



THE GREEN DEVIL

SUPPORTING FOREST GREEN ROVERS AT SCHOOL



FIXTURES 2019/2020

EFL League Two

PRE-SEASON JULY

Thu 11	Weston-S-Mare	A	TBC
Wed 17	Yate Town	A	TBC
Sat 20	Salisbury City	A	3.00
Wed 24	Bristol City	H	TBC
Sat 27	Bath City	A	3.00

OCTOBER

Sat 5	Crawley Town	H	3:00
Sat 12	Exeter City	A	3:00
Sat 19	Mansfield Town	H	3:00
Tue 22	Morecambe	A	7:45
Sat 26	Crewe Alexandra	H	3:00

NOVEMBER

Sat 2	Cheltenham Town	A	3:00
Sat 9	FA Cup (TBA)		
Sat 16	Plymouth Argyle	H	3:00
Sat 23	Leyton Orient	A	3:00
Sat 30	FA Cup (2nd Round)		

DECEMBER

Sat 7	Scunthorpe Utd	H	3:00
Sat 14	Northampton Town	A	3:00
Sat 21	Swindon Town	H	3:00
Thu 26	Stevenage	A	3:00
Sun 29	Macclesfield Town	H	3:00

JANUARY

Wed 1	Exeter City	H	3:00
Sat 4	Crawley Town	A	3:00
Sat 11	Mansfield Town	A	3:00

Sat 18	Salford City	H	3:00
Sat 25	Macclesfield Town	A	3:00
Tue 28	Carlisle Utd	H	7.45

FEBRUARY

Sat 1	Grimsby Town	A	3:00
Sat 8	Walsall	H	3:00
Tue 11	Port Vale	H	7.45
Sat 15	Oldham Athletic	A	3:00
Sat 22	Scunthorpe Utd	A	3:00
Sat 29	Leyton Orient	H	3.00

MARCH

Sat 7	Swindon Town	A	3:00
Sat 14	Northampton Town	H	3:00
Tue 17	Morecambe	H	7.45
Sat 21	Crewe Alexandra	A	3:00
Sat 28	Cheltenham Town	H	3:00

APRIL

Sat 4	Plymouth Argyle	A	3:00
Fri 10	Bradford City	H	3.00
Mon 13	Newport County	A	3:00
Sat 18	Cambridge Utd	H	3:00
Sat 25	Colchester Utd	A	3:00

Stadium Update The Fight Goes On

It was a bleak day for FGR when our local councillors narrowly voted against the planning application for a new stadium near junction 13 of the M5. In doing so they have delayed the Club's ambitions and the dream of an eco-friendly stadium in a perfect location for EFL football. However, Chairman Dale has now confirmed that the Club will appeal the decision and also re-submit the application, trying to address the concerns of those who object. So we continue to hope that one day we will see this wonderful construction, which we are sure will benefit young people in the local community. It will help us to create a bright future for football locally, bring more famous clubs and famous players to FGR and increase our global profile as we continue the ambition to climb the EFL and compete in the Championship.

Matt Joins Brother Joe



The first of the summer signings have arrived at FGR. **Matt Mills** is the older brother of Joe who had a great season at Left wingback last year. Matt 32, brings defensive experience having played in the Championship for Leicester and Reading and in the Premier League for Manchester City as a youngster in 2007. More recently Matt has been playing for Pune City in the Indian Super League. Also recently arrived is **Ebou Adams** (23) from Ebbsfleet Utd and 22-year-old **Aaron Collins**

from Morecambe. Ebou has previously played for Norwich City and is a Gambian International. He will operate in midfield and possibly replace Reece Brown who has left us to join Championship side Huddersfield Town. Aaron is a striker who played international football for Wales at under-19 level and made fifteen appearances for Morecambe last season scoring eight goals - including one against FGR in the 3-0 defeat in March.



Ebou Adams signs for FGR

Carabao Cup

On Tuesday August 13th we will meet Championship opposition when FGR travel to The Valley - home of Charlton Athletic in the first round of the Carabao Cup.

NEW OPPONENTS 2019/2020

At the end of last season we said goodbye to Lincoln City, Bury, MK Dons and Tranmere who all go up to League One, also Notts County and Yeovil who slide out of the EFL into the National League.

This season we will face six new teams (details below) who have been promoted or relegated - none of which FGR have ever faced in a league or cup match before!

