# **BLUE THRU AND THRU**

#### OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF BARKING FC





# **TILBURY FC**

**TUESDAY MARCH 12TH 2024 - KICK OFF 7:45PM ERRINGTON CHALLENGE CUP SECOND ROUND** 









## EDITOR'S CORNER Barking V Tilbury

Good evening everyone, and welcome to Lawtech Stadium for this Errington Challenge Cup 2<sup>nd</sup> Round tie against league leaders Tilbury!

Everyone will be hoping for a more eventful game than Saturday's, but Barking won't care too much as they managed to squeeze past Athletic Newham thanks to a late Samuel Dowridge penalty giving them a 2-1 win. The Blues took the lead early thanks to Bradleigh Rowland before being pegged back. A full report can be found on page 4. Tonight's programme also contains information about our opponents and previous fixtures that have occurred on this day throughout the years.

neutrals a safe journey home from Lawtech Stadium tonight.



We would also like to wish all fans and players of Tilbury as well as the officials and any

Come on you Blues!

#### Penned by programme editor Trevor Gilbert

*Disclaimer: Please note any opinion, statement or views expressed in this programme are those of the various contributors and are not necessarily endorsed by Barking Football Club.* 

## LAWTECH STADIUM GROUND RULES

All persons entering Lawtech Stadium on match days are only admitted subject to these rules and regulations. The club reserves the right to eject from the ground, and prosecute if thought appropriate; any person who within the club's premises is considered by the club to be in breach of the following:

- 1: Entering the ground by any means other than through the proper turnstiles or gates.
- 2: Entering the field of play before, during or after the game.
- 3: Using obscene or abusive language or persistent swearing likely to cause offence.
- 4: Using terms of abuse, racial or otherwise, likely to offend.
- 5: Being drunk or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 6: Making vulgar or obscene gestures.
- 7: Carrying any offensive object or throwing any article onto the field of play.
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- 9: Sitting on the perimeter fence is not permitted. All vehicles are parked at the owner's/ driver's risk.
- 10: Spectators are not permitted to bring or play with Footballs in the stadium

## **CLUB HONOURS**

## Barking FC are steeped in history and below are our major honours, for a full list please visit www.barking-fc.co.uk

Isthmian League - Champions	1978/79
Essex Senior League - Champions	2016/17
Athenian League - Champions	1934/35
London League Premier - Champions	1920/21
London League Division One - Champions	1909-10
FA Non-League Team of the Year	1978/79
FA Cup - Second Round Proper	1978/79, 1979/80, 1981/82, 1983/84
FA Amateur Cup - Runners Up	1926/27
FA Trophy best - Second Round	1979/80
FA Vase Best - Fifth Round (Last 16)	1996/97
London Senior Cup - Winners	1911/12, 1920/21, 1926/27, 1978/79
Essex Senior Cup – Winners	1893/94, 1895/96, 1919/20, 1945/46, 1962/63,
East Anglian Cup - Winners	1969/70, 1989/90
Essex Thameside Trophy – Winners	1937/38, 1953/54 (Shared)
Gordon Brasted Trophy - Winners	1952/53 (Shared), 1956/57, 1958/59, 1996/97
Errington Challenge Cup – Winners	2014/15
Dylon Shield Winners	2022/23
Essex Senior League Reserve	1979/80
Division – Champions	2011/12

The club has also been Champions in the following competitions:

Essex Elizabethan Trophy, Essex Intermediate Cup, East Anglian Cup, South Essex League, Leyton & District League, London Charity Cup/ Eastern Floodlight Cup, Essex Floodlight Cup, Mithras Cup and the Premier Midweek league.



## **BARKING 2-1 ATHLETIC NEWHAM**

Saturday 9 March 2024 – Essex Senior League – Report by Trevor Gilbert

Barking came away with three points on a day when a draw looked certain until the final minute when Sam Dowridge converted from the penalty spot in second half stoppage time to give Barking a 2-1 victory. Barking took the lead after seven minutes: Declan Nche's scuffed shot found Tony Martin and his pass across goal found the onrushing **Brad Rowland** who tapped the ball home from close range.

