final tie.

Boro progressed to the semi-finals with a comfortable win against their Midland League opponents. The home side dominated the first 45 minutes but Highgate put up stiff resistance and went in level at the break.

Leading scorer Dior Angus won the match for Boro with two second half goals. The first was a quality finish, as the striker

volleyed home Carl Baker's free-kick. The game was dead and buried six minutes later when Boro's leading scorer broke away and slotted the ball past former Redditch United keeper Brad Catlow.

Boro President Dies



Nuneaton Borough President Rex Spencer has passed away at the age of 87. Rex was a life-long fan of the club and was well known by visitors to both Manor Park and Liberty Way, greeting all with courtesy and good humour.

Boro Sign Hildreth

Jimmy Ginnelly has secured the services of Lee Hildreth from his previous club Barwell. The Nuneaton-born midfielder started his career at Coventry City before being released by then manager Chris Coleman in 2008.

Hildreth has had two spells at Tamworth and has also represented Corby Town, Rushall Olympic and Nuneaton Griff.

Nuneaton Borough v Guiseley

22-12-2018

Boro: C. Belford, H. Panayiotou, N. Kelly, L. Morrison-Derbyshire (L. Hildreth 54), M. Addison, M. Calveley, C. Baker, R. Edmunds (R. Leek 59), A. McGurk, J. Lyne. Subs: D. Kelly-Evans, A. Basso, O. Edobor.

Guiseley: W. Hatfield, J. Green, S. Smith, N. Heaton, J. Cummings, A. Purver, R. Liburd, K. James, C. Moyo (L. Walsh 21), K. Felix (C. Morrison 85), A Halls. Subs: P. Clayton, K. Odejayi, A-R Harvey.

Boro welcomed Guiseley to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Boro got off to a horrendous start and found themselves 1-0 down with barely a minute on the clock. The towering Lions's

striker Rowan Liburd was played clear by Scott Smith and calmly slotted the ball past Cameron Belford as he rushed out of his goal. It could have been worse still for the home side, but Belford saved Alex Purver's header from Smith's cross.

Having been second best in the opening ten minutes, Boro shocked the visitors with an equaliser. A long clearance was headed on by Adam McGurk and leading goalscorer Dior Angus showed great composure under pressure from two defenders before driving the ball into the net past former Sheffield United youngster Joe Green.



Dior Angus celebrates his equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The goal inspired the home side and they more than held their own with McGurk going close from the edge of the box. Joe Lyne had a weak effort easily saved by Green before the tall keeper denied Angus, tipping his fierce drive over the bar. The half-time whistle saw the sides go in on equal terms, with Boro having just edged the first 45 minutes.

The second half though, started in a similar fashion to the first and Boro were again in arrears just four minutes after the break. The goal was out of the top drawer as Liburd doubled his tally by swivelling magnificently on the ball before cracking a shot past the helpless Belford.

Lions' winger Louis Walsh forced Belford into a flying save as Guiseley took charge, forcing Boro to defend in numbers. The home side then suffered a major setback when Nat Kelly received a straight red for a disgraceful tackle on Guiseley's Kaine Felix.

The former Boston United winger took full revenge for the assault four minutes later when he found himself unmarked on the edge of the six yard box, from where he tapped Walsh's cross into an empty net.

Boro, having thrown the game away with another episode of ill-discipline, came more into the game in the closing stages and McGurk headed against the bar before Michael Calveley put the rebound wide, while Green pulled off a good save from Reece Leek, who had been played in by Carl Baker. The game fizzled out in the closing minutes, leaving Boro to ponder on a painful four months to come before the end of the season.



Boro hit the bar late in the game.

Photo: Simon Kimber

AFC Telford United v Nuneaton Borough 26-12-2018

Telford: A. Wycherley; T. Streete, S. Sutton, N. White, R. Barnett, J. Royle, E. Deeney, D. Knights (S. Morley 79), B. Daniels, A. Morgan-Smith (Y. Ceasay 73), D. Udoh (A. Brown 65). Subs: J. McQuilkin, H. Cowans.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, M. Addison, M. Calveley, N. Kelly, H. Panayiotou (R. Leek 73), C. Baker (L. Morrison-Derbyshire 84), L. Hildreth, J. Lyne (R. Jennings 55), D. Kelly-Evans, D. Angus. Subs: A. Basso, R. Edmunds.

Boro made the journey to The New Bucks Head to play AFC Telford United in a National League North game.

Telford started the game on the front foot with former Luton striker Amari Morgan-Smith prominent. Despite the home side's early promise Boro had a chance to take the lead with just six minutes on the clock after Dior Angus went down in the area under a challenge from former Boro favourite Theo Streete. However, Carl Baker's spot kick was a weak effort which goalkeeper Andrew Wycherley saved with his legs. Angus failed to get any power behind his header from the rebound.

Telford quickly broke to the other end and Belford was called into action as the home side continued to boss possession. Despite The Bucks' overall superiority Boro continued to defend doggedly and could have snatched the lead four minutes before the break when new signing Lee Hildreth played Angus clear. Boro's leading scorer powered into the area and unleashed a powerful drive, but Wycherley beat the ball away at the near post.

Wycherley's save proved crucial for Telford as they quickly switched play to the other end of the pitch where Dominic Udoh chested the ball down before unleashing a powerful shot from the edge of the area which took a deflection off Nathaniel Kelly on its way past Belford and the former Leamington striker claimed his 15th goal of the season.

Telford started the second period in the same vein as the first and Streete put a header wide following Jon Royle's cross from the right before the home side doubled their lead with five minutes of the second half gone. Brendon Daniels went down after a fairly innocuous challenge from Hildreth, but the referee awarded a free-kick 25 yards out. The on-loan Port

Vale winger took the free-kick himself and left Belford rooted to the spot as the ball flashed past him and into the net.

The home side put the game beyond Boro's reach four minutes later with goalscorer Udoh playing a major part as he chested the ball down on the edge of the area and former Solihull Moors and Tamworth striker Darryl Knights lashed the ball into the net, again with the help of a deflection.

To their credit Boro continued to battle and took the game to their hosts for a spell. Wycherley made a couple of regulation saves before Devon Kelly-Evans' powerful drive from the edge of the area was deflected over the top for a corner. The flag kick found Nat Kelly on the far side of the area and the defender powered a header into the six yard box from where Mike Calveley toe-poked the ball into the net.

Brackley Town v Nuneaton Borough 29-12-2018

Brackley: D. Lewis, M. Lowe, B. Morgan (S. Murombedzi 65), S. Byrne, C. Hall (L. Fairlamb 27), G. Dean, G. Walker, J. Armson, L. Ndlovu, L. McAlinden (D. Nti 79), A. Walker. Subs: E. Myles, S. Jeffers, .

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, J. Lyne, M. Calveley, M. Addison, L. Hildreth, C. Baker, D. Kelly-Evans, D. Angus, R. Edmunds (R. Jennings 77), R. Leek (L. Morrison 74). Subs: H. Panayiotou, A. Basso.

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in a National League North game.

Rock bottom Boro slipped to their third consecutive 3-1 defeat against a Saints' side whose league form is nothing to write home about. The opening 15 minutes lacked any real excitement, although Brackley went close from a free-kick which only needed a touch. Boro then shocked the home side with the opening goal. Some ordinary defending from the hosts saw the ball fall to Ryan Edmunds, whose volley across goal found the far corner of the net.

Boro's joy was short-lived, however, as Matt Lowe was afforded too much space and was able to race into the box before driving the ball past Cameron Belford and into the bottom corner. Two minutes later the home side took the lead through former Wolves' youngster Liam McAlinden who headed the ball home after Lee Ndlovu's shot was saved by Belford, but found its way to the on-loan Cheltenham striker.

Brackley held the whip hand for the remainder of the half and created a number of chances, with Belford again coming to the rescue, saving Lowe's diving header before keeping out a Ndlovu effort.

To Boro's credit they fought their way back into the game after the break and only a superb save from Danny Lewis prevented a Boro equaliser. Reece Leek hit a shot narrowly wide, while Dior Angus and Carl Baker also drew fine saves from Lewis. At this stage Boro looked to be in with a shout, but Brackley still looked dangerous with midfielder Luke Fairlamb having a shot blocked before the home side extended their lead from a corner.

It was a scruffy affair and was scored by ex-Boro man James

Armson. The flag kick evaded both defender and attacker alike and found its way to the far post, where it appeared to strike the midfielder on the shins before finding its way into the net.

The home side looked to be home and dry, but Boro battled on and managed a number of shots including one from Baker that struck the bar and a fine effort from top scorer Angus, who brought a fine save out of Lewis. Daniel Nti rounded the game off with a couple of efforts on goal in the dying minutes.

One In Two Out

Nuneaton Borough have signed former Liverpool youngster Jordan Lussey. The 24-year-old is a former England Under-18 international and has also represented Bolton Wanderers, Southport and Telford United.

Moving away from Liberty Way are striker Adam McGurk and defender Obaro Edozor.

Nuneaton Borough v AFC Telford United 01-01-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, D. Kelly-Evans, M. Calveley, M. Addison, L. Hildreth, C. Baker, J. Lussey (J. Lyne 72), D. Angus, R. Edmunds (H. Panayiotou 83), R. Leek (R. Jennings 83). Subs: A. Basso, L. Morrison-Derbyshire.

Telford: A. Wycherley, R. White, E. Deeney, J. Royle (J. McQuilkin 45), D. Smith, T. Streete, R. Barnett (H. Cowans 63), B. Daniels, A. Morgan-Smith (A. Brown 53), D. Udoh, D. Knights. Sub: S. Morley, S. Sutton.

Boro welcomed AFC Telford United to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Boro gave an encouraging first-half performance and were well worth their half-time lead. However, Telford had too much in their locker and the longer the game went on, the more likely the Bucks looked to score.

The visitors dominated the early minutes of the game without threatening the home goal and Boro eventually won a free-kick on the edge of the Telford box after a foul on Dior Angus. The free-kick was headed clear but Carl Baker picked up the loose ball before firing well over the top. Boro continued to press and Andy Wycherley made a routine save from Baker before the Boro midfielder was gifted the ball in the Telford 18-yard box, but dragged his shot wide of the far post.

Boro's encouraging start to the game was rewarded after 20 minutes when new signing Jordan Lussey hit a firm strike on goal which was parried down by the Bucks' keeper, but only as far as Ryan Edmunds, who lashed the ball high into the rigging to give Boro a deserved lead. The much-travelled Amari Morgan Smith headed wide of the post in a rare Telford break before Edmunds tried his luck from distance but his effort failed to threaten the visitors goal.

With Boro still having the whip hand, they went close to extending their lead on the half-hour mark, but Angus failed to get his header on target from Baker's cross. Miles Addison stopped former Tamworth striker Darryl Knights in his tracks

as the visitors attempted to get into the game before Nigerian striker Daniel Udoh shot wide from the edge of the area.

The remainder of the half was fairly even and the teams left the field at the break in very different humours - the home side buoyed by a battling performance and the Shropshire play-off contenders contemplating a surprise setback.

Telford boss Gavin Cowan took immediate action at the break bringing on former Hereford United and Kidderminster Harriers midfielder James McQuilkin. However, the reshuffle was to no immediate effect and Boro continued to look the more comfortable of the two sides and the visitors introduced former Boro midfielder Andre Brown ten minutes after half-time.

Just before the hour mark the visitors seemed to step up their game and Knights got to the touchline and fired the ball in from a narrow angle with the ball passing across the six yard box before going out of play. Angus relieved the pressure temporarily with a break and a shot that won the home side a fruitless corner, but Telford immediately hit back and Brown again drove the ball across the Boro six-yard box with no-one on hand to take advantage.

Shrewsbury Town loanee Ryan Barnett drove another ball across Boro's goal before Angus picked up the ball from Wycherley's careless goal-kick. The Bucks' keeper's kicking was markedly poor in the second half, but Angus was unable to capitalise and shot over the top. With 15 minutes to go Boro seemed to have weathered the storm, but Telford continued to launch balls into Boro's area and Belford was forced to push out a dangerous cross from Wayne Daniels' free-kick.

The flag-kick was driven to the back post and Brown headed in through a crowd of players to give Telford an equaliser. Boro were now hanging on for dear life and Calveley was forced to engage in some last-ditch heroics, making an unbelievable clearance after Belford had played the ball against Daniel Udoh. With six minutes of normal time left Boro's world imploded when yet another cross found its way across the six yard box and Henry Cowans powered the ball into the net.



Cowans scores the winning goal for Telford.

Photo: Simon Kimbe

Boro tried hard to work and equaliser without any real clear-cut chances to speak of and Telford looked to hit the home side on the break with Udoh having the best chance of securing another goal for the Bucks, but Belford made a comfortable save. It was a crushing defeat for the home side, who had played much better than of late, but the game was possibly decided by the quality of the away side's substitutes.

Boro Strengthen



Boro have signed former Derby County youngster Rhys Sharpe from Southern League Premier neighbours Tamworth. The 24-year-old Northern Ireland U-21 international has Football League experience with Shrewsbury Town and Notts County. He has also played at one level below Conference North with Matlock Town in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier.

Sharpe will be joined at Liberty Way by Yusufu Ceesay, who will join Boro on a month's loan from Football League Division One side Blackpool. The midfielder/winger has Conference North experience with Boston United and Telford United on loan. He previously played for Alvechurch in their promotion from the Northern Premier League South.

Boro have also secured an extended loan deal for central defender Mike Calveley, who will now stay with the club until the end of the season. Leaving Nuneaton is former Queens Park Rangers youngster Michael Tweed.

Southport v Nuneaton Borough

05-01-2019

Southport: D. Hanford, J. Richards, L. Edwards, D. Winnard, R. Ogle, D. Morgan (A. Parry 74), M. Wood, D. Charles (M. Homson-Smith 68), J. Gilchrist, B. Bauress (J. Archer 68), J. Sampson. Subs: Z. Mohammed, D. Green.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, M. Calveley, M. Addison, R. Sharpe, C. Baker, D. Kelly-Evans, L. Hildreth, J. Lussey, R. Edmunds, Y. Ceesay. Subs: J. Lyne, A. Basso, R. Leek, L. Morrison.

Boro made the journey to Haig Avenue to play Southport in a National League North game.

Boro continued with their upturn in form with an impressive draw against The Sandgrounders, who were unbeaten in

13 matches prior to the kick-off. The opening stages were fairly even but Southport went close after Dion Charles' shot was deflected wide by Miles Addison. Boro hit back, but Carl Baker's shot was blocked before Jack Sampson missed a golden opportunity, hitting the post with only Cameron Belford to beat.



Number 3 Rhys Sharpe - a fine debut.

Photo: SFC_Photos

New signing Rhys Sharpe introduced the Boro fans to his impressive long throw-in, which resulted in Lee Hildreth putting a shot wide of the post. Boro's other new signing, Yusufi Ceesay caused the home defence some problems with his trickery on the ball and carved out an opening but was unable to finish.

Belford made a tremendous save from former Witton Albion striker Bradley Bauress while Dan Hanford earned his money with a fine save from Baker. The game remained evenly contested going into the break with half-chances from both sides, but neither team could break the deadlock.

The second period opened quietly until Mike Calveley had a header saved by Hanford. However, five minutes later Boro took the lead with an excellent goal from debutant Ceesay, who dragged a shot past his marker and into the far corner of the net after Devon Kelly-Evans had headed the ball on.



Boro concede a late equaliser.

Photo: SFC_Photos

Having taken the lead Boro came under the cosh for a while and Southport began to dominate possession and with 70 on

the clock Belford pulled off a save of the highest quality to keep out former Manchester City youngster Jason Gilchrist. But then, with three of the five added minutes played, the home side struck a blow to the heart of the visitors. Dean Winnard found himself free at the far post and got in a powerful header which Belford could only push out as far as substitute Jordan McFarlane-Archer, who hit his shot into the ground and it bounced into the roof of the net.

Boro will have been disappointed to lose so late in the game, but there were plenty of positives with satisfactory debuts from Ceesay and Sharpe.

Nuneaton Borough v Curzon Ashton

12-01-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, L. Hildreth, J. Lussey (N. Kelly 65), Y. Ceesay Ceesay, R. Edmunds, D. Kelly-Evans (R. Leek 64), C. Baker. Subs: A. Basso, J. Lyne, L. Morrison.

Curzon: C. Mason, O. Thornley, C. McJanet, J. Hunt, M. Ali, C. Rowney, O. Crankshaw (C. Lindfield 90), J. Earing (R. Shenton 69), R. Brooke, L. Wall, L. Reilly (J. McAtee 71). Subs: M. Fawns, S. Miller.

Boro welcomed Curzon Ashton to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Boro were quickly out of the blocks and raced into an early lead after Devon Kelly-Evans' cross was cleared out to Ryan Edmunds, who drove the ball low across the six yard box where the Curzon defence allowed Yusifu Ceesay a heavy touch and plenty of time, to beat Cameron Mason from close range.

After the opening goal the game became more evenly contested, but The Nash, who have an away record worthy of a play-off position, started to play a passing game that resulted in Rhys Sharpe being badly exposed against Oliver Crankshaw on more than one occasion.



Ceesay is about to score the opening goal.

Photo: duluxdog71

Curzon forced the home side into conceding a series of corners and eventually the pressure told. The referee, Ben Speedie, awarded a soft penalty, to the displeasure of the home supporters. The offence was presumably an holding infringement and could have been awarded against either Carl Baker on Mohamud Ali or Miles Addison on

Oliver Thornley, but either way it looked fairly harsh. But a penalty it was and former Preston North End youngster Oliver Crankshaw made no mistake from the spot - sending Cameron Belford the wrong way.



The scene in the Boro area before the penalty.

Photo: duluxdog71

Boro had another close call minutes later when Belford demolished Lewis Reilly as he tried to get on the end of Crankshaw's long ball into the area. However, Boro were able to breath a sigh of relief as the linesman had already flagged for an offside decision.

The impressive Crankshaw continued to give Sharpe an uncomfortable afternoon and drove a shot wide of the near post after leaving the former Tamworth man for dead.

The opening minutes of the second half were fairly even but Boro started to get stretched and Jack Earing got past Sharpe and raced into the box, but his weak cross was easily cut out by Belford. Carl Baker made a run across the 18 yard box which ended with a shot high over the stand before Curzon took command of the game.

A powerful run into the box by Luke Wall took him wide of the back post from where he was able to pull the ball back to the edge of the six yard box where Lewis Reilly got between Mike Calveley and Addison to bundle the ball home.

Boro responded well to the goal, took the game to the visitors and should have equalised when Ceesay pulled a cross back from the touchline to the near post where Jordan Lussey should have done better with his header which was narrowly wide of the target.

That miss would prove costly and Curzon broke away through Luke Wall, whose looping cross found long-serving defender Jonathan Hunt headed into the net hardly troubled by Ceesay's weak challenge.

With only a few minutes left Boro made a valliant attempt to grab a point and their hopes were raised when Addison slid in to score at the back post following Baker's cross.

However, Boro's dreams were shattered minutes later as substitute John McAtee got clear down the right and raced into the area where he was brought down by Michael Calveley, giving Curzon another penalty which was converted by former Blackburn Rovers youngster Luke Wall.

More Departures

Boro have parted company with midfielder Ryan Jennings who joined the club in November. The former Alfreton player has been unable to hold down a regular first team spot.

Also on his way out of Liberty Way is the vastly experienced Carl Baker. The ex-Coventry midfielder has been in outstanding form and a fixture in the first team since joining the club at the end of August.

Comings And Goings



Ty Cameron

Josh Lundstram

Boro have announced the loan signing of James Baxendale from Kidderminster Harriers. The 26-year-old midfielder who made more than 100 Football League appearances for Walsall has also represented Mansfield and Alfreton Town.

Also joining the club are Taylor Allen, who is a product of the youth set-up at Romulus FC and 19-year-old Crewe Alexandra midfielder Josh Lundstram, who joins on a youth loan. The frenzy of transfer activity sees the return Ty Belford, who represented the Boro under Tommy Wright and the addition of Cody Prior from Doncaster Rovers.



James Baxendale

Cody Prior

Jordan Lussey, who joined Boro at the beginning of the month has left the club to pursue a career in Asia.

Hereford v Nuneaton Borough

19-01-2019

Hereford: M. Yates, K. Thomas, D. Greenslade, T. Wharton (E. Richards 64), H. Smith, J. Gowling, C. Dinsley, T. Owen-Evans, K. Finn (K. Reffell 68), G. Lloyd (J. Roberts 84), M. Symons. Subs: J. Cullinane-Liburd, T. O'Sullivan.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, J. Baxendale, J. Lundstram, Y. Ceesay. R. Edmunds (R. Leek 65), T. Allen, C. Prior. Subs: T. Belford, D. Kelly-Evans, L. Morrison-Derbyshire.

Boro made the journey to Edgar Street to play Hereford in a National League North game.

The game opened very slowly and bar a couple of weak efforts there were no chances to speak of. Even when the home side broke the deadlock on 25 minutes it was a goal conceded rather than a goal created. Cameron Belford suffered a rush of blood and charged out of his goal to confront Tom Owen-Jones who was running on to a long ball over the top. The Boro keeper misjudged his run and completely missed the ball, allowing Owen-Jones to run on to the ball on the edge of the area from where he swept the it into the net.



Mike Calveley equalises for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Fortunately, Boro are showing some spirit in recent games and it stood them in good stead on the half-hour as debutant James Baxendale looped a free-kick over the Hereford defence to the far post where Mike Calveley slid in to score into far corner of the net from three yards out.

Yusif Ceesay put an effort wide of the angle as the game continued to be evenly contested. However Boro surprised The Bulls by taking the lead after 38 minutes. Ceesay had a shot deflected wide for a corner and from Taylor Allen's flag kick Calveley put Boro into the lead with a header high into the net.

Boro went close to extending their lead just before the break as Ceesay drove a free-kick across The Bulls' six yard box and narrowly wide of the far post.

Ceesay got Boro off to a bright start straight after the break when his run across the box allowed him to slip the ball in to Taylor Allen, who shot wildly over the top. Belford made a regulation save from Owen-Evans, but the striker was not to be denied and on 51 minutes he was hauled back by his arm by Miles Addison and a penalty was awarded. The former

Falkirk player picked himself up and sent Belford the wrong way from the spot.



Mike Calveley celebrates his second goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Neither side was able to assert themselves and there was little excitement for the crowd as the half progressed but Yates had to be on his mettle as a superb crossfield ball from Ceesay picked out Reece Leek. The on loan Derby County keeper was quickly out to meet the Boro substitute and the ball hit the keeper's knees before going out for a throw-in.

Belford made a good save from Eliot Richards after the former Bristol Rovers' midfielder hit a 25-yarder after turning Baxendale. The same player tested Belford again just after, but his shot was comfortably saved before Boro mounted a late challenge for all three points. Ceesay, who had looked the most dangerous of Boro's front line, put Bristol City loanee Harvey Smith under pressure and intercepted his weak headed back pass before stroking the ball past the keeper and agonisingly wide of the far post.

The final verdict on the home side's performance was delivered by their fans, as the players left the pitch with the sound of concerted booing ringing in their ears.

Three Depart

Boro have announced that veteran goalkeeper Adriano Basso, who was also the goalkeeping coach, has left the club along with Nathaniel Kelly, who joined the club last November from Leicester Road FC.

Also on his way is Joe Lyne, who also joined the club from Leicester Road FC at the same time as Nat Kelly.

Panayiotou Leaves

St Kitts and Nevis international Harry Panayiotou, is the latest player to leave Liberty Way. The former Leicester City man joined Boro in the close season.

Boro Sign Striker

Boro have secured the services of Malachi Lavelle-Moore, who has previously represented Notts County, Torquay United and Boston United. He was recently released by Ilkeston of the Midland League Premier Division.

Nuneaton Borough v Ashton United

26-01-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, M. Calveley, M. Addison, R. Sharpe, J. Baxendale (D. Kelly-Evans 84), J. Lundstram, C. Prior (L. Hildreth 61), T. Allen, Y. Ceesay, R. Edmunds (M. Lavelle-Moore 69). Subs: T. Belford, L. Morrison.

Ashton: G. McMahon, O. Crowley, J. Swaby-Neavin, L. Ashworth, S. Sefil, S. Kay, L. Martin, L. Goulding, L. Tomsett, C. Hobson (J. Reed 73), P. Ennis (M. Chadwick 45). Subs: A. Chalmers, S. Sheridan, J. Roberts.

Boro welcomed Ashton United to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Boro, struggling on all fronts, suffered a disastrous 1-0 defeat at the hands of second from bottom Ashton United, and it could have been worse had the visitors not missed a first half penalty after Craig Hobson had been brought down by Cameron Belford.



Cody Prior, who put in a promising display.

Photo: Simon Kimber

There was little excitement or chances in the opening half hour although the experienced former Stockport County and Stalybridge Celtic striker, Hobson, always looked a threat and was instrumental in winning a penalty on 36 minutes.

A superb through ball from Liam Martin found the striker free in the 18 yard box and he just got a touch before he was taken down by Cameron Belford. However, the majority of the 655 in attendance breathed a sigh of relief as Paul Ennis scuffed a poor effort wide of the post.



Boro survive as Paul Ennis fires wide.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Ennis tried to make amends for his miss just before the break after Liam Tomsett was brought down and the visitors were awarded a free kick in a dangerous position about 25 yards out. The much-travelled midfielder put in a dangerous curling shot, but the ball drifted wide of the far post.

Boro started the second half in determined fashion and went close after Taylor Allen was crowded out, but the ball rebounded to Josh Lundstram, who shot wide of the post from 20 yards out. On-loan Burnley goalkeeper George McMahon was then called into action as Allen got a touch on a cross from the right.

Despite their early second half promise Boro fell behind after 63 minutes as the rangy Craig Hobson towered above Cameron Belford following Martin Chadwick's free kick, to head firmly into the Boro net.

Having gone a goal down the home side should have been level seven minutes later as substitute Lee Hildreth had a free header on the edge of the six yard box, but somehow managed to head wide with the goal at his mercy.

Ashton, who beat fellow strugglers FC United of Manchester last week, comfortably held on for the rest of the game to record consecutive victories and give them hope of escaping relegation. Boro's plight looks far more serious and unless a miracle occurs they look doomed to relegation.

Boro Sign Midfielder

Jimmy Ginnelly has secured the signing of former West Bromwich Albion youngster Aaron Birch. The 24-year-old has represented Stourbridge, Hereford, Alvechurch and Sutton Coldfield Town in the recent past.

In other news the loan period of Yusifu Ceesay has expired and he has returned to Blackpool.

Nuneaton Borough v Boston United 09-02-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, J. Baxendale, A. Birch, C. Prior (M. Lavelle-Moore 46), R. Edmunds, J. Lundstram, T. Allen.
Subs: T. Belford, L. Morrison-Derbyshire.

Boston: G. Willis, B. Davies, A. Jackson, A. Thanoj, S. Harris, R. Qualter, M. Wright, N. Wroe (B. Abbott 77), G. Allott (J. Slew 81), J. Rollins (A. Johnson 75), N. Walker. **Subs:** D. Parkin, J. Wafula.

Boro welcomed Boston United to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

The opening 15 minutes of the game were fairly evenly contested with Boro flattering to deceive early on. However, the visitors soon took advantage of a Boro side which was down to the bare bones, with a couple of players turning out despite not being 100 per cent fit.

Having competed well in the first 15 minutes Boro found themselves a goal down after Jay Rollins got in behind the their defence and picked out Gavin Allott, who toe poked the ball into the net from a yard out, despite the attentions of Rhys Sharpe.

Boro again fought their way back into the game for a short period and former Gainsborough Trinity keeper George Willis was called into action - once to thwart Ryan Edmunds, who had sprung the Pilgrims offside trap and again when Taylor Allen tried his luck from distance. However, Boro were looking vulnerable and Belford had to be on his toes to save from winger Max Wright after a run by Rollins.

Ryan Qualter made a last-ditch tackle to deny Edmunds before Boro fell further behind. Rollins again made a superb run which took him into the 18-yard box from where he whipped a cross over to the far post and former Rotherham United winger Nicky Walker volleyed home past a helpless Belford. The Boro keeper was in action again just before the break when he had to deal with a dangerous cross from Ben Davies under pressure from Rollins.

The second half was dominated by the visitors and they made it 3-0 two minutes after the break. Max Wright, on loan from Grimsby, was fouled and Walker grabbed his second goal of the match as he hit a bullet-like shot past Cameron Belford from 35 yards out.

Boro were struggling to get out of their own half at times and it came as no surprise when the visitors further extended their lead. Max Wright showed Rhys Davies a clean pair of heels and sped into the box where Davies clipped his heels and conceded a penalty. The vastly experienced Ben Davies, with more than 550 Football League appearances under his belt, hit the spot kick to Belford's left, but the keeper beat the ball away. Unfortunately Nicky Wroe was the first to react and his diving header found the net to make it 4-0.

The impressive Jay Rollins got just reward for his performance by scoring Boston's fifth goal. A ball over the top of the Boro defence found the speedy winger and he drove into the penalty area before lashing a shot across Belford and into the far corner of the net.



Ryan Edmunds scores from the penalty spot. Photo: Nuneaton Borough FC

After the fifth goal the Boro penalty area was besieged by the visitors and it was shooting-in practice for the Pilgrims. Boro, however, kept pegging away and got themselves a consolation goal after former Shaw Lane defender Ashley Jackson brought down Josh Lundstram in the penalty area and Ryan Edmunds hit a powerful shot past Willis.

Boro Chairman Steps Down

Nuneaton Borough chairman Nick Hawkins, who took over at Liberty Way at the beginning of November, has resigned. The former footballer, who has played for a number of local non-league clubs, has been unable to attract local businesses to support the club, which is under threat of closure due to debts to HMRC and others.

Hawkins has handed the club's shares over to manager Jimmy Ginnelly, who is hoping to attract local businesses and individuals to the club to form a consortium. The interested parties will be asked to fund the club to the tune of £10,000 a season on a rolling basis. The Nuneaton Borough Supporters' Co-operative is interested in investing and are waiting on the publication of a prospectus.

Boro Sign Midfielder

Nuneaton Borough have signed former loanee James Baxendale, who has been released by Kidderminster Harriers. Meanwhile, Cody Prior who has been on loan from Doncaster Rovers has returned to his parent club.

More Signings

Boro have completed the signing of Foday Nabay, a former Fulham youngster who has played nine matches for England at U-18 level. Also on his way into Liberty Way is former Tamworth captain Michael Townsend. The 32-year-old played in the Football League with Cheltenham and has also represented Hereford United.

Leek Departs

Reece Leek, who joined Nuneaton from Coleshill Town last November has left the club.

Nuneaton Borough v Spennymoor Town 16-02-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (M. Townsend 82), R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, A. Birch (D. Kelly-Evans 70), L. Morrison, J. Baxendale (F. Nabay 82), R. Edmunds, J. Lundstram, T. Allen. Subs: T. Belford, M. Lavelle-Moore.

Spennymoor: M. Gould, C. Williams, S. Harrison, J. Curtis, S. Brogan, J. Chandler, R. Ramshaw, L. Agnew (A. Boyes 65), M. Anderson, G. Taylor (S. Henry 90), A. Johnson (R. Hall 79). Subs: K. Thackray, C. Elliott.

Boro welcomed Spennymoor Town to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Despite being touted as no-hopers Boro put in a resolute performance against a team riding high in the league, restricting the visitors to half-chances in the first half. The game started quietly and neither side threatened until Taylor Allen had a shot blocked by the impressive James Curtis. The former Gateshead man halted Allan at the expense of a fruitless corner before the visitors started to assert their authority on the game.

The Moors had their first sight of goal after 22 minutes as Robert Ramshaw picked out Liam Agnew, who turned well but his shot was charged down by James Baxendale before the visitors had another chance after Mark "Sparky" Anderson

played in former England C international Robert Ramshaw, but his shot was saved by Cameron Belford.

Spennymoor were dominating the play at this stage, but the home side continued to battle and eventually carved out a chance of their own after a long ball from Mike Calveley found Taylor Allen who got in behind the Spennymoor defence and got the ball to Ryan Edmunds. Unfortunately the striker's shot was saved by the boot of Moors' keeper Matthew Gould. Edmunds was in again just after but his curling shot flashed narrowly wide of the far post.



Ryan Edmunds tries to get a cross past James Curtis. Photo: Simon Kimber

Ramshaw had a shot saved by Belford just before the break, but Boro held out for the remainder of the half and went in at half time with a creditable 0-0 scoreline to their name.

Spennymoor started the second half in determined mood and former England Youth international Jamie Chandler crossed to Anderson, who completely missed the ball, but it fell to Agnew, whose shot was deflected out for a corner, from which the league's leading goalscorer Glenn Taylor had a shot blocked by Cameron Belford. The ball was flying around in Boro's area like a pinball, but Aaron Birch eventually got the ball clear.