Bradford City (relegated)



Founded: 1903

Nickname: **The Bantams**

Stadium: **Valley Parade**

Capacity: **25,136**

Star Player last season: **Eoin Doyle** (11 goals)

Distance from FGR: **197 miles**

Scunthorpe Utd (relegated)



Founded: 1899

Nickname: **The Iron**

Stadium: **Glanford Park**

Capacity: **9,088**

Star Player last season: **Lee Novak** (13 goals)

Distance from FGR: **187 miles**

Plymouth Argyle (relegated)



Founded: 1886

Nickname: **The Pilgrims**

Stadium: **Home Park**

Capacity: **16,388**

Star Player last season: **Freddie Ladapo** (19 goals)

Distance from FGR: **123 miles**

Walsall (relegated)



Founded: 1888

Nickname: **The Saddlers**

Stadium: **The Bescot (or Banks') Stadium**

Capacity: **11,200**

Star Player last season: **Andy Cook** (17 goals)

Distance from FGR: **73 miles**

Salford City (promoted)



Founded: 1940

Nickname: **The Ammies**

Stadium: **Moor Lane**

Capacity: **5,106**

Star Player last season: **Adam Rooney** (24 goals)

Distance from FGR: **159 miles**

Leyton Orient (promoted)



Founded: 1881

Nickname: **The O's**

Stadium: **Brisbane Road**

Capacity: **9,271**

Star Player last season: **Macauley Bonne** (23 goals)

Distance from FGR: **147 miles**

If you fancy going to **every** away match next season, according to our calculations, you would have to travel **6,122 miles!** That's like going from The New Lawn to Hong Kong.

Award Winners



Evan Smith, Evie Urquhart, George Edmunds and Scarlett Holland with Phil Butterworth after receiving Ambassador Awards
Photo: Shane Healey

Awards for the 2018/2019 season were presented after the match with Exeter City on May 4th: The awards were:

Player Awards

PFA Community Champion Award which went to **Nathan McGinley** for his work in the local community.

Supporters' Player of the Season went to **Reece Brown**, who was also named in the EFL League Two Team of the Season.

The Academy Players' Player of the Season went to **Sam Hendy**, who sounds like an exciting, young player for the future.

Goal of the Season was scored by **George Williams** a belter of a free-kick on Boxing Day at Newport County.

Players' Player of the season went to Reece Brown, who's had a cracking season.

Top Goalscorer went to **Christian Doidge**, who managed 13 goals despite the whole Bolton Wanderers 'palaver'

Ambassador Awards

All Ambassadors did a terrific job in promoting our Club throughout the 2018/2019 season! We are grateful to each and every one of them for their efforts. All have made a valuable contribution in helping raise the profile of our little Club.

The following ambassadors did just that little bit extra to deserve their awards:

Secondary Ambassador of the Year:

Joint winners were:

Evan Smith (Alderman Knight) - possibly our most enthusiastic ambassador ever. He lives and goes to school in Tewkesbury but promotes the club superbly, helps on match days and has brought his school several times to matches.

Evie Urquhart (Rednock) - Evie has been an ambassador for many years and every year is more active in all ambassador activities - publicising FGR at school, helping with ball boys/girls/behind reception, she is also the mystery person in the Green Devil Mascot costume!

Primary Ambassador of the Year:

Joint winners were:

Scarlett Holland (Chalford Hill) - an ever present for two years - the school endorses her work in promoting the club. She has helped out on countless match days and attended all ambassador events.

George Edmunds (Randwick) - excellent at promoting the club and its values, very dedicated and has ensured the school have many FGR fans.

The William Fletcher Award

William's Mum & Dad Steve and Rachel presented a trophy in memory of William for 'Overcoming Hurdles' something William did ever day in his short life. The winner was **Frazer Peters** of National Star College, despite the distance and the difficulty in getting to matches he has been a regular and brought along his schoolmates many times. A true role model!



Frazer Peters with Mark Cooper, Steve and Rachel Fletcher
Photo: Shane Healey



FGR Fans get Everywhere

Here is Wilf Doble at the Great Wall of China.

Wilf and his parents went exploring China back in April and remembered to pack the all important FGR shirt to help spread the word of Forest Green Rovers around the world.

FGR's Photographer



Interview with Shane Healey

Where have you had your photos published?
I have had my photos published all around the world. With Forest Green Rovers global reach it makes this very easy for me.
With regards to match photos, the local paper, as well as some nationals like The Sun, will have photographs in to accompany their match report of the game.

How many photos on average do you take during a match?
Anywhere between 3,000 - 4,000 photos per match, of which 100 to 150 will make the final cut. My camera shoots at 12 frames per second.

Do you photograph any other sports?
I have shot at The Ashes, Rugby World Cup and tennis matches but the only sport I shoot currently alongside the football is the PDC Darts - particularly the World Championships at Alexandra Palace. The atmosphere with 5,000 fans under one roof is immense.

