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Tadley Calleva v Balham

Official Matchday Programme £1.00



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Combined Counties League - Premier Division

Barlow's Park, Tadley, RG26 3BQ

Saturday 4th February 2023, kick-off 2:00pm

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Sheers sunk by Johnston...



Match Report by Dan Walkley

Sheerwater 2 Tadley Calleva 3 *Combined Counties League - Premier Division Saturday 7th January 2023*

A month on from Tadley Calleva's previous league fixture thanks to the Great British weather, they travelled to Sheerwater to face a 'Sheers' side who started the New Year with a very comprehensive 4-0 win at home over Frimley Green.

In tough conditions, and with a few on the injury list, Tadley were looking to open up their 2023 account and bring three valuable points back to Barlows Park. They did just that. Goals from Ousman Darboe, Ben Wright and Jamie Johnston secured the win in a 5 goal thriller with Sheerwater on their 4G pitch.

The hosts opened the scoring on 27 minutes after a flurry of chances for Tadley in the minutes leading up to the goal. A speculative cross from the left was headed clear, but only as far as James Comer who played it to Elliott Cannon. His first attempt was blocked, but his second attempt resembled his surname. He hit a left footed drive from 25 yards out and it flew into Craig Atkinson's top left hand corner to give The Sheers the lead.

Their lead wasn't to last long though. Just 5 minutes later a wonder strike from Ousman Darboe pulled Tadley level. Jamie Johnston's great work to win the ball back and his drive into Sheerwater's half allowed for him to play in Jack French, French played a short pass to Ben Wright who laid it off to Darboe who hit the ball first time and found the top corner. (HT 1-1)

Tadley started the second half the better side, but as conditions worsened clear-cut chances were few and far between until the hosts were gifted a goal on 64 minutes. A loose square ball in front of the 18 yard box was picked up by Tommy Whitby of The Sheers who drove into the box unopposed and rifled the ball home, past Atkinson, to regain the lead for the home side.

Tadley had to dig deep and they did. They began to control the game from the resulting kick-off. The hard work and desire paid off and on 69 minutes it was 2-2. Brad Neal launched a searching throw-in into the box which was not dealt with by goalkeeper Chris Adams leaving the easiest of tap-ins for striker Ben Wright.

From the equalising goal Tadley looked to take control. With passages of intricate play, mixed with the pace and flair of the wide players, the visitors were able to produce several good chances. No more so than on 85 minutes when a through ball from Scott Kinge was latched onto by Johnston who opened up his body to slot the ball home past the despairing dive of Adams. (FT 2-3)

Tadley Team; Atkinson, Chambers, Walsh (C), Neal, Goater, Johnston, French, Darboe, Ahmetaj (sub 70' Kinge), B Wright, S Wright (sub 86' Thorne).

Unused Subs; Pettet, Horton, Gary

Attendance: 79

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Today's visitors - Balham FC



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Balham



Today's Visitors - a brief history

We welcome Balham FC to Barlows Park today in this reverse fixture of the Combined Counties League. We lost narrowly by 2-1 at the Mayfield Stadium in early November with Andre Cruzrosa & Alec Fiddes scoring for Balham with Ben Wright on target for Tadley from the penalty spot.

Balham Football Club was formed in 2011 in order to provide player progression into open age football for hugely talented, high achieving age group teams of Balham Blazers FC, which was founded by Greg Cutwell in 2001. Having won back-to-back promotions in 2011-12 and 2012-13, Balham did the league and cup double in the Surrey Eastern Combination League in 2013-14.

In 2014-15 Balham finished in a promotion position again in the Surrey Elite Intermediate League, however promotion was denied due to Combined Counties League facility requirements not being met. Having moved to ground share with Cobham FC in order to meet facility requirements, Balham finished as runners-up in the SEIFL in 2015-16 and as a result were promoted to Division One of the Combined Counties League for the 2016-17 season. The club had an exceptional first league campaign at Step 6, finishing in a promotion position for the sixth consecutive season and also winning the London Senior Cup. In 2017-18 the club had an

equally exceptional season, finishing 5th at Step 5 and winning the London Senior Cup. 2021-22 would see the club's fifth season at this level after flirting with relegation in 2018-19 and then having to null and void seasons 2019-20 and 2020-21 due to COVID-19. Having begun on Wimbledon Extension before moving to Cobham and then to the Wibbandune Stadium where the club ground shared with Colliers Wood United., Balham were on the move yet again in 2020. This time to the Mayfield Stadium where the club has embarked on a two-year ground share agreement with AFC Croydon Athletic.