At the other end Miles Addison had a headed chance deflected over by Curtis for a fruitless corner before Belford again came to the rescue after some fine football by the visitors resulted in a clear-cut chance for Andrew Johnson. Scott Harrison headed over from the resulting corner.



James Curtis denies Miles Addison.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Ramshaw was booked for diving before Johnson put a header over the bar. Belford made a great save to keep out Johnson's shot as Boro continued to frustrate the high-flying visitors. Ramshaw had a shot deflected out for a corner with ten minutes remaining and from the resulting corner the Moors finally took the lead. Leading scorer Glenn Taylor rose unchallenged at the near post and guided a header into the home net with Belford rooted to the spot.

Boro looked deflated after working so hard and they conceded a second with just five minutes to go. Substitute Ryan Hall lofted a ball in to the far post and Addison wrestled the dangerous Taylor to the floor, but the ball broke to Anderson and the winger drove a shot across the Boro goal and into the far corner of the net.

York City v Nuneaton Borough

23-02-2019

York: A. Bartlett, K. Griffiths, D. Ferguson, S. Newton, D. Mirfin (H. Bencherif 61), A. Moke, W. York (A. Harris 69), P. McLaughlin, J. Burrow, S. Burgess, A. Kempster. Subs: J. Law, J. Wright, R. Whitley.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, A. Birch (M. Townsend 65), L. Morrison (F. Nabay 76), J. Baxendale, R. Edmunds, (M. Lavelle-Moore 80), J. Lundstram, T. Allen. Subs: T. Belford, D. Kelly-Evans.

Boro made the journey to Bootham Crescent to play York City in a National League North game.

Boro started well and caused the home side some early problems when Rhys Sharpe's long throw caused confusion in the Minstermen's defence and it required the combined efforts of Kallum Griffiths and David Merfin to relieve the danger.

At the other end a corner for the home side was cleared straight to Patrick McLoughlin, but the former Grimsby man's shot was cleared. A through ball from Moke found Wes York in space and the former Boro favourite drove the ball at goal, but his shot lacked pace and it was pushed away by Cameron Belford.

Speculative efforts from James Baxendale and Aaron Birch preceded another York corner which caused panic amongst Boro defenders and Wes York found himself with the ball at his feet in the six yard box but Belford gathered the ball from the former Boro winger's feet.

A precision through ball found Alexander Kempster in the penalty area and the wide man got to the line and pulled the ball back to the far post but Wes York's shot hit the post, when he could have done better. David Ferguson drove the ball wide of the post from the rebound.

Belford took a long cross from Griffiths as Boro continued their rearguard action while a rare raid from the visitors broke down before another immaculate cross from Griffiths caused more panic in the Boro six yard box. The referee's whistle gave Boro a well-earned rest after a battling defensive display saw them go in at half time on level terms.

Former Whitley Bay man Kempster showed Curtis Obeng a

clean pair of heels in the first action of the second half and forced his way to the edge of the box, but his shot was easily saved by Belford. Another dangerous ball into the area by Griffiths again caused problems and Belford was forced to push the ball out for a corner.



Former Boro favourite West York celebrates his goal. Photo: Ian Appleyard

The home side got the goal they had been threatening after 57 minutes when McLaughlin's cross found the head of Wes York, who guided the ball into the far corner of the net. The Minstermen almost doubled their lead when Morrison-Derbyshire's weak clearance went straight to McLaughlin, who slipped the ball to Scott Burgess. The Bury loanee looked set to score but Belford gathered bravely at his feet.

Kempster headed off the line following a corner before Burgess put in a long free-kick which broke to Sean Newton. The much-travelled defender neatly back-heeled a pass to Alexander Harris who clipped in a ball to Hamza Bencherif and the Algerian volleyed past Belford, who had no chance.

The Minstermen had chances to add to their lead in the closing minutes as Jordan Burrow had an effort blocked before Belford was called into action to save from substitute Harris. The visitors had a chance of their own with 88 minutes on the clock, but the much-travelled Adam Bartlett saved from Lundstram at point blank range.

Chorley v Nuneaton Borough

26-02-2019

Chorley: M. Urwin, M. Challoner, A. Blakeman, A. Teague, C. Meppen-Walter, S. Jordan, A. Newby, J. O'Keefe, M. Carver (J. Hooper 90), L. Almond (J. Wilson 81), E. Newby (J. Cottrell 88). Subs: A. McGurk, A. Anson.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend (L. Morrison-Derbyshire 64), M. Addison, M. Calveley, J. Baxendale (F. Nabay 77), J. Lundstram, R. Edmunds (M. Lavelle-Moore 73), T. Allen, D. Kelly-Evans. Subs: T. Belford, A. Birch.

Boro made the journey to Victory Park to play Chorley in a National League North game.

Boro had an early sight of goal which came to nothing before the home side went close as Adam Blakeman played a speculative ball into the area. Boro should have dealt with the cross, but it ran on to Louis Almond whose shot was pushed out by Cameron Belford and cleared to safety by Miles Addison.

Rhys Sharpe's long throw caused a moment of panic in the Chorley box but the ball was eventually scrambled away. At the other end Elliot Newby's smart turn and pass picked out former Accrington Stanley striker Marcus Carver whose diagonal shot across the area went narrowly wide of the far post. A dangerous cross from Adam Blakeman was collected by Belford before the keeper was called on again to collect a weak free-kick from the home side.

Another of Sharpe's long throw-ins again opened up the home defence but Ryan Edmunds' shot was cleared by former Republic of Ireland U-21 midfielder Josh O'Keefe. Just before the break a dangerous corner from the right found its way across the six yard box to the far post, but fortunately for Boro Sharpe was on hand to clear the danger.

The visitors were under the cosh again three minutes into the second half when Blakeman's cross was turned against the foot of the post and out for a corner by Belford as the home side stepped up their game. Andy Teague launched a long cross into the area which was headed wide before the stalwart defender got in a header of his own, but it lacked power and Belford gathered safely.



Boro battle to get into the game.

Photo: BBC Lancashire

The goal that the home side had been threatening arrived after 62 minutes as a long throw-in down the touchline eventually found its way to Alex Newby who hit a superb volley from 25 yards over the head of Belford and into the net.

After conceding the opening goal Boro battled well but did not have enough in their armory to trouble the Magpies, who made sure that they extended their lead at the top of the table after a penalty was awarded. The tricky Alex Newby ran at Sharpe and the full back made a rash tackle bringing down the former Clitheroe striker. The rock steady Blakeman hammered the ball into the back of the net, sending Belford the wrong way in the process.

Lussey Rejoins Boro

Midfielder Jordan Lussey has returned to Liberty Way after he reportedly left the club to pursue a career in Asia in January. The former Telford midfielder is in the squad for the game against Kidderminster Harriers.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Boro 02-03-2019

Kidderminster: B. Hall, S. Austin, J. Taylor, R. Penn (K. Richards 90), F. Horsfall, R. Johnson, L. McAlinden, B. Daniels, J. Ironside, A. Chambers (R. Taylor-Randall 90), E. Williams (K. Butterfield 83). Subs: H. Higginson, J. Heaton.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend, M. Addison, M. Calvey (A. Birch 72), D. Kelly-Evans (J. Baxendale 68), J. Lussey, R. Edmunds, J. Lundstram, T. Allen (L. Morrison-Derbyshire 84). Subs: T. Belford, F. Nabay.

Boro made the journey to the Aggborough Stadium to play Kidderminster Harriers in a National League North game.

The first shot of the game came with just two minutes on the clock. Former Boro man Joe Ironside ran into space before squaring the ball to another ex-Boro player, Billy Daniels, who drove a shot wide of the far post from 25 yards out. Cameron Belford made a regulation save from a free-kick before The Harriers almost took the lead.

Joe Ironside made a strong run before slipping the ball inside to Ed Williams, who drove a rising shot towards the Boro goal and the ball sped past Belford, but fortunately for Boro, it crashed against the crossbar and was eventually cleared.

Belford made a comfortable save from a weak free-kick but the home side were bossing the game and it was no surprise when they took the lead after 27 minutes. A short corner from Sam Austin to Ed Williams was lofted to the back post by the England C international. Ashley Chambers was lurking behind the last defender and volleyed the ball across the six yard box and into the far corner of the net.

Harriers had a goal disallowed for offside before Boro dragged themselves back into the game. Taylor Allen's corner found its way to the back stick where Michael Townsend rushed in to score. The goal was enough to see Boro go in at half-time on equal terms.



Townsend puts Boro back on level terms.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Unfortunately for Boro the home side were soon back in front after half-time as Townsend was adjudged to have handled the ball in the 18-yard box just two minutes into the second period. Belford went the right way for Ironside's penalty but the ball was superbly struck and the goalkeeper had little chance of keeping it out.



Joe Ironside restores Harriers lead just after the break.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro had a half-chance minutes later but Allen was unable to get in a shot when well placed. The home side continued to enjoy the lion's share of possession although Boro continued to battle, but it was never going to be enough and it came as no surprise when the home side extended their lead after 78 minutes. Former Wolves midfielder Liam McAlinden put in a superb cross from way out on the touchline. The ball evaded Rhys Sharpe and bounced kindly for Chambers who was able to power a header into the net from close range.

Boro now appeared to be running on empty and also appeared to have run out of luck as an attempted clearance bounced back off Jordan Lussey and straight into the path of Chambers who was soon clear of the last defender. The prolific goalscorer raced through on goal with Miles Addison in pursuit and just as he stepped inside the 18-yard box Chambers bent a shot around Belford and into the net.

It was unfortunate for Boro, but their disastrous run of defeats continues and it is just a matter of time before they are formally relegated.

Winding Up Order

A petition to wind up Boro Leisure Limited, the company under which Nuneaton Borough FC trades, has been posted in the London Gazette. The petition has been issued by the commissioners for HM Revenue and Customs will be heard at the High Court on March 27, 2019.

The club have invited a number of interested parties to a meeting at Liberty Way next week to discuss ways of saving the club. It is believed that Boro are hoping for 6-7 of those potential investors to pledge £10,000 apiece to keep the bailiffs at bay. It is rumoured that the bailiffs threatened to take the goalposts away on one occasion.

Barlone Joins

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of striker Luke Barlone. The 31-year-old has represented a number of local clubs including Atherstone, Barwell, Bedworth United, Coleshill Town and most recently local Sunday League side Hartshill Sports.

Nuneaton Borough v Alfreton Town

09-03-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend (T. Allen 80), M. Addison, M. Calveley, L. Morrison, J. Lussey, L. Barlone, J. Lundstram, R. Edmunds (D. Kelly-Evans 84). Subs: T. Belford, A. Birch, J. Baxendale.

Alfreton: S. Ramsbottom, J. Clackstone, J. Wilde, B. Johnson, D. Shiels, M. Riley, D. Bacon (R. Styche 63), N. Hotte (D. Lynch 66), R. Peniket, J. Sinnott, D. Smith. Subs: D. Clarke, T. Platt, D. O'Brien.

Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

This was a tricky game for both sets of players as a swirling wind made conditions difficult. This resulted in a scrappy first half with good football at a premium. The first real threat came from the visitors when former North Ferriby midfielder Bobby Johnson surprised Cameron Belford with a snap shot from 25 yards out. The Boro keeper seemed to misjudge the bounce and could only palm the ball out. Fortunately Miles Addison was able to clear for a corner, which Belford was forced to palm over the top.

Boro's first sight of goal was from a corner which Luis Morrison-Derbyshire met on the volley. His first shot was blocked but the ball rebounded to the striker who hit his follow-up shot well wide. The home side's task was made all the more difficult on 38 minutes when debutant striker Luke Barlone became the latest player to be sent off.

This week's dismissal followed an elbowing offence by the former Atherstone player, who was shown a straight red by the referee. Despite going down to ten men Boro played out the rest of the half without too much trouble and went in at the break on equal terms.

Alfreton started the second half on the front foot and Johnson again called Belford into action but this time the keeper made a good save from the No. 4's well hit, swerving shot. Josh Wilde hit the rebound straight at Curtis Obeng and the ball struck his arm, but the referee rightly turned down the visitors' appeals for a penalty.

A powerful run from David Shiels almost brought a goal but his driven cross passed across the six yard box with no-one on hand to finish. However, the ball was retrieved and crossed back in for Johnson, who headed goalwards but Belford was well placed and turned the ball over the top.

The danger was far from over though and Boro found themselves in arrears after The Reds won a corner which was whipped over by Jordan Sinnott onto the head of Shiels. The central defender's bullet header gave Belford no chance as it rocketed past him and into the net.

Down to ten men and a goal down, Boro's prospects looked pretty bleak but they were back on level terms three minutes later after Edmunds chased down a long clearance and got the wrong side of Shiels. The lone striker managed to get in a shot which was pushed away by the 6ft 5in keeper Sam Ramsbottom, but Edmunds remained alert and slid the ball into the empty net.



Sinnott wins the game for Alfreton.

Photo: Nuneaton Boro

Boro had their tails up following the equaliser and put Alfreton under some pressure. Despite this period of hope the home side were stunned by another goal three minutes from time. Mike Calveley's clumsy challenge on Reece Styche saw the former Boro player go down in the box and the referee had no hesitation in awarding a spot kick. Former Huddersfield striker Jordan Sinnott sent Belford the wrong way from the spot kick.

This was a reasonable performance from the home side but despite an improved second half showing their losing run goes on and on.

Stourbridge v Nuneaton Borough

11-03-2019

Stourbridge: N. Maher, A. Christophorou (N. Zazi 64), J. Brown, P. McCone, A. Hayden, A. Forde, C. Powell, B. Birch (M. Hall 77), K. Anderson, G. Forsyth (J. Evans 77), G. Mills. Subs: L. Broadhurst, S. Pierpoint.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend, L. Morrison, J. Lundstram, J. Baxendale, J. Lussey, M. Calveley, R. Edmunds, T. Allen. Subs: A. Birch, D. Kelly-Evans.

Boro made the journey to Amblecote to play Stourbridge in a Birmingham Senior Cup semi-final tie.

This looked to be a big ask for an out of form Boro side, playing a team pushing for promotion from one league below Conference North, but Boro turned in an impressive performance and battled their way to the final of the Birmingham Senior Cup where they will meet either Leamington or Aston Villa.

The match started quietly and there was little action to speak of in the first 20 minutes although Michael Townsend had to be alert to cut out a cross aimed at former Southport striker Kaiman Anderson. Boro started to settle into the game and pressed the home side back, winning a corner in the process which almost brought the opening goal. Jordan Lussey hit a terrific ball into the box from the flag kick which picked out Luis Morrison, who was unlucky to see his shot strike the post.

Taylor Allen was the next to threaten making a long run from deep inside his own half before hitting a shot high over the bar. The former Halifax goalkeeper Niall Maher kept The Glassboys in the game with a marvellous double save, keeping out Allen and then Lussey in quick succession.

Boro were now bossing the game and Stourbridge struggled to compete. The pressure bore fruit after 42 minutes when

Curtis Obeng hit a shot against the post and Mike Calveley was brought down by Wolves' loanee Aaron Hayden as the ball rebounded. Maher, who had kept Stourbridge in the game with some smart saves, again came to the rescue as he kept out Ryan Edmunds' spot kick.

Despite the setback Boro finally took the lead a minute before the break after Lussey's shot was pushed out by Maher. The rebound was seized upon by Calveley, who tapped home from close range to send Boro in at half-time break with a one goal lead.

Boro were again in dominant form after the break and Josh Lundstram went close with a shot that was just over the bar. The visitors continued to hold the whip hand, but made things difficult for themselves after they added another sending off to their appalling disciplinary record. This time Jordan Lussey was shown a red card for dissent.

Still Boro looked the better side and Allen brought the best out of Maher, turning his marker and putting in a fierce drive which was well parried by The Glassboys' keeper. Then, with a little over eight minutes to go Boro doubled their lead as Edmunds made up for his penalty miss by controlling James Baxendale's superb free kick before hitting a shot into the bottom corner of the Stourbridge net.

Boro were well worth their lead but had to endure a difficult few minutes at the end of the game when Anderson pulled a goal back, slotting home from close range after Cameron Belford had pushed out Hayden's header. Although the winning margin was narrow and Boro had to play out an added five minutes of injury time, they were well worth their win and could yet garner some reward from this disastrous season.

Fred Badham Dies



Ex-Nuneaton Borough manager/coach Fred Badham, sadly passed away on March 17, 2019. Fred, who was Boro's first ever fully qualified FA coach, joined the club in 1961 and was responsible for a renaissance in the history of Nuneaton Borough, setting the stage for the iconic 1966-67 season, when the then manager Dudley Kernick

steered the club to second place in the Southern League Premier Division and the Third Round of the FA Cup.

Fred was responsible for signing such influential players as Malcolm Allen from Coventry City, Roger Thompson from Aston Villa and one of the club's greatest goalkeepers, Les Green from Hull City. Two of those, Les Green and Malcolm Allen went on to manage the club, while Roger Thompson managed Arsenal Reserves and Barnet after leaving Manor Park.

Fred's time with the club also saw the installation of



floodlights at Manor Park in 1965 which were opened with an impressive 3-1 win for Boro against Leicester City's first team.

In November 1965, Fred took over the task of fund-raising for the club, while Dudley Kernick was brought in as team manager. The following season saw some of the greatest moments in the history of the club as they reached the Third Round of the FA Cup where they took Second Division Rotherham United to a replay before losing 1-0 at Millmoor and also managed a second place finish in the Southern League Premier Division.

In January 1968 Fred, at that time commercial manager, left the club to join Wellington Town (later Telford United) as general manager. He later worked with both Oxford United and Preston North End after his time with Telford.

Co-operative Offered Potential Board Membership

NBFC Investment Opportunity – In Strict Confidence

Dear Potential Investor,

With the appointment of Jimmy Ginnelly as the owner of Boro Leisure Ltd on 28/2, we are now in the position to create the plan for a successful future for NBFC.

There are several local Businesses and associates of NBFC represented in the consortium and it with your help and this team, that we now embark on our journey to a stable future.

You have recently indicated a willingness to invest in NBFC and this communication is for us to better understand your intentions and aspirations in the coming weeks.

The current balance sheet indicates a net debt position of circa £120k, with an impending winding up order issued by HMRC and due to be exercised on 27/3/19. The total value of this petition is £31,274, with a need to transfer funds on 18/3/19.

This transaction, whilst not clearing the total HMRC debt, will offer NBFC the opportunity to re-schedule the remaining outstanding monies in a controlled fashion.

Overall the total debt is in 3 key areas:

- 1 HMRC – £50k – Plan in place to resolve
- 2 Ex-Players and Loan fees – £40k – This can be reduced and will be managed via a 6 month programme commencing in September
- 3 Miscellaneous Short Term debt – £30k – This is being actively managed, with significant progress being made to reduce and re-schedule.

Assuming we secure the investment being requested, it is expected that a solid financial position will be secured and hence, future prosperity for NBFC.

As you are aware, the intention is create a management structure, focusing on the following areas:

- Increased use of facilities and hence, sustainable future commercial revenues

- Academy teams expanding the community footprint
- Structured sponsorships in place for the commencement of the 19/20 Season
- Summer Events planning
- Financial reporting and cashflow management
- Increased Matchday revenues
- Development of a Business Plan, delivering financial stability and future prosperity for all involved with NBFC

Investment Options

- 1 £10k (or more) investment as a donation – payment 18/3/19
- 2 £10k (or more) in return for Share Capital – payment 18/3/19
- 3 Monthly investment of £1k – duration of 10 months, starting 1/4/19
- 2 Season long package – £2.5k – offering Match Day experiences, payment 18/3/19

Please note: In the event that we do not achieve the investment target, all monies will be returned.

It is not intended to appoint shareholders as Directors at this initial stage, as this may hinder the decision making process in the short term if we end up with 10/12 Shareholders.

It is proposed to create a robust Shareholder Agreement, which protects shareholder value through a structured financial sign off process, but allowing the management team to operate effectively, through what is still a challenging period.

It is also recommended, that any Shareholder who wishes to become a Director, should send in a proposal, which will then be evaluated through the Business planning process

With your support and with the structured approach being proposed, we will achieve our objective of creating a Community Model delivering real value and future prosperity for all involved.

Can you please advise:

- a) Investment Option and value you would be prepared to support
- b) Intention to become an active Director, or not
- c) Any personal reassurances/caveats

Co-operative Vote On Investment Opportunity

Following an emergency meeting at Liberty Way, the board of Nuneaton Borough Supporters' Co-operative have voted unanimously to invest £10,000 of their members' money into the football club in exchange for a shareholding and a seat on the board of directors.

Board members acknowledged that there was a certain amount of risk, but decided it was in the best interests of the club and Co-operative members to support the initiative.

Two Move On

Nuneaton Borough have lost the services of James Baxendale, who has joined struggling Northern Premier League side Mickleover Sports. Also on his way is Aaron Birch. The former Hereford United midfielder, has joined Halesowen Town of the Southern League Premier Division. The Yeltz are bottom but one in the league.

Boro Sign Three

Nuneaton Borough have announced a trio of signings to bolster their threadbare squad. The most experienced of the three is James Caton who started his career at Bolton Wanderers before going on to represent Shrewsbury, Blackpool and Southport amongst others. He is expected to make his debut for Boro in their next game – against his former club, Darlington.

Also arriving at Liberty Way are the less experienced duo of Bekir Halil, who has represented Worcester City and Sporting Khalsa in the Midland League Premier Division and Dimitri Dunkley, who has represented Birmingham based Romulus FC who also play in the Midland League Premier Division.

Nuneaton Borough v Darlington

23-03-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Calveley, M. Addison, D. Kelly-Evans, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, J. Lussey, R. Edmunds (T. Allen 72), J. Lundstram, J. Caton (D. Dunkley 72). Subs: B. Halil, T. Belford.

Darlington: J. Turner, L. Trotman, T. Galbraith, T. Elliott, S. Ainge, O. Holness, A. Henshall (B. Jackson 71), R. Palmer, W. Kneeshaw (H. Saunders 71), J. Nicholson, S. Thompson. Subs: J. Maddison, J. Burn, C. Elliott.

Boro welcomed Darlington to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

The early exchanges were fairly evenly contested with little to excite, but the first football of the match brought a goal in the 13th minute. A superb upfield ball, launched from 15 yards inside the visitors half by Jamaican international Omar Holness, picked out Wilson Kneeshaw who zipped in a dangerous cross to the far post which was headed powerfully into the net by former Middlesbrough youth player Stephen Thompson.

Despite this setback Boro were able to match the visitors and went close to an equaliser when Miles Addison's header from a Jordan Lussey cross was kept out by the outstretched leg of Bolton loanee Jake Turner in the Quakers' goal. The home side threatened again shortly afterwards when Luis Derbyshire-Morrison headed down to the feet of Michael Calveley, but the defender-cum-attacker's toe poke was deflected over the bar by England C international Simon Ainge.

The game went on in a scrappy fashion but Boro continued to battle their way back and were rewarded with an equaliser after 28 minutes through Miles Addison. Jordan Lussey whipped in a dangerous corner to the near post and Addison was able to get his head on the cross and it flew high into the

net. The rest of the half was fairly uneventful and the sides went in at half-time on equal terms.



Miles Addison heads home Boro's equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro, who rarely have a good second half these days, found themselves in arrears again just three minutes after the restart. Former Boro defender Luke Trotman slid a pass down the line to goalscorer Thompson. The winger cut inside Rhys Sharpe before lofting the ball to the far post where former Boro favourite Jordan Nicholson headed past Cameron Belford to restore the Quakers' lead.



Jordan Nicholson wins the match for Darlington.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro fought to get back on level terms, but the ritual sending off came in the 63rd minute after Nicholson was played clear of a Boro defence caught too far forward. Devon Kelly-Evans raced after Nicholson but appeared to clip his heels on the edge of the 18 yard box and referee Mr Simpson brandished Boro's umpteenth red card of the season.

Thompson lashed a free-kick of the highest quality over the wall and into the net. Unfortunately for the visitors Lussey was receiving treatment on the pitch and the referee called goal celebrations to a halt. Thompson put his second effort high over the Boro bar.

A second yellow card for Darlington's Omar Holness reduced the visitors to ten men six minutes after Kelly-Evans' dismissal following a late tackle on Lussey. Two minutes later Boro came close to an equaliser as a long clearance found its way to Ryan Edmunds, but the striker hit a weak effort wide of the post.

At the other end Nicholson almost put the game out of Boro's reach as he raced through on Belford. However, the keeper was able to palm away the midfielder's well struck shot which rebounded straight back to Nicholson, but he mishit a poor shot which looped up into the air for Belford to collect.

The final whistle saw Boro crash to their 25th league defeat of the season and their fate could be sealed at the Broadhurst Park Stadium in Manchester next Saturday.

Boro Sign Ecclestone

Nuneaton Borough have signed Nathan Ecclestone, the former Liverpool striker. After making his debut for the Anfield side against Arsenal in the League Cup in 2009, he then went on to make his Premiership debut against Fulham in the next game. Ecclestone also made appearances for Liverpool in the Europa League but was loaned out on three occasions before being released.

Ecclestone made nine first team appearances for Blackpool but was loaned out to Tranmere Rovers, Carlisle United and Coventry City before drifting into Scottish League football. He played his last competitive football for Hungarian club Békéscsaba in 2016.

Winding-up Petition Adjourned

A petition to liquidate Boro Leisure over a £32,000 tax bill, brought by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs has been adjourned to allow the football club to access the funds available in its frozen bank account. The order has been postponed until May 1.

The club will need to return to court to seek a validation order which will allow for the unfreezing of the account. The hearing will take place tomorrow (March 28). The validation order will give the club a breathing space which will allow them to collate funds already pledged to satisfy the demands of the winding up order.

FC Utd of Manchester v Nuneaton Boro 30-03-2019

FC United: A. Fisher, D. Morton (T. Peers 46), R. Harris, Z. Mohammed, S. O'Halloran, J. Wallen (C. Sharp 58), J. Banister, D. Whitham, K. Willoughby, L. Myers, D. McHale (M. Donohue 38). Subs: C. Lynch, J. Grimshaw.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend, M. Addison, J. Lundstram, M. Calveley, J. Lussey, J. Caton (B. Halil 86), R. Edmunds (D. Dunkley 89), T. Allen. Subs: L. Morrison-Derbyshire, T. Belford.

Boro made the journey to Broadhurst Park to play FC United of Manchester in a National League North game.

Boro were first to show after a quiet opening period as Michael Townsend tested FC United keeper Andrew Fisher. However, the Blackburn Rovers loanee made a regulation save at his near post.

The home side, also struggling in the bottom three, were dealt a body blow to their own survival hopes on 17 minutes when James Caton controlled a long kick from Cameron

Belford before laying it back to Ryan Edmunds, who launched a ball down the middle of the park. Former Stockport defender Daniel Morton appealed frantically for offside, but to no avail, and Taylor Allen superbly brought the ball under control, stepped inside Morton and slid the ball past Fisher.



Taylor Allen opens the scoring for Boro.

Photo: Vanarama Conference

Boro were in dreamland two minutes later as a long throw in from Rhys Sharp caused panic in the FC United back line. Miles Addison got his head to the ball which helped it on to the far post where Mike Calveley headed against the bar. When the ball dropped down, Calveley was on hand to slam the ball into the roof of the net.

The home side created little of note in the first 45 minutes and Boro went in at the break with an unexpected 2-0 lead.

The second half followed a similar pattern and the home side's chances of survival were put into real doubt when, after 62 minutes, Boro scored again. Caton swept a ball out wide to Jordan Lussey, who made ground into the box before sliding a shot past Fisher and into the net at the near post.

Boro were forced to defend for a period as FC United attempted to fight their way back into the game but aside from a header from England C international Kurt Willoughby, which Belford saved with some ease, there was little to excite the home fans.

The home side's defensive frailties were further exploited with five minutes to go. Curtis Obeng dispossessed former Everton youngster Michael Donohue. Leaving the substitute in his wake, Obeng powered his way down the right before slipping the ball through to Caton, who had the simplest of tasks in sliding the ball past Fisher.



Miles Addison heads home Boro's equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Guiseley's midweek win against Curzon Ashton and a draw against York City mean that Boro's fate is almost sealed and the Southern League Premier Central is beckoning.

Co-operative Statement

On the back of last week's good news regarding the Boro's adjourned winding up order and the approval of the validation, the Co-operative would like to announce that the board has approved a substantial investment of its funds into the Football Club in return for shares and a likely Fan Director role.

Over the last few months, Co-op board members have had a series of meetings with Jimmy Ginnelly and other investors which have been encouraging. All involved appear to have a similar ethos to the Co-operative in trying to get the Boro back into the centre of the local community. The finer details such as the club's structure and shareholders agreement need to be finalised, and all Co-op members will be updated regarding this as soon as possible.

The Football Club still faces some big challenges in the upcoming months, and we would encourage all Boro fans to continue to support the club's fundraising events and efforts in order to put the club on a more secure footing.

We would like to put on record our thanks to Jimmy and the others who have helped get the club to this point and look forward to working with them for many seasons to come.

Allen Joins Forest Green

Boro's most exciting prospect, 18-year-old Taylor Allen who joined the club in January from Birmingham based Romulus FC, has signed professional forms with League 2 Forest Green Rovers. He will, however, remain with Nuneaton until the end of the season before moving on to The New Lawn.

Nuneaton Borough v Chester

06-04-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, M. Townsend, M. Addison, J. Lundstram, M. Calveley, J. Lussey (D. Kelly-Evans 82), J. Caton (D. Dunkley 79), R. Edmunds, T. Allen (N. Ecclestone 70). Subs: T. Belford, L. Morrison-Derbyshire.

Chester: G. Shenton, B. Jackson, M. Waters, S. McAllister, D. Livesey, S. Grand, B. McKenna, G. Roberts, A. Asante (G. Green 80), A. Dudley (G. Waring 62), D. Mooney (C. Mahon 67). Subs: S. Howson, G. Waring.

Boro welcomed Chester to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

Chester took an early lead after the experienced Sean McAllister played in former Solihull Moors goalscorer Akwasi Asanti. The powerful striker turned Michael Calveley before stroking the ball through Curtis Obeng's legs and into the net.

Boro were almost back on level terms ten minutes later as a superb ball from Jordan Lussey found Ryan Edmunds unmarked in the box but the striker's shot was tipped wide of the post by Grant Shenton. However, Boro were level on 36 minutes as Cameron Belford's long free-kick into Chester's box was headed against his own post by goalscorer Asante and Miles Addison was on hand to put the ball into the empty net.

Belford made a regulation save from Asante just before the break and Boro went in at half-time on level terms.

Boro started the second half on the front foot and a long throw from Rhys Sharp caused panic in the Chester box and the ball pinged around for an age before it finally broke to Ryan Edmunds on the edge of the box. The number 10 got away a firm shot but Shenton was equal to it and palmed the ball out for a fruitless corner.



Shenton keeps out Ryan Edmunds shot.

Photo: Rick Matthews

Despite the home side's bright start to the second period they fell behind after Northern Ireland youth international Ben McKenna knocked in a ball to the near post and Daniel Livesey got in front of Michael Townsend and turned the ball into the net.



Livesey restores Chester's lead.

Photo: Rick Matthews

Boro battled bravely after the goal and did not let their heads drop. Sharp's long throw ins were a problem for the Seals' defence and eventually Boro reaped their reward when Miles Addison got his head to one of the full back's long throws and Calveley was first to react, getting in behind the visitors' defence before putting the ball into a gaping net.

Minutes later Calveley had a gilt-edged chance to give Boro the lead but his effort from the edge of the six yard box lacked power and Shenton made an easy save. With seconds left on the clock Boro paid the full price for Calveley's miss as Chester stole all three points. Another McKenna corner was poorly defended and again found the head of the vastly experienced Livesey who headed powerfully into the Boro net.

All in all it was a valiant effort from Boro, pushing a team just outside the play-off places all the way, but it was also the final nail in Boro's coffin as they were relegated to Level 7 – the Southern League Premier Central Division.

Blyth Spartans v Nuneaton Borough 16-03-2019

Blyth: P. Jameson, L. Horner, M. Liddle (J. Watson 76), K. Green, N. Buddle, L. Laing, A. Wrightson, D. Mullen (A. Nicholson 82), D. Maguire, S. Reid, R. Dale (R. Armstrong 88). Subs: D. Atkinson, J. Rivers.

Boro: C. Belford, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Sharp, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, M. Addison, J. Lundstram, M. Calvey (T. Allen 55), J. Lussey (T. Belford 77), N. Ecclestone (D. Dunkley 55), R. Edmunds, J. Caton.

Boro made the journey to Croft Park to play Blyth Spartans in a National League North game.