Do you have a favourite FGR player, past or present?
Probably FGR's strike partnership from the 1982 FA Vase winning team at Wembley of Steve Doughty and Andy Leitch. After all these years I am happy to say I am still in touch with them both.

What is your most memorable FGR game?
Has to be the promotion final at Wembley to beat Tranmere Rovers and obtain our league status.

Do you follow another team apart from FGR?
When I was at school I used to go and watch Bristol City, and I have a little soft spot for Chelsea after being their driver for a few seasons.

What do you think is the best thing about FGR?

'WeAreFootballLeague'
Never in my wildest dreams, when growing up, could I ever believe that this little club could achieve the success that it has done.

What is your favourite FGR matchday food?
Vegan sausage rolls

Do you think FGR will get promoted to League 1 this season?

I think we will be stronger than we were last season and lessons will have been learnt, so I will be as optimistic as ever and predict we will go up automatically.

What advice would you give to someone who is hoping to be a sports photographer?
Eight years ago, I would have struggled to turn a camera on. Since then I have gone on to be a photographer at Wembley for the FA Cup Final (2017/18).
Practice! practice! practice! and use the best equipment you can afford.

We've all seen Shane with his camera at matches home and away and have enjoyed his photos printed in the newspapers, websites, the programme and of course the Green Devil! We wanted to find out more about the man behind the long lens and see what else he gets up to. The enormous photo above was on display at Wembley Stadium recently and Shane couldn't resist getting pictured with it.

How long have you been watching FGR?
All my life. Earliest memories, I was probably five or six years old.

Were you already a fan before you became the official photographer?
Yes absolutely.

Is football photography your main job or do you do something else?

I work as a train driver for Great Western Railways and have done so for the past 20 years. That is the job that pays the bills. Photography and FGR is more of a passion. Prior to that, I was a coach driver living in London where I was the team driver for both Chelsea and Fulham football clubs.

Did you go to school locally?

Yes I did. I went to infants in Nailsworth before moving half way up Spring Hill towards Forest Green to attend the junior school, whose site is now houses.

What job did you want to do when you were at school?

A long distance lorry driver.

Do you remember where you watched your first Forest Green Rovers match?

It would have been at the 'old' Lawn in the early 1970's, although I have no recollection of the opponents or result.

Do you have a favourite photograph that you have taken?

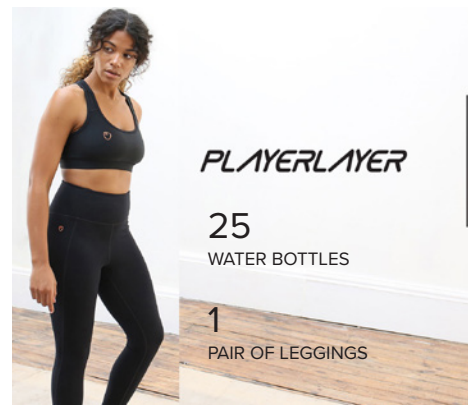
Has to be Christian Doidge's celebration shot after scoring his goal at Wembley in our match against Tranmere Rovers.

What is the size of your biggest lens?

I am a Canon user and I have a 400mm 2.8f prime lens. It is very expensive but is the go-to lens for all top sports photographers.

How Do They Do That?

You may have seen in a matchday programme that our kit supplier PlayerLayer can make sports clothing - leggings etc. from plastic bottles retrieved from the sea. We wanted to know just how that is possible, so set about finding out:



First of all the old plastic bottles are smashed up in a granulating machine into small chips only about a centimeter in size. The chips are then dried so that there is no moisture in them. They are then fed into an extruder machine where a turning metal screw forces them along the inside of a metal pipe while being heated to about 230 degrees from the outside. This gradually melts the plastic chips into a thick molten liquid. The hot liquid is forced through holes in the end of the pipe into very thin strands. These strands harden as they exit the heated tubes and are wound onto spools. At this point the strands are stiff a bit like dental floss, so it is stretched over heated rollers to realign the molecules and make it softer like thin wool. It is then twisted and spun onto reels ready for the weaving and dyeing processes.

To see a YouTube video that explains a similar process scan the QR code >>>>



Get Close to the Action at FGR



Support Man United? or Liverpool, Chelsea, Arsenal, Spurs or Man City?

How often have you seen them play? Hardly at all perhaps. Tickets for Premier League football matches are difficult to come by and expensive! At Forest Green Under 11s go free every home game, and 12-16 year-olds only need pay £6. This is EFL football and you can be close to the players and the action, and help create a fantastic atmosphere at The New Lawn.