Moving location meant a sideways move within the pyramid into the Premier Division of the South East Counties League. After one season (curtailed due to COVID-19) the FA brought Balham back into the Combined Counties League and into the Premier Division (South). The 2021-22 season saw the club remain in the Combined Counties League and they were delighted to revisit some of the teams they had faced many times before as well as some new ones. Despite it being their second highest finish in the division they couldn't find any consistency. There was a notable effort in the Surrey FA Senior Cup where they reached the semi-final, but lost to National League side Dorking Wanderers. Balham's 21st season was also Greg Crutwell's final one in charge of football at the club. He is now the club's President.

A Wrong to Right...

From the 'dugout'

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to Barlows Park to all of our supporters for today's game against Balham FC. We'd also like to welcome the management team, players, officials and supporters of Balham who have made the long journey here to Tadley.

It's great to be back on a consistent footing now with the weather (touch wood) being kind to us and we're really looking forward to getting back into the full swing of things. After missing two weekends of football after the Sheerwater game, it was great to be back at home and playing last Saturday. Abbey Rangers presented us with a great challenge from both a physical and football perspective, but we felt the guys more than matched them in both departments, particularly as the game went on. We fell victim to a 2-0 defeat with the visitors netting an unbelievable strike in the first half and a lapse of concentration midway through the second half saw us concede another.

Despite all the pressure we put on them with the ball and the numerous chances we created, including an impressive Ben Wright overhead kick, we fell just short and couldn't find that goal which could've possibly changed the game in our favour. The lads were really disappointed at the end and that is a great positive for us as they should feel disappointed, but we also have to look at how far we've come in just under eighteen months since coming to the football club. We are not going into games against teams at the top of the division not



Joe Lawler & Ben Dillon

expecting to take anything, we're going into these games wanting and expecting to win.

We appreciate we're not going to win every game and we've certainly got things to work on, but all we can ask from the lads is that they continue to apply themselves in games and in training to ensure that we keep improving and keep moving forward as a team. They are certainly doing that, we had a great session on Wednesday, and we have no doubt the we will come out of the blocks quickly, looking to put last weeks' wrongs right.

On today's fixture, it's a bit of a cliché, but they are all tough games in this league. We also have a wrong to put right in the sense that Balham got the better of us earlier in the season and they are also in a current run of very good form. They've taken points from Raynes Park Vale and taken all three against Knaphill recently, so they'll be looking to continue with that run of form today and we'll, of course, be looking to put that run to an end!

Thank you for your continued support and hope you all enjoy the game!

The Gaffers

Ben Dillon & Joe Lawler

Management Team

George Ceffin, Barrie Awbery & Carolyn Tuttle

Welcome to Barlows Park —

Home to Tadley Calleva FC

Barlow's Park is a modern football facility consisting of several pitches, changing rooms and a clubhouse bar.

The facilities, which include 6 changing rooms and a board room, are also available for hire by other local organisations.

Situated in Tadley on the Hampshire/ Berkshire border, it is run by volunteers on a non-profit basis, to provide football amenities to the local community.

The Park is managed by the BPMA (Barlow's Park Management Association). Since taking over in September 2007 ongoing improvements have and continue to be made in partnership with Tadley Calleva FC.

The latest of which include a new 130 seated stand, 2 covered standing areas, new floodlights and an extension to the clubhouse bar.