A 400+ mile round trip to Northumberland on a Tuesday night with a threadbare squad and the club already relegated! This was no night for risking a silly fiver – and so it proved with the home team the better side throughout.

Spartans were first to threaten as leading scorer Dan Maguire stepped inside Jordan Lussey in the 18-yard box, but the sharpshooter was only able to get in a weak shot which was easily saved by Cameron Belford. The homesters continued to put Boro under the cosh and the scourge of non-league defences over many long years – Robbie “Robbiedinho” Dale – got the better of Devon Kelly-Evans before picking out Sean Reid, who was unable to get a clear sight of goal and the ball was scrambled clear.

The loose ball was picked up by Republic of Ireland U-21 international Michael Liddle and he threaded a pass through to leading goalscorer Daniel Maguire. With 19 goals to his credit already this season Maguire looked like he would make it 20, but his powerful shot was beaten away by Belford.

Then, with ten minutes gone, Blyth took the lead. Luis Morrison-Derbyshire was guilty of some very poor defending and gifted the ball to Maguire who turned the stand-in defender and forced the ball through to Sean Reid via a deflection and the midfielder scored with an acrobatic overhead kick.

Just before the break Boro were guilty of yet more poor defensive work. This time goalscorer Reid won the ball at the near post following a corner and laid the ball back to former Hartlepool midfielder Kieran Green, who drove the ball into the left-hand corner.

Blyth continued to threaten after half-time and almost extended their lead as the irrepressible Dale played a superb ball through to Maguire. Belford, however, was on his toes and got there just before the striker.

Half-way through the second half Blyth got their third goal as Green won the ball in midfield and played right winger Adam Wrightson clear in the area. Despite the best efforts of Belford the former Gateshead man slipped the ball past the keeper and into the net.

Boro pulled a goal back with just five minutes left as Lundstram launched a long ball over the top for Taylor Allen, who took a touch with his head, forced his way between two defenders and then slipped the ball between Peter Jameson’s legs and into the net.

Blyth, however, were not finished and scored again in the 90th minute when Wrightson’s pass allowed Maguire to burst into the area from where he was able to pick out substitute Alex Nicholson and the Welsh U-19 international scored from the edge of the six yard box to give a fairer reflection of the gap between the two sides.

Bradford Park Avenue v Nuneaton Boro 13-04-2019

Bradford PA: C. Andrew, M. Ross, D. Lowe (O. Johnson 46), R. Crichlow-Noble, S. Killock, G. Havern, L. Knight (A. Nowakowski 89), C. Branson, J. Beesley, J. Spencer (D. East 72), N. Clee. Subs: K. Lewis-Potter, A. Hurst.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, M. Addison, T. Allen (D. Dunkley 78), M. Calvey, J. Lussey (B. Halil 86), L. Barlone, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds (T. Belford 89).

Boro made the journey to the Horsfall Stadium to play Bradford Park Avenue in a National League North game.

Despite the fact that The Avenue are odds-on for a place in the Conference North play-offs, they struggled to assert themselves over an already relegated Boro side. Chances were at a premium in the first-half, although the home side dominated possession as they did after the break.

Early on Boro’s long ball game almost surprised Hull City loanee Charlie Andrew on a couple of occasions while Miles Addison tried to force a shot through the home defence but he was outnumbered and the ball was bundled out for a fruitless corner.

Boro upped their game just before the break and won a couple of corners but all in all it was 45 minutes that won’t last long in the memory of those in attendance and the two teams went in 0-0 at half-time.

Just after the break Jordan Lussey had a shot blocked while a long range effort from Ryan Edmunds was comfortably saved by Andrew at his near post. Former Leeds United youngster and long throw specialist Lewis Knight almost created something for his forwards but the linesman’s flag saw Boro awarded a free-kick for a foul by Romoney Crichlow-Noble on Cameron Belford.



Jake Beesley’s penalty gives the home side the lead. Photo: Simon Kimber

Then, Belford pulled off a fantastic save from a corner and the ball ran loose but the Boro keeper was rescued by the referee's whistle and Shaun Killock's volley into the back of the net counted for nothing. However, Boro were undone two minutes later as former Norwich striker Oli Johnson got round Rhys Shape and put over a deep cross to the far post where Curtis Obeng fouled Jake Beesley. The Salford City loanee picked himself up and hammered the ball into the top corner of the net past Belford's despairing dive.

Beesley, with 19 goals to his account this season kept the Boro defence on their toes and might have had another goal when his header crashed against the crossbar before being cleared away.



Taylor Allen heads over the top.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Taylor Allen put a header over the top as Boro tried to hit back while Luis Morrison-Derbyshire headed Nicky Clee's looping shot off the line to keep Boro in the game. The visitors' efforts to snatch a goal were almost rewarded following Sharpe's long throw but the former Altrincham stalwart Clee hooked Calveley's shot away.

It was a brave effort by Boro who ran the home side pretty close overall despite Bradford's league record this season. The defeat saddled Boro with another unwanted outcome as they cannot now climb above any of the other teams in the bottom four and are condemned to ownership of the dreaded wooden spoon.

Calveley Recalled

Mike Calveley, whose performances have marked him out as favourite for the clubs Player of the Year, has been recalled by his parent club, Port Vale. The midfielder has become something of a utility player in his time at Liberty Way, playing in several different positions, including goalkeeper and as an auxiliary striker.

The 19-year-old has made more appearances than any other player this season, has scored five goals and made two assists.

In other news, striker Nathan Ecclestone will not turn out for the club again this season, but will hopefully feature next season after addressing fitness problems due to being out of the game for two years.

Nuneaton Borough v Altrincham

20-04-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, J. Lundstram, D. Dunkley (T. Belford 88), R. Edmunds, T. Allen, J. Lussey, L. Barlone, J. Caton (B. Halil 78), D. Kelly-Evans.

Altrincham: T. Thompson, S. Densmore, A. White (C. Hampson 24), B. Harrison, T. Hannigan, J. Mould, J. Johnston, S. Williams, J. Hulme, J. Hancock (M. Harrop 76), M. Chadwick (J. Poole 66). Subs: S. Richman, C. Dolan.

Boro welcomed Altrincham to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

The penultimate game in Boro's disastrous season got off to a disastrous start, even before kick-off, when Miles Addison was injured during the warm-up. The contrast between the two sides was stark as The Robins were able to name players of the calibre of Max Harrop and James Poole on their bench.

Despite all their problems Boro are showing some spirit of late and are not going down without a fight. Altrincham, however, are a very good Conference North side and have strength in depth as well as quality. The visitors were first to show and worked their way across Boro's 18 yard box before former Salford City winger John Johnson shot wide. The Robins tested Boro again soon after when Matt Chadwick forced Cameron Belford to save low down at the near post.



Jordan Lussey heads over the top.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro hit back though and forced a corner which was fired in to the near post where Jordan Lussey dived in to head over the top from the angle of the six yard area. Belford was again in action this time saving from Sean Williams at the expense of a fruitless corner. Just before the break James Caton almost took the visitors by surprise as he cut into the area and forced Tony Thompson into a save.

Although Alty had enjoyed the lion's share of possession in the opening half Boro had contested well and could feel well pleased with their efforts in the first 45 minutes – going in at the break still in the game at 0-0.

The first action of the second period saw the impressive Shaun Densmore hit a free-kick narrowly wide of the post and into the side netting. The visitors had come out for the second period in determined mood and monopolised possession as they probed Boro's creaking back line, and it came as no surprise when The Robins took the lead on 54 minutes.



Josh Hancock gives Altrincham the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Densmore was again involved and his ball into the box eventually found former Nantwich man Josh Hancock, who slammed the ball goalwards. Belford made a terrific save with his legs, but the ball rebounded to Hancock who drove it low into the net.

The goal inspired the visitors and they were in total control of the game from then on. Jordan Hulme almost extended the visitors' lead but his powerful strike rattled the crossbar before Belford made an awkward save to push the ball over the top. Alty then laid siege to the Boro goal for a time and Densmore's cross saw an extended period of backs-to-the-wall defending as Belford denied Ben Harrison and Devon Kelly-Evans headed off the line from Jake Moults' header.

Matty Chadwick had caused Boro problems throughout the second half and eased past Curtis Obeng before getting to the dead ball line from where he drove a dangerous cross to the near post but Rhys Sharpe was on hand to clear. Hancock then played in Jordan Hulme who dragged the ball across the six yard box but he narrowed his own angle and Sharpe again came to the rescue at the expense of a corner.

Densmore once more caused problems for the Boro back line with the help of some ordinary defending from Lussey. The ball eventually found its way to substitute Max Harrop after Jordan Hulme's shot was pushed out by the Boro keeper. Unfortunately, the ball fell straight to the feet of Harrop and the former Liverpool Academy player hit a shot which found its way into the net despite Belford getting a hand to it.

At the final whistle Boro had slipped to yet another defeat, but had given play-off contenders Altrincham a run for their money despite their paper thin squad and injury problems.

Player Of The Year Ceremony

On-loan defender Mike Calveley scooped two of the major awards at an after-match ceremony at Liberty Way on Saturday. The Port Vale man, who had been recalled by his club during the week won the prestigious Kingstonian Shield and the Boro Independent Supporters Club player of the year and away player of the year awards. The youngster was not

able to attend the ceremony and his trophies were accepted on his behalf by team captain Cameron Belford.

Manager Jimmy Ginnelly's player of the year was full-back Rhys Sharpe and the players' player of the year was central defender Miles Addison.

Leamington v Nuneaton Boro

22-04-2019

Leamington: T. Breeden, J. English, C. Gudger, J. Clarke, J. Mace, J. Lane, J. Murphy, S. Wilding, C. Bishop (D. Parker 65), J. Edwards (R. Flanagan 65), C. Taylor (E. Hodge). Subs: C. Gittings, A. Obeng.

Boro: C. Belford, B. Halil (D. Dunkley 61), R. Sharpe (T. Belford 80), L. Morrison-Derbyshire, J. Lussey, J. Lundstram, T. Allen, R. Edmunds, L. Barlone, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Caton.

Boro made the journey to the New Windmill Ground to play Leamington in a National League North game.

The only reason for supporters of Nuneaton Borough to celebrate at this stage of the season is that it is almost at an end. The home side are a competent Conference North side and that was enough to secure them the points against a ragged, injury hit Boro team.

Ex-Worcester City striker Colby Bishop, the second highest scorer in the division, notched a hat-trick to see off the visitors, who offered very little resistance. Boro, however, were first to show as Luke Edmunds put a free-kick well over the top from distance before Bishop signalled his intent by heading over the top from a Junior English cross.



Colby Bishop heads Leamington into the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro threatened briefly as English was forced into a hasty clearance but the home side took the lead on 18 minutes after West Brom youngster Sam Wilding picked Connor Taylor out on the left and the ex-Boro player's cross found Bishop in acres of space in front of goal leaving the striker the fairly simple task of powering a header past the helpless Cameron Belford.

Taylor was involved again two minutes later when The Brakes extended their lead. The former Walsall player was again involved in creating the goal as he forced over a cross which Bishop drove into the net for his 25th goal of the season.

Given the fact that Boro have only managed one win this year, a comeback from this position looked a remote possibility.

The home side were in control of the game at this stage and looked odds-on to extend their lead. Boro, however, did threaten the home goal as Taylor Allen got in a dangerous cross which evaded Luke Barlone with the goal gaping in front of him. At the other end Tony Breeden made a regulation save from James Caton while Belford made a good save to keep out Edwards' fierce header. The last action of the half saw Bishop spurn the chance of a first half hat-trick, blazing over the top after being played in by former Wrexham midfielder Joe Clarke.

Taylor had a goal disallowed for offside at the start of the second period before Belford was called on again. This time Bishop's powerful shot was confidently held by the Boro keeper with Jordan Murphy in close attendance. The Solihull Moors loanee forced Belford into another save shortly after.

Just past the hour mark Leamington put the game out of sight with another goal from Bishop, completing his hat-trick. The leading goalscorer turned well in the area and bought himself some space before dinking the ball over Belford and into the net.



Taylor Allen poses a rare threat on the home goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

Connor Gudger went close for The Brakes while Belford continued his busy afternoon by denying both James Mace and Elliot Hodge. Breeden was woken from his slumbers by Taylor Allen who got in a header from a corner before Belford was again in action, saving from Hodge with his legs. West Brom loanee Samuel Wilding crashed a shot against the Boro bar while Devon Kelly-Evans brought Breeden into action, but the keeper made a good save after the midfielder had found himself through on goal.

Stockport Match Sold Out

Saturday's game against Stockport County, which has been made all-ticket is sold out with the visitors allocation of 3,450 tickets being taken up in next to no time. The home allocation of 566 has also been sold, which will create a record attendance for the Liberty Way stadium.

Nuneaton Borough v Stockport County 27-04-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, L. Barlone, M. Addison (L. Morrison-Derbyshire 61), J. Lundstram, T. Allen (T. Belford 88), J. Lussey, J. Caton, D. Kelly-Evans (D. Dunkley 64), R. Edmunds. Subs: B. Halil.

Stockport: B. Hinchliffe, S. Miniham, S. Duxbury, P. Turnbull, A. Palmer, J. Keane, A. Thomas, S. Walker, F. Mulhern (N. Bell 85), M. Warburton (E. Osborne 88), J. Kirby (D. Stephenson 81), Subs: D. Cowan, I. Ormson.

Boro welcomed Stockport County to Liberty Way to play a Vanarama National League North game.

The footballing gods had conspired to give both teams a winning hand. The Hatters needed to win against a team that had lost 16 games out of 20 at Liberty Way and Boro needed as much money as they could generate to pay off their creditors and lay the foundations for a new beginning. At the final whistle both sides had achieved their aims in spades.

It wasn't a day for the football purist as Storm Hannah hit Liberty Way, making good football impossible. That said the visitors were by far the better side and eventually cruised to a comfortable victory despite some delaying tactics by the home side.



Stockport fans welcome their side onto the field. Photo: Simon Kimber

Marauding right back Sam Miniham caused Boro problems early on and created a half-chance which former Stoke City youngster Adam Thomas dragged wide before left back Scott Duxbury battled his way past Ryan Edmunds and Josh Lundstram before forcing Cameron Belford to concede a fruitless corner.

Boro's defence then went into siege mode as the ball broke to Jake Kirby but the combined efforts of Rhys Sharpe, Lundstram and Devon Kelly-Evans scrambled the ball clear. Frank Mulhern put a shot narrowly wide as The Hatters continued to dominate proceedings.

Former Guiseley captain Ashley Palmer headed Paul Turnbull's corner over the bar before Kirby fired Turnbull's cross narrowly wide of the far post as Boro battled against a top of the league side and the conditions. A dangerous corner from Sam Walker was headed goalwards by Thomas but Lundstram headed over the bar from almost on the goal-line.

Then, nine minutes before half-time the visitors got the goal they deserved from yet another corner. Walker curled a swirling cross to the far post where it was powered

into the net by Palmer from three yards out. Some Boro fans pondered on the difficulty the visitors might have in defending a single goal lead given the perceived advantage of kicking into what is traditionally the home end.

But those theories were exploded in time added on at the end of the first half when leading goalscorer Matty Warburton raced into the Boro box before unleashing an unstoppable shot across Belford and into the far corner of the net. Just before the break Mulhern raced clear and looked odds-on to increase the visitors' lead but Belford made a fine save and eventually the ball was scrambled away.



Matty Warburton makes it 2-0 to The Hatters. Photo: Simon Kimber

Any thoughts about how much difficulty Stockport would have in dealing with the condition in the second half were put to bed almost immediately as Mulhern played Minihan's cross back to Turnbull on the edge of the box from where the vastly-experienced midfielder half-volleyed a cracking drive wide of the far post.



Devon Kelly-Evans in a rare Boro attack. Photo: Simon Kimber

Full-back Minihan went into Lionel Messi mode shortly afterwards and his nifty footwork bought him space in Boro's 18 yard box but his shot was straight at Belford. Palmer joined in the fun with a crashing drive just inside the near post but Curtis Obeng got the ball away for a corner.

Stockport put the seal on their championship winning performance after 78 minutes when Boro failed to deal with a Minihan throw-in down the line and the ball eventually found its way to the edge of the box, falling to the left boot of Thomas who lashed in a goal worthy of winning any championship.

With Stockport fans straining at the leash to celebrate the championship, substitute Nyal Bell headed a great chance wide from Walker's free-kick before the match was brought to its end with a James Caton shot that almost took Hincliffe by surprise. Seconds later the referee signalled the start of Stockport celebrations by blowing the final whistle.



Stockport fans celebrate their first ever league title. Photo: Simon Kimber

The away fans celebrated a return to the Conference Premier and perhaps, eventually a return to the Football League, while Boro quietly celebrated something much more important – their continued existence.

Boro Face BSC Crisis

Nuneaton Borough face the embarrassing prospect of only having nine players available to play the Birmingham Senior Cup final against Leamington. Boro are waiting to hear if Birmingham County FA will give them a special dispensation to sign former players to represent the club in the final.

Nuneaton Borough v Leamington 02-05-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe, L. Morrison-Derbyshire, J. Caton, L. Hildrith, T. Allen, J. Lundstram, L. Barlone, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds.
Sub: J. Baxendale.

Leamington: T. Breedon, J. English, J. Lane, J. Clarke, J. Hood, J. Mace, C. Taylor, R. Flanagan, C. Bishop, C. Gittings, A. Obeng. Subs: J. Magunda, J. Bowen, A. Dwyer, C. Carson, B. Newey.

Boro travelled to the St. Andrews home of Birmingham City to play the Birmingham Senior Cup final.

Boro managed to add to their threadbare squad by including Lee Hildreth, who left the club in February, but they suffered a set-back before the kick-off as Miles Addison withdrew from the starting line-up leaving them with eleven players on the pitch and one substitute.

There was a cagey start to the match, but Boro battled bravely although Colby Bishop headed Reece Flanagan's free-kick over the bar before Boro threatened The Brakes' goal. Ryan Edmunds controlled a tricky high ball and beat former Boro defender Jack Lane to the line before driving a dangerous ball across the six yard box. Unfortunately it was

beyond Taylor Allen's reach and Junior English was able to clear the ball.

There was little by way of excitement in the early stages although former Kidderminster midfielder Callum Gittings drove a shot over the bar and Flanagan's corner caused some consternation in the Boro defence before Cameron Belford grabbed the ball following an English header.



Devon Kelly-Evans battles with Jamie Hood. Photo: Simon Kimber

The Boro keeper then made a regulation save from Gittings' shot before a piece of magic from Taylor Allen took him to the touchline but there was no-one on hand to get a boot on his cross. The referee's whistle brought an end to a very flat first half and the sides went in at the break with the score at 0-0.

Boro started the second half on the front foot and Josh Lundstram turned Joe Clarke inside out before picking out Allen at the near post from where the youngster headed wide. At this stage the game was evenly balanced but all that changed after 52 minutes when the prolific Colby Bishop got in front of Luis Morrison and side footed an English cross past Belford.

Boro tried to hit back and had a sight of goal after Devon Kelly-Evans charged down a clearance before racing forward and slipping the ball through to Allen but his shot wasn't powerful enough to trouble the experienced Tony Breedon. Barlone then headed on Rhys Sharpe's long clearance to Edmunds but the striker failed to get enough on his shot and the ball deflected off Breedon and Jamie Hood tidied up.



Boro celebrate Taylor Allen's equaliser. Photo: Simon Kimber

Morrison made a crucial clearance after Flanagan played a slide rule pass through to Gittings before Boro drew level after 66 minutes. Edmunds nutmegged Jack Lane and drove the ball across the six yard box where Allen was lurking at the back post to bundle the ball into the net.

Unfortunately, this was the high point for Boro and they fell behind again almost immediately after Bishop drove a cross into the six yard box. The ball struck Belford and ricocheted onto Curtis Obeng who could not prevent the ball entering the net under pressure from namesake Ahmed Obeng. The Leamington left winger wheeled away in celebration, but either way it was the beginning of the end for Boro.

Before the last rites Boro had a penalty appeal waved away by the referee after the ball struck James Mace's hand but Leamington were starting to assert themselves and a good interchange between Ahmed Obeng, Colby Bishop and Reece Flanagan ended with Bishop curling a wonderful shot into the top right hand corner of the net with Belford helpless.

The game was over two minutes later after Allen was caught in possession by English and the full back quickly shipped the ball to Joe Clark who picked out Connor Taylor. The former Boro player played the ball through to Ahmed Obeng who was clear of the Boro defence. The Ghanaian sprinted to the edge of the 18-yard box before driving the ball into the net.

Jamie Hood denied Lundstram at the expense of a corner as Boro pressed late in the game but Leamington ran out worthy winners and Boro can now look forward to re-establishing themselves in the Southern League Premier Central.

Boro stalwart honoured



Ex-Leicester City legend Richie Norman has been awarded a medal by Birmingham County FA in recognition of his 60 years of service in football.

Richie, who made more than 300 appearances for Leicester City, including two FA Cup finals, joined Brendan Phillips' backroom staff prior to the 1995-96 season. He had previously given five years' service to Kettering Town and previous to that had managed Burton Albion, gaining promotion to the Southern League Premier Division in 1971-72.

Conference North 2018-2019

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stockport County	42	24	10	8	77	36	82
Chorley	42	24	9	9	83	41	81
Brackley Town	42	22	11	9	72	40	77
Spennymoor Town	42	22	10	10	78	48	76
Altrincham	42	20	11	11	85	56	71
Blyth Spartans	42	20	9	13	74	62	69
Bradford Park Avenue	42	18	11	13	71	61	65
AFC Telford United	42	17	14	11	64	59	65
Chester	42	16	14	12	60	62	62
Kidderminster Harriers	42	17	9	16	68	62	60
Boston United	42	17	7	18	62	60	58
York City	42	16	10	16	58	63	58
Leamington	42	13	15	14	57	60	54
Southport	42	13	14	15	58	55	50
Alfreton Town	42	13	12	17	53	67	51
Darlington	42	12	14	16	56	62	50
Hereford	42	11	16	15	47	58	49
Curzon Ashton	42	13	10	19	44	71	49
Guiseley	42	9	17	16	46	60	44
Ashton United	42	9	8	25	43	86	35
FC United	42	8	10	24	49	82	34
Nuneaton Borough	42	4	7	31	38	96	19

Nuneaton Borough Avoid Winding Up Order

Boro have announced that they have successfully fought off a winding up order issued by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. The club were rescued by a number of initiatives including a Just Giving Page launched by Boro fan Simon Moore, a number of events organised by the club's commercial manager Mark Grimes and others and investments by local businessmen and Nuneaton Borough Supporters' Co-operative, who have invested £10,000 of their members' money in exchange for a seat on the new board.

Boro were also given a boost by the fixture list, which saw them listed to play Stockport County on the final day of the season. The Hatters needed to win to take the championship and brought almost 3,500 very generous fans with them, who bought raffle tickets, beer and contributed almost £2,500 to a bucket collection.

Boro Granted Rate Relief

Boro's financial position was given a further boost after the club received news that they have been granted an application for Discretionary Rate Relief. This news was further enhanced after the relief had been backdated to include last year's rates. The club were quick to thank local MP Marcus Jones, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council and former secretary Richard Dean amongst others.

Tragic Death Of Former Player



The club and supporters are shocked to hear of the death of former player Danny Pitham, who was found dead in a house in Bulkington Road, Bedworth on Bank Holiday Monday. Two men have appeared in court to face charges.

The ex-Bedworth defender, who began his career with Burnley, signed for Nuneaton Town in November 2008 and played in 25 games that season as Boro fought their way into the Southern League Premier Division via the play-offs.

The robust defender also signed for the 2009-10 season but found his opportunities limited by an ankle injury that required surgery. Danny also represented Hinckley United, Coalville and Atherstone amongst others.

Former Boro Defender Dies

The death has been reported of Jon Gittens, who has passed away at the age of 55. He was signed by Brendan Phillips prior to the 2000-2001 season. The former Swindon Town and Southampton defender, who also had a spell in the Premiership with Middlesbrough, made 16 appearances for Boro during the season.

First Close Season Signing



Boro have secured the services of ex-Wrexham winger Callum Powell for the 2019-20 season. The pacy winger started his career as a youngster with Northampton Town before joining Wrexham. Powell struggled to make an impact at the Racecourse Ground and was allowed to join Tamworth on loan. He has most recently represented Stourbridge, who he joined from Stratford Town in August 2018.

Brackley Town — 2nd Qualifying Round

Boro welcomed Brackley Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round tie.

Boro: Belford, Obeng, Freestone, Burns, Addison, Wesolowski (Andoh 75), Baker, Richards, Kelly-Evans, McGurk (Benjamin 66), Mitchell. Subs: Wharton, Basso, Blackham, Corcoran.

Brackley: Lewis, Myles, G. Walker, Hall, Dean, Byrne, Fairlamb (Franklin 68), Nti (Armson 57), A. Walker, Ndlovu, Jeffers (Lowe 57). Subs: Lowe, Franklin, Armson, Noon.

Brackley started confidently and looked to be well within their comfort zone in the first half. Lee Ndlovu forced Belford to save at the expense of a corner before Luke Fairlamb put a shot over the bar from the edge of the box.

Brackley failed to convert after Connor Hall and Ndlovu had sight of goal following a scramble while former Boro player Daniel Nti headed a Fairlamb cross wide of the post.

The Saints took the lead just after the 30 minute mark when Ndlovu put Cameron Belford under pressure from a Shane Byrne corner and the Boro custodian appeared to punch the ball into his own net.

The visitors were well in control at this stage and Adam Walker had a shot deflected wide while Connor Hall brought a superb save out of Belford at the expense of a corner. The last action of the first half saw Ndlovu have a goalbound shot deflected wide by his own player.

The second half was a more even contest, but Brackley still looked fairly comfortable. Boro, however, were still pushing forward and got their reward ten minutes into the second period with a deserved equaliser.

Adam McGurk picked out Kairo Mitchell who pressurised Brackley into conceding a corner. The corner caused some consternation in the visitors' rearguard and the ball was headed across goal by Miles Addison to the feet of Mitchell who toe-poked the ball into the net.

Adam Walker hit a shot wide as Brackley endeavoured to finish the tie off at the first time of asking.

The latter stages of the game failed to produce any clear cut chances and an element of niggles found its way into the play and Boro captain Miles Addison was dismissed deep into injury time for a rash tackle on Matt Lowe.

Brackley Town — 2nd Qualifying Round Replay

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in a FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round replay.

Brackley: D. Lewis, E. Myles, C. Franklin, S. Byrne, C. Hall, G. Dean, L. Fairlamb, J. Armson, L. Ndlovu, M. Lowe, A. Walker. Subs: D. Nti, S. Jeffers, G. Walker, S. Murombedzi, M. Noon.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, A. Carter, C. Richards, M. Addison, D. Burns, C. Baker, D. Kelly-Evans, S. Benjamin, A. McGurk, K. Mitchell. Subs: L. Freestone, A. Basso, E. Andoh, T. Wharton, J. Blackham, L. Corcoran.

Boro crashed out of the FA Cup at the first hurdle after being somewhat flattered by the 2-0 scoreline.

Belford made a good save from the first shot on target while Curtis Obeng blocked a shot from the dangerous Lee Ndlovu.

Brackley had a goal disallowed for a foul on Ash Carter before they eventually took the lead in the 34th minute through Ndlovu, who hammered the ball home after a lovely touch on from James Armson.

Adam Walker put a shot over the bar before The Saints doubled their lead with a goal from Connor Hall. The former Bury Town defender was played clear by Luke Fairlamb and drove the ball into the net off the far post.

The home side continued to dominate for the rest of the half but were unable to convert their chances into goals as Ndlovu and James Armson both missed very acceptable chances.

The second half brought about little in the way of change as Brackley's dominance continued and Fairlamb hit a shot wide after the break.

Ndlovu then hit a shot wide of the post from Walker's pass before Luke Fairlamb also missed the target from a free-kick.

Boro threatened briefly as Enoch Andoh got in behind the home defence, forcing Danny Lewis into a save, but an offside flag was raised anyway.

The game continued in the same vein right up until the final whistle which saw Brackley earn the right to face Marine FC in the next round.



Lee Ndlovu fires Brackley Town into a one-nil lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Brackley Town — 3rd Qualifying Round

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in an FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round tie.

Brackley: D. Lewis, E. Myles, C. Franklin, S. Byrne, C. Hall, G. Dean, G. Walker, J. Armson (D. Nti 72), L. Ndlovu (S. Jeffers 74), M. Lowe (S. Murombedzi 78), A. Walker.
Subs: L. Fairlamb, M. Noon.

Boro: C. Belford, H. Panayiotou, N. Kelly, J. Lyne, M. Addison, M. Calveley, C. Baker, D. Kelly-Evans (Tweed 69), A. McGurk, D. Angus, R. Jennings. Subs: O. Edebor, A. Basso, R. Etheridge.

Holdes Brackley recorded a routine victory against a threadbare Boro side, whose only achievement was to add yet another black mark to their appalling disciplinary record.

The home side started strongly and midfielder Matt Lowe shot wide before Connor Hall had a free-kick deflected wide for a fruitless corner.

Ex-Boro favourite James Armson headed a Glenn Walker cross over the bar with just five minutes gone as the home side continued to press.

Carl Baker had a shot saved by former Kidderminster custodian Danny Lewis as Boro tried to find a way into the game. Baker was involved again shortly afterwards in partnership with Devon



Boro mount a rare attack.

Photo: Will Grantham (Brackley Town FC)

Kelly-Evans, but Lewis claimed the ball after a scramble.

Brackley's leading goalscorer Lee Ndlovu put a shot over the bar after good work from The Saints' impressive right-back Ellis Myles, but neither side looked particularly dangerous and they went in at the break with a blank scoresheet.

Brackley continued to have the lion's share of possession after the break and Lowe headed wide from a corner before spurning another half-chance after being set up by Ndlovu.

Ten minutes after the break the home side finally broke the deadlock when Ndlovu outpaced Mike Calveley before cutting inside and stroking the ball past Belford and into the bottom corner.

Saints' stalwart Glenn Walker shot wide on the hour mark before Ndlovu notched his second goal of the game following more great work by Myles, teeing up the centre-forward, who simply lifted the ball over Belford and into the net.

Boro's misery was complete when the prolific Ndlovu notched his hat-trick goal, heading home Glenn Walker's cross to give the home side an unassailable lead.

With the game in the bag the home side rang the changes, replacing Jimmy Armson and Lee Ndlovu. Armson's replacement, ex-Boro man Daniel Nti, twice went close within minutes of joining the fray, as the home side continued to dominate.

With the game drifting towards its conclusion Adam Walker shot over the top before Ryan Jennings joined the Liberty Way red card brigade.

Ex-Boro skipper Gaz Dean, now the Brackley captain, described the tackle as the worst he had seen in ten years of semi-professional football.



Brackley striker Lee Ndlovu celebrates.