It was not a classic by any means but Newham seemed to be more fluent and had their reward after 31 minutes as Shobowale snuck past Shaye La-Rose to poke home a cross from the left wing at the far post. Barking keeper Dan Purdue did well to tip over a dangerous free kick in the last moments of the first half.

There was absolutely nothing of note in the second half minus an Athletic Newham player was sin binned until 85 minutes, Newham managed to sustain some pressure and saw a powerful low cross redirected comfortably wide. Then, in injury time the controversy arrived: sub Izzy Bademosi's cross hit a hand in the box as Dickinson attempted to block a clearance and despite muted appeals the referee awarded Barking a penalty. After the protests had died down, **Sam Dowridge** stepped up and sent Newham keeper Jack Ryan the wrong way to give Barking an unlikely late lead.

There was still time for Barking to nearly score a third, Hirst refused to give up the ball and cut it back to Bademosi but his curling effort took a deflection and smacked the post.









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## **12<sup>TH</sup> MAN SCHEME**

Barking FC are delighted to announce that their 12<sup>th</sup> man scheme is officially OPEN, meaning that fans will be able to contribute to the club financially, with the money ringfenced for the first team playing budget. Importantly, these funds will not be used to replace money that is already in the budget, all monies raised will be an **addition** to our current budget.

#### There are a few ways you can contribute:

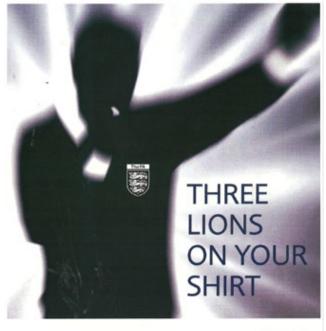
 Online Banking – use your online account to set up a monthly standing order. Here are all the details you need:

#### Name: Barking FC 12th Man Account Sort Code: 30-93-23 Account Number: 26420160

2) You can also set up a standing order by going into the local branch of your chosen bank. You may be able to set it up solely using the details above, but we would recommend filling out a standing order form and taking that into your branch. The form can be collected on a matchday or found online on the club website.

 By Post – Some banks also accept postal standing orders –please visit our website and contact your bank for more information.

# BARKING FC 12TH MAN



Due to the ongoing interest in football we are looking for more referees. Should you be interested in getting involved and would like more information, we would like to hear from you.