Ambassador News

Phil Butterworth - Vice Chairman FGR

It wasn't our time for another promotion, but we still enjoyed our highest ever position in the football pyramid. Attendance figures are up. All in all, it was a very successful season. A big Thank you to all outgoing ambassadors for your commitment and support over the last year. The work of our ambassadors is a big part of Forest Green Rovers. Ambassadors for season 2019/20 now number over 80!

2019/2020 School Ambassadors

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Abbeymead	Charlie Stoddart
Amberley	Sam Norris
Avening	Olivia Constable & Jordon Marlow
Berkeley	Alfie Young
Bisley	Alice French & George French
Bluecoat, Wotton	Roo Young
Brimscombe	Jimmy Taylor & Georgina Crampton
British, Wotton	Ebony Davis
Bussage	Leo Moscholios & Hannah Zielinska
Cam Everlands	William Tull & Mia Bennett
Cashes Green	Effie Newman
Chalford Hill	Harvey North
Christchurch	Nico Aristotelous & Toby Smith
Coopers Edge	Ben Lucas
Crossways	Jackson Smith
Eastington	Toby Smith
Foxmoor	Matthias Andrews
Gastrells	Bonnie Park & Iffan Roberts
Gracefields	Elliot Wignall
Haresfield	Leo Badham
Heron	Emma Mulvihill & Tom Mulvihill
Horsley	Phoebe Walker & Archei Trevains
Kemble	Matilda Topp
Kings Stanley	Ollie King & Poppy Watson
Kingswood	Kit Bladon
Leigherton	Ruby Witchell & Troy Wilson
Leonard Stanley	Henry Burford
Longney	Charlie Spencer
Minchinhampton	Alfie Adams
Nailsworth	Piers Burke & Chloe Benjamin
North Nibley	Max Stamatopoulos
Park Junior	Ollie Smith & Imogen Perrett
Randwick	Ben Bray
Rodborough	Millie Cossins & Jack Donovan
Rodmarton	Lily Hewitt & Henry Nagle-Bass
St. Josephs, Nyms'd	Isabelle D'Arcy & Kobi Timbrell
St. Mary's Malton	Lucy Naylor
St. Mary's, Tetbury	Jacob Horrell
St Matthews	Oliver Kovac & Jasmine Ahmad
Stroud Valley	William Baxter
Thrupp	Martha Nutt & Morgan Watkins
Uley	Henry Guy
Uplands	Abbie Hendzel & Jasper Wilson-Copp
Woodchester	Lucy Crampton & Charlie Boulton

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Alderman Knight	Harry Cole
Archway	Dylan Hartley
Beauesert	William Douglas-Pennant
Berkeley Green	Charlie Smith
Churchdown	Cam Hoffman
Crypt	Bridget Blackstone
Deer Park	Sebastian Morris
Home School	Jacob Tait
KLB	Nathanael Dover & Fearne Anderton
Marling	Tyler Watson (Green Devil)
National Star College	Frazer Peters
Pates	Brendan Kitchen
Rednock	Evie Urquhart
Stroud High	Ella Gordon-Wignall
Sir William Romney	Theo Saunders & Nell Saunders

Allez surtes Rovers



Photo: Shane Healey

It was fantastique to see French FGR fans at our last home game of the season before the Play-offs. We loved their FGR version of the Tricolour - their national flag and we also loved their wigs, their singing and their general enthusiasm! Let's hope they get to the New Lawn again real soon!

Cam Gets Surprise Phone Call

What an amazing surprise for Cam Hoffman. While travelling to Tranmere on the supporters coach with his Grandma Chris Adams to the first leg of the play-off he received a call from Christian Doidge asking him if he would like to be the FGR mascot at the match and lead the team out at the start of the match - in front of almost 10,000 spectators! Christian and the other players had heard about Cam's cheeky letter to his headteacher asking for time off school on the Friday so that he could travel to the first leg play-off match. Stating that it was a rare opportunity to see FGR in the play-offs and also that he needed to spend time with his nan as she 'wasn't getting any younger' The story even made it onto the Points West television News! Cam, currently of Dinglewell Junior



Photo: Shane Healey

School in Gloucester had a great day and when asked about it said "When I received the phone call, to start of with I thought it was a someone playing a prank on me! I then realised who it was and was in complete shock. It was just amazing that my favourite player at Forest Green Rovers was calling me on my mobile! The feeling I got when I walked out was just overwhelming. I still can't believe it happened. I felt proud to be walking out with them and was so excited to meet them. The atmosphere was sick! This has just been the best experience ever and was the best treat to have before my Sats."



FGR Fans get Everywhere

Here's Abbie Hendzel of Uplands Primary School with her FGR supporting headteacher Mr Lucas. The photo was taken on the school residential PGL trip to Westward Ho! in Devon recently.