Photo: Will Grantham (Brackley Town FC)



Vanarama National North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2018-19

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.14	Coventry	H	PSF	0-1		312
07.18	Port Vale	H	PSF	2-2	Angus, Scorer Not Known	138
07.21	Chesterfield	H	PSF	0-5		312
07.14	Coalville Town	A	PSF	0-0		
07.14	Kettering Town	H	PSF	3-1	Mitchell, Panayiotou, Jones	181
07.31	Barwell	A	PSF	1-2	A. Trialist	
08.04	Ashton United	A	NLN	0-0		273
08.07	Hereford	H	NLN	0-0		895
08.11	Chorley	H	NLN	0-1		511
08.14	Boston United	A	NLN	1-2	Andoh	1,200
08.18	Southport	H	NLN	1-4	Angus	459
08.25	Guiseley	A	NLN	1-2	Andoh	528
08.27	Brackley Town	H	NLN	1-3	Mitchell	480
09.01	Curzon Ashton	A	NLN	0-1		221
09.15	Spennymoor Town	A	NLN	1-3	Angus (pen)	725
09.22	Brackley Town	H	FAC	1-1	Mitchell	491
09.25	Brackley Town	A	FAC	0-2		325
09.29	FC United of Manchester	H	NLN	1-0	Andoh	638
10.02	York City	H	NLN	2-2	Angus (2)	501
10.16	Burton Albion	H	BSC	4-3	Andoh, Richards, Angus, Mitchell	291
10.20	Bradford Park Avenue	H	NLN	0-6		823
10.27	Stockport County	A	NLN	2-2	McGurk, Addison	2,802
10.30	Altrincham	A	NLN	0-4		695
11.03	Leamington	H	NLN	0-2		662
11.06	Chester	A	NLN	2-3	Baker, McGurk	1,462
11.10	Kidderminster Harriers	H	NLN	1-1	Davies	654
11.17	Alfreton Town	A	NLN	1-3	Angus	481
11.20	Solihull Moors	H	BSC	2-0	Angus, Edmunds	271
11.24	Brackley Town	A	FAT	0-3		350
12.01	Blyth Spartans	H	NLN	1-3	Angus	505
12.08	Darlington	A	NLN	2-1	Edmunds, Angus	1,064
12.11	Highgate United	H	BSC	2-0	Angus (2)	327
12.22	Guiseley	H	NLN	1-3	Angus	872
12.26	AFC Telford United	A	NLN	1-3	Calveley	1,524
12.29	Brackley Town	A	NLN	1-3	Edmunds	506
01.01	AFC Telford United	H	NLN	1-2	Edmunds	763
01.05	Southport	A	NLN	1-1	Ceesay	976
01.12	Curzon Ashton	H	NLN	2-4	Ceesay, Addison	915
01.19	Hereford	A	NLN	2-2	Calveley (2)	2,112
01.26	Ashton United	H	NLN	0-1		665
02.09	Boston United	H	NLN	1-5	Edmunds (pen)	655
02.16	Spennymoor Town	H	NLN	0-2		510
02.23	York City	A	NLN	0-2		2,355
02.26	Chorley	A	NLN	0-2		961
03.02	Kidderminster Harriers	A	NLN	1-4	Townsend	1,539
03.09	Alfreton Town	H	NLN	1-2	Edmunds	518
03.11	Stourbridge	A	BSC S-F	2-1	Calveley, Edmunds	413
03.23	Darlington	H	NLN	1-2	Addison	620
03.30	FC United of Manchester	A	NLN	4-0	Allen, Townsend, Lussey, Caton	1,697
04.06	Chester	H	NLN	2-3	Addison, Calveley	688
04.09	Blyth Spartans	A	NLN	1-4	Allen	875



Vanarama National North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2018-19

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
04.13	Bradford Park Avenue	A	NLN	0-1		429
04.20	Altrincham	H	NLN	0-2		530
04.22	Leamington	A	NLN	0-3		623
04.27	Stockport County	H	NLN	0-3		4,054
05.02	Leamington	St Andrews	BSC Final	1-4	Allen	

KEY : NLN = Vanarama National League North, FAC = F.A.Cup, FAT = F.A.Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF = Pre season friendly.



Nuneaton Borough April 2018-19

Back Row: Jimmy Ginnelly (manager), Jamie Capes (physio), Taylor Allen, Rhys Sharpe, Luke Barlone, Cameron Belford, Tyrell Belford, Miles Addison, Ryan Edmunds, Jordan Lussey, Dale Belford (assistant manager), Richie Norman.

Front Row: Adam Davies (coach), Bekir Halil, Josh Lundstram, Devon Kelly-Evans, Curtis Obeng, Dimitri Dunkley, James Caton.

SOME OTHER PLAYERS WHO REPRESENTED THE CLUB



Nicky Eaden



Lee Fowler



Louis Gray



Danny Burns



James Hurst



James Wesolowski

SOME OTHER PLAYERS WHO REPRESENTED THE CLUB (Continued)



Ash Carter



Mike Calveley



Courtney Richards



Harry Panayiotou



Owain Jones



Dior Angus



Enoch Andoh



Ross Etheridge



Theo Wharton



Michael Tweed



Kairo Mitchell



Lewis Freestone



Adriano Basso



Callum Coyle



Carl Baker



Shane Benjamin



Adam McGurk



Rhys Davies



Reece Leek



Ryan Jennings



Joe Lyne



Nat Kelly



Luis Morrison



Obaro Edobor



Lee Hildreth



Yusifu Ceesay



James Baxendale



Cody Prior



Foday Nabay



Michael Townsend



Malachi Lavelle-Moore



Aaron Birch



Jon Onyeaka



Jack Blackham



Ty Belford



Nathan Ecclestone

Season 2019-20

Boro Sign Winger

Boro manager Jimmy Ginnelly has secured the services of former Wrexham winger Callum Powell. As well as playing Conference Premier football at the Racecourse Ground, the pacy wide man has gained experience at a number of Southern League sides including Tamworth, Stourbridge and Stratford Town.

Towers Joins Boro



Boro have signed one of last season's top defenders at Southern League Central Premier level in Declan Towers. The rugged defender previously played under manager Jimmy Ginnelly at Barwell and also played with Hinckley United and Oadby Town.

Local Prospect Signs

Boro manager Jimmy Ginnelly has signed Midland League Premier Division Golden Boot winner Ryan Harkin from Coventry Sphinx. Harkin notched 67 goals in three seasons with the Sphinx, winning the Golden Boot award in 2017-18. He has previously been involved with Coventry Copsewood, who play in the Midland League division one.

Lavery Returns

Boro have added to their backroom staff with the arrival of former Kettering Town assistant manager Richard Lavery. The tough midfielder/defender played under Brendan Phillips at Manor Park before moving on to other local sides, such as Hinckley United and Tamworth.

More Local Lads Join

Nuneaton Borough continue to reinforce their commitment to local players with the signings of defender Ash Beddows and former Coventry City youngster Alex Lock, who can play on either wing. Both players are Nuneaton lads and have previously represented Nuneaton Town, albeit at junior level.

Henshall Back With Boro

Boro have signed former player Alex Henshall, who joined Nuneaton Town in 2016-17 season.

The former England U-17 international has represented Swindon, Manchester City, Chesterfield, Bristol Rovers and Ipswich Town. Unfortunately, his promising career was hampered by a knee injury and he was forced to seek a club at non-league level, where he represented Margate and Braintree Town.

Boro Net St Kitts & Nevis International



Jimmy Ginnelly has secured the signature of former Solihull Moors youngster Romario Martin. The front runner made two full appearances in the National League Premier Division with Solihull Moors and has gained experience at non-league level with Barwell, Highgate United and Romulus. He has won three international caps at U-20 level and made one full international appearance, scoring on his debut.

Boro Add Experience

Jimmy Ginnelly has added some much-needed experience to his squad with the addition of the much-travelled Aman Verma. The 32-year-old midfielder, who started his career with his home town club, Leicester City.

On his release from Leicester City in 2008 Aman joined Bedworth United and impressed enough to get another chance with The Foxes. He spent loan periods at Crewe, Histon, Kidderminster and Darlington before he was again released by Leicester City from where he joined Kettering Town. He has since represented Stockport County, Kidderminster and Torquay among others.

Ison On Board

Boro have signed central defender Lewis Ison from Midland Premier League side Coventry United. Starting his senior career with his local side Ison quickly progressed at The Butts and earned a move to League 1 Bristol Rovers. Unfortunately, a knee injury cut short his chances of a league career but he has fought his way back after re-establishing himself with the Reds and Greens.

Experienced Striker Joins Boro



Boro have secured the services of veteran striker Stuart Beavon, 35. The vastly experienced front man has a wealth of Football League and non-league experience, having represented Coventry City, Burton Albion and Wrexham among others.

He spent a three year spell in the Conference Premier with Weymouth, but when they were relegated he moved into the Football League with Wycombe Wanderers where he made over 100 appearances.

Boro Sign Glassboys' Hit Man



Jimmy Ginnelly has signed Luke Benbow from Stourbridge for an undisclosed fee. The powerfully built striker scored 20 goals in the Southern League Central Premier last term and has previous experience in the National League Premier with Solihull Moors.

Sharpe Re-Signs

Left back Rhys Sharpe has agreed to extend his stay with Nuneaton Borough. The long throw expert was one of the outstanding defenders in a difficult season for the club last term and won the accolade of being Jimmy Ginnelly and Dale Belford's Player of the Year for the 2018-19 season.

Goalkeeper Joins Boro



Jimmy Ginnelly has secured the services of experienced keeper Matt Sargeant who has played for a number of Midland non-league clubs including Worcester City, Chasetown and Halesowen Town. He spent the 2018-19 season with Alvechurch and Rushall Olympic.

Edmunds Returns

Winger Ryan Edmunds, who Boro signed from Coleshill Town, has agreed to rejoin the club for the 2019-20 campaign. Edmunds provided some of the brighter moments in a difficult season last time out.

Boro Sign Former Tamworth Defender



Former Tamworth centre-half Joel Kettle has joined former team mates Rhys Davies and Aman Verma at Liberty Way. The former Solihull Moors and Sutton Coldfield defender was The Lambs' captain during his stay at Kettlebrook and has experience at both Conference National and North levels.

Former Blues' Youngster Signs

Boro's rebuilding continues with the acquisition of former Birmingham City youth team player Dan Preston. The experienced defender has plied his trade with a number of Midlands' non-league sides including Tamworth, Telford and Stratford Town.

Glassboys Defender Joins Boro



Boro have announced the signing of defender Aris Christophorou from Stourbridge. The former Walsall player won a call-up to represent Cyprus at U-19 level during his time at the Bescot Stadium. He has also represented Rushall Olympic who also play in the Southern Central Premier.

Nigel Julien Signs



Boro manager Jimmy Ginnelly has continued in his quest to give the side a more local feel with the signing of Nigel Julien from his old club, Barwell. Julien started his career with Coventry City and spent eight years with the Kirby Road club. He has also represented Quorn FC.

In other news Luke Barlone, who made a handful of appearances for the club after joining last March is back at Liberty Way. The former Atherstone striker also represented Barwell as well as Coventry Sphinx, Grantham Town and Coalville Town.

Nuneaton Borough v Notts County

06-07-2019

Boro: C. Belford, A. Chrisporou (C. Obeng 45), R. Sharpe, D. Towers, J. Kettle, A. Verma (S. McGrath 79), C. Powell (L. Rankin 74), D. Kelly-Evans (N. Julien), L. Benbow (L. Barlone 79), R. Edmunds (H. Wakefield 60), A. Henshall (A. Locke 74). Subs: D. Preston, M. Sargeant, J. Byrne.

Notts County: R. Fitzsimons (M. Culverwell 60), D. Kelly-Evans (M. Tootle 45), T. Kennedy-Williams (O. Betts 45), M. Doyle (A. Kellett 45), C. Oxlade-Chamberlaine (D. Dunn 60), P. Bird (T. Crawford 45), A. Howes (S. Osborne 45), D. Dunn (M. Rose 32), K. Hemmings (E. Boldewijn 45), W. Patching (R. Campbell 45), K. Reid (K. Dennis 45).

Boro welcomed Notts County to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro opened their pre-season programme with an encouraging performance against a strong Magpies' side. The visitors were the first to show as Will Patching curled a shot wide from the edge of the box. Boro were almost undone when Kane Hemmings slipped the ball through to the completely unmarked Patching, but the winger's shot was well saved by Cameron Belford.



Luke Benbow challenges for the ball.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

The home side came close to taking an early lead as Ryan Edmunds and Luke Benbow combined well and the latter picked out Callum Powell in the 18-yard box, who only had the keeper to beat but smashed the ball against the near post. Boro went close again when Benbow played Alex Henshall free down the right. The winger waltzed past Christian Oxlade-Chamberlaine but his shot was saved by the legs of Ross Fitzsimons in the County goal.

The Magpies were living life on the edge at times and Boro again went close as Powell's corner picked out Declan Towers at the far post. However, the ex-Kettering defender's header was cleared off the line. The referee's whistle brought the half to a close with Boro well pleased with their first-half performance.

Boro made a promising start to the second period and Fitzsimons again came to the rescue as Devon Kelly-Evans won a challenge for Benbow's ball across the box, but the keeper made another good save.

The County keeper was in action again as Powell and substitute Dan Preston exchanged passes, but the keeper again saved, although the shot was straight at him.

As the Boro players tired Notts County came more into the game and eventually took the lead when first-half substitute Mitch Rose drove the ball home from the edge of the 18-yard box. Another substitute, Kristian Dennis smashed a shot against the Boro bar with Belford completely beaten as County upped their game.

Remaye Campbell's stooping header was narrowly wide before a disastrous pass back from Curtis Obeng gave Mitch Rose a gift for his second goal. Belford prevented Rose's hat-trick with a decent save from a free-kick before the final whistle.

Boro can take some comfort from their performance in this game given that it was the first outing for the management team's much-changed squad.

Boro Sign Midfielder



Boro manager Jimmy Ginnelly has signed former Brackley Town player Jack Byrne. The midfielder started his career as a trainee with Moor Green before joining Stratford Town. He left Knights Lane for Redditch before signing for Kidderminster Harriers, where he spent three years. He won the National League North title with Solihull Moors before making his way to St James' Park.

Also rejoining Boro is former player Billy Daniels, who spent last season at Kidderminster Harriers. The former Coventry City youngster made 26 appearances for the Aggborough side last season.

Nuneaton Borough v Walsall

13-07-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng, R. Sharpe (A. Beddows 20(D. Kelly-Evans 77)), J. Kettle (L. Rankin 80), A. Christophorou, N. Julien, C. Powell (A. Henshall 58), B. Daniels (S. McGrath), L. Benbow (H. Wakefield 80), S. Beavon (L. Barlone 80), R. Edmunds (A. Lock 80). Subs: M. Sargeant, J. Byrne.

Walsall: L. Roberts, B. Asante (C. Norman 45), C. Pring, K. Edwards-John (J. Kiersey 45), T. Leak, R. Holden (W. McDonald 45), S. Facey, M. Sadler, L. Kinsella, A. Bates, D. Guthrie. Subs: M. Candlin, J. Foulks, J. Slinn, C. Cockerill-Mollett, J. Lynch, E. Adebayo, J. Willis, J. Hardy.

Boro welcomed Walsall to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro competed well in the opening stages and took the game to The Saddlers with Luke Benbow looking dangerous at times. However, Boro suffered a set back after just 20 minutes when long throw specialist Rhys Sharpe went down injured and had to be replaced by Ash Beddows.

Shortly after losing Sharpe, Boro conceded the first goal of the match when Liam Kinsella drove the ball into the net from just outside the 18 yard box. The visitors controlled the rest of the half but Boro were still in the game as the half-time whistle sounded.

Despite competing well in the first-half Boro were soon two goals down when former Leicester City winger Kairo Edwards-John doubled the visitors' lead curling in a fine shot which hit the inside of the post before entering the net.

Boro hauled themselves back into the game after they were awarded a free-kick on the edge of the area. Benbow hit a low shot through the wall and into the net at the near post. Boro then almost dragged themselves level as Ryan Edmunds drove the ball against the post.

Walsall almost grabbed a third shortly after that but the shot was cleared off the line. Walsall themselves had a shot cleared off the line before Adebayo swept home a cross to extend The Saddlers' lead.

Cameron Belford produced a fine save to keep out Adebayo before Boro were denied by Walsall's trialist keeper before ex-Everton midfielder Jack Kiersey rounded off the scoring.

Basford United v Nuneaton Borough

16-07-2019

Basford: K. Preston, J. Law, R. Wilson, M. Thornhill, B. Gascoigne, S. Galinski, K. Richards, C. Chettle (J. Thomas 49), L. Hearn (C. Grantham 49), J. Reid (J. Carvell 49), Z. Goodson (N. Watson 49). Subs: L. Gayle, P. Mancinelli, L. Carr, K. Daws, R. Wynder.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (S. McGrath 73), D. Kelly-Evans, A. Christophorou, K. Lowe, N. Julien, R. Edmunds (L. Rankin 81), B. Daniel, L. Benbow (A. Rehman 71), S. Beavon, A. Henshall (C. Powell 24). Subs: M. Sargeant, J. Ginnelly, R. Lavery.

Boro made the journey to Greenwich Avenue to play Basford United in a pre-season friendly game.

Below strength Boro got off to a slow start and the home side took almost immediate advantage with a goal after just five minutes from ex-Boro midfielder Callum Chettle. Boro tried

to hit back immediately and had a series of shots on goal, but all of them were either saved by ex-Grantham stopper Kieran Preston or blocked by a United defender. This pattern continued for much of the first half but Boro were made to pay for their lack of finishing power when the former Grimsby striker Liam Hearn doubled the home side's lead following a magnificent through ball.

Boro got themselves back into contention with five minutes of the half remaining after Curtis Obeng made a strong run into the box and was brought down. Luke Benbow stepped up to take the spot kick and thrashed the ball past an helpless Preston.

Unfortunately for the visitors they conceded again just before the break when former Boro midfielder James Reid drove the ball into the net from outside the area and Boro went in at the break 3-1 down, despite having had the lion's share of chances.

Basford introduced a raft of changes just after half-time and with 58 minutes gone Boro pulled it back to 3-2 with a goal from Callum Powell. Boro's joy was short-lived however, and two minutes later the home side re-established their two goal lead. Cameron Belford pulled off two superb saves to keep the home side at bay but eventually substitute Courey Grantham bundled the ball into the net.

Benbow almost cut the lead again following a thrilling attack but the home side punished Boro with another goal a minute later as Grantham got his second of the match. Former Brackley winger Lewis Rankin caused the home defence some problems late in the match but Preston was on his mettle.

Hinckley AFC v Nuneaton Borough	20-07-2019
<p>Hinckley: T. Belford, C. Timson (E. Moore 66), H. Cheetham, R. Ball, K. Green, A. Gray, L. Commins (L. Tyler 62), L. Delaney, D. Dunkley (J. Hastings 78), M. Wright, G. Brindley (S. Pywell 63). Subs: Z. Stretton, J. Hastings.</p> <p>Boro: C. Belford, A. Christophorou, T. Florence (Anderson 69), C. Thomas (Alamin 84), K. Lowe, D. Kelly-Evans (Kennedy 86), C. Powell, B. Daniels (Mpofe 86), L. Benbow (H. Wakefield 77), S. Beavon, L. Rankin (A. Rehman 69). Subs: M. Sargeant, B. Traore.</p>	

Boro made the journey to The Welfare Park, Ibstock, to play Hinckley AFC in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro cruised to a comfortable win against a distinctly ordinary Hinckley side, taking the lead in the first minute after Stuart Beavon had been played through by Billy Daniels. The visitors continued to have the lion's share of possession and chances and it came as no surprise when they extended their lead with just ten minutes gone as Ty Florence picked out ex-Coventry City youngster Lewis Rankin, who curled a superb shot into the far corner of the net from the edge of the box.

Hinckley held out well after the second goal and although Boro continued to boss the proceedings they failed to take advantage of their superiority and it wasn't until just before the break that they posted a couple of goals to give a better reflection of the difference between the two sides.

Beavon scored the third goal, glancing a Daniels corner past the keeper and then completed his hat-trick after the impressive Rankin was tumbled over in the penalty area. The ex-Coventry City man stroked the ball home from the spot to complete a first-half hat-trick.

The second half was more of the same with Ty Belford's experience being in stark contrast to that of his brother in the opposite goal. Belford Junior had to be constantly on his guard as shots rained in on a regular basis and he made some good saves to keep the score respectable.

Just before the hour mark Boro's pressure told and Rankin grabbed his second of the game following some good interplay with Beavon. The match continued to be a little one-sided and with 20 minutes to go Boro added a sixth and final goal. It was Beavon again, adding to his first-half hat-trick following some excellent interpassing with substitute Luke Benbow. Both sides introduced a number of trialists throughout the second half before the referee called a halt to proceedings with the final whistle.

Boro Sign Experienced Defender



Jimmy Ginnelly has acquired the services of 6ft 2in defender Keith Lowe. The former Kidderminster Harriers man played over 100 times for the Aggborough outfit in two spells and also played 111 times for Cheltenham Town in a four year spell. Most recently he played for Macclesfield Town, where he helped The Silkmen to win the Conference Premier title by ten points in 2017-18.

Nuneaton Griff v Nuneaton Borough	24-07-2019
<p>Griff: G. Woodward, A. Sullivan (E. Whitelaw), L. Waters, J. Stain, L. Stringer, J. Perry, R. Proudlock (K. Clayton), J. Greenway, J. Hadley, S. Lindley (J. Bennai), R. Williams. Subs: M. Rawlings, H. Morrison, J. March.</p> <p>Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, A. Christophorou, K. Lowe, T. Anderson (C. Obeng 46), N. Julien, C. Thomas, B. Daniels (D. Kelly-Evans 46), C. Powell (A. Lock 65), S. Beavon (L. Benbow 46), R. Edmunds (B. Traore 46). Subs: M. Sargeant, T. Florence, A. Rehman, A. Trialist1, C. Obeng, A. Trialist2.</p>	

Boro made the journey to The Pingles Stadium, to play Nuneaton Griff in a pre-season friendly game.

Griff, who play in the same league as last Saturday's opponents, Hinckley AFC, gave a far better account of



themselves compared to their Midland League Division 1 rivals, denying Boro a match winning score until the final minutes.

The clammy, oppressive conditions did not make for fast flowing, energetic football and it was a fairly pedestrian affair in the opening quarter of an hour. Woodward made a good save to keep out Edmunds' header before Callum Powell gave the visitors the lead. The pacy winger ran at the Griff defence before cutting inside and drilling a shot into the net. Boro looked comfortable for the rest of the half, but failed to add to their solitary goal before the break.

Boro made a number of changes straight after the break and were shocked by an equaliser 20 minutes into the half when a shot from Reece Williams was deflected into the net off a Boro defender. Having had a number of decent chances to score Boro were now looking to back up their superiority, which they did eventually, albeit late in the day.

Devon Kelly-Evans engineered the breakthrough with a superb chip on to the head of Aris Christophorou, allowing the ex-Stourbridge defender to power a header past the helpless George Woodward. With the floodgates now well and truly open Boro reinforced their overall superiority with a super strike from Luke Benbow and a late goal from Bouba Traore.

Grantham Town v Nuneaton Borough 27-07-2019

Grantham: S. Andrew, J. Broadhead, C. Bartle, R. Atkinson, A. Trialist, M. Tweed, F. Bell-Toxtle, J. Baxendale, A. Smith, R. Goncalves, A. Trialist (L. Daffy 75). Subs: A. Trialist, A. Trialist.

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (D. Kelly-Evans 70), R. Sharpe (L. Rankin 74), J. Clifton, K. Lowe, N. Julien, C. Powell (B. Traore 63), A. Verma, L. Benbow (A. Lock 81), S. Beavon (R. Edmunds 69), K. John (B. Daniels 70). Sub: J. Kettle.

Boro made the journey to the South Kesteven Sports Stadium, to play Grantham Town in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro dominated the early play and gave former Tamworth keeper Sam Andrew plenty to think about. Boro went close to taking the lead on two occasions early on, once when Aman Verma hit the post and again when Stuart Beavon headed narrowly wide of the post.

The impressive Luke Benbow hit a free-kick just wide as Boro continued to boss possession and generate the best chances. Unfortunately, they were unable to convert their superiority into goals and went in at half time with the scoreline blank.

Benbow again went close after the restart, forcing the keeper into a finger tip save, which allowed a defender to clear. Former Boro midfielder Michael Tweed forced Cameron Belford into a save on the hour mark before Boro took a deserved lead. Callum Powell created a chance for Beavon and the experienced striker hit the ball into the bottom left hand corner.

The goal signalled a raft of substitutions for Boro, which changed the nature of the game and Grantham almost pulled themselves level after 71 minutes after one of the home side's

trialists hit a shot over the bar when he should have done better. Former Rushden & Dimonds striker Fernando Bell-Toxtle refused a gift of chance after some very poor defending from the visitors. The Gingerbreads, however, were now looking dangerous and with ten minutes to go the home side drew level with a goal from a trialist.

What looked like being a win for Boro at one stage turned into a disappointing defeat as Grantham snatched a winner with just three minutes to go. Adam Smith sent Belford the wrong way from the penalty spot to secure the home side a late win. It could have been worse for Boro as a home player crashed the ball against the bar in the final seconds.

Nuneaton Borough v Burton Albion 29-07-2019

Boro: C. Belford, C. Obeng (A. Christophorou 46), R. Sharpe, K. Lowe, J. Clifton, N. Julien, C. Powell, K. Edwards-John (A. Traore 46), L. Benbow, R. Edmunds (L. Rankin), D. Kelly-Evans. Subs: A. Christophorou, M. Sargeant, L. Rankin, A. Lock, J. Kettle, A. Verma.

Burton: C. Hawkins, B. Hart, R. Hutchinson, E. Vale, R. Lal, J. Anderson, J. Sbarra, P. Brown (Y. Nyirenda 77, T. Hewlett, M. Shittu (J. Holmes 64), N. Morley. Subs: Y. Nyirenda, L. Redfern, B. McLean, J. Livesey.

Boro welcomed Burton Albion to Liberty Way, to play a pre-season friendly game.

The game was evenly contested in the opening 15 minutes, although The Brewers looked the more energetic and skilful of the two sides. Luke Benbow almost got on the end of Ryan Edmunds' cross before the visitors took the lead after 20 minutes when captain Joe Sbarra drove the ball home from the edge of the box following Reece Hutchinson's pass.

Boro looked slightly off the pace at this stage and it was no surprise when Burton extended their lead through Tom Hewlett, who clipped the ball across Cameron Belford and into the far corner after being played clear in the area.

Things looked ominous for Boro at this stage, but they defied the odds and pulled a goal back through James Clifton on 30 minutes. The defender found himself free in the area and guided a header past Callum Hawkins from Callum Powell's free-kick. Then, with the half-time whistle imminent, Boro drew level from another Powell free-kick. This time it was Aman Verma who got the final touch, sending the teams in at half-time on level pegging.

Boro took the lead straight after the break following good work by substitute Bouba Traore, who left a defender for dead before clipping in a cross to Edmunds who scissor kicked the ball past Hawkins.

Boro's lead was short-lived and Burton drew level following a lovely turn and shot from the edge of the 18-yard box which left Belford with no chance. Burton then took a 4-3 lead. Keith Lowe was unlucky with nine minutes remaining as he tried to cut out Hewlett's dangerous ball into the area. It was an impossible situation for the former Macclesfield defender, as he tried to stop the ball reaching the far post, but could only turn it past his own keeper.

Boro rescued a draw with five minutes to go when Benbow hit a superb shot from the angle of the 18-yard box into the far corner of the net. It was a goal worthy of the entrance fee and a wider audience.

Rankin Signs



Boro have acquired the services of former Coventry City youngster Lewis Rankin. The wide man joined Rugby Town after being released by Coventry and then played with Coventry Sphinx in the Midland League Premier Division. He also spent some time with Brackley Town who play in the Conference North.

Rankin notched two goals and won a penalty in the recent friendly game against Hinckley AFC.

Nuneaton Borough v Bedworth United 03-08-2019

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, J. Kettle, K. Lowe, N. Julien, C. Powell, A. Verma, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds. **Subs:** C. Obeng, M. Sargeant, A. Christophorou, D. Preston, L. Rankin, B. Daniels, R. Harkin, B. Traore, C. Camwell.

Bedworth: A. Trialist, A. Trialist, J. Steele, T. Sharpe, R. Dudley, A. Trialist, L. Chester, B. Fitzharris, M. Piggon, A. Troke, R. Blackmore (L. Rowe)
Subs: A. Harrison + 4 trialists.

Boro welcomed Bedworth United to Liberty Way, to play a pre-season friendly game.

The Greenbacks gave Boro a good workout and battled bravely throughout. Despite tiring towards the end of the second half the visitors defended well and forced Boro to concede a number of free kicks in dangerous positions before falling away badly as the game progressed.

Bedworth won an early free kick which Alex Troke drove straight at the Boro wall before Boro took the initiative with a couple of corners and a weak header from Julien. Trialist James Clifton reminded Boro fans of his ability with a crashing drive which was tipped onto the bar by Bedworth's trialist keeper.

More Boro pressure was rewarded with a succession of corners but Bedworth had a shock in store for the home side and took the lead with a well-worked goal on the 15 minute mark. Winger Lewis Chester made ground before clipping in

a cross for Mitchell Piggon to head past the helpless Cameron Belford.

Boro tried to hit back immediately and Devon Kelly-Evans got in a header from Clifton's cross before Troke tried his luck from distance, but the ball was well wide of the target. Ryan Edmunds blazed over the bar as Boro continued to boss the game but Bedworth clung on to their narrow lead until five minutes before the break when the ever-dangerous Luke Benbow converted a cross from winger Callum Powell to send the teams in at the break on equal terms.

Boro made a raft of changes after the break including former Coventry City defender Chris Camwell, who looked as if he would do a good job for Boro, if signed, even though he had to leave the field injured. The first action saw Benbow put a shot wide of the post before Piggon shot over after some good combination play by the visitors.



Luke Benbow powers into the Bedworth area.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Troke forced Belford into action from another Bedworth free-kick just before Boro took the lead after Powell had forced his way down the right before crossing to Edmunds who got in ahead of The Greenbacks' goalkeeper to head home. After taking the lead Boro seldom looked back and caused the visitors problems all over the park.

Boro capped a fine second half display with another goal five minutes from the end. Some impressive passing in midfield saw Ryan Harkin played clear. The ex-Coventry Sphinx striker beat the keeper to ball, toe-poked it past the keeper and slid the ball into the net from a narrow angle.

Daniels Departs

Billy Daniels, who has been trialling with Boro this close season, and was believed to be in the manager's plans, is leaving the club to join Hednesford Town. The midfielder, whose ability divided opinion among Boro fans was with the club for three seasons, making 44 full appearances and scoring two goals, before joining Conference North club Kidderminster Harriers, where he made 26 full appearances last season.

Clifton Back With Boro

James Clifton, who first joined Boro from Kettering Town in 2015 is back at Liberty Way. The defender left Boro in February 2017 to join Brackley Town before moving on to Boston United. He spent last season with Alfreton Town, but was forced to sit out the second part of the season due to a knee cartilage injury.

Boro Net Camwell

Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of former Coventry City player Chris Camwell.

The 20-year-old defender made five Football League appearances for The Sky Blues and also made four appearances in the Vanarama League Premier Division for Solihull Moors. Some press reports linked him with a £250,000 move to Stoke City during his time at The Ricoh.

Nuneaton Borough v Kings Langley 10-08-2019

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, D. Towers, K. Lowe, N. Julien, C. Powell (C. Camwell 80), A. Verma (R. Edmunds 66), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, S. Beavon (R. Harkin 78). Subs: D. Preston, C. Obeng.

Kings Langley: M. Minter, G. Connolly, K. Farrell, R. Collins, C. Adebijoyi, J. Johnson, E. McKeown (M. Hercules 80), J. Coldicott-Stevens, M. Weiss, C. Ruff, M. Campbell-Mhlope (S. Ward 51). Subs: H. Crawford, L. Collier, L. Alfano.

Boro welcomed Kings Langley to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro shaded possession early and Callum Powell was first to threaten as he worked himself some space on the edge of the box, but his shot was weak and it failed to bother former Brentford keeper Melvin Minter.

Stuart Beavon had a shot deflected for a corner before a poor challenge by Dec Towers allowed Charlie Ruff to break into the 18-yard box. His shot across Cam Belford struck the foot of the post and rebounded to Matthew Campbell-Mhlope, whose shot hit the same post before rebounding clear.

The visitors took the lead after 12 minutes after they forced a corner which was driven across the box by Kane Farrell, where it was met by the forehead of centre-forward Mitchell Weiss, who guided it past Cameron Belford and into the net.

Boro tried to hit back and Dec Towers almost got on the end of a Powell corner but Minter collected well under pressure. Powell got on the end of a long clearance but was well marshalled by Farrell at the expense of a fruitless corner. The game remained flat and uninteresting before Luke Benbow hit a free-kick just over the bar.

Devon Kelly-Evans forced Minter to palm the ball over the bar with a firece shot from the edge of the box as the half drew to a close. But, with the clock ticking down Kings Langley almost doubled their lead following a bizarre piece of keeping from Belford, who let the ball drop over his head to the feet of Joshua Coldicott-Stevens, who toe-poked the ball across the goal line where two visiting forwards were waiting. Rhys Sharpe, however, was in like a flash to deny a second goal.



Luke Benbow gets in a shot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro went close to an equaliser at the start of the second half when Beavon controlled and turned on James Clifton's long free-kick but Minter made a smart save at the foot of the post. Soon after Belford made another calamitous decision when he ran 25 yards out of his goal to tackle Weiss. The big striker held off the keeper before making tracks into the area but he lacked support and his cross came to nothing.

Powell was played through by Kelly-Evans ten minutes into the half, but the keeper did well to block the shot before saving at the second attempt. Benbow shot wide after turning well onto Powell's ball into the box before goalscorer Weiss again showed good centre-forward skills, picking up a long clearance before outwitting Keith Lowe and outmuscling Nigel Julien. The ex-Hemel Hempstead front runner powered into the box, but his cross was cleared for a corner.

Then, on 72 minutes, Boro's hopes nosedived when Kings Langley went 2-0 up. There are two schools of thought on the nature of the goal - it was either a stunning 45 yard plus effort and an early contender for the goal of the season or an agricultural clearance that caught the wind and sailed over the backpedalling Belford's head and into the net. Either way Boro had shown little to give hope of a comeback.