For further information on Barlow's Park please call: 0118 9817367



Next Fixture

Tue 4th Feb 2023

BANSTEAD ATHLETIC v TADLEY CALLEVA
Combined Counties League - Premier Division (South)

Merland Rise, Tadworth, KT20 5JG- kick-off 7:45pm

CCL Premier Division (South)

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Raynes Park Vale	20	16	2	2	37	50
2	Abbey Rangers	23	16	1	6	29	49
3	Jersey Bulls	19	14	3	2	41	45
4	Badshot Lea	17	14	2	1	44	44
5	Knaphill	20	12	4	4	7	40
6	Colliers Wood United	21	12	1	8	14	37
7	Redhill	19	11	2	6	5	35
8	Cobham	25	11	2	12	-9	35
9	Farnham Town	23	10	4	9	13	34
10	Tadley Calleva	18	11	1	6	6	34
11	Balham	20	7	5	8	-3	26
12	AFC Croydon Athletic	19	8	2	9	-10	26
13	Alton	24	6	5	13	-20	23
14	Guildford City	20	7	1	12	-9	22
15	Camberley Town	19	7	0	12	-12	21
16	Fleet Town	21	5	4	12	-19	19
17	Horley Town	20	6	0	14	-9	18
18	Sheerwater	20	4	2	14	-41	14
19	Banstead Athletic	20	3	2	15	-28	11
20	Frimley Green	22	2	3	17	-36	9

Photo courtesy of Dan Walkley



Tadley players celebrating another winning goal



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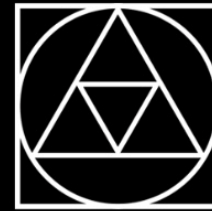
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- Free entry for you and 1 guest
- Club merchandise package 2
- Social media and match promotion mentions

Bronze Package **£350 per season**

- 1/2 page matchday programme advertisement.
- Free entry for 1 named person to all home matches.
- Club merchandise package 3.
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Match Report by Dan Walkley

Tadley Calleva 0 Abbey Rangers 2
Combined Counties Premier Divison (South)
Saturday 7th January 2023

Tadley Calleva succumbed to their first home league defeat of the season as Premier Division (South) league leaders Abbey Rangers ran out nil-two winners at Barlows Park. After a period of postponements for both sides, this fixture came as a welcome return to competitive football and a chance to put three points on the board.

The visitors started strong and physical, not allowing Tadley time on the ball or a chance to settle. They could have opened the scoring as early as the eighth minute after a Charlie Postance shot sailed over crossbar as the ball fell to him on the edge of the eighteen yard box.

As the home side grew into the game in the first half, chances were being created from both flanks with Sheldon Wright and Jamie Johnston looking dangerous. A big chance to open the scoring came on 20+ minutes after a ball into the box by Sheldon Wright was met by Ben Wright's audacious overhead kick which was brilliantly saved by Sam Gray in the Abbey Rangers goal. This would turn out to be a frequent occurrence throughout the remainder of the match.

As the game began to get more physical, scrappy and a bit heated, the visitors were the ones to open the scoring. After a series of chances from corners approaching half time, a loose ball fell to Daryll Cooper-Smith on the edge of the box who stepped inside and struck a fierce swerving shot past Tadley keeper James Andrews and into the top corner. (HT 0-1)

Tadley came out for the second forty five determined and busy. With several chances being created it was Abbey Rangers keeper Sam Gray once more that kept the visitors one goal lead intact. Fantastic chances on 57 minutes and again on 58 minutes were met with outstanding saves at the near post.

However, a few minutes later and against the run of play, a hopeful long ball forward from a Gray goal-kick was misjudged at the back by the home side and the ball fell to the towering figure of Charlie Postance who's first time drive found the bottom corner leaving Andrews with no chance. Moments later a coming together between Sheldon Wright and Abbey's full-back Tommy O'Neill got heated and the Tadley man received a straight red card for pushing O'Neill to the ground.

Playing the final 20 minutes with 10-men didn't really phase the home side as they controlled large parts of the game forcing more excellent saves from Gray. Despite their best efforts Tadley could not find the goal to set up a frantic and exciting end to a very competitive game. (FT 0-2)

Tadley Team; Andrews, Chambers, Walsh (C), Neal, Goater (sub 71' Thorne), Johnston, French, Darboe, Fragata, (sub 70' Rudy-Knott), B Wright (sub 76' Horton), S Wright.

