

TIVERTON TOWN PLAYER PROFILES

Martyn Rogers - Manager

Tiverton's longest serving manager, and one of the longest serving managers in the country having taken charge at Ladysmead in the summer of 1992. As a player Rogers turned out for the likes of Bath City, Weymouth and Exeter City, including appearing in the Grecian's famous FA Cup run of 1981, and concluded his playing days at Ladysmead under then manager John Owen. After taking the reigns Rogers lead the Club to the FA Vase final in 1993, and followed this up with a succession of Western League titles, finally leading his team to back-to-back FA Vase triumphs at Wembley Stadium in 1998 and 1999, and promotion into the Southern League Premier Division in 2001.

Martyn Grimshaw - Assistant Manager

Grimmers returned to Tiverton for the 2007-08 season having left four years earlier to take up the vacant managerial post at historical rivals Mangotsfield United. During his playing career he excelled as a striker at Yeovil Town and also spent time at Bath City and Weymouth, but it was at Tiverton where he really enjoyed his best form. Indeed, he currently stands as the last player to score five goals in a match for the Yellows, a feat he achieved in a 7-1 drubbing of Frome Town in February 1996.

Steve Book - Goalkeeper

Hugely experienced goalkeeper that was added to the squad on the eve of the current season as cover for the injured first choice stopper Ray Johnston. Book enjoyed great success at Cheltenham Town in the late 1990s, helping them to the FA Trophy and Conference titles in 1998, and later to promotion into what is now League One. He is currently a member of the Bristol Rovers coaching staff, and had a brief spell at Mangotsfield United where he managed to score the first goal of his career in a match against Rugby Town two years ago.

Tom Gardner - Defender

Centre half who played for Exmouth Town before joining Tiverton four years ago. Very popular amongst the fans for his elegant style of play and his ability to read the game, Tom spent a shot spell last season at Truro City before returning to Ladysmead in the summer. Gardner is a competent goalkeeper and has acted as an emergency replacement on a number of occasions, with the impressive record of having conceded just one goal in over 300 minutes between the sticks

Nathan Rudge - Defender

28 year-old skipper and centre-back who had two terrific seasons for Tivvy, but was ruled out of much of the 2005-06 campaign with a serious knee injury. Started his career at Norwich City before returning to the Bristol area. Played for Bath City, Mangotsfield, Clevedon Town and Chippenham Town before joining Tivvy for an undisclosed fee. A tough-tackling defender, Rudge has proven to be a danger-man in the opposition penalty area with his powerful heading ability and has scored some crucial goals in his five years at Tiverton.

Matt Willis - Defender

A strong and mobile 24 year old central defender who started out in the Youth setup at Plymouth Argyle before a successful loan spell at Torquay United earned him a full time contract with the Plainmoor outfit. Despite being a regular fixture in the team in the second half of the season he was released following the Gulls' relegation from the football league, and Tiverton were quick to snap him up, with interest being shown by a number of other local clubs.

Adam Faux - Defender

Exceptionally quick defensive player who is most at home in the heart of the defence, although he has also played on both flanks. Faux signed for the Yellows last February after an injury-plagued spell at Taunton Town and made the step up a level comfortably. Was an ever-present following his arrival at Ladysmead, and with his fitness concerns now well behind him his versatility will provide a great asset for the team.

Mike Booth - Defender/Midfielder

Hugely talented 26 year-old who won Taunton Town's Young Player of the Year before joining Tivvy in 2005. Previously with Dawlish Town, he is at home in midfield or as a wingback, and has covered in the heart of the defence on occasions. Mike scooped four awards at the end of the 2006-07season, including the coveted Players' Player of the Year gong, but suffered a knee cartilage injury during the following pre-season schedule which kept him out of action all term. A gruelling recovery period has been served and Booth will once again prove to be a key player for Tiverton during this season.

Arran Pugh - Defender/Midfielder

Pugh moved to Ladysmead from Dawlish Town this summer after shining when the two sides met in the Devon Cup last season. At 6'6" he wins almost everything in the air, and has great ability on the floor as he proved when scoring his first goal for the club in the pre-season game at Buckland Athletic. Usually a central defender, Pugh has also been employed in the centre of midfield and acquitted himself admirably.