Cam Belford is beaten for a second time.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The final nail was driven into Boro's coffin four minutes from time when Towers' weak header back to Belford was intercepted by substitute, former Southend striker Harrison Crawford, who stabbed the ball into the back of the net.

Boro's nightmare opening day was made complete when

Nigel Julien's vicious tackle received exactly what it deserved – a straight red. In summary, Boro were outplayed and must do much more if they are to be among the front-runners in the coming weeks and months.

Banbury United v Nuneaton Borough 13-08-2019

Banbury: J. Harding, C. Roberts, G. Okito, J. Westbrook, C. Hawtin, G. Rasulo, C. Dias (E. Odhiambo 85), A. Awadh, L. Henderson, D'Nilson (J. Mills 46), A. Cayola (R. Johnson). Subs: R. Ngaah Bosio, L. Davies.

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, K. Lowe, D. Towers, N. Julien, C. Powell, S. Beavon (A. Verma 85), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds (C. Camwell 85). Subs: R. Harkin, D. Preston, L. Rankin.

Boro made the journey to the Spencer Stadium, to play Banbury United in a Southern League Premier Central game.

It was a nondescript start to the match and there were 16 minutes on the clock before anything of note happened. Boro won a free-kick on the right after James Clifton was fouled by Gedeon Okito. Stuart Beavon headed Callum Powell's free-kick wide of the far post. However, Boro were forcing the pace and after a succession of corners they took the lead. Ryan Edmunds' flag kick found Declan Towers, whose goalward header landed at the feet of Luke Benbow, who turned sharply before firing a shot past the helpless Jack Harding in the Puritans' goal.



Luke Benbow gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Benbow went close to a second when he hit a long range free-kick which was well saved by Harding before the Banbury custodian got down well to Devon Kelly-Evans' 25-yarder and was again on his mettle to keep out Benbow's long-range free-kick.

Kelly-Evans was showing up well in the Boro engine room and played a superb long ball out to Benbow, whose back-heel picked out Powell. The winger surged into the box from where he got a shot away which was narrowly wide of the far post. Banbury came more into the game in the latter stages of the first-half, but created little by way of clear cut chances. Clifton cleared a dangerous cross over his own bar as

Banbury looked for an equaliser while Sharpe's free-kick whizzed across the Banbury six-yard box. Beavon and Benbow combined to set up Powell, but the winger's shot was straight at Harding, who pushed the ball away and it was eventually cleared by former Northampton Town midfielder Claudio Dias.

Boro were looking for a second to make their lead secure and one of Rhys Sharpe's long throw-ins was helped on by Beavon

on to the head of Benbow, but Harding was again well placed and collected the ball with ease.



Boro go close.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro's possession and creation of chances made them look likely winners, but some powder puff finishing let them down. Beavon tested Harding, who saved comfortably. However, Banbury were coming more into the game and started to dominate possession. Eventually the pressure told and Boro threw it all away with ten minutes to go.

Substitute John Mills, the former Hereford striker, made room on the left of Boro's penalty area before pinging in a cross which was headed home unchallenged by former Leamington man Ricky Johnson.

AFC Rushden & Diamonds v Nuneaton Boro 17-08-2019

Rushden: B. Heath, Z. Reynolds, S. Brown, J. Ashton, L. Dolman, N. Gosnal-Tyler (S. Johnson 84), B. Acquaye, M. Slinn (B. Farrell 72), T. Lorraine, J. Bowen (M. McDonald 73), N. Hicks. Subs: R. Dove, N. Cooper.

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, D. Towers, K. Lowe, A. Verma, C. Powell, S. Beavon (L. Rankin 75), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds (C. Obeng 68). Subs: C. Camwell, R. Harkin, D. Preston.

Boro made the journey to Hayden Road to play AFC Rushden & Diamonds in a Southern League Premier Central game.

The Diamonds offered the first real threat following an exchange of passes between Jack Bowen and former Kempston Town midfielder Ben Acquaye, but Cam Belford got down smartly to thwart the latter. Boro then took command for a spell and enjoyed the lion's share of the play.



Ryan Edmunds hits the post.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Keith Lowe forced former Rugby Town keeper Ben Heath into a superb save from a firm header before Ryan Edmunds lashed a shot against the post. After assuming control, Boro added to their red card total when Rhys Sharpe was adjudged to be the last man when bringing down Acquaye with 20 minutes gone. Luckily for Boro, the free kick came to nothing.

Playing against ten men the home side enjoyed more possession but created little in the way of real chances, although Boro had to be on their toes as Tom Lorraine closed in on Sam Brown's cross. Manager Jimmy Ginnelly talked himself into a yellow card and was quickly followed into the book by Devon Kelly-Evans in a tetchy two minute spell.

Acquaye fired wide before Nathan Hicks had an effort blocked. Dec Towers threw his weight behind Boro's disciplinary meltdown with a yellow card while Belford continued his erratic form by dropping the ball at the feet of Acquaye. Fortunately, the keeper recovered well to block the resulting shot. The half-time whistle gave Boro the chance to regroup.

Boro were still in the game at this point and were having their fair share of possession before Bowen and Acquaye both put efforts off target. With just over 20 minutes to go, The Diamonds stepped up their game and threatened through Ashton, whose header was cleared off the line, and Liam Dolman, who headed over from a corner.

A flurry of substitutions saw Diamonds underline their attacking threat but Boro defended doggedly and looked like holding out for a point with just ten minutes remaining. However, the visitors' indiscipline surfaced again and Dec Towers was invited to leave the pitch following a hot-headed challenge.



Dec Towers receives a red card.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Having gone down to nine men Boro looked increasingly vulnerable as the home side pressed for a winner and the inevitable happened with just a minute of normal time remaining. Massiah McDonald, who had a brief spell at Liberty Way, slotted the ball home after a goalmouth scramble. One became two with the game deep into injury time after Sam Johnson controlled Acquaye's cross before cracking the ball home.

Nuneaton Borough v Needham Market 24-08-2019

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, C. Camwell (C. Obeng 84), J. Kettle, K. Lowe, A. Verma, A. Henshall (C. Powell 62), R. Edmunds, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, S. Beavon (R. Harkin 76). Subs: L. Rankin, D. Preston.

Needham: M. Garnham, J. Dyde, C. Sturgess (D. Morphew 45), R. Short, K. Morphew, J. Barker, S. Squire, G. Heath, J. Neal, C. Parker (L. Ingram 65), J. Marsden. Subs: N. Collard, F. Shorten.

Boro welcomed Needham Market to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro couldn't have wished for a better start, taking the lead in the second minute of the game following a trip on Stuart Beavon which left the referee, Simon Brown, with the simple task of pointing to the spot. Luke Benbow coolly slotted the ball past former Leiston keeper Marcus Garnham.



Benbow's shot beats Garnham.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Boro were clearly the better side and Benbow again went close, shooting just wide of the post while Devon Kelly-Evans should really have done better following an exchange of passes with Beavon. The visitors, however, hit back out of the blue with a dangerous corner from Gareth Heath which brushed the bar on its way across the penalty area.

Despite the close shave, Boro continued to look the more dangerous of the two sides and Benbow forced Garnham into a low save before Alex Henshall forced the goalkeeper into a regulation save. The home side and their supporters thought that they had doubled their lead after 36 minutes when James Clifton guided a powerful header past Garnham following a great cross from Chris Camwell.



Clinton scores, but the goal is disallowed.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Needham Market had barely threatened in the first half and almost fell further behind with half-time in sight as Beavon hit a Benbow cross towards the bottom corner, but Garnham was down to save and Boro went in at half-time leading 1-0.

There was a hint of danger for Boro at the start of the second half when Craig Parker pulled the ball back for Joe Marsden, but last season's leading scorer for the Marketmen blasted wildly over the top. Ryan Edmunds blasted a volley into the side netting while Callum Powell, just on as a substitute, burst down the left wing before cutting in and curling a shot wide of the far post.

The Suffolk side enjoyed a period of possession late in the game, but the best chance fell to Powell once again, but as before his shot was off target. The final action saw Edmunds break clear as Needham Market were caught pushing forward but the winger was denied by Garnham, who had a very steady game in the away goal.

Coalville Town v Nuneaton Borough 26-08-2019

Coalville: S. Deeney, S. Pierpoint, S. McManus, S. Towers, J. Duggan, J. Doyle-Charles, A. Dean (K. Thomas), L. Shaw, K. Mitchell, T. Berridge (C. Jemson), T. McGlinchey. Subs: S. Bowles, T. Sjoberg, L. Browne.

Boro: C. Belford, J. Clifton, J. Kettle, K. Lowe, C. Camwell (R. Sharpe 46), A. Verma, D. Kelly-Evans, C. Powell, A. Henshall (C. Obeng 60), S. Beavon (R. Edmunds 46), L. Benbow. Subs: L. Rankin, R. Harkin.

Boro made the journey to Owen Street Sports Ground, to play Coalville Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro repeated their Saturday opening by scoring in the first few minutes of the match. This time it was from a corner which was driven over to the far post by Alex Henshall and struck firmly into the net by Aman Verma. And, just like the game against Needham Market, Boro had the opportunity to double their lead when Callum Powell hit a terrific drive at former Notts County keeper Saul Deeney, but the keeper was well positioned and saved comfortably.



Aman Verma gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro then fell apart and conceded three goals in a five minute spell of abject defending. The equaliser was scored by ex-Boro player Kairo Mitchell, who exchanged passes with Luke Shaw before testing Cam Belford. The Boro keeper saved the

first attempt but Mitchell got another bite of the cherry and beat Belford from eight yards out.

Two minutes later Boro were undone yet again following a poor defensive header from Joel Kettle. Luke Shaw picked up the loose ball and drove into the 18 yard box before laying the ball off to striker Tim Berridge who lashed the ball past Belford to give the home side the lead. A minute later The Ravens added to Boro's misery with a third goal - this time from an own goal. Shaw was again involved, racing into the box before forcing Belford into action. Unfortunately the keeper's parry hit defender Chris Camwell and rebounded into the net and Boro were 3-1 down after a promising start. The resulting inquest into the goal resulted in an unseemly exchange between Belford and Camwell, with the goalkeeper losing his cool.

The visitors had a powder puff effort from Alex Henshall, but minutes later Boro's waking nightmare continued after two ex-players combined to add to their misery. Alex Dean's corner from the left picked out Stuart Pierpoint at the near post and the defender's header found the back of the net. Mitchell almost added to Boro's embarrassment with a shot that struck the bar.

With the match as good as lost, Boro regained some of their composure and just before the break they cut Coalville's lead with a super strike from Callum Powell. Alex Henshall fired in a tremendous cross to the far post and Powell fired an unstoppable shot past Deeley to make it 4-2. Just before the break Luke Benbow went close, heading just wide from Camwell's cross.



Callum Powell scores Boro's second.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro made a couple of changes at the break but were almost undone early on when Berridge had a shot cleared off the line by Keith Lowe after cutting a swathe through the Boro defence. However, Boro steadied the ship again and 20 minutes after the break they put themselves back in contention, cutting the scoreline to 4-3. Powell, who had posed problems for the home side, arrowed a cross into the area for substitute Ryan Edmunds, who beat Deeney from close range.

Boro almost rescued a point with 15 minutes remaining when Rhys Sharpe launched a long throw into the Coalville area and Curtis Obeng chested the ball into the path of Keith Lowe, who shot narrowly wide of the post. The home side managed to take the sting out of Boro's attack after that and spent some time running the clock down before they put the result beyond doubt with a fifth goal. Mitchell was again the scorer with a superb turn and finish after receiving the ball from the head of former Tamworth defender Charlie Jemson.

Martin Moves On

Boro have parted company with Romario Martin, who joined the club in the close season. The St Kitts & Nevis international failed to break into the Boro team. Also on the move is central defender Dan Preston, who joins Sutton Coldfield Town. The former Birmingham City man has only made one appearance in his time at Liberty Way.

Obeng Joins Ashton

Curtis Obeng has joined Ashton United on an initial one month loan deal. The full back was a first team regular last season but has had limited opportunities recently.

Nuneaton Borough v Lowestoft Town	31-08-2019
Boro: M. Sargeant, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, D. Towers, K. Lowe (J. Kettle 81), N. Julian, C. Powell (A. Henshall 65), A. Verma, L. Benbow (S. Beavon 88), D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds. Subs: C. Belford, L. Rankin.	
Lowestoft: L. Tibbles, A. Tann (M. Lopez 71), J. Wilkinson, T. Cole, R. Jarvis, C. Deeks, J. Zielonka (L. McIntosh 67), M. Richardson, J. Reed, M. Linton (M. Wilkinson 82), D. Williams. Subs: A. Reynolds, F. Hedge.	

Boro welcomed Lowestoft Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Lowestoft's sluggish start might have had something to do with their 170-odd mile trip from Suffolk, as they were a long way second best in the opening 20 minutes and it came as no surprise when the home side opened the scoring after 22 minutes. James Clifton's run to the edge of the box saw him force former Bury Town keeper Luis Tibbles into a fingertip save at the expense of a corner.



Luke Benbow celebrates giving Boro the lead.

Photo: Matt Davenport

The flag kick was driven in low and hard to the near post by Ryan Edmunds and Luke Benbow was on hand to put a bullet header past the Trawlermen's keeper and into the net. Four minutes later the visitors found themselves further behind when Edmunds and Benbow combined again. The winger's through ball saw Boro's leading scorer race clear of the visitors' back line and beat the exposed Tibbles.

Benbow almost made it three with 27 minutes on the clock but he snatched at the ball and hit a weak shot wide of the post when he might have done better. Edmunds put a shot wide a couple of minutes later as Boro continued to dominate the proceedings.

Lowestoft needed to regroup and were praying for the half-time whistle when Edmunds racked up a hat-trick of first-half assists, playing Clifton through with a perfectly weighted ball. The full back had time to steady himself before driving the ball across the keeper and in to the far corner of the net.



James Clifton drives the ball past Luis Tibbles.

Photo: Matt Davenport

The Trawlermen made a better fist of the second half and made Boro work hard, although Towers almost converted another cross from Edmunds, but his header came back off the bar and was cleared. With the game virtually lost, the visitors grabbed a consolation in the 58th minute. It was scored by former Crewe Alexandra youngster Malachi Linton, making his debut. The 18-year-old showed some good close control before comprehensively beating Matt Sargeant.

Any hopes the visitors had of a come back were extinguished five minutes later when Callum Powell scored a goal out of the top drawer. The winger stepped inside the 36-year-old former Notts County full back Adam Tann before curling a superb shot into the top right hand corner of the goal.



The Lowestoft keeper admires Powell's shot.

Photo: Matt Davenport

The goal was effectively the final nail in Lowestoft's coffin and Boro were happy to play out the rest of the match, content that they had redeemed themselves somewhat after the Stratford Town debacle.

Club Secretary Departs



Ron Bradbury presents Adam Etheridge with a signed shirt.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

Boro have lost the services of secretary Adam Etheridge, who is moving on to a new job. Adam performed some sterling work for Nuneaton Town and Borough during one of the darkest periods in the club's history. Having spent a period fighting fires on a daily basis Adam leaves with the best wishes of everyone involved with the club.

Wholesale Changes For Boro

Manager Jimmy Ginnelly has been busy in the transfer market as he tries to re-shape his team after their FA Cup exit against Tamworth. Into the club comes local lad Craig Stanley who joins from Clitheroe. The much travelled midfielder/defender, who started his career with Walsall has had a long career in the Football League and non-league, playing for the likes of Morecambe, Bristol Rovers and more recently for Lancaster City and Kettering Town. He is also an England C international.

Also joining the Liberty Way outfit are loan signings Jordan Wright, a goalkeeper, who joins from Nottingham Forest and Michael Richens, who played for Boro in 2013, when he had a loan spell from Peterborough United. Richens has most recently been involved at Kettering, where he was part of the side that took the Southern League Premier Central title last season.

Four players have been released from the club. They are goalkeeper Matt Sargeant, defender Aris Christophorou, recent signing Chris Camwell and striker Ryan Harkin.

Boro Add Another Loan Signing

Boro have further strengthened their squad with the signing of Mitchel Candlin from Walsall. The 19-year-old has made eight first team appearances for The Saddlers and last season was sent out on loan to Blackburn Rovers, who expressed an interest in signing the youngster, but the deal fell through.

Biggleswade Town v Nuneaton Borough 14-09-2019

Biggleswade: S. Donkin, D. Stanley, L. Perry, M. Miles (D. Richardson), T. Smith, G. Milenge, K. Marsh-Brown (S. Lucien), S. Sambou, J. White, M. Ball, L. Brooks (R. Soares Junior). Subs: J. Gent, K. James-Thompson.

Boro: J. Wright, J. Clifton (S. Beavon 72), J. Kettle, M. Addison (K. Lowe 57), R. Sharpe, M. Richens, N. Julien, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds, C. Powell (M. Candlin 72), L. Benbow. Subs: A. Verma, J. Byrne.

Boro made the journey to The Carlsberg Stadium, to play Biggleswade Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro slipped to a disappointing defeat against a youthful and energetic Waders' side. Manager Jimmy Ginnelly, still searching for a winning side, included goalkeeper Jordan Wright and midfielder Michael Richens, who both made their debuts.



Luke Benbow is closely marshalled.

Photo: Biggleswade Town FC

There was little action to speak of in the first 15 minutes as Boro struggled to assert themselves. Biggleswade, however, were keen to press forward and the former Whitehawk winger Kyjuon Marsh-Brown worked hard to stop the ball going out for a goalkick and then bought himself a little space by turning inside James Clifton before hitting the ball across the six yard box and into the far corner of the net. Boro's keeper, Jordan Wright, on loan from Nottingham Forest, might have done better.

Joel Kettle forced Sam Donkin to tip his header over the bar following Rhys Sharpe's long throw but by and large the visitors did not cause the Waders many problems and the home side went in at half-time with a 1-0 lead.

Boro opened the second half brightly and captain Luke Benbow got on the end of Nigel Julien's cross, but he

volleyed the ball straight at Donkin, who made a comfortable save. Nuneaton continued to dominate possession with little to show for it, although Clifton had a shot deflected for a fruitless corner.

Boro rang the changes late in the game as they tried to force an elusive equaliser, but they were caught on the break and a cross from the right eventually found its way to former Northern Ireland U-21 international Matt Ball, who dragged the ball across Ryan Edmunds and beat Wright at his near post. Again, the keeper might have done better.

Nuneaton Borough v Stourbridge	17-09-2019
Boro: M. Wright, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, J. Kettle, K. Lowe, M. Richens, C. Powell (N. Julien 85), A. Henshall (R. Edmunds 77), L. Benbow (A. Verma 87), D. Kelly-Evans, M. Candlin. Subs: S. Beavon, J. Byrne.	
Stourbridge: J. Wren, K. Green, C. Fisher, T. Turton, J. Williams, J. Brown (A. Carter 64), D. Bellis, R. Winwood (A. Lloyd 64), M. Taylor, A. Landell, G. Mills (K. Cook 55). Subs: T. Tonks, C. Price.	

Boro welcomed Stourbridge to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro got off to a good start and the game was only two minutes old when Mitchel Candlin forced ex-Boro keeper James Wren into a save. The Walsall youngster was again in action straight after as he drove Alex Henshall's cross against the crossbar from where it rebounded to James Clifton who volleyed home.



James Clifton opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Despite falling behind The Glassboys looked dangerous, especially when Boro conceded a free-kick right on the edge of the box. Ex-Boro winger Greg Mills hit a powerful shot but it hit the wall and looped up into the hands of Wright. The visitors went close again just after following an expansive move involving four players, but Andre Landell put his shot wide when he should have scored.

Stourbridge were to regret that miss when, after 15 minutes, Callum Powell forced his way past left back Cody Fisher, who bundled the Boro winger to the ground. The referee immediately pointed to the spot and Luke Benbow lashed the ball past the helpless Wren.

Boro had another let off straight after their goal when Mills got to the byline and drilled the ball across the face of the goal, but no one was able to get a foot to the ball. Just afterwards a rare sortie into enemy territory by Rhys Sharpe saw him head over the bar. Despite Boro being 2-0 up, the visitors continued to pose a threat and won a free kick right in the centre of the goal and on the edge of the area. Mills hit a low rocket towards the bottom left hand corner but Wright got down superbly well and pushed the ball away.



Luke Benbow scores from the penalty spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The visitors had vehement appeals for a penalty turned down before Powell tested Wren and Benbow had a shot charged down by ex-Stafford Rangers defender Jordaan Brown. Boro, having fought off the visitors, pushed forward again and Powell picked out Benbow in the area, who tried to play the ball in to the impressive Mitchel Candlin, but the ball was intercepted by a defender for a fruitless corner.

Wren saved from Candlin again at the expense of another corner, which also came to nothing before the referee signalled the end of an excellent half from both sides.

Boro opened the second half on the front foot and the hard-working Devon Kelly-Evans picked out Benbow, but the goalscorer screwed the ball wide, but he soon made amends. Seven minutes after the break Boro broke at pace following a Stourbridge corner and following good interplay between Alex Henshall, Candlin and Benbow, Boro's leading scorer drove the ball past Wren to give the home side a 3-0 lead.



Mitchel Candlin scores a debut goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Six minutes later, the game was put beyond Stourbridge's reach following a bad mistake from Brown, who was robbed by Benbow. The loose ball was latched onto by Candlin who slipped the ball past Wren. After the fourth goal, Boro seemed content just to take the sting out of the visitors' attack but they were almost undone when Wright was forced to make a tremendous diving save from Mike Taylor, pushing the ball away from the bottom right hand corner of the goal.

Candlin put a header over the bar from Edmunds flick on and Powell went close twice in a minute. Some Football League quality footwork from Candlin saw him get in a deflected shot before the final whistle.

Bevon And Belford Out On Loan

Boro have sent striker Stuart Bevon out on loan. The former Coventry City player has joined Northern Premier League side Mickleover Sports on a month's loan. Also going out on loan is goalkeeper Cam Belford, who joins FC United of Manchester for a month.

Nuneaton Borough v Alvechurch 21-09-2019

Boro: J. Wright, J. Clifton (D. Towers), R. Sharpe, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, M. Richens (N. Julien 82), C. Powell, A. Henshall (R. Edmunds), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, M. Candlin. Subs: A. Verma, J. Byrne.

Alvechurch: L. Ransome, J. Esewele, Z. Foster, J. Goddard, K. Morrison, J. Willets, B. Usher-Shipway, C. Richards, D. Johnson, K. Da Veiga Monteiro, J. Roberts. Subs: M. Okafor, N. Reeves, S. McNaught, R. Mason, P. Till.

Boro welcomed Alvechurch to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

It was after the Lord Mayor's show for Boro as they put in a distinctly average performance against an impressive 'Church side. Boro took the lead with three minutes gone after Rhys Sharpe played in Callum Powell and the Boro winger drove the ball across the six yard box where Luke Benbow reacted sharply to score from almost on the goal line.



Luke Benbow gives Boro an early lead.

Photo: Matt Davenport

After the goal, Boro struggled to contain a lively Alvechurch side who dominated for much of the half. Ex-Redditch United striker Danico Johnson volleyed Joel Kettle's header straight back at goal, but it zipped just wide of the target. Javia

Roberts hit a shot on the turn which went agonisingly wide of the far post.

Alvechurch continued to dominate proceedings and Kevin De Veiga Monteiro almost surprised Wright, who tipped the long range shot over the top before Jordan Goddard weaved his way into the box, but wasted a good chance by shooting wide of the post.

The game continued in the same vein for the rest of the half until Boro surprised the visitors with a second goal, totally against the run of play. The dangerous Benbow shielded the ball brilliantly and spun a defender before laying it on to Mitchel Candlin and the Walsall youngster grabbed his second goal in two games.

Alvechurch got themselves back in the game straight after the break when ex-Boro man Courtney Richards slipped a ball through to Ben Usher-Shipway and the winger managed to drag the ball back to Javia Roberts who made no mistake from close range. Roberts almost equalised minutes later, stabbing Usher-Shipway's through ball wide of the near post with only Wright to beat.

The Boro keeper excelled himself when Kyle Morrison headed a corner powerfully towards goal, only for Wright to get a strong hand to the ball and push it away from danger. A fantastic run by Roberts allowed him to set Goddard clear and he played in Usher-Shipway who controlled the ball well before clipping a shot wide of the far post.

Boro substitute Ryan Edmunds added a bit more verve to the Boro front line and got a couple of decent balls into the box, but no one was on hand to complete the move. Alvechurch, however, were soon back up the other end and Roberts worked Wright, but the Boro keeper made a regulation save.



Ryan Edmunds scores Boro's third goal.

Photo: Matt Davenport

With eight minutes remaining Boro shocked the visitors for a second time as they took a 3-1 lead and gave themselves some breathing space. Debutant Craig Stanley launched a long ball to the far post where Edmunds picked up Dec Towers' nod down and drove a superb half volley past the diving Ransome.

Despite going 3-1 down 'Church refused to lie down and

pulled a goal back with three minutes to go. Goddard drove a free-kick towards goal from 25 yards out and Wright fumbled the ball. Richards was first to react and slotted home. Boro suffered a nervy few minutes during time added on and goalkeeper Ransome, up for a corner, headed goalwards, but it was straight at Wright.

There was yet more action in the dying seconds as Devon Kelly-Evans forced his way into the box and slipped the ball to Powell, whose shot was collected by Ransome at the second attempt. The referee's whistle was sweet music to Boro ears as they completed their fourth consecutive home win.

Lowe Released

Boro have parted company with centre-half Keith Lowe. The ex-Macclesfield and Kidderminster defender was seen as an important part of the jigsaw when he signed, but Boro's moderate start has meant that changes needed to be made.

Blackham Out On Loan

Promising Boro youngster Jack Blackham has been sent out on loan to Coventry Sphinx on a dual registration. The defender suffered a debilitating injury on his league debut against Bradford Park Avenue which has kept him out for 12 months, but he is now ready for some game time.

Nuneaton Borough v Barwell

28-09-2019

Boro: J. Wright, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, D. Towers, C. Stanley, M. Richens (N. Julien 61), C. Powell (B. Traore 79), A. Henshall, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds. **Subs:** A. Verma, J. Kettle, J. Byrne.

Barwell: T. Billson, J. Whitmore, E. Putman, H. Eze, J. McAteer, C. Thomas, J. Evans, J. Towers, T. Omotola (Z. Hakeem 70), B. Hickey, K. Williams. **Subs:** S. Hollis, J. Cotterill, T. Dunkley, J. Edwards

Boro welcomed Barwell to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

There was a fairly even start to the game although Boro looked to be sharper and quicker to the ball. This proved crucial after eight minutes when Devon Kelly-Evans' shot struck the hand of Henry Eze. Striker Luke Benbow hoped to add to his growing tally of league goals, but Coventry City loanee Tom Billson dived low to his left to push out the spot kick.



Benbow equalises from close range.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It was a miss that the home side were to regret six minutes later when former Boro midfielder Jamie Towers was well positioned from a corner and headed home to shock the hosts. Barwell, however, were struggling to keep Boro at bay as the half progressed and Joseph Evans, having already received a yellow card for a reckless tackle, dived in on Kelly-Evans after the ball had gone and brought down the Boro midfielder, earning himself a second yellow and consequently a red card.

To rub salt into the wound Alex Henshall's free-kick was headed back across goal by Dec Towers and Benbow was right on the spot to score from almost on the goal line. Boro dominated the game after the equaliser and with Barwell hanging on, it looked to be only a matter of time before Boro scored a second and the goal eventually came in the 40th minute when Michael Richens powered a cross into the Barwell net.



Michael Richens gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

With the half-time whistle imminent Kelly-Evans picked up a loose ball in midfield and drove towards the 18-yard box with Callum Powell for company. With precision timing Kelly-Evans slipped the ball into the path of the former Wrexham man and he curled a fabulous shot inside the far post with Billson totally undone.



Powell extends Boro's lead in fine fashion.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The second half started slowly before Jack Edwards performed an X-rated tackle on Michael Richens and

somehow stayed on the pitch. Henshall then whipped in a cross which flashed across the six-yard box but neither Benbow nor Powell were able to get the required touch.

The second half turned into a catalogue of misplaced passes and throw-ins, reminiscent of the second half of the game against Alvechurch. Barwell went close with a shot that hit the bar and Jordan Wright was forced to push Zayn Hakeem's dangerous shot out for a corner.

Boro had a couple of half chances, particularly when Dec Towers hit a shot over the top and Kelly-Evans broke through and hit a shot into the side netting, but in the main it was a half of very little quality and not much excitement. It was, however, three points which is the most important thing.

Boro Sign Osbourne



Boro have signed former Aston Villa midfielder Isaiha Osbourne. The 31-year-old is vastly experienced and has represented Hibernian, Blackpool, Scunthorpe United, Walsall and Forest Green Rovers. Osbourne made 32 appearances for Walsall last season, but was released at the end of the 2018-19 season.

St Ives Town v Nuneaton Borough 05-10-2019

St Ives: F. Iron, A. Phillips (J. Patrick 91), M. Coulson, T. Wood, B. Jackson, D. Kelly, B. Seymour-Shove, R. Parker (C. Johnson 46), M. Foy, D. Wilson (D. Clifton 76), O. Snaith.

Boro: J. Wright, D. Towers, R. Sharpe (A. Verma 84), J. Kettle, C. Stanley, M. Richens, C. Powell, A. Henshall (R. Edmunds 67), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, I. Osbourne (J. Clifton 76). Subs: N. Julien, J. Byrne.

Boro made the journey to Westwood Road, to play St Ives Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

St Ives surprised Boro, who failed to score in a first half in which they dominated possession and chances, but were unable to convert either into goals. A superb display from on-loan Cambridge United goalkeeper Finlay Iron kept the away side at bay and The Saints 'mugged' Boro late in the game to claim the points. In truth, it was a ragged second half performance from the visitors and their inability to win away from Liberty Way continues to be a cause for concern.

Boro started strongly and almost took the lead after five minutes when former Peterborough United defender Mark

Coulson headed Rhys Sharpe's long throw against the post, with Finlay Iron stranded. Iron again kept the home side on level terms three minutes later with another fine save from Benbow's header. Boro kept up the pressure on the home side and their goal again came under threat as Callum Powell shot, but it was straight at Iron.



Devon Kelly-Evans is denied by Finlay Iron.

Photo: Simon Kimber

St Ives steadied the ship for a while before Michael Richens tried his luck from distance, but the keeper was again on his game and tipped the ball past the post before Powell and Luke Benbow combined with the latter playing in Devon Kelly-Evans, but Iron was there again, closing the Boro midfielder down before blocking his shot. The home defence was able to take a well earned breather on the half-hour mark as Tom Wood hit a shot into the side netting before youngster Dylan Wilson headed wide from Coulson's cross.



St Ives defend doggedly.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The home side, however, were soon pushed back again and an Alex Henshall corner caused havoc in the St Ives' penalty area before the home defence scrambled the ball away at the expense of another corner. Dec Towers' header was cleared off the line as the siege continued. Much to the relief of the home side, the referee's whistle brought a halt to the proceedings with the game goalless.

The second half started quietly, but it was much more even a contest than before the break and full-back Aaron Phillips almost surprised Wright with an effort from 20 yards. The



game progressed with little in the way of clear-cut chances for either side. That was until the 80th minute.

Phillips received the ball back from his own throw-in and knocked a long cross way beyond the back stick, but it was headed back into the danger zone by Seymour-Shove and was sliced away by Craig Stanley to the edge of the 18-yard box and the feet of Tom Wood, who drilled a low shot into the net just inside Jordan Wright's left hand post.

Boro, stung into action by the opening goal, tried to force an equaliser, but as they pushed forward the home side put the game to bed with a second goal. It was a goal that will keep Wright awake at night. Although Joel Kettle's back pass wasn't the best, the on-loan keeper should have done better.

He scuffed his first attempt at a clearance and then got beaten in the tackle by Seymour-Shove, who then ran the ball into an empty net. Boro mustered one last chance when Benbow got in a shot, but it was blocked by man-of-the-match, former Cambridge City striker and makeshift defender Danny Kelly.

Nuneaton Borough v Rushall Olympic

08-10-2019

Boro: J. Wright, R. Edmunds, N. Julien, J. Clifton, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, J. Byrne, A. Verma, L. Benbow, I. Osbourne (D. Kelly-Evans 46), M. Candlin. Subs: M. Richens, D. Belford, C. Powell, A. Henshall.

Rushall: J. Flatt, C. Mendez-Jones, R. Mitchell, L. Smith (J. Burroughs 80), M. Clarke, A. Charlton, B. Lund, J. Willis (O. Pedley 70), J. Letford, C. Steele (S. Whittingham 19). Subs: J. Fryatt, D. O'Callaghan.

Boro welcomed Rushall Olympic to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Cup game.