Unused Subs; Kinge, Ahmetaj

Attendance: 82



The History



Tadley has had a football team since the early 1900's. In the modern era the team was re-formed in 1989 and played in the Basingstoke and North Hants Leagues before winning promotion to the Hampshire League. The club was formed as Tadley F.C. in 1989. They joined the Hampshire League Division Three in 1994, finishing runners-up in 1995-96, gaining promotion to Division Two.

The club changed its name to Tadley Town F.C. in 1999 and joined Division One upon re-organisation. In 2004, they changed their name to their present name and entered the Wessex Football League Division Three.

Division Three was re-named Division Two in 2006, and the club finished runners-up in 2007. In the 2007-08 season, they won the Wessex League Division One title but were denied promotion as their ground did not meet the requirements for the Premier Division. The Reserve side was also very successful in the same season by taking the Wessex Combination League title.

Since then the team has remained in Division One and has steadily been making progress on and off the field year on year. They narrowly missed out on promotion in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively by finishing in 3rd position in both seasons.

In the 2010-11 campaign they reached the final of the Basingstoke Senior Cup losing to Thatcham Town 4-1. The club then went on to win the same cup in 2013-14 beating local rivals AFC Aldermaston 3-2 (aet) in the final. In September 2014, the club recorded probably the best result of its modern history, defeating Conference South Basingstoke Town on penalties in the Hampshire FA Senior Cup at The Camrose after a 2-2 draw in 90 minutes.

The club had its best run in the FA Vase in season 2015-16 reaching the 3rd round proper before eventually being knocked out 4-2 after a replay and extra-time against Newport (IoW) from the Wessex Premier Division.

They have also reached the final of the North Hants Senior Cup in the last two seasons; losing out 3-1 to local rivals Whitchurch United in 2016-17, again at The Camrose, and then 5-4 on penalties to Andover New Street in 2017-18 at Longmeadow after a 3-3 draw in normal time.

The club achieved its ambition of gaining promotion to the Wessex League Premier Division last season - the highest level (Step 5) that the club has competed at. The goal is to consolidate its position on the field and to make significant progress with the infrastructure off the field.



Photo courtesy of Dan Walkley

Tadley Calleva first team squad and the fans in Jersey



Midfielder Alex Fragata
'Fraggs' returns to Tadley



Midfielder Connor Thorne
Connor always on good form

Tadley Calleva



Squad

CRAIG ATKINSON (GK)
TOM WALSH
JORDAN GOATER
BRAD NEAL
OUSMAN DARBOE
CONNOR THORNE
JACK FRENCH
BEN WRIGHT
JAMIE JOHNSTON
DEAN STOW
ADAM ALLISTON
KALUM COUSINS
LOUIE CHAMBERS
CHRIS HORTON
SONNY HAYNES
SCOTT KINGE
SHEMAR PETTET
SHELDON WRIGHT
ARGJEND AHMETAJ
ALEX FRAGATA
JAMES ANDREWS (GK)

Colours
Yellow Shirts / Yellow Shorts /
Yellow Socks

Joint Managers
Joe Lawler/Ben Dillon

Coaches
George Coffin/Barrie Awbery

Physio
Carolyn Tuttle

Referee
Andy Tooley

Assistants
Steve Anderson
Kevin Batten

Balham



Squad

HAYDN READ (GK)
SEBASTIAN FALLOWFIELD
ALEC FIDDES
JACK HAIRE
JAKE HENRY
KOJO KYEI
EDWARD MCCREA
JOEL ONU
NATHAN OSAJI
DAN DAVID
TOMASZ WOCIAL
ANDRE CRUZROSA
MAMADOU DOUKOURE
JULIAN FULLER
KHALID SAVAGE
MARK PALMER
OMARIO STEWART
JAMES ADEBAYO
FAISAL ALI
ALFIE DANCE
JOSHUA TATA

Colours
White Shirts/ Black Shorts /
Black Socks

Manager
Ebrahim Seedat

Coaches
Emil Kot/Dare Jean-Pierre/
Maciej Kulbacki

Physio
Seneye Morrell