More details can be found on www.londonfa.com

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## **MATCH CENTRE**

DATE	OPPONENTS	СОМР	SCORE	ATT	GOAL SCORERS
29 Jul 23	Buckhurst Hill	ESL	1-0	136	Adu-Gyamfi
2 Aug 23	White Ensign	ESL	0-0	91	
5 Aug 23	Cockfosters	FAC EPR	1-0	170	Oloko
8 Aug 23	Tilbury	ESL	0-2	107	
12 Aug 23	Stanway Rovers	ESL	4-2	53	Dariri, Mabassa, Nyanja, Isioma
15 Aug 23	Romford	ESL	2-2	154	Okoye, Okah
19 Aug 23	Heybridge Swifts	FAC PR	0-2	214	
26 Aug 23	Potton United	FAV 1QR	0-3	114	
28 Aug 23	Sporting Bengal	ESL	1-3	79	Spencer (pen)
9 Sept 23	Little Oakley	ESL	1-2	76	Tuohy (pen)
12 Sept 23	Great Wakering Rovers	ESL	2-2	82	Rowland, Hirst
16 Sept 23	Coggeshall Town	ESL	3-2	74	Rowland, Hirst, Tuohy
28 Sept 23	Frenford	ESC 1R	2-1	82	Haysman, Kileba
30 Sept 23	FC Clacton	ESL	0-5	61	
7 Oct 23	West Essex	ESL	0-2	127	
10 Oct 23	Hullbridge Sports	ESL	1-3	64	Tuohy
14 Oct 23	Takeley	ESL	3-2	61	Kileba, Dickinson x2
21 Oct 23	Ilford	ESL	5-1	52	Troubridge, Hirst x2, Gordon, Kileba
24 Oct 23	Buckhurst Hill	ESC 2R	1-2		Dickinson
28 Oct 23	Halstead Town	ESL	0-6	47	
4 Nov 23	Saffron Walden Town	ESL	2-2	202	Hirst, Akpele (pen)
11 Nov 23	Frenford	ESL	4-0	46	Nche x3, Martin
14 Nov 23	Leyton Orient	LSC 1R	1-0	137	Folan
17 Nov 23	Buckhurst Hill	ESL	2-0	106	Martin, Hirst
25 Nov 23	Stanway Rovers	ESL	2-0	100	K. Kayembe, Akpele
6 Dec 23	Woodford Town	ESL	1-1	89	K. Kayembe
16 Dec 23	Little Oakley	ESL	1-1	62	Shaban
19 Dec 23	Haringey Borough	LSC 2R	3-1	132	Dickinson, Hirst, Shaban
23 Dec 23	Coggeshall Town	ESL	3-0	55	Hirst x2, K. Kayembe
6 Jan 24	Woodford Town	ESL	3-0	92	Hirst, K.Kayembe, W.Kayembe (pen)
13 Jan 24	White Ensign	ESL	6-0	79	Hirst x2, Dickinson, Martin x3
20 Jan 24	Sporting Bengal	ESL	2-1	45	Martin (pen), Hirst
27 Jan 24	Great Wakering Rovers	ESL	0-0	131	
30 Jan 24	Coggeshall Town	PBMT 2R	1-0	44	Dowridge
3 Feb 24	White Ensign	ECC 1R	4-0	63	Hirst, Martin x3 (1 pen)
17 Feb 24	Hullbridge Sports	ESL	4-0	56	Martin x2, Rowland, Hirst
24 Feb 24	Ilford	ESL	5-0	107	Martin x2, Hirst, Dickinson, Ademi
2 Mar 24	Romford	ESL	0-2	147	
5 Mar 24	Charlton Athletic U23	LSC QF	3-4		Martin, K.Kayembe, Forrest
9 Mar 24	Athletic Newham	ESL	2-1	84	Rowland, Dowridge (pen)
12 Mar 24	Tilbury	ECC 2R			
16 Mar 24	Saffron Walden Town	ESL			
19 Mar 24	Hullbridge Sports	PBMT QF			
23 Mar 24	Halstead Town	ESL			
26 Mar 24	Tilbury	ESL			
30 Mar 24	Frenford	ESL			
6 Apr 24	Takeley	ESL			
10 Apr 24	Athletic Newham	ESL			
13 Apr 24	West Essex	ESL			
20 Apr 24	FC Clacton	ESL			

## TILBURY FC

Tilbury F.C. now have concrete proof that they were formed in 1889 and competed in the Gravesend League from 1889/1890. With the Docks being the only employer of any size in the area, all the Players and Officials of the Club were Dockers, hence the adoption of the nickname, "The Dockers", which still stands today. The aim of the Club was to gain success at Junior level via the Essex Junior Cup, and thereby to eventually bring Senior Level Football to the Town. Tilbury soon made a name at the Junior level, with successive League championships, and an appearance in the Final of the Junior Cup in 1903/04, where they were defeated after a replay by Chelmsford Arc Works. It was to be another 5 years before they reached the Final again, in 1908/09, but this time they carried off the Trophy by defeating the County's oldest club, Saffron Walden Town.

However, at this stage, support for the club was poor. Only a couple of miles down the road, Grays Athletic were now playing in Senior ranks, and Grays Thurrock United were playing Professionally in the Southern League. Most local fans were going to these clubs, and finances for Tilbury were very tight. At the end of the 1910/11 season, the club also lost its home ground, and the Committee decided that the club should take a break from playing while it sought a new home base. The intended short break stretched to three seasons and was then further extended by the outbreak of the First World War, in 1914. As a result, it was not until 1919/20 that Tilbury were able to resume, this time in the South Essex League. They became Champions of that League in 1921/22 and were again a force in the County Junior ranks. The big push for advancement into Senior ranks came in 1924/25. The Title was again captured, and so was the Essex Junior Cup. As a result, in the following season, Tilbury were invited to enter the Essex Senior Cup instead, which they accepted, as they realised that some good results would really aid their cause.