A much-changed Boro side got off to the worst possible start when they conceded with just six minutes of the match played. An excellent exchange between Jonathan Letford and Ben Lund saw the latter hit a firm shot into the bottom corner. Boro tried to hit back and Benbow had a shot blocked before new signing Isaiah Osbourne put a shot wide of the post.

Ex-Boro youth team centre half Josh Willis, now plying his trade as a centre forward, headed the visitors further in front after 23 minutes when he headed home Lee Smith's dangerous cross. It looked like being a long night for the home side, but five minutes later they were back in the game.

It was an accomplished strike from Ryan Edmunds who smashed the ball across the ex-Scunthorpe United goalkeeper Jonathan Flatt and into the far corner of the net. The goal seemed to change the game and Boro now looked more dynamic and levelled the scores just before the break after Mitch Candlin kept up his good scoring record from the penalty spot.

Boro had a scare just after half-time when substitute Shaquille Whittingham went close on a couple of occasions, but Boro weathered the early storm and again took control of the game. Luke Benbow had the ball in the net ten minutes after the break, but was harshly penalised for a foul on the keeper

before Whittingham put in another good effort which forced Jordan Wright into a save. Joel Kettle had an effort go close from a corner before Flatt conceded an extraordinary free kick, touching the ball twice whilst attempting a goal kick.

Rushall's blanket defence managed to block the free-kick routine and the Rushall goalkeeper breathed a sigh of relief. Candlin hit a shot over the top before Boro took the lead as James Clifton controlled an awkward bouncing ball as he charged into the area and defeated Flatt with a powerful shot on the volley. Rushall's appeals for handball against Clifton were ignored by the referee.

Whittingham lashed a dangerous ball across the area before Jakob Burroughs hit a shot wide of the post. Benbow and Candlin both put efforts wide of the target before Wright pulled off a tremendous save to keep out Whittingham.

As the match drifted into its dying minutes the home side kept the ball safe and played some nice football, especially Jack Byrne, who appeared to be ever available as Boro wound down the clock.

Player Traffic

Michael Richens and Jordan Wright's loan deals have both been extended for a further month, while Boubakar Traore has left the club, joining Stratford Town. Ryan Harkin has signed for Barwell.

Nuneaton Borough v Redditch United

12-10-2019

Boro: J. Wright, R. Edmunds, N. Julien, J. Clifton, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, J. Byrne, A. Verma (D. Kelly-Evans 63), L. Benbow, I. Osbourne (M. Richens 85), M. Candlin (A. Henshall 50). Subs: D. Towers, C. Powell.

Redditch: K. Boucher, J. Hickman, R. Moore, O. Mulders, L. Ezeweke, J. Martin, L. Truslove, R. Martin (M. Nelson 46), L. Monaghan, R. Hilton, B. McLean. Subs: C. Coyle, J. Staten, J. Stoddart, T. Kennedy-Williams.

Boro welcomed Redditch United to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro took their time in breaking down an inexperienced Redditch side, but ran out comfortable winners after dominating the proceedings after the break. As for the visitors they looked likely candidates to be among the backmarkers come the end of the season.

The first half was low on quality with Redditch happy to sit back and soak up any Boro pressure. There were few real chances apart from efforts from Aman Verma and Nigel Julian, which were comfortably dealt with by former Aston Villa youngster Kieran Boucher in the Reds' goal. The referee's whistle brought an end to a very ordinary first half.

The first action of the second half saw former Sutton Coldfield Town striker Louis Monaghan shoot over the bar before Boro opened the scoring. Ryan Edmunds got to the byline and worked his way past a defender, only to be brought crashing to the floor. The referee immediately signalled a penalty and Luke Benbow crashed an unstoppable shot past Boucher.



Luke Benbow's penalty rockets into the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

The goal signalled a change in the game and Boro were now well on top with Nigel Julien having a goal disallowed and Alex Henshall having an effort cleared off the goal line. Boro continued to have the lion's share of possession and it came as no surprise when they doubled their lead after Henshall's pin point corner found its way on to the head of Joel Kettle who guided a header past the Redditch keeper.



Joel Kettle's header finds the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro continued to dictate play but without any clear cut chances and the game drifted towards its inevitable conclusion. However, with three minutes of added time already played, Boro were awarded a free kick just outside the penalty area. Benbow then arrowed in a perfect free kick which left Boucher admiring the scenery to give Boro an emphatic 3-0 win over a very ordinary Redditch side.



Benbow nets his second of the match. Photo: Simon Kimber

Candlin Loan Extension

Boro have secured a deal with Walsall that sees Mitch Candlin's loan period with the club extended until January 7, 2020. The Saddlers' youngster has netted three times so far.

Peterborough Sports v Nuneaton Boro 15-10-2019

Peterborough: L. Moat, D. Bucciero, B. Toseland, P. Malone, M. Willock, D. Lawlor, D. Sembie-Ferris, J. Stevenson, J. Macleod (C. Johnson), M. Jones (J. Herd 85), J. Moreman (M. Sani 70). Subs: T. Curtis, R. Jones.

Boro: J. Wright, J. Clifton, D. Towers, J. Kettle, R. Edmunds (C. Powell 40), I. Osbourne, J. Byrne, A. Verma (M. Richens 46), N. Julien, D. Kelly-Evans, L. Benbow. Subs: A. Henshall, D. Belford.

Boro made the journey to Lincoln Road, to play Peterborough Sports in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro's depressing away form continued with a 2-1 reverse against last year's Division One Central champions. The Turbines started slowly and Boro edged the early exchanges and were a goal to the good with only four minutes on the clock after former Corby Town captain Paul Malone sliced a cross past his own keeper.

The visitors' lead, however, was short-lived and two minutes later Peterborough were level after Jordan McLeod put the ball through the legs of Jordan Wright following some very ordinary defending from Boro.

Despite having the lion's share of the rest of the half, Boro failed to capitalise on their possession and wasted a succession of chances and twice hit the woodwork before the break. Ryan Edmunds really should have done better after 38 minutes, but it was his final contribution as he received a very bad cut and was carted off to hospital. The hosts had a chance to take the lead just before the break when McLeod threatened the Boro goal again, but Wright was alert to the danger and pulled off a save.

After the break it was a case of deja vu as Boro again failed to live up to their earlier promise. The home side had the visitors under the cosh for long spells and ex-Colchester United winger Dion Sembie-Ferris tormented Boro with a fine display. Then, with only 15 minutes left the home side struck a hammer blow when Dan Bucciero's cross was headed home by Mark Jones.

The home side kept up their assault on the Boro goal and seldom looked like releasing their grip on the game. Wright kept the score respectable with a couple of crucial saves late in the game as Boro's atrocious away form continued.

Boro Sign Youngsters

Boro manager Jimmy Ginnelly is looking to the future with the signing of three of the club's youth team on Southern League forms. The youth team's leading goalscorer, Owen Wassall, who has already stepped up to Under-21 level, has already netted on 12 occasions and his strike partner Harry Jackson has hit the target on nine occasions. Both are just 17 years old.

The trio of talent is completed by Nuneaton-born youngster Josh Thompson, who is also 17, and is described as a hard-working attacking midfielder who loves to get forward.



Boro's new 'Baby Squad', left to right: Owen Wassall, Harry Jackson and Josh Thompson with Jimmy Ginnelly.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

Bromsgrove Sporting v Nuneaton Boro 19-10-2019

Bromsgrove: T. Breeden, T. Rankin (S. McDonald 69), J. Wilson, N. Hayward, T. Taylor, K. Lincoln, G. Mills, J. Quaynor, M. Taylor, R. Gregory, W. Shorrock (C. Dowd 69). Subs: J. Hull, J. Brown, T. Massey.

Boro: J. Wright, D. Towers, R. Sharpe, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, M. Richens (J. Byrne 88), C. Powell (A. Verma 86), I. Osbourne, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, A. Henshall (N. Julien 80). Subs: D. Belford, O. Wassall.

Boro made the journey to The Victoria Ground, to play Bromsgrove Sporting in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro started slowly and the home side had the better of the opening exchanges apart from when Devon Kelly-Evans hit a shot narrowly wide of the target after Alex Henshall had teed him up on the edge of the box.

Greg Mills brought a routine save out of Jordan Wright before Bromsgrove took the lead in the 13th minute. Wright attempted to punch clear from a corner but didn't get enough on the ball and it looped up into the air and fell at the feet of ex-Wrexham centre-half Tom Taylor who drove the ball into the net.

Boro were soon back on level terms after they won a free kick about 25 yards out from goal. Luke Benbow looked as if he was shaping up to shoot, but instead he knocked a superb ball to the back post and Joel Kettle headed powerfully across ex-Leamington keeper Tony Breeden and into the far corner of the net.

Callum Powell, who was giving the home defence plenty to think about almost brought about a second goal for Boro as he worked his way across the area before slipping in Isaiah Osbourne, but the ex-Walsall man's cross shot was narrowly wide of the far post. Boro were clearly the better side at this stage and looked to take the lead as

Dec Towers' through ball eventually found its way to Powell's feet. The winger raced to the line and forced his way past Jack Wilson before picking out Benbow, whose shot was just too high.



Henshall scores from close in.

Photo: Bromsgrove Sporting

Having had the best of the first half Boro continued to press after the break and with ten minutes of the half gone Kelly-Evans raced clear of the Bromsgrove defence and whipped in a low cross which evaded Tom Rankin and Benbow, but found Alex Henshall, running in at the back post and the winger had the simplest of chances, tapping the ball into the net from a yard out.



Rhys Sharpe hits the post.

Photo: Bromsgrove Sporting

Ex-Walsall winger William Shorrock hit a shot over the bar before Powell wreaked more havoc down the right, but his cross shot was cleared.

Henshall missed a sitter after good work by Benbow before former Boro striker Shaq McDonald forced a fingertip save from Wright, while at the other end Rhys Sharpe seized on a loose ball before driving it against the foot of Breeden's left hand post.

Boro put the game beyond the home side after 77 minutes when Powell again tore the home side apart as he raced across the 18-yard box before hammering the ball goalwards. The ball cannoned against defender Kyle Lincoln and looped over the keeper and into the net.

McDonald forced Wright into another save at the expense of a fruitless corner before the final whistle as Boro finally put their inexplicable run of away defeats behind them.

Nuneaton Borough v Coventry Sphinx 22-10-2019

Boro: J. Wright, J. Clifton, I. Osbourne (D. Kelly-Evans 46), D. Towers (H. Jackson 72), J. Kettle, J. Byrne, C. Powell (O. Wassall 46), N. Julien, A. Verma, M. Richens, A. Henshall. Subs: J. Thompson, D. Belford.

Sphinx: J. O'Connor, P. Tuean, C. McConnachie, J. Draper, L. Guest, L. Key, H. Billing, C. Woodward, K. Lamond, L. Rawlings, L. Noon. Subs: R. Caputo, I. Christie, A. Pearson, M. Howard, D. Kelly.

Boro welcomed Coventry Sphinx to Liberty Way, to play a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

A combination of dogged defending by Sphinx, a confident performance by young goalkeeper Jude O'Connor and Boro's inability to convert possession into goals resulted in a narrow victory for the home side. The visitors had little or no clear cut chances and a meagre amount of possession throughout the game, but were still in with a chance of the penalty shoot out lottery up until the final whistle.

Make-shift centre forward Aman Verma had an effort ruled out for offside before Alex Henshall smashed a free-kick against the crossbar as Boro dominated the early play. Dec Towers headed Callum Powell's corner over the top when he was well placed to score and Verma again went close just before the break as his header came back off the crossbar and was claimed by the youthful O'Connor.

Boro rang the changes after half-time, introducing youth team prospect Owen Wassall and Devon Kelly-Evans, but the pattern remained the same with Sphinx defending in depth as Boro continued to boss the game.

Michael Richens had an effort blocked ten minutes into the second half just before Boro took the lead when Henshall hit a fabulous shot that curled into the net past the helpless O'Connor. Verma then put an effort over the top before Devon Kelly-Evans was denied by the Sphinx keeper.

With the game approaching the 80 minute mark Sphinx had their first shot of the game, but it failed to trouble Jordan Wright, who had enjoyed a stress-free night in the home goal. Kelly-Evans had another effort saved by O'Connor before Jack Byrne headed over before the final whistle.

Boro Address Keeper Problem

Nuneaton Borough manager Jimmy Ginnelly has taken steps to address the problem of Jordan Wright's injury by signing former Leamington keeper Tony Breeden. The experienced keeper has previously represented Sutton Coldfield Town, Tamworth, Kidderminster Harriers, Solihull Moors and Leamington where he made over 300 appearances in three spells with the club.

Also back with Boro is Ty Belford who had a previous spell with the then Nuneaton Town in 2017. The 25-year-old has been with Midland League Division 1 club Hinckley AFC where his brother Courtney, is manager.

Nuneaton Borough v Royston Town 02-11-2019

Boro: T. Breeden, D. Towers (A. Verma 54), J. Clifton, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, C. Powell, N. Julien, L. Benbow (J. Byrne 25), D. Kelly-Evans, M. Candlin. Subs: T. Belford, O. Wassall.

Royston: J. Welch, E. Asafu-Adjaye, L. Warner-Eley (G. Scott-Morris 68), S. Bridges, B. Martin, D. Brathwaite, H. Joseph (C. Oforu 39), A. Watkins, M. Bateman, A. Murray, J. Castiglione. Subs: A. Crowther, D. Green, B. Adams.

Boro welcomed Royston Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Manager Jimmy Ginnelly let it be known before the game that he thought the visitors would pose a very real threat to Boro's recent winning ways at Liberty Way and although the home side escaped with a 2-2 draw they were hanging on for dear life at the final whistle.

Boro got off to a flying start and were soon ahead when Mitch Candlin guided Callum Powell's cross past former Chelmsford City goalkeeper Joe Welch with just three minutes on the clock. Their joy was short-lived however and two minutes later the visitors were level when defender Adam Murray's cross was hit goalwards by Scott Bridges. Tony Breeden beat the ball away but only as far as Matt Bateman who hit home the rebound.



Mitch Candlin gives Boro an early lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro stepped up their game and put the Royston defence under some pressure as Devon Kelly-Evans shot straight at Welch before the keeper was again in action making saves from a Luke Benbow free-kick and a Dec Towers' header. The home side lost captain Benbow with what looked like a hamstring injury, and his replacement Jack Byrne threatened the Royston goal but his shot was charged down by former Luton Town defender Ed Asafu-Adjaye following Powell's cross.

Boro's pressure finally paid dividends with 28 minutes gone with a goal out of the top drawer from Powell, who cut inside a defender on the edge of the box before curling a superb strike round Welch and inside the far post. Boro thought they had secured a two goal cushion on 35 minutes when Byrne put the ball in the net following Isaiah Osbourne's through ball, but the referee's whistle brought celebrations to a halt.



Callum Powell curls in a shot...

Photo: Simon Kimber



...and finds the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Powell went close to extending the home side's lead just before half-time and Boro went in at the break having had marginally the better of the first half and with a narrow 2-1 lead.

The second half saw an almost immediate change in the flow of the game with Royston having more of the ball and youngster Josh Castiglione drove a shot across Boro's goal before Claudio Ofori blasted a shot way over the top of Boro's goal, a feat that he repeated a couple of minutes later. Royston, though, continued to have the lion's share of possession and Breeden came to Boro's rescue with a save from goalscorer Bateman.

Boro survived a melee in front of their goal with ten minutes to go. As the Crows laid siege to the home goal, and with the minutes ticking away, James Clifton came to Boro's rescue with a fine block from Adam Watkins' effort as Boro continued to hold on to their slim lead. However, with three minutes gone of the five added on, Royston were awarded a free-kick and former Aston Villa player Scott Bridges curled the ball just inside the bottom left hand corner of the net as Breeden made a brave attempt to keep the ball out.

Royston's players celebrated in front of the away dugout while Boro were left to celebrate the fact that there was no more time in the game for Royston to score a winner.

Craig Stanley Leaves

Boro have lost the services of central defender Craig Stanley, who has left the club due to problems with travelling from his home in Preston. The veteran is thought to be on the verge of rejoining former club Clitheroe.

Under-21s Sign

Two more players from the club's Under-21 side have signed first team forms and will be in the squad for the Southern League Cup game at Daventry Town. They are Eddy Brown, who was part of the Nuneaton Town Academy side when Kevin Wilson was first team manager and Nathan Parker.

Jake Bull Signs

Under-21 goalkeeper Jake Bull has signed Southern League forms with Nuneaton Borough and will be in the squad to face Daventry Town in the Southern League Cup.

Daventry Town v Nuneaton Borough 05-11-2019

Daventry: B. Lashley, O. Wilkinson, A. Print, R. Harris, K. Barnett, A. Confue, K. Fitzgerald (J. Orosz 79), J. Finch, J. Bowen, A. King, T. Orosz.
Subs: R. Alexander, O. Stanbridge, A. Creaney, I. Cerga.

Boro: T. Belford, N. Julien, N. Parker, J. Clifton, J. Kettle, J. Byrne, C. Powell (E. Moore 87), M. Richens, M. Candlin (O. Wassall 82), D. Kelly-Evans, A. Verma.
Subs: J. Bull, R. Lavery.

Boro made the journey to Communications Park, to play Daventry Town in a Southern League Cup game.

Boro came back from a goal down to secure a place in the next round of the competition. It was a slow start to the match before Michael Richens hit a free-kick over Northampton loanee Bradley Lashley's goal.

However, the home side battled back and Taylor Orosz hit a shot into the side netting from Aaron King's cross before taking the lead four minutes later when veteran midfielder Adam Confue hit a superb strike from 20 yards which hit the inside of the post before nestling in the back of the net with 21 minutes gone.

Boro were struggling to make an impact at this stage and save for an unproductive corner they put the home side under no real pressure. However, three minutes later they were on level terms as some superb football between Callum Powell and Mitch Candlin ended with the Boro winger crashing the ball past Lashley. Powell threatened again three minutes later as he beat three players on the edge of the box before forcing the Daventry keeper into a fine save.

Boro ended the half on the front foot and seemed to have the game well in hand before the half-time whistle.

Daventry started well after the break and Kieran Fitzgerald forced Ty Belford into a save on two occasions before Boro debutant Nathan Parker got involved in a tussle with midfielder Ollie Stanbridge, who appeared to kick the youngster. All that was forgotten a couple of minutes later as

Powell notched his second goal of the match, sliding the ball under the keeper to give Boro a 2-1 lead.

Former AFC Rushden & Diamonds striker Jack Bowen had a good chance with just over ten minutes of normal time remaining but the home side were dead and buried on 85 minutes when Powell completed his hat-trick. The winger was then substituted by debutant Under-21 player Eddy Moore, who had the chance of a dream debut as he was set up following some great play between Owen Wassall, Devon Kelly-Evans and Jack Byrne. However, the occasion got to the youngster and he blazed his effort way over the top.

Experienced Defender Signs

Boro have secured the services of Jamie Hood from Leamington, where he made over 300 appearances and was club captain. The experienced centre-half has previously represented Halesowen Town, Hinckley Town and Barwell.

Also joining the club is veteran striker/midfielder Jamie Towers, who will be starting his second spell with the club after joining Boro for the 2007-08 season from Leamington. He has previously represented Barwell and Coventry Sphinx.

Players Leave

Michael Richens has been recalled from his loan by parent club Kettering Town. Also on his way out of Liberty Way is midfielder Aman Verma, who has been released.

Nuneaton Borough v Stratford Town 16-11-2019

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, J. Kettle, J. Hood, J. Byrne, I. Osbourne (N. Julien 82), D. Kelly-Evans, C. Powell, A. Henshall (R. Edmunds 75), J. Towers (M. Addison 90), M. Candlin. Sub: L. Benbow.

Stratford: S. Lomax, D. Vann, K. Woollard-Innocent, S. Richards, K. Rowley, M. Blower, L. Wilson, F. Nabay, C. Wreh (K. McFarland), R. Shamsi, K. Edwards-John (M. Campbell-Mhope 58). Subs: J. Bennett, K. Ambris.

Boro welcomed Stratford Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Stratford started the game strongly and almost had Boro in trouble with just two minutes on the clock as former Fulham youngster Ravi Shamsi went through one-on-one with Tony Breeden, who did well to turn the shot around the post for a fruitless corner. Devon Kelly-Evans put a shot way over the bar as the game lost a lot of its early promise with both sides squandering possession.

James Clifton headed a free-kick over the top before Jack Byrne tried a shot that failed to trouble the 6ft 9in frame of Sam Lomax in the Stratford goal. Mitch Candlin's weak shot also failed to trouble Lomax before the referee's whistle brought an end to 45 minutes of soon to be forgotten football.

Boro started the second half in far more lively fashion and Callum Powell's cross picked out Candlin, but his header failed to trouble the keeper. Alex Henshall's shot was narrowly wide of the far post and Clifton followed suit, driving a shot inches wide.

With just over an hour gone Boro were awarded a penalty, heralding an incident that will live long in the memory of those present and the millions who witnessed it second hand when it went live on social media. Stratford engaged in an extended period of protest at the referee's decision while Tony Breeden waited patiently. While they were waiting for the situation to be resolved spectators discussed the wisdom of allowing your keeper to take penalties.



Tony Breeden's Exocet takes out the light.

Photo: Simon Kimber

When the referee finally restored order the former Leamington custodian blasted the ball over the crossbar and into the stand where it removed one of the light fittings from the roof of the stand. The light fitting swung about precariously as spectators standing nearby tried their best to fend off the errant strip light.



Joel Kettle celebrates giving Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Just after the initial excitement had died down Boro won a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area and Henshall drove a low shot towards the far corner of the goal. Lomax fumbled the shot and a microsecond later Joel Kettle had driven the ball into the Stratford net to give Boro the lead.

Substitute Ryan Edmunds, who had only recently joined the fray after some weeks out injured, almost doubled Boro's lead, volleying the ball narrowly wide of the post. The home side had put their first-half performance behind them by this stage and deservedly extended their lead following another handball decision.

Callum Powell was far more assured with his spot kick and sent Lomax the wrong way with a powerfully struck shot that crashed into the back of the net. Boro continued to control the final minutes of the game and were comfortable winners at the final whistle.



Powell's penalty hits the spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Borough v Coventry City	19-11-2019
<p>Boro: T. Breeden, D. Kelly-Evans, N. Julien, I. Osbourne, J. Kettle, N. Parker, J. Byrne, C. Powell, J. Towers (H. Jackson 85), R. Edmunds, A. Rehman (O. Wassall 46). Subs: T. Belford, R. Lavery.</p> <p>Coventry: T. Billson, T. Watson, M. Williams, D. Drysdale, J. Newton, J. Eccles, C. Wakefield, G. Kastaneer (J. Ngandu 64), D. Bremang, W. Bapaga, J. Allen (J. Burroughs 61). Subs: C. Tyler, G. Burroughs, J. Nightingale.</p>	

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way, to play a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

Boro, with selection problems before the team was announced, lost Miles Addison before kick-off and were forced to re-shuffle their pack, moving midfielder Isaiah Osbourne to centre-half and bringing in U-21 defender Nathan Parker at left back.



Devon Kelly-Evans opens the scoring.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Boro hit the visitors on the break early on following a misplaced pass but Powell overhit the ball and it flew past Edmunds. However, two minutes later Boro secured a one-goal lead when the ball broke to Devon Kelly-Evans following a melee in the Coventry area and the midfielder forced the ball into the net.

Callum Powell was looking dangerous and was running at the Coventry defence. His cross to Towers after ten minutes almost brought about a goal, but former Mickleover Sports defender Morgan Williams got the ball clear at the expense of a fruitless corner. Tony Breeden saved a couple of tame efforts from Josh Eccles as the visitors struggled to get into the game.

Kelly-Evans, who looked as if he was relishing the challenge against his old club broke from midfield and played in Jamie Towers, but the Boro centre-forward put in a weak effort that was easily dealt with by recent Barwell loanee Tom Billson. Boro continued to have the lion's share of possession and Kelly-Evans again got in another shot, which once again failed to trouble Billson.

Powell hit a fierce shot which was goal-bound but it took a deflection off a Coventry defender before crashing into the side netting before Boro closed the half with another full on assault on the Sky Blues' goal but despite the best efforts of Powell, Ryan Edmunds and Towers, Coventry limped into the break trailing by a solitary goal.

Boro resumed the second half with a will and Edmunds put a shot over the bar before the home side increased their lead with a goal from substitute Owen Wassall. The young striker steadied himself on the ball before passing a firm shot into the right hand corner of the goal with Billson a spectator.



Owen Wassall celebrates his first senior goal.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Powell, who had the Coventry rearguard at full-stretch saw a fine effort drift just wide of the far post before Billson made a regulation save from Towers.

With just over an hour gone Coventry finally gave the Boro defence something to think about, but Sky Blues' U-23 goalscorer David Bremang couldn't beat Tony Breeden, who made a terrific save. Minutes later Bremang should have cut the deficit, but standing on his own in front of goal, he headed the ball wide of the post, when he should have scored.

Billson then pulled off the save of the match when Edmunds hit a fierce shot towards the top corner of the net. It looked a certain goal, but the City keeper made an acrobatic save to deny Edmunds.



Joel Kettle completes the scoring.

Photo: Matt Davenport

With 76 minutes gone Boro put the game out of Coventry's reach with a finely worked goal. Powell won a corner, which he took himself and Joel Kettle glanced the ball across the Coventry defence and into the net for a 3-0 lead. The Boro captain went close again five minutes later but was denied by the post. Will Bepaga put a poor effort wide of the post with a minute to go, but the home side played out the dying minutes with some ease.

Boro Sign Striker

Nuneaton Borough have signed ex-Bedworth United striker Daniel Dubidat. The former Greenback has been recovering from a back operation and will be sent out on loan to Racing Club Warwick of the Midland League Premier to help the striker regain his fitness.

Hitchin Town v Nuneaton Borough 23-11-2019

Hitchin: J. Mollison, J. Green, B. Walster, L. Rolfe, D. Webb, J. Bickerstaff, L. Barker, J. Dhillon, S. Cawley, A. Marsh, B. Bell (M. Ryan 64). Subs: J. Gauge, S. Ishmael, D. Simms, M. Crowther.

Boro: T. Breeden, D. Towers, J. Clifton, J. Kettle, J. Hood, J. Byrne (N. Julien 69), C. Powell, I. Osbourne, L. Benbow (M. Candlin 79), D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds (J. Towers 60). Subs: T. Belford, M. Addison.

Boro made the journey to Top Field, to play Hitchin Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro threatened early on as Luke Benbow's scissor kick from Ryan Edmunds' cross thundered into the arm of Hitchin captain Daniel Webb. An overly optimistic penalty appeal was launched by Benbow, but it was rightly ignored.

The visitors controlled a lot of the early play apart from a weak shot from Alex Marsh that was easily dealt with by Tony Breeden. Boro, who were enjoying the greater share of possession took the lead after 21 minutes when Lewis Rolfe's headed clearance dropped straight to the feet of Jack Byrne, who powered in a shot that took a slight deflection, wrong footing Mollison and skidding into the Hitchin net.

The home keeper was in action again just after as Benbow cut inside and hit a shot from the edge of the box, forcing Mollison into another diving save. Edmunds headed Callum Powell's cross over the top from the resulting corner.

Bradley Bell forced Breeden into action just after the break but

the Boro keeper pushed the ball around the post for a fruitless corner. Ex-Hemel Hempstead striker Stephen Cawley then got behind the Boro defence and delivered in a dangerous cross but it was headed wide from a good position.

The home side were looking more and more dangerous as the game progressed and much-travelled midfielder Jhai Dhillon got in a dangerous cross which was hooked away by Isaiha Osbourne in front of the posts. Dhillon was then tumbled to the ground by Dec Towers, resulting in a dangerous free-kick from the edge of the box but the shot was straight at the Boro wall and was cleared.

The Canaries got the goal they had been threatening with just three minutes of normal time to go. A corner from the right resulted in a melee in front of the Boro goal and busy midfielder Lewis Barker was on hand to tap the ball into the net. It was a scruffy goal and Boro's defence might have done better but the home side had fought hard for their equaliser.

There were half chances for both sides before the final whistle with James Clifton's long throw's causing the home side some discomfort late on. Nigel Julien had a late chance to snatch all three points for Boro when he was played clear of the Hitchin back line but chose to play in substitute Mitch Candlin when a shot appeared to be the best option.

Henshall Out On Loan

Boro midfielder/winger Alex Henshall has gone out on a month's loan to Southern League Premier South club Swindon Supermarine.

Leiston v Nuneaton Borough 30-11-2019

Leiston: S. Donkin, K. Hammond, O. Saunders, N. Aitkens, K. Clements, S. Odelusi, B. Lawrence, J. Hitter (J. Kamanzi 80), A. Fennell, W. Davies, J. Sands (Stewart 80). Subs: O. Andrews, J. Gaffer, C. Beckwith.

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Kettle, J. Hood, I. Osbourne, C. Powell, J. Towers (M. Candlin 64), L. Benbow, D. Towers (N. Julien 45), R. Edmunds. Subs: T. Belford, J. Byrne, M. Addison.

Boro made the journey to Victory Road, to play Leiston in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro started the game on the front foot and had an early chance when Callum Powell's cross was headed over the top by Jamie Towers. The visitors again threatened the home goal when James Clifton headed the ball across goal, but Luke Benbow was unable to get a toe to the ball.

Then, with 15 minutes on the clock Leiston took the lead through Chelmsford City loanee Andy Fennell who cut inside from the left before putting a firm shot past Tony Breeden.

After the opening goal the game descended into a midfield slog with neither side able to assert themselves, although Breeden needed to pull off a stunning save just after the half hour mark to keep Boro in the game. Towers again headed over the top from a Powell cross while Edmunds' weak shot failed to trouble former Corby Town keeper Sam Donkin.



Tony Breeden keeps Boro in the game.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro were saved by an offside flag just before the break as ace striker John Sands shot home. Boro trooped in at the break needing to up their game if they were to take anything back to Liberty Way.

There were half-chances for both sides straight after the break before Breeden again rescued Boro with a top quality save from Byron Lawrence's free-kick. However, Boro were easing themselves into the game and put the home defence under pressure on more than one occasion. Leiston survived a scramble just before the hour mark while Donkin denied substitute Mitchel Candlin a goal.

Powell had the ball in the Leiston net with 15 minutes remaining, but Luke Benbow was pulled up for offside. Candlin hit a shot wide of the post before Boro were denied a penalty after Edmunds appeared to have been fouled following a Benbow free-kick as the game entered its latter stages.



Ryan Edmunds rescues a point for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Then, with two minutes of normal time to go Boro got an equaliser when Ryan Edmunds crashed the ball home from the edge of the 18-yard box to grab Boro a point. Joel Kettle raced towards the net to rescue the ball following the goal, trying to prise it from Donkin's grip and was shown a red card for his trouble.

Despite being rock bottom, Leiston have strengthened their team in recent weeks, but Boro look some way short of a side chasing promotion.

Nuneaton Borough v Coalville Town

03-12-2019

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, J. Kettle, J. Hood, R. Sharpe (N. Parker 80), R. Edmunds, D. Kelly-Evans, N. Julien, C. Powell, L. Benbow, (J. Towers 60), M. Candlin (O. Wassall 70). Subs: T. Belford, M. Addison.

Coalville: S. Deeney, S. Pierpoint, E. Storey, S. Towers, M. Townsend, J. Doyle-Charles, A. Dean, K. Thomas, K. Mitchell, A. McGurk (T. Berridge 80), L. Browne. Subs: T. McGlinchey, S. Bowles, T. Sjoberg.

Boro welcomed Coalville Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Cup third round game.

A lacklustre performance from Boro was punished in full by a lively Coalville Town side who had too much firepower for the home side and won at a canter. Boro had the best of a slow opening but found themselves trailing with just nine minutes on the clock when ex-Boro striker Adam McGurk arrowed a shot past the helpless Tony Breeden.

Luke Benbow won a free-kick which he took himself but it was deflected over the top for a corner. Benbow headed Callum Powell's flag kick over the top while Ryan Edmunds hit a wild shot well over the bar. Mitchel Candlin put a weak effort into the arms of Saul Deeney as Boro continued to struggle before Breeden pulled off a fine save, palming away Leandro Browne's fierce volley.

Rhys Sharpe got himself a yellow card for a clumsy challenge on McGurk before Coalville extended their lead with a goal out of the top drawer from ex-Boro player Alex Dean, who smashed an unstoppable shot into the roof of the net, giving Breeden no chance of saving.

Boro had two very acceptable chances in the period of a couple of minutes, but both Ryan Edmunds and James Clifton failed to find the net. Benbow also had a chance with half-time approaching but Deeney made a comfortable save before the visitors hit Boro with a third. Former Ilkeston defender Ellis Storey got behind the home defence and crossed to the far post where Kalern Thomas hit a powerful volley into the home goal.