Paul Jarvis – Defender/Midfielder

A recent signing having moved to the area to study, Paul was previously at Morecambe and is an effervescent box-to-box midfielder player with a seemingly endless supply of energy. Made his Tivvy debut in the league victory at Hitchin at the beginning of September, and has since forced his way into the starting line-up, delivering with crucial goals in two games at the start of October. Although primarily left footed Jarvis is an effective attacking threat on both flanks.

Alex Faux – Defender/Midfielder

A product of the Tiverton Town Youth system, Alex is the younger brother of Adam and can play anywhere across the midfield, as well as in the left back slot. Faux was brought into the squad during the latest pre-season schedule having spent last season with Taunton Town, and has cemented his place in the team after starting the current campaign on the fringes of the starting eleven.

Danny O'Brien – Midfielder

An eighteen-year-old right-winger, who has good pace, is very direct and has appeared in both the Yeovil Town Youth and Reserve teams. Caught the eye of Tiverton Town manager Martyn Rogers when playing for the Yeovil Youth side against Tivvy's Under 18's side in the FA Youth Cup last November, and was snapped up soon afterwards. Unfortunately he has been ravaged by injury and has yet to make an appearance this season.

Glenn Gould – Midfielder

Seventeen year-old midfielder with bundles of talent that belie his years. Gould forced his way into the first team squad at the beginning of last season after some emphatic displays for the Under 18's side and grabbed his first senior goal at Rugby Town last October. A clinical passer of the ball with a very bright future, he will offer a sturdy balance to the midfield over the season. Still plays for the Under 18s side where he now captains the team.

Mark Saunders – Midfielder

Saunders returned to Ladysmead in July after thirteen fine seasons in the professional game with Plymouth Argyle and then Gillingham. A crude injury forced him out of full-time football but he resurrected his career as a player/coach at Folkestone Invicta before returning to Devon. In his first spell at Tivvy Mark was known as a flamboyant and determined attacking midfielder and helped the side to Wembley in 1993. Now 37 he will prove a valuable asset alongside an otherwise youthful midfield.

Bobby Hopkinson – Midfielder

A former Youth player at Plymouth Argyle Hopkinson arrived at Tiverton towards the end of last season and proved an instant hit. His low centre of gravity and strong presence have made him a firm favourite with the supporters, while his passing range and ability with the ball at his feet is often at the centre of much of Tiverton's attacking play. An assured delivery from set pieces and a powerful shot make him a crucial part of the team.

Paul Wyatt – Forward

Dynamic and versatile attacker who's impressive form with the Tiverton Town Youth team earned him a call-up to the main team two years ago. Scored his first goal for the senior team in January 2007 against Clyst Rovers in the Devon St. Luke's Bowl, and is looking good to secure a regular place in the first team squad having committed himself to the Club towards the end of July.

Tom Knighton – Forward

Joined Tiverton from Western League Bitton last summer after spells with Frome Town and Cadbury Heath. Played his schoolboy football with Bristol Rovers and two excellent seasons at Bitton attracted the scouts with Tiverton managing to snap him up. Now in his second season at Ladysmead Knighton's tenaciousness will prove to be a handful for opposing defenders.

Phil Walsh – Forward

Powerful centre forward who has secured a permanent move to Ladysmead having previously enjoyed three loan spells at the club. Walsh played for Clevedon Town and Taunton Town before joining Bath City in 2005. Despite scoring some crucial goals as Bath won the Southern League title he was loaned out to Paulton Rovers, as well as two spells at Tiverton. Moved on to Newport in the summer of 2008 and with first team opportunities hard to come by at the Blue Square South side he was happy to once again make Tiverton his temporary home in September before signing permanently in December 2008.

Jamie Mudge – Forward

Prolific striker that returned to Ladysmead in January after spells with Dawlish Town and Dorchester Town. As a 17 year old Jamie made an immediate impact at Ladysmead when he scored four times on his debut in 2001, and he went on to net 113 goals in five seasons. In the wake of a troublesome back injury he moved to Dawlish where he was their top goalscorer last season, and then joined Dorchester in the summer, again leading the scoring charts, but financial cutbacks meant that he was allowed to leave the Dorset club.

David Hood – Forward

An exciting prospect that has scored at an alarming rate for the Under 18s side and recently forced his way into contention with the first team squad. Made his full debut in a County Cup game in October but his progression was halted by a shoulder injury. However, having regained fitness David made his league debut as a substitute against Mangotsfield in January.