In 1926/27, Tilbury reached the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of the Cup, the first Junior side to do so, and also became the first Junior club to knock a Senior club out of the Cup, when they played superbly to defeat the mighty Walthamstow Avenue 3-2. During the Summer, they were granted Senior status by the Essex F.A. Disaster almost struck, however. Application was made to several Leagues but, one by one, they were all rejected, and it looked as though Tilbury were doomed. At the very last moment, the Kent League stepped in and offered them a place, which was eagerly accepted. With Tilbury remaining as one of only 5 Amateur clubs in a Professional competition, it was no surprise that they found it tough going on the field of play. Off the field, however, the 4 seasons spent in the Kent League were a success. Tilbury enjoyed their time in the League and made many friends and contacts. It was an off-field matter, though, that led to them eventually leaving the competition. The League had expanded in size greatly since Tilbury joined and added to the difficulty of continually crossing the Thames was the end of season fixture congestion.

This meant a great many midweek matches and, with no Floodlights in those days, those games had to kick off at 4.30pm, and Tilbury nearly always had to field weakened teams due to players' work commitments. At the end of the 1930/31 season, the Committee very reluctantly took the decision that the club would have to move on. They made an application to join the London League, one of those that had rejected them 4 years earlier, and this time were accepted. Tilbury stayed in the London League until 1939, when the outbreak of the Second World War led to the disbandment of most Senior Leagues. During that spell, they were twice 4<sup>th</sup> in the table, and once reached the League Cup Final, but were mostly to be found in the bottom half of the League Table. In September 1939, all Football was forced to return to a more local basis, due to Travel restrictions and Fuel rationing. Along with 9 other local clubs, Tilbury formed the War Time South Essex Combination.

They completed the 1939/40 season in this League, but at the end of that campaign were forced to disband for the duration, when their ground was commandeered by the Army, as a site for the Anti-Aircraft Guns brought in to protect the Docks. Tilbury resumed in the London League in 1946/47, and then on a new home ground, the present Chadfields in 1947/48, and embarked upon a four-season spell of much success and National recognition. They reached 2 successive Essex Senior Cup Finals, were 3 times League Runners Up, and were desperately unlucky to be knocked out of the F.A. Amateur Cup at the Quarter Final stage, when reduced to 9 fit men through injury. The proudest moment, though, came in the F.A. Cup. In 1949/50, Tilbury fought their way through to the 1st Round Proper, eventually going down 0-4 away to a Notts County side led by the legendary England centre forward Tommy Lawton. In the previous round replay, at home to Gorleston, a crowd of 5,500 had packed into St. Chad's Road, and that is still the official Ground Record. The proceeds from this Cup run were used, a few years later, to buy the Freehold to the 13-acre site that the Ground stands on.

## TILBURY FC (cont.)

In 1950/51 Tilbury moved into the Corinthian League. Apart from one League Cup Final, this was to be a barren 7-vear spell, and at the end of that time they returned to the London League. The move into the Corinthian ranks had coincided with the gradual breakup of the successful but ageing post-War side. The move back to the London League now coincided with the coming together of an extremely talented bunch of local young players, that brought great success in the coming seasons. In 1957/58, Tilbury finished 3rd in the London League, but in each of the next 4 campaigns were the undisputed Champions. On 3 occasions they also captured the League Cup. Also, in 1960/61, the Essex Senior Cup was won for the first time, when Walthamstow Avenue were beaten 4-1 (aet) in the Final, just 3 weeks after by winning they had won the Amateur Cup at Wembley. 1962/63 saw Tilbury move into the Delphian League. This was to be the Winter of the "Big Freeze", which almost totally disrupted all Sport throughout the Country for a period of almost 3 months. This was to coincide with that League's last ever season. In 1963/64, that League joined the expanded Athenian League set up, becoming the bottom Division of a 3 Division set up. The Athenian League being the Premier Division, the Corinthian League being Division One and the Delphian, Division Two. Tilbury were inaugural Champions of Division Two, also winning the Essex Senior Cup again. 5 seasons later, they completed the climb to the Premier Division, by winning the Division One championship. 5 seasons were spent in the Athenian Premier Division before, in 1973/74, they joined the newly formed isthmian League Division Two, which was later re-named Division One.