Mitchel Candlin headed a Powell cross over the bar before half-time brought the home side some much needed respite.

The second period was a low key affair with Coalville happy to cruise through 45 minutes with a healthy lead. Alex Dean almost added to his first half goal on the hour mark, but Breeden made a good save to deny him. The game was beyond Boro and they seemed incapable of making an impact on the solid Ravens' defence.

Breeden was called into action with 15 minutes to go, denying McGurk after Coalville tried to hit Boro on the break while Edmunds hit a shot into the side netting as the home supporters decided to make for the exit.

Despite the fact that this game wouldn't have been high on the priorities of Boro's management team, it was nevertheless a poor quality showing against a Coalville side who rested four first team players.

Boro Net Coventry Striker



Nuneaton Borough have secured the services of striker David Bremang, who joins the Liberty Way outfit on a youth loan from Coventry City. The 19-year-old is leading goalscorer with the Sky Blues U23 outfit.

Nuneaton Borough v Rushall Olympic 07-12-2019

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, I. Osbourne, J. Hood (M. Addison 38), J. Byrne, C. Powell, N. Julien, J. Towers (R. Edmunds 59), D. Kelly-Evans, D. Bremang. Subs: T. Belford, M. Candlin, O. Wassall.

Rushall: J. Flatt, M. Clarke, R. Mitchell (D. O'Callaghan 74), L. Smith, S. Whittall, O. Pendley, D. Waldron (S. Leachman-Whittingham 88), A. Moore (J. Burroughs 86), L. Rowley, J. Letford, R. Batchelor. Subs: B. Mansell, E. Sawyers.

Boro welcomed Rushall Olympic to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro's hopes of escaping the Southern League look to be teetering on the edge as they failed to win for a third consecutive league game. The visitors were both slick and rugged and knocked Boro off their stride despite having to weather a Boro come-back during the second half.

The Pics should have been ahead as early as the third minute when a clever through ball from Jon Letford played Danny Waldron clean through on Tony Breeden. The Boro keeper, however, closed the striker down and forced him to hurry his shot and the effort slid wide of the right hand post. The Walsall-based side didn't have to wait long though and took the lead in the eleventh minute when Letford beat both Jamie Hood and Isaiah Osbourne before sliding the ball past Breeden.

Callum Powell hit a powerful shot straight at a defender after new boy David Bremang had headed the ball down before Osbourne picked up a card after fouling the troublesome Letford. Ex-Leamington midfielder Richard Batchelor brought a save from Breeden before Clifton's run and cross almost picked out Powell as Boro started to force the pace.

To make the home side's problems worse they lost Jamie Hood to injury seven minutes before the break, with Miles Addison making a reappearance to the side after a long spell of injury. Boro almost equalised three minutes before the break, but the experienced Jonathan Flatt was equal to Powell's well hit free-kick, tipping the ball over the bar.



Jonathan Flatt keeps out Powell's free-kick.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

Boro could face the half-time break with more optimism, having finished the half on top, but the Pics looked dangerous on the counter.

Boro started the second half on the front foot, pushed the visitors back and had a penalty appeal turned down. However, that man Letford was Boro's undoing again when he outstripped the home defence and got in a telling centre which Danny Waldron headed firmly into the net.

Just past the hour mark the Pics came within a whisker of extending their lead as Batchelor picked out former Bedworth man Levi Rowley, whose fierce shot was blocked by the Boro defence. Batchelor went close himself a minute later as he headed the ball against the post and rebounded wide off another player.



James Clifton's free-kick is on its way into the net.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

Despite living a charmed life for a spell, Boro fought their way back into the game after they were awarded a free-kick on the edge of the box. James Clifton hit a superb curling shot into the top right hand corner with Flatt nowhere in sight.

Boro were playing like a different team at this point and forced Rushall into some desperate defending with Flatt having to tip the ball away before some superb footwork



from Edmunds bought him space and he hit the ball firmly towards goal, but the winger's shot was cleared off the line.

With time running out Boro fought like tigers to snatch a draw but once again they were punished by Jon Letford who played in substitute Shaquille Leachman-Whittingham and the ex-Redditch star smashed the ball into the net to put the game out of Boro's reach. The final action of the game saw Letford loft the ball over Breeden from wide on the left. The ball looped its way towards the Boro net, but Miles Addison raced back and got the ball away for a corner.

Double Loan Deal

Boro have arranged short term loans for two Solihull Moors players – Callum Coyle, who made two substitute appearances for Boro during the 2018-19 season and Ben Usher-Skipway. Coyle has Southern League experience following a loan spell with Redditch United earlier this season while Usher-Skipway was signed by the Moors from Boldmere St. Michaels, where he came up through the youth system. Both are due to stay at Liberty Way until January 4.

Boro Sign Midfielder

Ex-Bristol Rovers midfielder Jordan Goddard has signed for Boro from Alvechurch. The 26-year-old has previously represented Gloucester City and Leamington among others. Also arriving at Liberty Way is Kieran Donnelly, a right back who is signing on a dual registration from Romulus.

Sky Blues' Midfielder Joins

Boro have secured the loan signing of Coventry City U-23 midfielder Jack Burroughs on a youth loan deal. The 18-year-old Scottish U-19 international is a 6ft 2in midfielder and joins on an initial month long deal.

Barwell v Nuneaton Borough 14-12-2019

Barwell: M. Bramley, E. Percival, E. Putman, J. McAteer, J. Cotterill, M. Edwards, J. Whitmore (Z. Hakeem 57), T. Dunkley, T. Omotola (S. Hollis 63), B. Hickey, K. Williams (J. Evans 71). Subs: D. Brown-Hill, J. Redhead

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, I. Osbourne, M. Addison, J. Byrne, C. Powell (R. Edmunds 87), J. Goddard, D. Bremang (L. Benbow 80), D. Kelly-Evans, J. Burroughs (N. Julien 59). Subs: B. Usher-Skipway, T. Belford.

Boro made the journey to Kirby Road, to play Barwell in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Tony Breeden put in an outstanding display of goalkeeping to help Boro secure only their second away win of the season against a useful Barwell outfit. The visitors had to play almost the entire second half with ten men after debutant Jordan Goddard was shown a straight red for a rash challenge on Jake Whitmore, which saw the former Bedworth defender taken to hospital in an ambulance.

Barwell had a couple of early chances before Boro had penalty appeals waved away by the referee. The home side kept up the pressure and Kai Williams created a chance for

Tolami Omotola, but the German striker hit the ball into the side netting. Tony Breeden then made one of many fine saves as he denied Kai Williams, who was clean through on goal.

Half way through the first period Barwell again went close after Omotola was brought down on the edge of the box and ex-Boro midfielder Brady Hickey crashed a shot against the crossbar. Callum Powell hit a shot wide of the post before Boro hit Barwell with a superb move down the right. Jack Byrne played a magnificent ball through to Jack Burroughs. The Coventry youngster put in a slide rule pass across the area to David Bremang who scored from close range.

Boro had the chance to extend their lead just before the break, but Bremang put Powell's cross wide of the post when he might have done better.

The home side took the initiative early in the second half and Boro were forced to defend before Jake Whitmore incurred a terrible injury resulting in a red card for Goddard.

Breeden was again called on to save the visitors on the hour mark as he made an impressive save from Kai Williams before Hickey fired over from the rebound. The overworked Boro keeper had to keep out another Brady effort before Williams again failed to hit the target, firing high over the bar when well placed.

With 20 minutes of normal time to go Boro had the chance to put the game beyond Barwell as Powell was fouled in the box. The winger stepped up to take the spot kick himself, but Bramley made a flying save to keep the home side in the game. Hollis had a shot blocked with ten minutes remaining while a strong run from Devon Kelly-Evans opened up the Barwell defence, but no-one got on the end of the ball into the box.

The busy Hickey hit another shot over the bar as the match entered its latter stages while at the other end Ryan Edmunds also shot over after good work from Luke Benbow. Boro's defensive display in time added on enabled them to protect their slender lead and take all three points.

Dudley Kernick Passes Away

Everyone at Nuneaton Borough Football Club is deeply saddened by news of the passing of club legend Dudley Kernick, aged 98.

Dudley was born in Boscastle in Cornwall and made his senior footballing debut at the age of 13 for Tintagel in the Cornish League before joining Torquay United as a 16-year-old. He joined the RAF and played wartime football for Birmingham City and Torquay. In 1947 Dudley signed for Northampton Town for a fee of £3,000 but was only with the Cobblers for a short spell as he was taken on by Birmingham City.

After Birmingham City the Cornishman signed for then non-league Shrewsbury before moving on to Kettering Town and then Brierley Hill where he was part of the side that beat Nuneaton Borough in the Birmingham Senior Cup final.

Dudley joined Nuneaton Borough in September 1953 and

became an important part of the side that defeated Watford 3-0 and took Queens Park Rangers to a replay before narrowly losing out 2-1 at Manor Park. The following season Boro again played Football League opposition, going down 2-1 to Brentford.



After leaving Nuneaton he joined Hinckley Athletic, then had a spell with Kidderminster Harriers before becoming youth team coach at Coventry City during the Jimmy Hill era. Kernick became manager of Southern League Hinckley Athletic in 1959 and got them promotion to the Southern League Premier Division in 1962-63.

He left Hinckley to move into broadcasting before signing a five year contract with Nuneaton Borough, guiding the club to the Third Round of the FA Cup before they were knocked out by Rotherham United following a replay.

Dudley became secretary and commercial manager at Manor Park but left the club by mutual consent, believing that they lacked ambition. In 1970 he joined Stoke City where he was a very successful commercial manager up until 1985.

After his football career ended Dudley moved to Florida before returning to Nuneaton in 2015. As well as having a successful career in football Dudley was a published author, writing a horror story (The Devil of Trehorra) and his autobiography (Who The Hell Was Dudley Kernick).

A minute's silence is planned to take place before the kick-off at Saturday's game versus St Ives Town.

Nuneaton Borough v St Ives Town	21-12-2019
Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, M. Addison, I. Osbourne, J. Byrne (C. Coyle 80), C. Powell, R. Edmunds (J. Burroughs 69), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans (N. Julien, 76), D. Bremang. Subs: B. Usher-Shipway, J. Hood.	
St. Ives Town: F. Iron, B. Jackson (A. Phillips 72), B. Toseland (M. Foy 59), T. Ward, A. Powell, T. Wood, O. Snaith, R. Parker, G. Bailey, J. Curtis, B. Seymore-Shove (E. Hottor 78). Subs: D. Wilson.	

Boro welcomed St Ives Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

The game got off to a slow start and there was ten minutes on the clock before any action to speak of when Callum Powell almost picked out Luke Benbow. The winger then had a try at

goal himself, tricking a defender before shooting straight at Finley Iron in the St Ives' goal.

The St Ives keeper was in action again a couple of minutes later as Powell again provided ammunition for a Boro forward – this time Ryan Edmunds, whose header looked destined for the top left hand corner of the net until Iron got his fingers to the ball to push it over the top.

Boro took the lead after 17 minutes after good play between Jack Byrne and Benbow saw the leading goalscorer slip the ball into the path of Edmunds who drove a low shot just inside the right hand post, giving Boro a deserved lead.



Edmunds opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

David Bremang's quick thinking found Powell in space but the winger's shot was too high as Boro continued to dominate the proceedings. Bremang had a shot charged down before Powell put a shot wide from a narrow angle.

Striker George Bailey gave Boro a scare just before the break as he ran clear of the home defence, but Miles Addison, with one leg heavily bandaged chased down the youngster and prevented a shot on goal. However, normal service was resumed a couple of minutes later when Rhys Sharpe hit a shot against the crossbar before Luke Benbow blazed an effort high over the top.

The visitors were struggling to compete with the home side as the referee's whistle sounded and Boro took a single goal lead into the break.

Boro's domination resumed after the break and a St Ives defender almost put through his own goal as Edmunds headed Sharpe's cross into the danger zone. Unfortunately for the visitors it was a temporary let-off and David Bremang headed a Sharpe corner into the net with just six minutes of the second half gone.

St Ives were now camped in their own half and Boro threatened more goals as they dominated play. Luke Benbow forced Finley Iron to tip the ball over the top before Bremang went close from another Sharpe corner.

There was a mini crisis for the home side midway through

the second half as Tony Breeden gifted the ball to Matthew Foy. The Boro keeper saved himself some embarrassment by making a brave save at the feet of the former Cambridge United youngster.



David Bremang makes it 2-0.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

Breeden's fabulous ball to Bremang played the Coventry youngster clear and he raced through before slipping the ball inside to Jack Burroughs, but the midfielder's shot was high over the bar. With 15 minutes to go Boro increased their lead from the penalty spot after Bremang was brought down. Iron got a hand to the ball, but Benbow's shot was too powerful and rocketed into the net.

Four minutes before the end Boro scored again with Bremang getting his second goal of the game. Isaiah Osbourne played a superb ball through to the Sky Blues striker, who raced into the area and slipped the ball inside the far post.

At the final whistle Boro were comfortable winners over a struggling St Ives side, who look to have an uphill struggle on to stay in the Premier Division. By contrast Boro continue their quest for a play-off spot

Boro Sign Midfielder

Nuneaton Borough have signed former Tamworth, Alvechurch and Coventry United player Fortune Maphosa. The 19-year-old, who can also play in defence came through Tamworth's junior side and broke into the team before a change of manager saw him fall from favour.



Both sets of players lead a minute's applause in remembrance of ex-Boro manager Dudley Kernick who passed away recently. Photo: Simon Kimberr

Tamworth v Nuneaton Borough

26-12-2019

Tamworth: J. Singh, L. Little, H. Wilder, R. Beswick, J. Magunda, N. Rowe-Turner, T. Waite, A. Forde, D. Creaney, B. Yafai (J. Fry 71), R. Hoenes (C. Lait 71).
Subs: G. Kaziboni, C. Howkins

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, J. Byrne, C. Powell, R. Edmunds, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, D. Bremang.
Subs: N. Julien, F. Maphosa, J. Burroughs, C. Coyle, K. Donnelly.

Boro made the journey to The Lamb Ground, to play Tamworth in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro rescued a well-earned point from their Boxing Day clash with fierce local rivals Tamworth, who led 3-1 until a tigerish fight back from the visitors.

Aaron Forde shot wide in the first action of the game following good work from former Kettering Town goalscorer Rhys Hoenes. Dan Creaney headed straight at Tony Breeden as the home side dictated the early play, while the Boro keeper was in action again to deny Ryan Beswick from a free-kick.

Joel Kettle had a header cleared off the line by Forde following a Boro corner which was headed back across goal by Luke Benbow before Breeden again came to the rescue, denying former Boro man Tyrell Waite, who had been played clear by Hoenes after Isaiha Osbourne had conceded cheap possession on the half-way line.

Despite Tamworth's dominance in the early stages of the game, Boro opened the scoring on 27 minutes when Isaiah Osbourne headed on a James Clifton throw in which found Luke Benbow, who flicked the ball just inside the left hand post. Another former Boro man, Bilal Yafai, had sight of goal shortly afterwards, but his shot was charged down by a Boro defender and cleared.



Luke Benbow opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

The home side drew level with 36 minutes on the clock as former Tamworth defender Joel Kettle bundled the troublesome Hoenes to the floor in the 18-yard box. Beswick sent Breeden the wrong way to put the Lambs level.

Two minutes later the home side almost took the lead when Hoenes set up Dan Creaney, but the former Atherstone Town youngster failed to get enough on the ball and Breeden saved.

However, on the stroke of half-time Tamworth won another penalty, albeit a soft one. Waite went down in the box with Byrne in close attendance. It was debatable as to whether Byrne made any contact but referee Mr Maskrey pointed to the spot, waving away the protests of the Boro players. Beswick again sent Breeden the wrong way.

Boro looked to have a tough task ahead of them in the second half as the teams went in for the half-time break with Boro struggling to stay in the game.

Things got no better as Tamworth extended their lead within five minutes of the restart when Yafai played a superb ball over the top to send Waite running clear. The former Boro striker raced into the box, and took the ball wide of Breeden before slamming it into the net.

Jasbir Singh came to the home side's rescue as Boro looked to fight their way back into the game, but they got the goal they needed to stay in the game when James Clifton's free-kick from wide on the left was forced home by Joel Kettle from almost on the line.



Boro celebrate the equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

The referee added on an extraordinary amount of time during which Boro could have grabbed an unlikely winner, with Kettle again testing Singh before Boro forced a succession of corners prior to the final whistle.



Joel Kettle pulls a goal back.

Photo: Simon Kimberr

Boro were now right back in the game and had their tails up as Callum Powell hit a firm shot at Singh, who punched the ball away at the expense of a corner. Another Kettle header forced Dan Creaney to concede another corner before Benbow won a free-kick. Singh was the busiest player on the park at this stage and tipped Rhys Sharpe's shot out for another corner.

Devon Kelly-Evans forced Singh into another save which was scrambled away by former Birmingham City youngster James Fry. The home keeper then saved an Exocet from Sharpe while Kettle was again on the spot, heading a corner against the woodwork as Boro battled to rescue a point.

With two minutes of normal time remaining Boro found a way back after Fry brought down David Bremang in the area. The Coventry City loanee picked himself up and coolly placed the ball into the net, sending Singh the wrong way in the process and rescuing a point for Boro, who had looked dead and buried up until that point.

Nuneaton Borough v Coalville Town 01-01-2020

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, J. Byrne (N. Julien 86), C. Powell, R. Edmunds (J. Burroughs 70), L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, D. Bremang. **Subs:** M. Addison, F. Maphosa, J. Hood.

Coalville: S. Deeney, S. Pierpoint, E. Storey, S. Towers, K. Thomas, J. Doyle-Charles, A. Dean, L. Shaw, K. Mitchell, K. Taylor (T. Berridge 49), T. McGlinchey. **Subs:** A. McGurk, L. Browne, J. Bennett, M. Townsend.

Boro welcomed Coalville Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro had an early sight of goal after Ryan Edmunds was played clear down the right from where he slid the ball through to David Bremang. The Coventry City youngster tried to trick his way through the Ravens' back line, but was crowded out, although he eventually picked out Luke Benbow who forced former Notts County keeper Saul Deeney into a save at the foot of the post.

Coalville looked dangerous on the break and Alex Dean got in behind Joel Kettle before driving the ball across Boro's box, but Kairo Mitchell was just short of a final touch. Mitchell went close again a few minutes later but Tony Breeden got down well to prevent a goal.

Benbow tested Deeney with a header from Rhys Sharpe's free-kick before Dean again wreaked havoc down Boro's right flank, driving the ball towards goal from a narrow angle. Fortunately, James Clifton was well positioned to clear off the line. However, the ball fell to Tom McGlinchey, who was upended just inside the 18-yard box by Jack Byrne.

After a couple of minutes' debate concerning the referee's eyesight and judgement, Kairo Mitchell hit the ball to Breeden's left and the keeper made a superb save at the expense of a corner.



Tony Breeden saves Kairo Mitchell's penalty. Photo: Simon Kimberr

With half-time in sight McGlinchey played in Luke Shaw, who waltzed around Kettle before putting a weak effort wide of the post. Boro went into the break needing to step up a notch in the second half.

Coalville again looked the stronger side at the start of the second half and Boro were rescued by the post as Mitchell's header left Breeden a spectator. Boro hit back though and Devon Kelly-Evans' through ball found Brebang, who was crowded out, but the ball broke to Benbow who brought a regulation save from Deeney.



Luke Benbow gets in a shot. Photo: Simon Kimberr

Former Boro man Dean broke away down the right and drilled a ball across to the edge of the 18 yard box. McGlinchey got in a firm strike but Breeden got down well to push the ball out.

A terrible under-hit back pass from Isaiah Osbourne saw possession gifted to Mitchell but the striker was forced wide by Breeden who was then able to reposition himself to collect the cross.

Breeden's careless clearance fell straight to substitute Tim Berridge who made his way into the 18 yard box before dragging a shot wide of the far post. The Boro keeper was in action again shortly afterwards as Berridge found his way in from the left before unleashing a powerful drive that Breeden pushed out to safety.

At the final whistle the home side would have been happy with their point, having been by some distance second best throughout the second half.

Kings Langley v Nuneaton Borough 04-01-2020

Kings Langley: M. Minter, L. Doyley, K. Connolly, D. Hitchcock, C. Adebiji, J. Johnson, S. Williams (H. Crawford 65), R. Collins, M. Weiss (C. Linsell 85), J. Parkes, S. Ward (W. Hoskins 57). Subs: L. Collier, E. Lamboh.

Boro: T. Breeden, J. Clifton (K. Donnelly 80), J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, N. Julien, R. Edmunds (J. Hood 66), J. Byrne (J. Goddard 52), D. Kelly-Evans, C. Powell, L. Benbow, D. Bremang. Subs: M. Addison, J. Burroughs.

Boro made the journey to The Orbital Fasteners Stadium, to play Kings Langley in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro started brightly and had the lion's share of the early play and forced the home side onto the back foot. The early aggression paid dividends after eight minutes when Boro won a penalty when Luke Benbow's cross struck the arm of a King's Langley defender. However, the leading goalscorer put the ball too close to Melvin Minter, who beat the ball out to Benbow, who had his follow-up shot saved by the former Brentford youngster to deny Boro an early lead



Luke Benbow is denied by Melvin Minter. Photo: Watford Observer

Minter was again in action following good play between Benbow and Devon Kelly-Evans, who slipped the ball through to David Brebang but Minter again kept the visitors at bay with a decent save. With 21 minutes on the clock the home keeper again frustrated the visitors, making a low save to deny Benbow.

Tony Breeden made a regulation save as ex-Watford Academy player Kyle Connolly tried his luck before Roddy Collins drove a shot just wide of the post. The home side were now looking a more dangerous prospect and Stevie Ward hit a shot into the side netting before the home side took the lead after Mitchell Weiss threaded the ball through to Ward who slid the ball past Breeden and into the net.

Ryan Edmunds was denied by the Lango goalkeeper before the game entered a brief period of tetchy behaviour by both sides with Boro punished to the maximum as the referee booked Joel Kettle, Breeden and David Bremang in a two minute spell before the break.

Boro's cause was severely undermined three minutes after the break as Ryan Edmunds contested the referee's decision not to award him a free-kick. Not content with one booking

the petulant David Brebang engineered himself a second yellow card and won himself first use of the showers.

Breeden had to be on his toes ten minutes after half time as Parkes played Weiss in but Breeden was quickly out of goal to close down the threat. The visitors had another close call as full back Connolly made a strong run down the flank before unleashing a shot that Breeden saved. However, the ball fell to Saul Williams whose volley clipped the top of the bar before going over the top. Two minutes later Boro's misery was complete as the much-travelled Williams was played clear down the right by Jordan Parkes. The winger raced through on Breeden and put a low drive inside the far post to give the hosts a 2-0 advantage.

Boro looked a beaten side after the second goal and Breeden again had to be on his mettle to keep out a shot from former Rotherham and Watford striker Will Hoskins. Five minutes from the end the home side were awarded a penalty as Parkes was clipped by Kettle as he entered the penalty area. Breeden pulled off a fine save from Weiss to keep the score respectable before the final whistle brought an end to a very poor day at the office for fans and players alike.

Clifton Departs

James Clifton has parted company with Nuneaton Borough and has joined Southern League Division One Central league leaders Corby Town.

Dec Towers Rejoins Barwell

Boro defender Declan Towers has rejoined one of his former clubs, Barwell. He joined Boro from Kettering Town in the close season.

Belford Leaves

Assistant Manager Dale Belford has parted company with the club. He was thanked for his hard work by Vice Chairman Stuart Elliott.

Nuneaton Borough v Banbury United	11-01-2020
<p>Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, N. Julien, J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, J. Hood, C. Powell, J. Byrne, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. Subs: M. Addison, T. Belford, K. Donnelly, F. Maphosa, H. Jackson.</p> <p>Banbury: J. Harding, C. Roberts, K. Isaac (C. Fasanmade 88), J. Westbrook, C. Hawtin, G. Rasulo, R. Hughes, P. Haysham, J. Mills (R. Johnson 78), R. Shamsi, A. Awadh (J. Wright 79). Subs: E. Odhiamba, R. Ngaah.</p>	

Boro welcomed Banbury United to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Boro put a traumatic week off the pitch behind them, putting in a promising performance against high-flying Banbury. One-time Boro target Ravi Shamsi looked to have secured an away win for The Puritans, but the home side fought back well and were a whisker away from an unlikely win.

The home side started strongly and forced Banbury to defend with Luke Benbow forcing Jack Harding into a save. Jack

Byrne's shot was deflected wide while Devon Kelly-Evans tried to beat Harding at his near post without success. Against the run of play the visitors took the lead after a long ball out of defence found Shamsi, who ran clear of the trailing home back line before lobbing the ball over Tony Breeden's head.

An almost identical move minutes later saw Banbury almost double their lead but Breeden made a decent save at the expense of a corner. Boro had their fair share of the ball before half-time, but half-chances for Devon Kelly-Evans and Nigel Julien were all they had to show for their possession.

Breeden had to be on his toes to deny Shamsi after he was played in by Pablo Haysham before the Spaniard was denied by Breeden. With the half-time whistle imminent Luke Benbow tried his luck from 30-odd yards, but the ball skidded wide of the goal.

The second period started slowly with both teams struggling to come to grips with the wet and windy conditions. Both sides conceded possession during a scrappy episode but Boro snatched an equaliser out of the blue just after the hour mark. Ryan Edmunds raced clear of The Puritans' back line before driving a magnificent shot across Harding and into the far corner of the net.



Ryan Edmunds' drive is on its way into the net. Photo: Matt Davenport

Banbury's ability to play Shamsi clear of the Boro back line bore fruit again four minutes after Boro's leveller when another long ball out of defence found Shamsi on the half way line from where he ran clear of Boro's back line before slipping the ball past Breeden and into the bottom left hand corner to restore Banbury's lead.

The pattern of the game continued with Boro trying to engineer a pass from midfield and the visitors looking to hit them on the break. By this stage of the game the visitors were trying to run down the clock and players were taking a lie down at regular intervals. Boro, however, continued to plug away and were rewarded when Devon Kelly-Evans raced onto a through ball and was pole-axed by Harding.

Boro, with a succession of misses under their belt reverted to Callum Powell as their penalty taker and the winger did not disappoint as he sent Harding the wrong way.



Callum Powell coolly slots in the equaliser. Photo: Matt Davenport

There were good chances for both sides before the final whistle with Shamsi showing Joel Kettle a clean pair of heels before shooting wide and Jamie Hood's header from Powell's corner forcing a save out of the top drawer from Harding. The six minutes of time added on at the end reflected on Banbury's tactics, but Boro were unable to take advantage.

Needham Market v Nuneaton Borough 18-01-2020

Needham: M. Garnham, J. Dye, C. Sturgess, R. Short, K. Morphey, D. Morphey, S. Squire, J. Marsden, W. Hunt, C. Parker, A. Mills. Subs: C. Page, J. Godward, T. Fitzgerald, O. Elsdon.

Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe, J. Hood, I. Osbourne, M. Addison, C. Powell, J. Byrne, J. Towers, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. Subs: K. Donnelly, T. Belford, J. Kettle, F. Maphosa, N. Julien.

Boro made the journey to Bloomfields, to play Needham Market in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro had an early scare as Needham Market full back Jake Dye played in Sam Square who drove the ball across the six yard box, but no one was on hand to get a touch. Boro hit straight back at the home side and Jamie Towers drove a shot just wide of the far post in an exciting start to the game.

Tony Breeden was called into action as Adam Mills was played clear through the centre by striker Billy Hunt, but the Boro keeper was up to the task and easily saved the winger's attempted chip. The Boro keeper was called on just after when The Marketmen threatened again but Breeden gathered the ball at the near post to deny the home side.

Jamie Hood headed wide from a corner as Boro took the game to the home side and the pressure told on 28 minutes when Boro won a free-kick 25 yards out and Rhys Sharpe hit a shot that flew like an arrow and zipped into the top right hand corner with Garnham helpless.

Mills, the Needham winger, hit a shot wide of the post before Callum Powell shot over the top. Breeden was then called on to keep out a free kick from Joe Marsden after Miles Addison had earned himself a booking. However, Boro extended their lead five minutes before the break as Jamie Towers forced Garnham into a super save but then headed home Callum Powell's corner kick to put Boro two up.



Jamie Towers' header is on its way into the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

The home side struck back in added time at the end of the half after Breeden had saved from Sam Squire and the ball was scrambled away by Edmunds. Squire then put in a cross from the right which was dummied by Marsden allowing Billy Hunt to slot the ball inside the left hand post.

The home side stepped up their game after the break and had the lion's share of possession early on. Boro, however, defended stoutly and Jack Byrne almost surprised Garnham with a turn and shot that whistled just wide of the angle. The Marketmen went close again just after the hour mark when Callum Sturgess powered his way into Boro's 18 yard box before crossing. Isaiah Osbourne performed magnificently to get the ball clear and the referee ignored the home side's penalty appeals.



Jordan Goddard makes sure of the points. Photo: Simon Kimber

Hunt went close and Breeden made a regulation save from Marsden as Boro started to wind down the clock. This resulted in a booking for Breeden and four minutes of time added on at the end. Needham Market failed to make use of the added time and their hopes of a point were blown away in the 93rd minute as Powell picked out Jordan Goddard who made a bee line for the 18 yard box, stepping inside a couple of defenders before slotting the ball inside the left hand post.

Boro Add To Squad

Boro have bolstered their squad with the addition of three players. Returning to Liberty Way is Ghanaian U-20

international and former player Enoch Andoh. The former Port Vale player has most recently been associated with Macclesfield Town.

The club have also signed Riccardo Calder on a dual registration from Telford United. The former Aston Villa defender/midfielder has experience with Dundee, Doncaster Rovers and Inverness Caledonian Thistle.

Also joining the club is former Academy goalkeeper Ryan Braimbridge, who has been training with the first team squad in recent weeks. The 21-year-old has gained experience with Bedworth United and was also with Hinckley AFC.

Nuneaton Boro v Burton Albion

21-01-2020

Boro: T. Breeden, N. Julien, R. Sharpe, J. Kettle, F. Maphosa, R. Calder, R. Edmunds, J. Byrne, J. Towers (H. Jackson 87), D. Kelly-Evans, O. Wassall (E. Andoh 70). **Subs:** L. Thompson, T. Belford, N. Parker.

Burton: B. Garratt, R. Lal, T. Armitage, J. Sbarra, J. Anderson (L. Redfern 63), E. Vale, T. Hewlett, J. Holmes (C. Beardsley 83), C. Daniel, B. Hart, D. Templeton (B. McLean 69). **Subs:** N. Smith, Williams.

Boro welcomed Burton Albion to Liberty Way, to play a Birmingham Senior Cup quarter-final tie.

With 70 minutes of the match gone, Boro had been outplayed and never quite in it. The visitors had built up a commanding 3-0 lead and some of the sparse crowd were thinking of heading for the exit, but Boro used several get-out-of-jail cards and inflicted a shock defeat on The Brewers.

The game was fairly evenly contested in the opening few minutes with Boro having a goal disallowed Tony Breeden making a save from former Glasgow Rangers and Hearts player David Templeton. Colin Davies had a goal disallowed as Burton began to take control of proceedings.

With six minutes to go before the break the inevitable happened as Tom Hewlett picked out the much-travelled former Blackpool and Macclesfield player Colin Daniel, who hit a sizzling shot past Breeden. The visitors threatened again straight after but Breeden nicked the ball off Daniel to avert the danger.

The Brewers scored again just before the break when possession was conceded by Owen Wassall and the visitors broke quickly through Jack Holmes, who played in Daniel for a simple tap in. Boro trooped off at the break with little prospect of rescuing the tie on the evidence of the first half.

Six minutes into the second half Boro conceded a third goal after the ball broke to Templeton after a tussle between Hewlett and a Boro defender. The Scottish Under-21 international hit a superb shot into the top left hand corner, seemingly putting the tie beyond the grasp of the home side.

Despite having the odds stacked against them, Boro continued to battle and Edmunds hit a shot just wide while Ben Garratt was forced to make a save from debutant Riccardo Calder. At the other end Daniel missed the chance to put the game further from Boro's grasp as he failed to convert from Templeton's pinpoint pass.



Jack Byrne starts the comeback.

Photo: Matt Davenport

With just over 20 minutes to go Boro notched what appeared to be a consolation goal as Jack Byrne met Ryan Edmunds' corner at the near post and turned the ball into the net. Three minutes later the home side reduced the deficit again as Joel Kettle headed Byrne's cross into the net making it 2-3 and very much 'game on'.

Just over a minute later Kettle struck again, converting via an unlikely bicycle kick in a crowded area. The ball was now very much in Boro's court and, an Ethan Vale half chance aside, Boro were looking favourites to go through to the semi-finals.