In 1974/75, they became the first ever winners of the Isthmian League Cup, and 12 months later were the Division One Champions. 5th place in their first Premier Division season was the best Tilbury could achieve in their 5 seasons stay, before being relegated back to Division One. However, during that spell, in 1977/78, Tilbury enjoyed a remarkable run in the F.A. Cup, as they started in the Preliminary Round and fought their way right through to the 3rd Round Proper, before going down 0-4 away to Stoke City. The storm clouds were already forming though, and just 2 seasons later relegation followed, amid a financial crisis so severe that the Club almost died. Since then, Tilbury have found things tough. They have suffered relegation on several occasions, but have mostly bounced back fairly quickly, but the successes of previous years have never been re-captured. In 2004/05, Tilbury finished their one season in the Southern League Division One East in rock bottom position and were relegated to the Essex Senior League. They bounced back immediately, and earned a return to Isthmian ranks, and have managed to remain there since. The past 2 seasons were moderately successful, with two 11th place finishes in the League, and in 2008/09 Tilbury won the Isthmian League Cup and the East Anglian Cup, these were their first Trophies in 30 years. 2010/2011, with a new Manager in Paul Vaughan, and a tie-up with South Essex College Academy, saw the Club hoping to build for the future. With an inexperienced squad, the first half of the campaign was a real struggle, and by Xmas Tilbury were in real danger of relegation. However, as he gained experience, Vaughan gradually rebuilt and reinforced his squad, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the campaign saw a run of results that steered the Club to safety well before the end of the season.

2011/12 saw Tilbury greatly exceed their expectations, as Vaughan's squad stayed in and around the promotion race all season, clinching a play-off place with a game to spare. Sadly, though, it ended in extra time defeat against Needham Market. Success spread through the club as well, with the newly formed Reserves, comprised mainly of players under 21 years old, coming second in the Essex Senior Reserve League, and winning the League Cup. Unfortunately, this level could not be maintained over the next few seasons, as Tilbury continually lost some of their better players to higher level clubs, and Vaughan was continually having to rebuild his squad. The Club's Academy proved its worth in this respect, as Tilbury still managed to finish in a respectable position.

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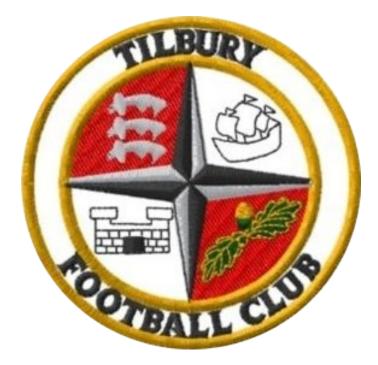
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## TILBURY FC (cont.)

In October 2014, Paul Vaughan stepped down as Manager, and the Club acted quickly to appoint player Gary Henty as the new boss, and he acted quickly to appoint former Tilbury player Danny Smith as his assistant and another ex-"Docker" George Young as Coach. Tilbury finished that season in a comfortable lower mid-table position, but showed great improvement in 2015/16, at one time being as high as 5th, on the back of a very long unbeaten run. This included good runs in both the Essex Senior Cup and F.A. Trophy, with no fewer than 3 National League sides being defeated. However, as the season entered its final few weeks, their poor disciplinary record came back to bite them, with player suspensions taking their toll leading to a fall down the Table to 11th. That pattern was repeated in 2016/17. The first half of the season saw Tilbury in or just below the Play-Off places, but in the second half of the campaign a dramatic loss of form of just 3 wins from 22 games saw them plummet down as low as 17th.

The season was rescued in the final month, in which Tilbury went unbeaten, winning three and drawing two of the final five League matches, climbing back up to a respectable 12th position. On the cup front, Tilbury had a fine run through to the Semi-Final of the Essex Senior Cup, before going down narrowly to National South side East Thurrock United. Unfortunately, Tilbury suffered a terrible run of results in October of 2017. A heavy defeat in the F.A. Trophy brought about the resignations of manager and assistant, Gary Henty & Danny Smith, plus coach George Young. Once again, the Club turned to a former player to take over. Joe Keith returned to the club and brought in a few new signings over the next few weeks and guided the club to a safe final position. However, this run could not be maintained, and in October of the next season, with the Club lying second from bottom, the Management Team was changed again. Marc Harrison, a former Under 16 side Manager at Tilbury, had enjoyed a very successful spell with Basildon United, and now returned to Chadfields, bringing Liam Wallace with him as his Assistant. Making several new signings, they immediately brought about a big improvement, and took the club right up to 7<sup>th</sup> place, before a final day defeat away to the Division Champions sent them back to a final 10<sup>th</sup> place finish.

2019/20 got off to a slow start for the Club, but once they got going they rapidly climbed up the League Table. By March, Tilbury were sitting comfortably in 4<sup>th</sup> position, and seemed certain of a place in the Promotion Play-Offs. Then, the Covid 19 virus created a Pandemic that swept across the World and caused the Isthmian and many other Leagues to be declared Null & Void, with all Football coming to a close. 2020/21 got off to an even better start, and Tilbury found themselves as the early season League Leaders. Once again, however, the Covid Pandemic raised its head. The situation across the Country deteriorated greatly and Lockdown once more came into force. As in the previous campaign, that signalled, eventually, the abandonment of the season, and denied Tilbury what seemed a near certain place at least in the Play-Offs. With all restrictions lifted from July 12th 2021, and with most of the squad retained plus one or two quality additions, the Club are hoping that fate does not intervene again, and that they can challenge for the honours.



## **ON THIS DAY**

#### A selection of Barking games from this day in the past by Terry Gilbert

March 12th 2022 - Isthmian League North Division Brentwood Town 1 Barking 0

March 12th 2016 - Essex Senior League Ilford 1 Barking 1 (James Peagram)

March 12th 2013 - Essex Senior League Enfield 3 Barking 2 (Ben O'Brien, Scott Walsh)

March 12th 2011 - Essex Senior League Southend Manor 0 Barking 1 (Sam Dennis)

March 12th 2005 - Southern League Division 1 East Dartford 1 Barking & EHU 6 (Sam Taylor, Bradley Woodards, Ashley Marsh, Ben Willis, Carl Bruce, Michael Gorman)

March 12th 1996 - Isthmian League Cup Division 1 Berkhamsted Town 0 Barking 1 (Sean Junor)

March 12th 1994 - Isthmian League Cup Division 1 Chalfont St Peter 1 Barking 1 (Jeff Wood)

March 12th 1988 - Isthmian League Premier Division Barking 1 (Paul Wilson) Windsor & Eton 0

March 12th 1985 - Isthmian League Premier Division Barking 0 Bognor Regis Town 4

March 12th 1983 - Isthmian League Premier Division Barking 1 (Nicky Crown) Wokingham Town 0

March 12th 1979 - Isthmian League Premier Division Barking 4 (Peter Burton, Bryn Key, Bobby Makin, Nicky Ironton) Walthamstow Avenue 1

March 12th 1968 - FA Amateur Cup First Round Ilford 0 Barking 4 (Paddy Long, Graham Lillington, Peter Deadman, Roger Warnes)

March 12th 1960 - Isthmian League Dulwich Hamlet 4 Barking 1 (Ron Hammond)

March 12th 1955 - Isthmian League Barking 1 (Len Craven) Ilford 0

## WHITE ENSIGN 0-4 BARKING

*Errington Challenge Cup* 1<sup>st</sup> *Round – Saturday* 3 *February* 2024 – *Report by Terry Gilbert* 

It seems that White Ensign have a challenge stopping Tony Martin scoring against them, he has scored two hat tricks in as many games this season for Barking.

However, we started February with a win and in doing so successfully took the first step in defending the trophy won last May. With this latest victory, our unbeaten streak now extends to 15 games in both league and cup.