The great escape was completed as the game entered the second minute of the three added on. Joel Kettle soared above the Burton defence to place the ball firmly into the Burton net, giving the home side a 4-3 advantage with little or no time left on the clock.

As the whistle sounded Boro had pulled off a magnificent win against a talented Burton side, taking their place in the semi-finals. The only downside at the end of the evening was that so few people were there to witness the game.



Joel Kettle advertises his tally for the night.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Nuneaton Boro v AFC Rushden & Diamonds 25-01-2020

Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe, J. Hood (N. Julien 46), M. Addison, I. Osbourne, R. Calder (J. Kettle 84), J. Byrne, E. Andoh (J. Towers 46), D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. **Subs:** T. Belford, F. Maphosa.

Rushden: B. Heath, Z. Reynolds, S. Brown, P. Casey, L. Dolman, J. Akubuine, B. Acquaye, B. Farrell (M. Slinn 92), N. Sharif (T. Lorraine 82), G. Kazoboni (J. McLeod 76), N. Hicks. **Subs:** N. Gosnal-Tyler, R. Dove.

Boro welcomed AFC Rushden & Diamonds to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Lightweight Boro finished a long way second best in this

contest, with a late penalty giving the visitors a well-deserved win and all three points to take back to Northamptonshire. The difference between the two sides was well illustrated by the contest between Enoch Andoh and ex-Northampton Town defender Liam Dolman, who took no prisoners throughout.

Rushden dominated the opening stages of the game and Tony Breen had to be at his best to thwart ex-Boro striker Nabil Shariff, tipping over the centre-forward's powerful header. The Boro goal had another narrow escape straight after as Ben Acquaye headed over Greg Kaziboni's cross with the goal at his mercy.

Boro had their first sight of goal on 17 minutes but Jordan Goddard's shot was way over the top. Diamonds continued to dominate without really threatening a goal and Miles Addison put a header wide of the post from a corner before the game drifted towards the half-time break with neither side able to break the stalemate.



Isaiah Osbourne challenges Ben Heath.

Photo: Matt Davenport

The home side rang the changes for the restart and the ineffective Andoh was replaced by Jamie Towers while Nigel Julien replaced Jamie Hood. Boro looked a different proposition in the opening minutes of the second period and they won a free-kick on the edge of the area five minutes into the half, but Rhys Sharpe was unable to reproduce his amazing strike of the previous Saturday and the ball sailed over the top.

The away side then re-asserted themselves and had two good chances to break the deadlock, with Kaziboni heading Acquaye's superb cross over the top before Shariff had an effort cleared off the line by Julien following a corner. Diamonds had another great chance to score with 20 minutes of the second half gone when Shariff's shot was parried away by Breen, but only as far as former Brentford youngster Jesse Akubuine, whose deflected shot slipped agonisingly wide of the post.

The game became a little more open as it entered the final 20 minutes and Boro threatened briefly through Towers, but his weak effort from the edge of the box was easy meat for Ben

Heath. Akubuine shanked a good chance over the top when clean through before Heath performed superbly to turn away Towers' header.

With the game drifting towards a 0-0 draw both sides looked to have resigned themselves to a point apiece but with two minutes of normal time remaining Julien gave the ball away to Acquaye and the winger powered towards the dead ball line before turning inside Julien, who brought the youngster down. The referee did not hesitate to point to the spot from where former Cambridge United man Ben Farrell stroked the ball past Breen to give the visitors all three points.



Farrell takes the points for Diamonds.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Boro, who already had Joel Kettle on as an emergency centre forward pushed Miles Addison forward in an attempt to rescue something from the game, but time was against them and the referee's whistle signalled a home defeat.

Lowestoft Town v Nuneaton Borough 01-02-2020

Lowestoft: L. Tibbles, D. Ruffles, J. Wilkinson, C. Deeks (K. Richardson 88), J. Curry, A. Tann, M. Lopez, A. Fisk, L. McIntosh (M. Wilkinson 73), M. Linton, J. Zielonka. Subs: K. French, A. Reynolds, B. Honeywood.

Boro: T. Breen, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe, J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle, R. Calder (J. Towers 74), J. Byrne (N. Julien 84), I. Osbourne, D. Kelly-Evans (C. Powell 74), J. Goddard. Subs: T. Belford, F. Mophasa.

Boro made the journey to Crown Meadow, to play Lowestoft Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Boro were looking to put last week's disappointing result against Rushden behind them and started the match in a determined mood. They pushed the home side back from the word go and could have scored in the opening minutes, but had a goal by Isaiah Osbourne ruled out for offside before Connor Deeks cleared a wind assisted Ryan Edmunds' corner off the line.

The visitors were not to be denied, though, and with just five minutes of the match completed Ryan Edmunds hit a wonderful volley past former Bury Town keeper Luis Tibbles, following a superb cross from Rhys Sharpe. Boro continued to dominate and it came as no surprise when they extended their lead on ten minutes. Another Sharpe cross found its way to Miles Addison, who bundled the ball into the Trawlerboys' net.

Sharpe's crosses into the box were causing the home side untold problems and the full-back's corner saw Jack

Wilkinson hack the ball off the goal line before Tibbles mishandled the ball, presenting Riccardo Calder with an opportunity to open his account for Boro. However, the linesman's flag brought a halt to celebrations.



Boro players celebrate Miles Addison's goal. Photo: Shirley D. Whitlow

Calder was denied again after the break following another offside decision while Joel Kettle got in a bullet header which was cleared off the line by a Trawlerboys' defender. Boro were still in control for the majority of the second period and Calder had another sniff of goal after good link up play by Justin Goddard, Osbourne and Edmunds.

The almost redundant Tony Breeden was called into action mid-way through the second period after Jack Wilkinson got behind Boro's back line, but the Boro keeper palmed the ball away to safety.



Devon Kelly-Evans in a midfield battle. Photo: Shirley D. Whitlow

As the game drifted towards full-time former Ipswich Town youngster Malachi Linton fired over the top before the home side managed another effort late on when midfielder Jacek Zielonka shot against the bar.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Borough 04-02-2020

Hednesford: S. Rowley, I. Reid, S. Griffiths, B. Bailey, C.Gatter, R. King, E. Hodge, B. Solanke, D. Glover, T. Hewlett, O. Abadaki. Subs: B. O'Hanlon, M. Curley, S. Sanali, J. Hallahan, J. Veiga.

Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe, J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle, R. Calder, J. Byrne, I. Osbourne, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. Subs: C. Powell, T. Belford, N. Julien, L. Benbow, F. Mophasa.

Boro made the journey to Keys Park, to play Hednesford Town in a Southern League Premier Central game.

The home side started quite brightly and Osebi Obadaki

turned Hood before being brought down on the edge of the box by Miles Addison. Former Notts County youngster Elliot Hodge's free kick lacked any great power but was fumbled by Tony Breeden. However, the Boro keeper reacted quickly to avert any further danger.

A good run into the box by Jordan Goddard saw the ex-Leamington man have a shot deflected wide for a corner. Rhys Sharpe curled the flag kick into the six yard box for Miles Addison to flick on at the near post and Joel Kettle stooped low to head the ball into the net from almost on the goal line.



Joel Kettle gives Boro the lead. Photo: Hednesford Town FC

Hednesford's long-serving defender Ben Bailey was robbed by Riccardo Calder who shot wide of the far post before the lively winger curled in another shot which was comfortably saved by Shaun Rowley.

Obadaki again caused problems for the Boro defence and eventually got in a cross which was hit high over the bar by Thomas Hewlett. The former Witton Albion winger was Boro's main cause for concern and his crosses brought Breeden into the game on more than one occasion before the break.

Ryan Edmunds brought Rowley into action at the start of the second half with a well struck shot from the edge of the box and tested the keeper again following a head on from Isaiah Osbourne.

Boro extended their lead after 53 minutes following some exceptional footwork from Goddard who completed his trickery by driving the ball into the net off the inside of the post. Calder caused some discomfort to the Pitmen's defence but had his shot charged down before Kelly-Evans' brave challenge resulted in Rhys Sharpe getting free down the left. Unfortunately, the full back's cross failed to find a Boro player and the move petered out.

A Sharpe free-kick resulted in a looping header from Addison but Rowley tipped the ball over the bar. Another mazy run from Goddard saw him pick out substitute Callum Powell, who played Kelly-Evans clear of the home defence, but he was brought down by former Boston United defender Charlie Gaffer on the edge of the 18-yard box as he bore down on goal.

Substitute and leading goalscorer Luke Benbow shaped

up to take the free kick and curled a superb shot over the defensive wall and into the top left hand corner of the goal. The home side had little to offer in the closing minutes apart from a weak effort from Hodge which failed to cause the Boro custodian any anxiety.



Benbow's free-kick is on its way into the net. Photo: Hednesford Town FC

Players Out On Loan

Boro defender Curtis Obeng has agreed a loan deal until the end of the season with Grantham Town. Also leaving Liberty Way, albeit temporarily, is youngster Owen Wassall, who is joining Hinckley AFC on a dual registration deal.

Nuneaton Borough v Biggleswade Town 08-02-2020

Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe (N. Julien 74), J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle, R. Calder (C. Powell 46), J. Byrne (L. Benbow 56), I. Osbourne, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. Subs: T. Belford, F. Maphosa.

Biggleswade: R. Walton, D. Stanley, C. Panter, J. Peters, L. Ferrell, O. Swain, D. Williams (S. Bush 87), S. Beckwith (D. Richardson 74), J. Edwards, M. Ball, T. Charles (T. Griffith 83). Subs: J. Kerins, D. Reid.

Boro welcomed Biggleswade Town to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Ten man Boro fought back from 2-0 down to claim a last gasp point in a disappointing display from the home side. Three consecutive victories away from home had raised hopes of a play-off place, but Boro will have to raise their game to qualify as other teams around them have games in hand.

The home side had the better of the opening exchanges but had little to show for it and the Waders forced Tony Breeden into action after Matt Ball hit a well struck free kick to the keeper's right. Then, with 19 minutes gone the Boro goal came under pressure and after a short period of frantic defending by the home side the ball looped towards goal and Jordan Goddard handled the ball to prevent a goal, earning himself a red card and Biggleswade a penalty.

Former Cambridge United youngster Dylan Williams hit the spot kick straight down the middle from the penalty spot as Breeden dived to his right. The experienced Jonathan Edwards almost increased Boro's misery, but Breeden rushed out to deny the visitors' striker.

Boro were unable to carve out any clear cut chances before the break although Joel Kettle headed wide from a corner a couple of minutes before the half-time whistle.

Callum Powell was introduced at the start of the second period and Boro went close two minutes after the restart as Ryan Edmunds' cross picked out Jack Byrne, but the midfielder was only able to guide the ball wide of the far post. Biggleswade, however, won the opportunity to double their lead eight minutes after the break when they won another penalty after a Waders' attacker was upended in the area.

Ex-Hull City striker Jonathan Edwards stepped up to take the kick, but over thought his penalty kick strategy and dragged the spot kick onto the outside of the post and out for a goal kick. Having narrowly escaped further punishment Boro brought on leading scorer Luke Benbow in an attempt to salvage something from the game. Edwards, however, rescued his reputation as a striker by lashing the ball into the net from 12 yards out following a mistake by Edmunds.

The introduction of Powell and Benbow gave Boro more edge and they began to make inroads into the Waders defence, winning several corners and generally looking more threatening. With 20 minutes to go Boro's pressure bore fruit when defensive goal machine Joel Kettle bundled the ball into the net to make the score 2-1.



Joel Kettle scores Boro's first goal.

Photo: Matt Davenport

All of Boro's hard work was almost undone on 77 minutes when Edwards again went close. The home side continued to pressure the visitors defence and won a free-kick about 25 yards out. Benbow, trying to recreate his superb strike against Hednesford in the week hit a super shot at the Biggleswade goal, but it was narrowly wide of the right hand post.

Before the 90 minute mark Edwards again went close before the announcement of six minutes of added time. Both Powell and Benbow hit wild shots over the bar as the game drifted towards its conclusion but there was still time left for Kettle to rescue a point as he stabbed home Jamie Hood's cross for his eleventh goal of the season, followed by wild celebrations from a delighted Boro side.



Kettle rescues a point for Boro.

Photo: Matt Davenport

Nuneaton Borough v Peterborough Sports 15-02-2020

Boro: T. Breeden, R. Edmunds, R. Sharpe, J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle, C. Powell (E. Andoh 72), I. Osbourne, L. Benbow (N. Julien 63), D. Kelly-Evans, R. Calder (F. Maphosa 75). **Subs:** T. Belford, J. Byrne.

Peterborough: L. Moat, M. Miles, D. Bucciero, P. Malone, R. Jones, D. Lawlor, D. Sembie-Ferris, J. McCammon (L. Hilliard 72), M. Jones, M. Sani (J. Stevenson 79), J. Moreman (C. Johnson 79). **Subs:** A. Vieira, C. Jemson.

Boro welcomed Peterborough Sports to Liberty Way, to play a Southern League Premier Division Central game.

Volunteers and club staff worked against the odds to stave off Storm Dennis, but their hard graft counted for nothing as Peterborough took all three points and cemented their place in the play-offs. Boro's chances of joining The Turbines in the end of season games were looking remote.

Both sides struggled to come to terms with the conditions early on, battling against the strong wind and driving rain. Despite the conditions Boro shaded the early exchanges and played some neat football at times. Devon Kelly-Evans had an early chance and Luke Benbow missed an excellent opportunity from inside the 18-yard box, blazing the ball over the top when he should have done better.



Miles Addison joins in a Boro attack.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Taking advantage of Boro's inability to score while on top the visitors snatched a 30th minute lead when former St Neots

man Dion Sembie-Ferris whipped in a superb cross to the back post where Josh Moreman had all the space and time he needed to head powerfully past the helpless Tony Breeden.

The game reverted back to a battle of attrition after the goal with both sides battling each other and the awful conditions before the referee signalled the end of the first period.

After the break Peterborough took ownership of the game for long periods after doubling their lead five minutes after the break. Moreman was again the scorer, powering his way into the box after side stepping Joel Kettle and bending a shot around the Boro defence and into the net leaving the keeper standing for a second time.



Riccardo Calder shoots wide.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Riccardo Calder engineered an opening but panicked and took his shot too soon. The weather got worse as the half progressed with the wind strengthening and driving the rain across the pitch and Peterborough finished off the home side with a third goal in the dying seconds of the game. Former Tamworth striker Cameron Johnson hit a tremendous shot from the edge of the box which rocketed into the net, giving the visitors a slightly flattering 3-0 win.

Redditch United v Nuneaton Borough 22-02-2020

Redditch: K. Boucher, T. Kennedy-Williams, J. Endall, B. Birch, R. Misambo A. Rehman, T. Hussain, T. Rankin, R. Martin, S. Tweedle (R. Larmond 45), B. Traore (J. Owusu-Nepaul 73). **Subs:** R. Pratt, C. Wilson, L. Moyo.

Boro: T. Breeden; J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle; R. Edmunds, I. Osbourne, N. Julien, R. Sharpe; D. Kelly-Evans, R. Calder (C. Powell 57), L. Benbow (E. Andoh 82). **Subs:** T. Belford, F. Maphosa.

Boro made the journey to The Valley, to play Redditch United in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Without a win in 25 games, Redditch fans were confident of the outcome and it wasn't thought likely by most of them to be in the home side's favour. However, Boro's unhappy few weeks plummeted to a new low as they threw away a half-time lead and stumbled to a surprise defeat against the league's whipping boys.

Boro started brightly enough and Riccardo Calder forced ex-Villa youngster Kieran Boucher into a save before the goalkeeper was again called into action when Benbow

finished off a good piece of play from Ryan Edmunds and Isaiah Osbourne. Boro continued to dominate and Joel Kettle almost added to his impressive goal tally following a Rhys Sharpe corner.

Ex-Boro duo Boubaka Traore and Akeal Rehman managed to engineer a shot but Kettle was able to block it. Boro lost a lot of their early energy as the hosts seemed to settle down to their task and Tony Breeden was forced to tip a shot over the bar.

Boro, however, took the lead after 23 minutes when Osbourne slipped a superb ball out to Edmunds who returned the favour by playing an inch perfect pass into the path of the ex-Villa player, who slotted the ball into the net. Rhys Sharpe went very close as Boro tried to build on their lead while Edmunds again found a telling pass, playing in Nigel Julien who picked out Luke Benbow, who shot wide of the target.

Redditch changed their shape for the second half and began to look more threatening as the half progressed with a rare shot on goal in the 52nd minute before Edmunds crashed the ball against the Redditch post from just outside the area.

Boro were then rocked back on their heels as St Kitts and Nevis international Romario Martin Traore found himself with acres of space in the box and beat Breeden to level the scores. Two minutes later the home side found themselves in the unusual position of taking the lead when Boubakar Traore found himself unmarked and drove the ball into the net from close range.

This led Boro to bring on Callum Powell, who replaced Calder and minutes later the tricky winger had won the visitors a penalty after being dragged down in the box. Boro's relief was short-lived though as Powell's spot kick was saved by Boucher at the expense of a fruitless corner.

With Boro pushing forward, Redditch extended their lead on 81 minutes when Martin completed his double to give the home side a 3-1 lead. The visitors pressed hard towards the end and got a consolation goal through Miles Addison, who headed home from close range, but it was too little too late and rock bottom Redditch duly celebrated their first win since the previous August.

Alvechurch v Nuneaton Borough 07-03-2020

Alvechurch: M. Sargeant, L. Davey, T. Morrison, P. Taylor, K. Morrison, J. Hull, D. Brown-Hill (M. Candlin 66), R. Winwood (J. Phillips 81), L. Monaghan (C. Deards 66), M. Botfield, K. Da Veiga Monteiro. Subs: A. Birch, R. Wollacot.

Boro: T. Belford, R. Edmunds (N. Julien 76), R. Sharpe, J. Hood, M. Addison, J. Kettle, C. Powell, J. Byrne (L. Benbow 71), I. Osbourne, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Goddard. Subs: R. Calder, T. Belford, E. Andoh.

Boro made the journey to Lye Meadow, to play Alvechurch in a Southern League Premier Central game.

Alvechurch had a half chance early on when Dominic Brown-Hill stepped inside Devon Kelly-Evans and got a shot away from the edge of the box, but it lacked power and Ty Belford made a regulation save. Boro hit straight back and Belford's

long punt was headed on by Luke Benbow for Jordan Goddard to run on to. Former Boro keeper Matt Sargeant was out quickly and made a crucial save with his legs before Kyle Morrison cleared to safety.

Brown-Hill again found himself some space and a sight of the Boro goal but his shot was hammered way over the bar. The home side then got themselves into trouble when Ryan Winwood was caught in possession by Kelly-Evans, who made lots of ground before slipping the ball to Goddard, who shot wide from the edge of the box.

The rest of the first half was a dour affair with little excitement or action for the fans and the referee's whistle brought an end to the proceedings.



Jamie Hood opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimber

As in the first half, Alvechurch were first to show and put Boro under pressure for a spell, but were unable to capitalise. The visitors eventually broke the deadlock after winning a corner. Ryan Edmunds' flag kick saw Joel Kettle challenge and the ball fell to Isaiha Osbourne who showed some Football League class on the ball before slipping in Jamie Hood who cracked the ball home from an acute angle.



Joel Kettle gets in a header.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Belford, standing in for the injured Tony Breeden, made a save out of the top drawer to deny Mitchell Botfield a goal

before former Hinckley United centre-back Joseph Hull was given first use of the showers after Joel Kettle was pole-axed off the ball.

Despite enjoying a numerical advantage Boro failed to impress and the game continued to produce little or no excitement for the long-suffering fans.

Boro made sure of all three points with five minutes left on the clock after Callum Powell made a scintillating run down the left and charged into the area where he was brought down by Kyle Morrison. Substitute Luke Benbow made no mistake from the spot to double Boro's lead.

Despite being clear winners, Boro were less than convincing and stand-in goalkeeper Ty Belford's man of the match performance tells its own story.



Luke Benbow makes it 2-0.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Ex-Football League Striker Joins

Lee Hughes, a prolific goalscorer with West Brom and Coventry City has agreed to join Boro for the rest of the season. The much-travelled striker is 44-years-old and most recently has played with Mickleover Sports and Grantham Town.

All Southern League Games Off

The game against Alvechurch on March 7, 2020 turned out to be the last game of the season as Southern League games

were called off, initially for a two week period with a review planned on Monday, March 23.

Following a further review on Friday, March 20 it was agreed to suspend fixtures until April 3 initially, but with the caveat that a further review would take place on March 23 followed by a statement the following day.

On March 24 the Football Association announced the termination of all football at Steps 3 to 6 with all results being expunged.



Nuneaton Borough 2019-20

Back Row: Adam Hayes (vice-chairman), Jamie Capes (trainer), Bouba Traore, Alex Henshall, Nigel Julien, Stuart Beavon, Miles Addison, Matt Sargeant, Cameron Belford, Joel Kettle, Keith Lowe, Aris Christophorou, James Clifton, Luke Benbow, Richie Norman (physio), Stuart Elliott (sponsor).

Front Row: Aman Verma, Devon Kelly-Evans, Ryan Harkin, Lewis Rankin, Curtis Obeng, Richard Lavery (assistant manager), Jimmy Ginnelly (manager), Dale Belford (assistant manager), Ryan Edmunds, Jack Byrne, Callum Powell, Rhys Sharpe, Dan Preston.

Tamworth — 1st Qualifying Round

Boro made the journey to Kettlebrook to play a FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round tie.

Tamworth: J. Singh, R. Frances (C. Cox 69), J. Gough, R. Beswick, J. Magunda, N. Rowe-Turner, G. Kaziboni, J. Fry, T. Waite, B. Yafai (A. Forde 75), A. Obeng (R. Hoenes 75).
Subs: R. Walton, H. Wilder, J. Clement, C. Duncan.

Boro: M. Sargeant, J. Clifton, R. Sharpe, D. Towers, K. Lowe, N. Julien, C. Powell, A. Verma, L. Benbow (R. Harkin 88), D. Kelly-Evans, R. Edmunds (S. Beavon 46)
Subs: J. Bull, L. Rankin, J. Kettle, M. Addison, C. Camwell.

Boro crashed out of the FA Cup at the first hurdle following a poor display in what should have been a high octane local derby.

After a fairly even start the home side dominated and when Boro decided to make a game of it after half-time, the damage was already done.

The game started in ominous fashion for Boro as they conceded a free-kick on the edge of the 18 yard box from which former Boro midfielder Ryan Beswick forced Matt Sargeant to save.

Benbow had a half chance from Callum Powell's cross while James Clifton headed an effort over the top as Boro continued to hold their own.

The visitors forced a couple of corners, but Tamworth looked dangerous and Ahmed Obeng, who teased Boro in a Leamington shirt last season, was brought down by Dec Towers in the 18-yard box. Beswick struck the ball past Sargeant to give The Lambs an early lead.

Having won the penalty, the Ghanaian punished the visitors further when he stepped past Aman Verma before driving the ball across Sargeant and into the corner of the net on 24 minutes.

The Boro keeper, rumoured to be playing with an injury, was being kept on his toes by the home team and was forced to push a shot from former



Luke Benbow and Joe Magunda discuss the finer points. Photo: Simon Kimber

Chester full-back Jordan Gough around the post. Dec Towers headed over the bar from a corner at the end of the first half and an unhappy Boro trooped off for a pep talk.

Tamworth resumed hostilities straight after the break and almost made it 3-0 when Obeng put a shot just over the top following some careless play by the Boro keeper.

However, with eight second half minutes gone, The Lambs went further ahead when the much-travelled Bilal Yafai drove a shot the ball past Sargeant giving Tamworth what appeared to be an unassailable lead.

Obeng hit a shot against the crossbar from a narrow angle before Boro reduced the deficit with 65 minutes on the clock.

Callum Powell was the architect with a good run into the area from where he picked out full-back James Clifton who swept the ball past Jas Singh.

Minutes later Boro fans thought they were witnessing a fight back as Powell crashed the ball into the net from close range. Celebrations though were cut short by an offside flag.

Tamworth put on fresh legs for the final 15 minutes and restricted Boro's involvement going forward as they were content to protect their lead.

Boro continued to battle but it was too little too late and Tamworth took the heat out of the game and frustrated the visitors.

Late, late efforts from Joel Kettle and Devon Kelly-Evans failed to trouble Singh and Tamworth ran out worthy winners.



James Clifton scores what proved to be Boro's consolation goal as they crash out of the FA Cup at the first hurdle. Photo: Simon Kimber



Stourbridge — 1st Qualifying Round

Boro made the journey to Amblecote to play Stourbridge in an FA Trophy 1st Qualifying Round tie.

Stourbridge: J. Wren, J. Ezeweke, J. Brown, T. Turton, K. Green, A. Carter, D. Bellis, T. Tonks, A. Lloyd, C. Tilt, A. Nicholls.
Subs: K. Cook, A. Landell, W. Grocott, B. Birch, J. Williams, R. Winwood, C. Fisher.

Boro: J. Bull, D. Towers, R. Sharpe, C. Stanley, J. Kettle, I. Osbourne, C. Powell, J. Byrne, L. Benbow, D. Kelly-Evans, J. Clifton.
Subs: M. Richens, A. Verma, A. Henshall, N. Julien, O. Wassall, D. Belford.

The game got off to a cautious start, but it was Boro who had the better of the opening exchanges and Callum Powell might have done better from Dec Towers' ball into the box. The former Stourbridge man was on the spot again minutes later and forced James Wren into a save before Clifton got in an effort that failed to trouble the former Nuneaton Town keeper as it dropped over the bar.

With 20 minutes gone the home side

finally came to life and Tom Tonks curled an effort wide of Under-21 goalkeeper Jake Bull's goal. The home team were now competing well and it was a far more open game than in the early stages, although there was little in the way of clear-cut chances.

Jordan Brown headed Alex Nicholls corner wide of the post before Tom Tonks hit a free-kick straight at Boro's wall before the visitors had tentative appeals for a penalty waved away after some uncertainty from Wren. Kristian Green hit a shot over the bar just before the break and Joel Kettle headed wide before the referee's whistle brought a halt to a less than exciting 45 minutes.

Boro made a lively start to the second period and Towers forced Wren into a regulation save from his header before Boro hit the Glassboys on the break, but Powell failed to find Benbow and the home side gained the upper hand. The vastly experienced Alex Nicholls should have put the hosts ahead after 57 minutes.

Boro fell behind after 72 minutes when

former player Ash Carter received a short ball from a free kick 25-yards out and the defender's hard, low drive beat Jake Bull at the near post. However, a minute later Boro were back on level terms after Luke Benbow drove a powerful free kick at the Stourbridge wall and when the ball rebounded straight back to him the leading goalscorer drove the ball past Wren and into the net.

The game was fairly evenly balanced at this point, but Boro's world fell apart in the 83rd minute when a long raking ball from former Shrewsbury Town striker Aaron Lloyd picked out Kieran Cook, who raced into the box and slipped the ball to full back Josh Ezeweke, who completed a powerful finish with a shot into the roof of the net.

In a familiar pattern for Nuneaton supporters, Boro, having matched their opponents for the best part of the game, fell apart at the end and were lucky not to concede again, especially when Cook's cross sped across the box, evading all of his forwards.

Southern Central Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2019-20

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.06	Notts County	H	PSF	0-2		579
07.13	Walsall	H	PSF	1-4	Benbow	699
07.16	Basford United	A	PSF	2-5	Benbow (pen), Powell	
07.20	Hinckley AFC	A	PSF	6-0	Beavon (4), Rankin (2)	212
07.20	Nuneaton Griff	A	PSF	4-1	Powell, Christophorou, Benbow, Traore	221
07.27	Grantham Town	A	PSF	1-2	Beavon	152
07.29	Burton Albion XI	H	PSF	4-4	Clifton, Verma, Edmunds, Benbow	329
08.03	Bedworth United	H	PSF	3-1	Benbow, Edmunds, Harkin	341
08.10	Kings Langley	H	SCP	0-3		554
08.13	Banbury United	A	SCP	1-1	Benbow	457
08.17	AFC Rushden & Diamonds	A	SCP	0-2		575
08.24	Needham Market	H	SCP	1-0	Benbow (pen)	471
08.26	Coalville Town	A	SCP	3-5	Verma, Powell, Edmunds	495
08.31	Lowestoft Town	H	SCP	4-1	Benbow (2), Clifton, Powell	485
09.07	Tamworth	A	FAC	1-3	Clifton	1047
09.14	Biggleswade Town	A	SCP	0-2		181
09.17	Stourbridge	H	SCP	4-0	Clifton, Benbow (2), Candlin	385
09.21	Alvechurch	H	SCP	3-2	Benbow, Candlin, Edmunds	429
09.28	Barwell	H	SCP	3-1	Benbow, Richens, Powell	735
10.05	St Ives Town	A	SCP	0-2		251
10.08	Rushall Olympic	H	SLC	3-2	Edmunds, Candlin (pen), Clifton	204

Southern Central Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2019-20

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
10.12	Redditch United	H	SCP	3-0	Benbow (2, 1 pen), Kettle	565
10.15	Peterborough Sports	A	SCP	1-2	Malone (o.g.)	234
10.19	Bromsgrove Sporting	A	SCP	3-1	Kettle, Henshall, Powell	1172
10.22	Coventry Sphinx	H	BSC	1-0	Henshall	244
10.26	Stourbridge	A	FAT	1-2	Benbow	423
11.02	Royston Town	H	SCP	2-2	Candlin, Powell	515
11.05	Daventry Town	A	SLC			
11.16	Stratford Town	H	SCP	2-0	Kettle, Powell (pen)	425
11.19	Coventry City	H	BSC	3-0	Kelly-Evans, Wassall, Kettle	581
11.23	Hitchin Town	A	SCP	1-1	Byrne	404
11.30	Leiston	A	SCP	1-1	Edmunds	238
12.03	Coalville Town	H	SLC3	0-3		226
12.07	Rushall Olympic	H	SCP	1-3	Clifton	470
12.14	Barwell	A	SCP	1-0	Bremang	477
12.21	St Ives Town	H	SCP	4-0	Edmunds, Bremang (2), Benbow (pen)	392
12.26	Tamworth	A	SCP	3-3	Benbow, Kettle, Bremang (pen)	1326
01.01	Coalville Town	H	SCP	0-0		695
01.04	Kings Langley	A	SCP	0-2		270
01.11	Banbury United	H	SCP	2-2	Edmunds, Powell (pen)	523
01.18	Needham Market	A	SCP	3-0	Sharpe, Towers, Goddard	293
01.21	Burton Albion	H	BSC	4-3	Byrne, Kettle (3)	293
01.25	AFC Rushden & Diamonds	H	SCP	0-1		654
02.01	Lowestoft Town	A	SCP	2-0	Edmunds, Addison	449
02.04	Hednesford Town	A	SCP	3-0	Kettle, Goddard, Benbow	245
02.08	Biggleswade Town	H	SCP	2-2	Kettle (2)	499
02.15	Peterborough Sports	H	SCP	0-3		369
02.22	Redditch United	A	SCP	2-3	Osbourne, Addison	190
03.07	Alvechurch	A	SCP	2-0	Hood, Benbow (pen)	

KEY: SCP = Southern Central Premier, FAC = F.A. Cup, FAT = F.A. Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, SLC = Southern League Cup, PSF = Pre season friendly.

Football To Restart?

The FA have issued a statement laying out the foundation for a return of football across the Football Pyramid. The proposed dates are Saturday, September 5th for Steps 1 and 2; September 19th for Steps 3 and 4 (Boro's level) and September 5th for Steps 5 and 6. The season's end is scheduled for May 15th 2021.

Dates have also been set for the opening rounds of the FA Cup competition with the Extra Preliminary Rounds scheduled for Tuesday, September 1st and the Preliminary Rounds for Saturday, September 12th.

Dates relevant to Nuneaton Borough FC are FA Cup 1st Qualifying Round which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22nd and The FA Trophy 1st Qualifying Round, scheduled for Saturday, September 26th.

Acknowledgments

A great debt is owed to the dedicated people who spent many long hours researching library records, archives and county records to provide the information for this website and its e-books.

Credit is due to the late John T. Moore, who dedicated many long hours of research, as well as to Roderick Grubb, Robert Forryan, Scott Renshaw, Andy Pace, Paul Sawyer, Kevin Brown, Geoff Cooke, John Hobson, Dave Hall, and the man behind the inspiration for this project Mike Turner.

Many thanks to Simon Kimber for permission to use his professional photography and to Derek Warren for his proof reading skills.

Others, too numerous to mention, have also contributed - their names may not be mentioned but their services and knowledge of both the football club and the town have been invaluable.



[/FromTown2Town](#)



[@FromTown2Town](#)