It was announced post-game that



our joint managers Jonny Fowell and Michael Walther had won the January manager of the month which is a tribute to the sterling work they have done since taking over at the end of October.

There were a number of changes for today's game and what looked like a very attacking line up. We welcomed back Giovanni Palmer who made his first appearance for us since the covid disrupted season of 2020/21. Fahad Nyanja was injured at training on Thursday, George Forrest took his place and Kenedi Dariri wore the captain's armband.

Barking started on the front foot and took 13 minutes to break the deadlock. A Tony Martin throw-in found **Luke Hirst**, who clinically fired home a low shot from close range to bring his season tally to 14 goals. Throughout the first half, Barking continued to press creating opportunities from dangerous corners and free kicks. Despite dominating they couldn't add a second goal, In the 32nd minute, Bleron Ademi played in Martin, whose shot was met with a solid save from the legs of Ensign keeper Joe Whitney. The swift footwork of Sam Dowridge produced a threatening cross in the 38th minute, but Jack Folan's subsequent shot narrowly missed the target. Ensign, although managing some efforts on goal failed to trouble Max Spence between the sticks for Barking, the visitors went in at half time with a single goal lead.

The second half resumed with Barking looking to extend their advantage. In the 47th minute, Dowridge set up Hirst, whose shot was blocked, resulting in a corner. The hour mark saw Hirst winning the ball back and setting up Martin, but he fired wide. Barking's persistence paid off in the 67th minute when Karl Kayembe freed Ademi down the right and he delivered a perfect cross for **Tony Martin** to head home, doubling Barking's lead.

Barking continued to press and sub Jack Dickinson set up Hirst whose shot narrowly missed the target. With ten minutes left Dowridge's deft footwork got him into the box only to be crudely stopped by Austin Smart and earning Barking a penalty. Tony
Martin confidently stepped up and sent Whitney the wrong way to make it 3-0.
Probably the best goal of the match came in the third minute of added time when Hirst battles for and wins possession, his cross is blocked then cleared to Shaye La-Rose whose ball in to the box sets up Tony Martin for his hat trick goal. Martin displayed composure and coolly sat the defender down before slotting the ball home to take his season tally to nine goals in ten appearances.

## BARKING 0-2 TILBURY

Tuesday 8 August 2023 – Essex Senior League – Report by Terry Gilbert

The match marked the club's first meeting since last April, when Charlie MacDonald's penalty secured a narrow win for Barking but failed to gain a relegation playoff match. This time around, it was the Dockers who reigned supreme, capitalising on their constant pressure and making a splash as torrential rain drenched the second half.

There were five former Barking players who had switched allegiances to Tilbury: Jack Folan, Jack Hayes, Alfie Leach, Johnny Ashman, and Tom Salter. It was, however, the latter two who found the back of the net to seal Tilbury's victory.

The game burst into life from the opening whistle, with Tilbury showing their intent to dominate proceedings. Early on though, Fahad Nyanja managed to wrest control of the ball, launching a rapid counterattack that culminated in a promising shot from Kai Haysman. But, Tilbury's goalkeeper, Anthony Page, thwarted the attempt with a welltimed smother. Tilbury's attacking prowess continued to put pressure on Barking's defence, resulting in several close calls. In the 17th minute, Tilbury celebrated a goal, only for the assistant's flag to halt their celebrations due to an offside infringement. Two minutes later, a foul committed by Tom Troubridge presented Tilbury with a centrally placed free-kick opportunity. Johnny Ashman stepped up to take the set piece, but Harry Girling in the Barking goal was equal to the effort parrying the ball away. As the first half progressed, Barking managed to establish a foothold in the match: Chris Adu-Gyamfi navigated his way to the byline before delivering a pinpoint cross to Haysman, whose subsequent shot was once again denied by Page. On 26 Ashman breaks away for Tilbury and passes across the box but the subsequent shot is blocked for a corner, seven minutes from the break Haysman passes across field to Martin Tuohy who flicks the ball on to Brad Rowland who shoots but his effort is wide. After five minutes of added time Nyanja again wins the ball and frees Adu-Gyamfi but his first time shot flies over. In the end the away side looked the more dangerous but Barking playing on the counter found this provided their best opportunities.

After the break Barking forced some early corners and free kicks that came to nothing as they tried to start on the front foot. Tilbury began to intensify their efforts, constantly pressing forward and on 57 only a last-gasp clearance from Aundre Spencer at the expense of a corner stopped a clear effort on goal.. In the 65th minute, Tilbury should have broken the deadlock when Ashman squandered a golden chance, firing over from a promising position. Moments later, Tom Salter unleashed a shot that soared above the crossbar. Tilbury's relentless assault eventually bore fruit in the 70th minute:. Salter opened the scoring by curling the ball beyond Girling's reach and the Dockers' lead was further solidified six minutes later, courtesy of Ashman's clinical finish from Brian Moses pass. As the match entered its dying embers, Barking mounted an effort to salvage a consolation goal. A run by Brad Rowland set up a chance for David Owiredu to deliver a cross to Adu-Gyamfi. Unfortunately for Barking, the execution fell just short, and Page collected the ball to preserve his and Tilbury's clean sheet.

After the final whistle Barking were left to reflect on the match and need to regroup for the challenges that lie ahead – the next challenge being on Saturday at the Lawtech Stadium against Stanway Rovers.

## **Barking Football Club**

#### Lawtech Stadium, Lodge Avenue, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 2JR

Tel:07961 323 320Website:www.barking-fc.co.ukE-Mail:secretary@barking-fc.co.uk



Barking FC are an unincorporated association run by a committee.

#### **Club Personnel**

**President** Dave Blewitt

**Life Vice Presidents** Eddie McClusky, John Wilson, Derek Pedder, John Harrison

Club Chairman: Rob O'Brien Vice Chairman: Mick O'Shea Club Secretary, Match Day Secretary & Treasurer: Keith Whittington Website Editor & Archivist (on-line archives): Terry Gilbert Match Day Programme Editor & Press Officer: Trevor Gilbert Archivist (written and printed archives): Derek Pedder Public Address System: Dave Blewitt Boardroom Hospitality: Maureen Debenham Clubhouse Hospitality: Debbie O'Brien & Mark Harris Head Groundsmen: Rob O'Brien & Mick O'Shea Ground Maintenance: Keith Whittington Match Day Dressing Room Security: Archie Buckland Club Safety Officer: John Hockley Equality & Diversity Officer: Anna Russell Matchday and Social Media Content Creator: Harry Bamotra

> First Team Joint-Manager: Jonny Fowell First Team Joint-Manager: Michael Walther

> > Under 23s Manager: Alan Dickens

Academy Director: Mick O'Shea Head of Youth Football & Welfare Officer: Anna Russell

> Sunday Team Manager: Joe Blewitt Sunday Team Secretary: Julie Ricketts

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## Errington Challenge Cup 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Tuesday 12 March 2024 Kick Off 7:45pm



Barking FC	No.	Tilbury
Daniel Purdue	1.	Christian North
<b>Bradleigh Rowland</b>	2.	Alfie Fry
Fahad Nyanja	3.	<b>Macauley</b> Joynes
Kenedi Dariri	4.	Harry Donovan
<b>George Forrest</b>	5.	Jack McQueen
Jack Folan	6.	<b>Connor Martin</b>
Shaye La-Rose	7.	Alex Clark
Jack Dickinson	8.	Oli Spooner
Luke Hirst	9.	Roman Campbell
Anthony Martin	10.	Sam Carter
Karl Kayembe	11.	Dan Trendall
Greg Akpele	12.	Oliver Plunkett
Giovanni Palmer	14.	Tom Salter
Bleron Ademi	15.	Harvey Browne
Warren Kayembe	16.	David Knight
Ezekiel Bademosi	17.	Troy Osei-Bobie

Jonny Fowell (Joint-Manager) Michael Walther (Joint-Manager) Marc Harrison (Manager) Liam Wallace (Manager)

Tom Evans

Ray Parmenter Olabisi Omotosho

NEXT UP AT LAWTECH STADIUM SATURDAY 16 MARCH 3PM SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE